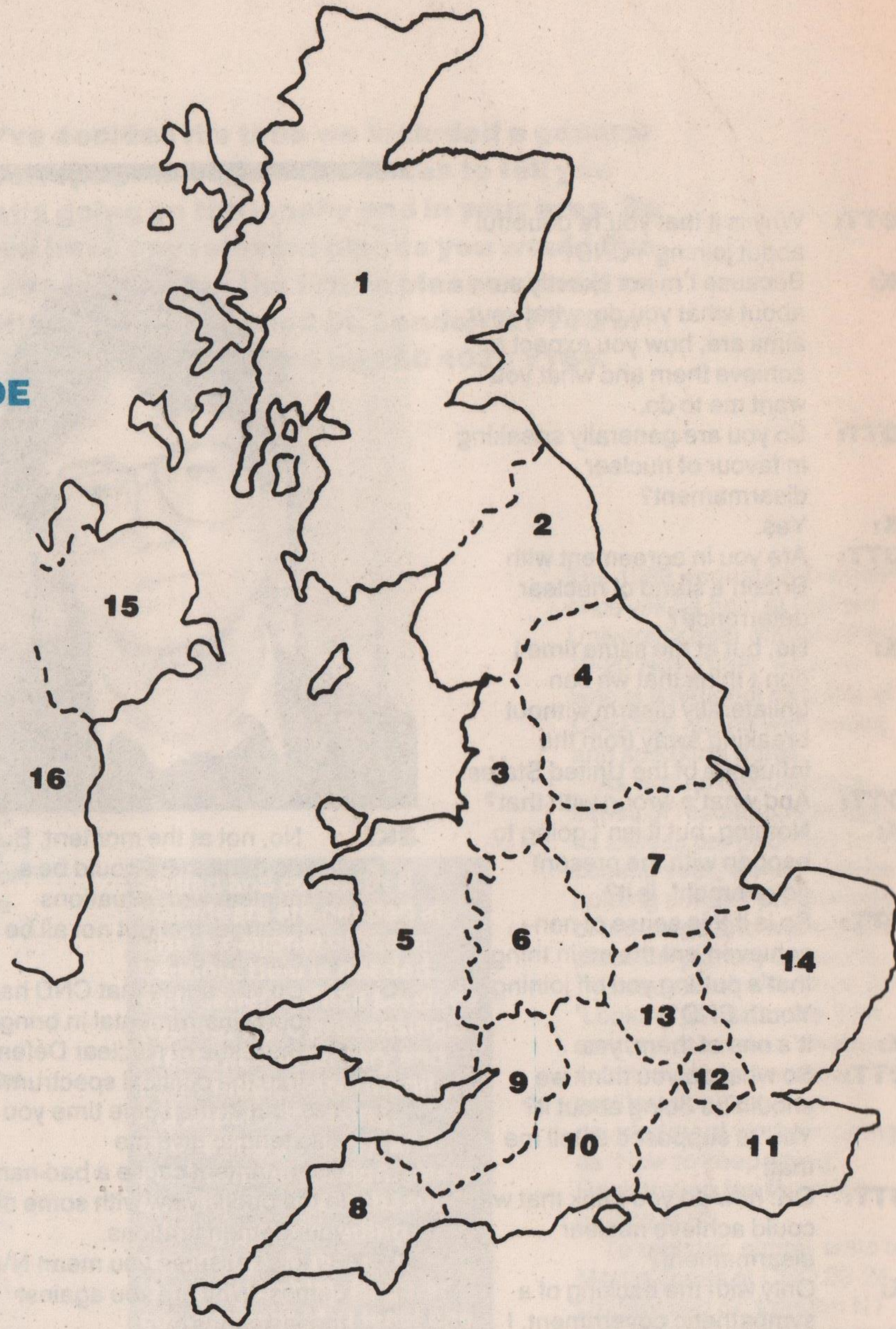


Whether you want to join a local YCND group or start one up, we can give you all the help you need.

Use the map to find out which 'region' you're in, then phone YCND's ACTIVITY HOTLINE.

We can put you in touch with a group nearby, or give you help and advise about starting one yourself. We can also supply speakers, film and literature. What are you waiting for? Why not phone us now!

- 1 SCOTLAND
- 2 NORTHERN
- 3 NORTH WEST
- 4 YORKSHIRE & HUMBERSIDE
- 5 WALES
- 6 WEST MIDLANDS
- 7 EAST MIDLANDS
- 8 SOUTH WEST
- 9 WEST
- 10 SOUTH
- 11 SOUTH EAST
- 12 LONDON
- 13 SOUTH MIDLANDS
- 14 EAST ANGLIA
- 15 NORTHERN IRELAND
- 16 EIRE



Youth CND Activity Hotline • 01 • 250 • 4010

sign of the times

PROG 3
SEPT 88

1988 AD
VOTED BRITAIN'S No:1 COMIC!

10p
EARTH
MONEY
IN ORBIT
EVERY
DAY



sign of the times

All in all Youth Peace Week was a great success, with actions from lots of youth groups around the country. Youth CND is probably the largest youth section campaigning on nuclear weapons in the world. And that's something to be proud of!

Often in YCND we are too quick to look at our failures and we forget to congratulate ourselves on our successes.

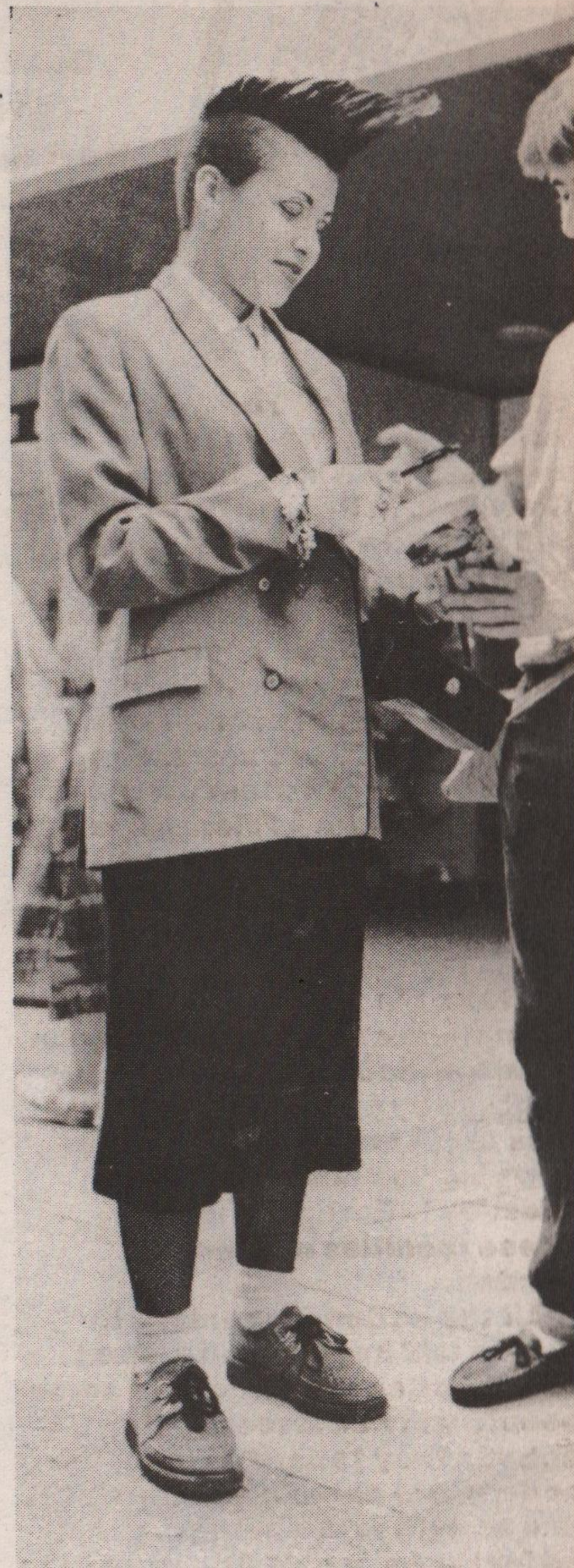
At present, although generally CND's membership is on the decline, Youth CND is 40% of the total new membership.

We seem to be undergoing a re-birth in youth CND. It's important to analyse our situation and build on that, to produce a maximum effect in all areas of our work: publicity, membership, arguments etc.

To do that, we need your participation. Whether it's in the form of coming to conference, joining a local group, setting up a local group, arguing with friends teachers or simply handing out a leaflet. We are a *mass* campaign. It is our members who continually work at grass-roots level to spread the word and recruit new people.

Now is the time to get involved.

If you would like more information on any aspect of our campaigns please write to Claire McMaster, Youth CND, 22-24 Underwood St, London N1 7JG. Or telephone us on 250 4010 x164.



- page 3 News of CND's Autumn Campaign Actions at Faslane, Upper Heyford, Portsmouth October 15th
- page 4 Around the country - regional AGM's.
- page 5 Youth CND conference 1988.
- page 6 & 7 Youth peace week in words and pictures
- page 9 Exciting news of nuclear power demo October 1st
- page 11 Interview with Bob Kingham - a non YCND member!

CND'S AUTUMN CAMPAIGN



More nuclear weapons on the cards?
What crazy game is this?

They're taking the missiles out of Greenham Common.
That's the Superpower deal.

But Mrs Thatcher has something up her sleeve
- a whole pack of nuclear weapons for Britain.
Having nuclear weapons here is dicing with death.
Don't let's gamble with the future.



OCTOBER 15TH will be a day of action against new nuclear weapons both in Britain and West Germany. In Britain, three actions will be held at places earmarked to store some of the new nukes.

At Faslane, the destruction of beautiful Scottish countryside continues in preparation for the arrival of Trident submarines. At Upper Heyford in Oxfordshire, home of one of Britain's largest US bases, more nuclear capable F1-11's are planned to join those already based there (which took off in the middle of one night to bomb Tripoli). The third action will take place on the south coast of England at Portsmouth. Portsmouth already plays host to the US Navy by providing port facilities for submarines and ships carrying sea-launched cruise missiles in European waters. These facilities may be expanded.

All the actions organised in Britain will include non-violent direct action (NVDA) where some people will risk arrest by the actions they take. However, the actions are *not exclusively* NVDA and activities are being organised for those people not wishing to risk arrest.

On the same day, an action in West Germany will take place in Linnich, where NATO is building a new underground command and control centre for overseeing its first use nuclear war fighting strategy.

There is nothing inevitable about these plans for new nuclear weapons. The NATO allies cannot agree on these attempts to get around the INF deal. Mrs Thatcher, unfortunately, is leading these attempts but majority opinion is with us in opposing them. The more we can 'make our mark' in October, the less convincing will be the Government's hawkish position at the NATO Nuclear Planning Group meeting in November.



DETAILS OF OCTOBER ACTIONS

faslane

The day's events will start at the peace camp at 1pm where people are being asked to assemble for a march to the base. There will be a blockade of the base, but those people not wishing to risk arrest will be asked to stand along the fence with banners to show their support. People will 'make their mark' for peace by whitewashing messages on the road. Contact for the action: Faslane Peace Camp, Shandon, Nr Helensburgh, Dumbartonshire. Telephone: 0436 820901.

upper heyford

This demonstration will last from 12 noon to 4pm. People are being asked to spread around the perimeter of the base and there is access to the fence for most of its length. There will be a womens gate, youth gate and a Christian gate. People are intending to 'make their mark' for peace both inside and outside the base. Outside

people will decorate the fence and plant bulbs. Contact for the action: Claire, YCND, 22-24 Underwood St., London N1 7JG. 01-250 4010 ext 164

portsmouth

This action will start at noon with people surrounding the dockland area in the heart of the town, on both land and sea. A blockade of the gates will start at 1.30pm with those people not wishing to risk arrest leafletting the town and returning to join in a rally near to the docks at 3pm. The blockade will finish at 4pm and a social is planned for the evening. Contact for the action: Jim Skinner, 54 St Augustine Road, Southsea, Portsmouth PO4 9AD. Telephone: 0705 823127

A briefing pack for these actions, particularly for those wishing to take part in the NVDA is available by writing to October Actions, 22-24 Underwood Street, London N1 7JG. Please state which action you wish to take part in.

GROOVY THINGS GOING DOWN IN THE REGIONS...

During September, October and even November regional AGM's will be taking place all over Britain. If you haven't ventured to one before, now is your chance to discover what goes on in these strange meetings.

AGM is a very formal word for what can only be described as a regional meeting, with workshops, information briefings and elections for the regional rep to National Committee. Sounds like fun?

If your region isn't included in those below, then contact the office for more info of what's happening in your area.

Regional meetings are open to anyone who is a member of YCND or just simply interested in our campaign.

Yorkshire and humberside dayschool & agm

This year's offering will be on Saturday September 10th, at Leeds Civic Hall, Starting at 11am. The day will include workshops, discussions, the inevitable election for our regional rep and hopefully some form of entertainment to brighten things up a bit. We'll also be having a party in the evening, in the West Yorkshire Peace Centre. We're trying to make it as big and interesting as possible: so if you'd like to come, please ring Kath on (0274) 492863. Please bring food and drink to share and plenty of enthusiasm!
Kath Shackleton

London region agm and dayschool

The place for all YCND members in the Greater London area on October 2nd will undoubtedly be the Quaker International Centre at 1, Byng Place, WC1. For in the hushed halls of this particular building will be lots of delinquent individuals pretending to represent the London YCND Network. Things get underway at noon and the day's festivities include various workshops, and (wait for it) the elections for both the posts of regional representative to National Committee and Treasurer. If you think that your heart can stand it then turn up. It's quite close to these tube stations: Tottenham Court Rd, Goodge St, Warren St and Euston Square (pew...). If you can't stand the pace then we seriously suggest that you see a doctor. Call Shona Pollock (272 1023) for more details.

meeting concerning possible nvda actions in october

On October 15th, as you probably are aware, CNND is holding various kinds of demonstrations at Portsmouth, Upper Heyford and Faslane. Amongst these will be Non-Violent Direct Actions. This involves breaking the law in some way or another (usually by causing an obstruction or damaging military property) and is a wonderful way of expressing how strongly a demonstrator feels about the much greater crimes being committed under the guise of defence. Interested people should contact Shona Pollock on (01) 272 1023 about a meeting that will take place on 25th September in the 121 Centre, 121 Railton Rd, Brixton SE24 at 2.30pm. She stresses that participation in any demonstration like this is not going to be forced upon anyone who comes. Please will anybody considering this kind of action take into account what effect a criminal record will have on your career prospects (eg law students might as well change courses if convicted). No under-17s without parental support should take part.

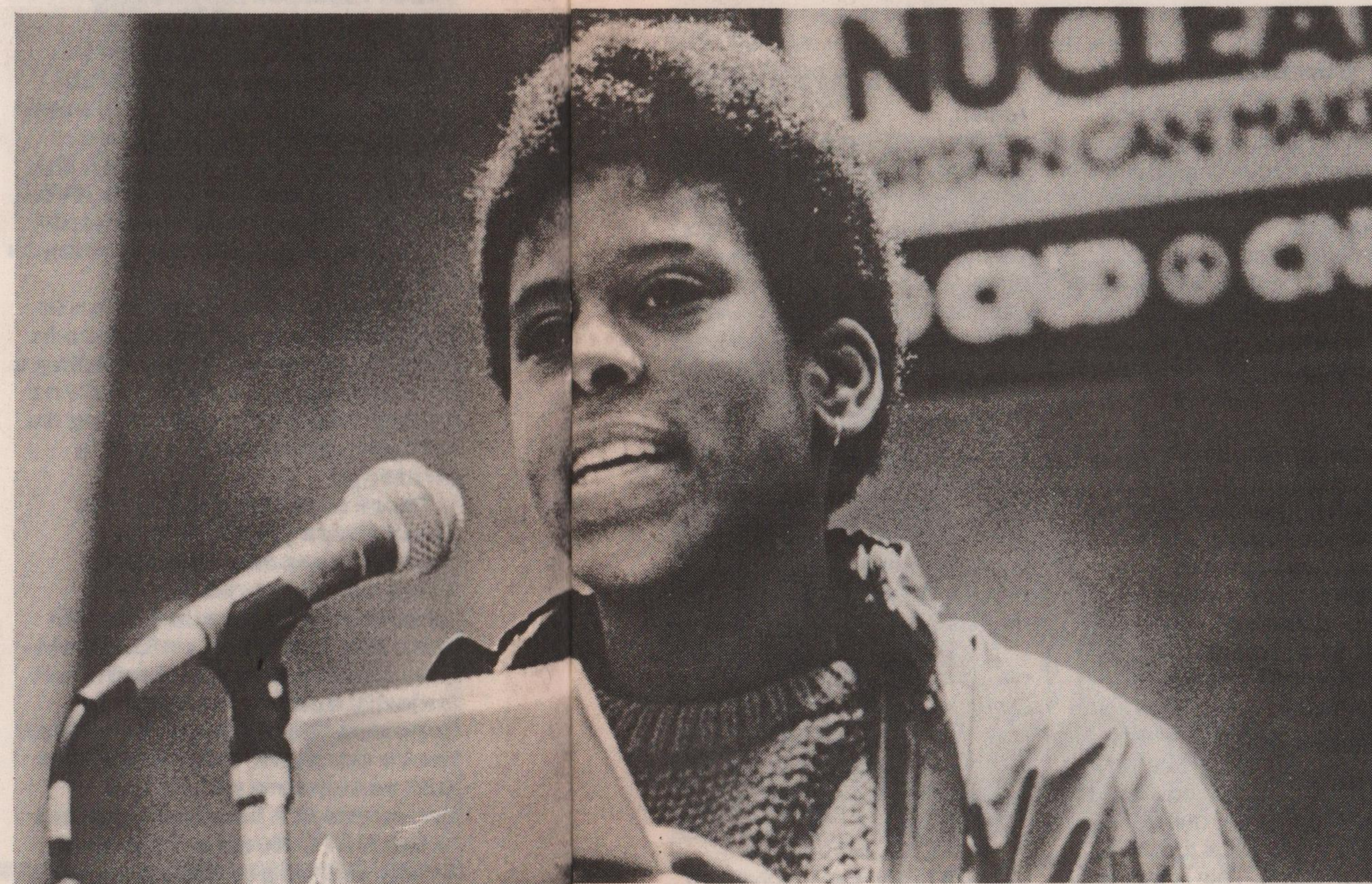
east anglia regional agm

Neil Duncan, having been unwittingly lumbered with the responsibility for one of the most difficult regions in the country, is organising the East Anglia region's first AGM for some time. It will take place on Sunday September 25th at 3pm in the Transport and General Workers' Union Office at 34, Cowgate, Peterborough. Naturally, all YCND members in the region are most welcome. It is very important that this region is put back on its feet and so a special effort is needed from any members who can possibly make it. They will be discussing their present situation and working out where they

can go in the future. In addition to this area the obligatory elections for regional positions, like rep to National Committee. Further information can be gleaned from Neil on Peterborough (0733) 555666, extension 2013.

south east regional dayschool

Clare Shephard's organised the South East's day workshop and Annual General Meeting which will take place in Brighton on Sunday October 2nd. It will run between 11am and 4pm. They will be assessing their present situation, making place for National Conference in Newcastle, and generally getting to know one another. Guess what? Yes, that's right - they're holding elections for their regional rep. to National Committee. If you're in a working group then bring as many with you as possible, but especially lone members are welcome to come and gain confidence enough to attempt setting a group up in their local area. Apparently it's 'Guaranteed not to waste your time'. So everyone in South East region is expected to get in touch with Clare at 38 Riley Rd, Brighton BN2 4AH (Tel: 0273 693208). She'll tell you where it's all going to happen when you get in touch.



YOUTH CNND CONFERENCE 1988

Despite what you've read in the popular press, this year our conference is being held at Newcastle University October 22/23.

Whether you are in a thriving local group or simply a national member, you should come along and exercise your democratic right to make our campaign more effective while learning a few things along the way!

What happens at conference?

Unlike traditional conferences, ours is workshop based, with a large choice of workshops covering relevant skills and issues.

Plus this year National Committee has decided to hold a special workshop session which will run simultaneously, to discuss our current situation and how we can change it. And we will be holding a full plenary session to talk about the future of nuclear disarmament in Britain.

The key word of this conference is participation - which is why for the first time individuals will be given a chance to vote in National Committee elections.

What is National Committee?

National Committee (NC) is made up of 1 representative from each region and 6 directly elected from conference.

Essentially it is the decision making body of YCND from which the office takes its cue. NC meets every two months, however members are expected to work in between.

Written hustings for the elections can be seen in the conference booklet, and the nail-biting verbal hustings will take place Saturday October 22nd.

But conference isn't all serious, doom, gloom and misery.

Workshops give delegates a chance to use their brains in stimulating discussions, learn new skills, like designing a newsletter, and hearing the up to date situation on NATO. We also have a reputation for holding socials which can only be described as CRAAZY: MAAN!!! (and other such hip & groovy phrases). This year we may have Brocoli Spears and King Funk spinning the discs, so don't forget to bring your favourite vege tracks from famous groups like 'The Potato Five' or BROS sorry, BROC those cool brocoli triplets.

So if you want the Bomb Out get along to YCND conference !!

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Please fill in this form and return to Claire McMaster, 22-24 Underwood St, London N1 7JG, by October 10th, 12 noon at the very latest.

The registration fee is £3 which covers accommodation on Friday, Saturday and Sunday night if required and breakfast and lunch on Saturday and Sunday.

Group Name
Group Contact
Address
Individual Name
Address

Should you wish to register several members of your group that's no problem. Please enclose their names and address (plus fee) on a separate piece of paper, and send in with this form.

Any specific medical needs please state _____
No of vegetarians _____
No of vegans _____
We require accommodation for
Fri night : people
Sat night: people
Sun night: people

Please send cheques made payable to YCN for £3 per person.
We'll send you your conference booklet with final details at the beginning of October.

YOUTH PEACE WEEK REMEMBERED

After months of frantic organising YCNDers around the region surfaced and wearily fumbled our way towards Bradford. Most of us had been up half the night making buns, sewing banners or just generally worrying about what we'd forgotten to do! We arrived to discover that at 10 o'clock the building was already a hive of activity - large vans had been drawing up with amazing sound systems and lighting equipment and delicious smells were filling the building from the caterer's stall. Stallholders were arriving with boxes of wonderful things to sell. So the chaos had begun - preparing food for the performers sticking up posters and backdrops, setting up stalls, sorting out security arrangements. I'm sure you can imagine the scene.

Then the performers gradually arrived for the afternoon's cabaret and the soundcheck man started. Before we knew it, it was time to open the doors, and we were admitting quite an anti-climactic trickle of people, rather than the hordes we had hoped for. However as the day progressed things got much better, as numbers swelled and the acts got much more lively. Communication is very difficult in such a large building - running from the cellar to the attic, looking for singers, poets or jugglers is no joke. While the cabaret was raging in the cellar bar, the soundcheck for the evening's gig was due to start upstairs. However Michelle Shocked our headlining act hadn't shown up. Panic set in! At last the supporting acts began to arrive and we got them soundchecking still praying that Michelle would show.

7.30: the doors open upstairs, still no sign of Michelle. The first band, the Outer Zeds came on to a happy dancing audience largely unaware of the situation. Five minutes later Michelle's agent rang apologising profusely, saying that she missed the flight from New York and that he had no idea where she was. Meanwhile the next act gets underway. 'The Fartown Fruits' a gay Leeds cabaret band. At this point the atmosphere was incredible - we seemed to have an audience full of local musicians, poets etc. Vi Subversa and Richard Famous agreed to do an extended set, in the headlining slot and were such lovely, lovely people.

All kinds of other people were volunteering to play in the meantime - it was just a matter of finding someone who was easy to set up technically. All of a sudden Danbert Nobacon, from Chumbawumba appeared as if from nowhere and miraculously agreed to perform. The poor bloke had come for a quiet evening out with his friends and ten minutes later found himself on the stage. Making the announcement that Michelle was not playing, was a horrible experience. People were surprisingly good natured when we said that Dan was playing instead, everybody cheered. Naturally people were disappointed at not seeing Michelle - but it didn't stop them from having a good time.

Despite its ups and downs people largely enjoyed themselves and went away feeling that it'd been an enjoyable and mostly successful day. The kind of support that we got from everyone was very inspiring - it's good to know that there are still many nice people out there. The list of people to thank is seemingly endless, but thanks to everyone.

There are many lessons to be learnt from the experience - we should have had more walkie-talkies to improve communication, our publicity could have been better, we could have had the propaganda angle of the event better. Nevertheless, it was all good fun and useful experience for all of us.

We all crashed out on a church floor for the night - tired but high on all that adrenalin.

KATH SHACKLETON



PART OF THE DOUBLE ACT AT YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE.

in manchester...

July 9th seems an age ago. Looking back, through the haze of images of glorious sunshine and fun-packed summer days (Zzzz - ed), I remember the North West's contribution to Youth Peace Week in Albert Square, Manchester.

The event can be broadly termed as a success: though the march was small it was touching to see our dear friends Ronald and Margaret marching along at the front with the Trident missile, and more seriously, it was exhilarating to march with a noisy crowd of people. The rally was just amazing with over 1,500 people in attendance!

However, it could all have been better - what this region needs to do is make events like this just that little bit better in the future. People have said to me on more than one occasion that North West is the most active region. This is true only

for pocketed areas around the region.

"So what?" you may be thinking. "Why does regional activity matter anyway?" Regional activity is as important as we make it. It gives people a chance to get involved with campaigning at a level higher than 'local' but more accessible than 'National', which often seems to take place in the depths of the jungle they call London (Where is Underwood St anyway?) It brings people together in an area that is big enough to stage impressive events with lots of people, yet small enough to be manageable.

The North West needs more people turning up to the regional meetings, getting in touch with the regional rep and making sure they are being represented properly on National Committee. At the moment the rep is still me, Bryony (Tel 0524-791288). Get involved on



PAPA'S NEW FAITH PERFORMING FOR THE FESTIVAL IN WALES.

in wales...

a regional level - meet lots of new exciting people who think as you do and have lots of fun! Then we could produce a useful regional newsletter, encourage each other in local group work and build up the North West region into the 'most active region' that we are believed to be.

I've written all this because Youth Peace Week really made me think about the structure of regions in Youth CND. From the North West's point of view it showed me that we are a good region, and with a bit more groundwork and coherence we could really be amazing! Maybe these words will provoke some action? See you all at the next regional meeting (Annual General Meeting, September 10th).

Saturday July 16th 0915: I'm sitting in BBC Radio Cymru's studios in Cardiff, doing an interview for Bambw, the Saturday programme in Welsh for young people. Bumbling stuff like: "climax of week of action taking place in all parts of Wales... launching of Youth CND Cymru - over 500 members already... going to be a great day with bands, celebrities, food and drink, stalls..."

But my mind's at Llandaff Fields, venue for the Youth Peace Festival, due to start at 1200, following a march starting at 1100. Llandaff Fields: when I left at 0830, the toilets hadn't been delivered yet; we only had half a stage for the bands to play on; the scaffolding to hold up the stage

covering hadn't arrived as the lorry had broken down. And it was pissing down.

0930 I'm back at Llandaff Fields, joining in the hard work of panicking and doing everything at once. For the next 4 hours, Sod's Law rules - everything which can go wrong, does. I go off to get the marchers; less than 100 and for a while Llandaff Fields looks dangerously devoid of people. In the meantime however, more staging, the scaffolding and toilets arrive; the scaffolding is assembled; the PA and bands arrive. So the bands can start playing - or they could, if someone could start up the generator to power the PA...

1300 The first band appears; a little late, but they're on.



LONDON YCND TAKING ACTION

People begin to drift in (as the pubs close!) and the crowd swells to a respectable 400. The rain turns to a drizzle and even stops completely from time to time.

The bands all play brilliantly. Heartfelt thanks to them all for playing gratis: Cardiff bands; The Third Uncles, Papas New Faith, Heavy Quartet, and Howling Sleepers - who rushed up after busking in town all morning; Yr Anrhefn who travelled down from North Wales; and Apple Mosaic who crossed the border to play in Wales. Not to mention singers Kevin Littlewood, Siân Donovan, Sisters of Murphy. And a number of excellent speakers, none of whom were boring or talked for too long!

1400 Everyone's bopping or jiving and dancing in the drizzle. 90% of people there have nothing to do with CND, but the speakers with their talk of nukes etc get almost as much applause as the bands.

In the end, we overrun by an hour and it would maybe never had ended if the plug hadn't been pulled on the bands. As Llandaff Fields empties, we begin the long job of clearing up: taking back the staging, barriers, scaffolding, trestles; tidying the cans and bottles into bin bags; wondering how we're going to pay off our debts...

In retrospect: Welsh Youth Peace Week - success or failure? Did we fulfil our objectives, or forget them in the general panic? Put it this way: 12 months ago, Youth CND didn't exist at all in Wales. The WYPW was an attempt by a (small!) group of people to do something, to shake things up a bit, and to kick off Youth CND Cymru. Local success stories abound: take Swansea, where the YCND group was defunct; they questioned 90 young people, 65-80% of whom gave the "right" answers, and a lot of whom showed interest in joining CND.

As for the Festival, it was a lot of fun; we got some publicity over it and showed that YCND Cymru exists; and we gained a lot of experience in dealing with the Council. Which is going to come in useful next summer, when we're going to hold an even bigger and better event. I just hope to God it doesn't rain...

SARA DAVIES

ONE PLUS ONE PLUS ONE...

The longest nuclear line-up in Britain will disfigure the north Somerset coast if the Central Electricity Generating Board has its way.

Their plans to site a third nuclear power station at Hinkley Point have now been made public. Alongside the earlier Magnox and AGR stations, they want to build a Sizewell 'B'-type PWR station. Building is to start in 1990 with completion and the start of power generation scheduled for 1997.

Already strong and concerted local opposition has forced a public enquiry. Somerset's Alliance-controlled county council, already concerned about breakdowns and safety hazards at the two earlier stations, is part of a consortium of local authorities (COLA) who are objecting. They have set aside £250,000 towards their enquiry costs. Other authorities involved include Bristol, Exeter, and a number of Welsh authorities from the other side of the

Bristol Channel. Many other groups, local and national, as well as individuals are objecting.

CND's objections particularly concern the issue of the transfer of plutonium from the civil to the military sectors. The CEGB has previously strenuously denied that this has ever happened.

However at the Sizewell 'B' enquiry CND's questioning exposed many flaws in the nuclear power industry's ability to account for their

plutonium. By April 1986 the Prime Minister had been forced to make a partial U-turn on earlier statements. Now she will only claim that there has been no transfer of plutonium from the civil to the military sectors "during the period of this administration." She "could not answer for previous administrations."

No longer is she or the government prepared to say that this has never happened - thus contradicting the CEGB's line.

So we will be pressing for an explanation of glaring discrepancies that seem to make a lot of earlier CEGB statements invalid.

Since the Sizewell enquiry,

the CEGB has been actively investigating further sites for PWRs. They claim that up to ten PWRs will be needed by the end of the century. These claims will be strongly disputed, as will the bland confidence the CEGB has been displaying on the issue of safety. "Our confidence in the safety of the PWR in Britain was thoroughly vindicated

at the Sizewell Enquiry after a long and rigorous examination" according to Sam Goddard, the CEGB's Director of Systems. Neither CND nor most of the people in this country share that blind faith and we will be examining very closely the basis for many of their assertions.

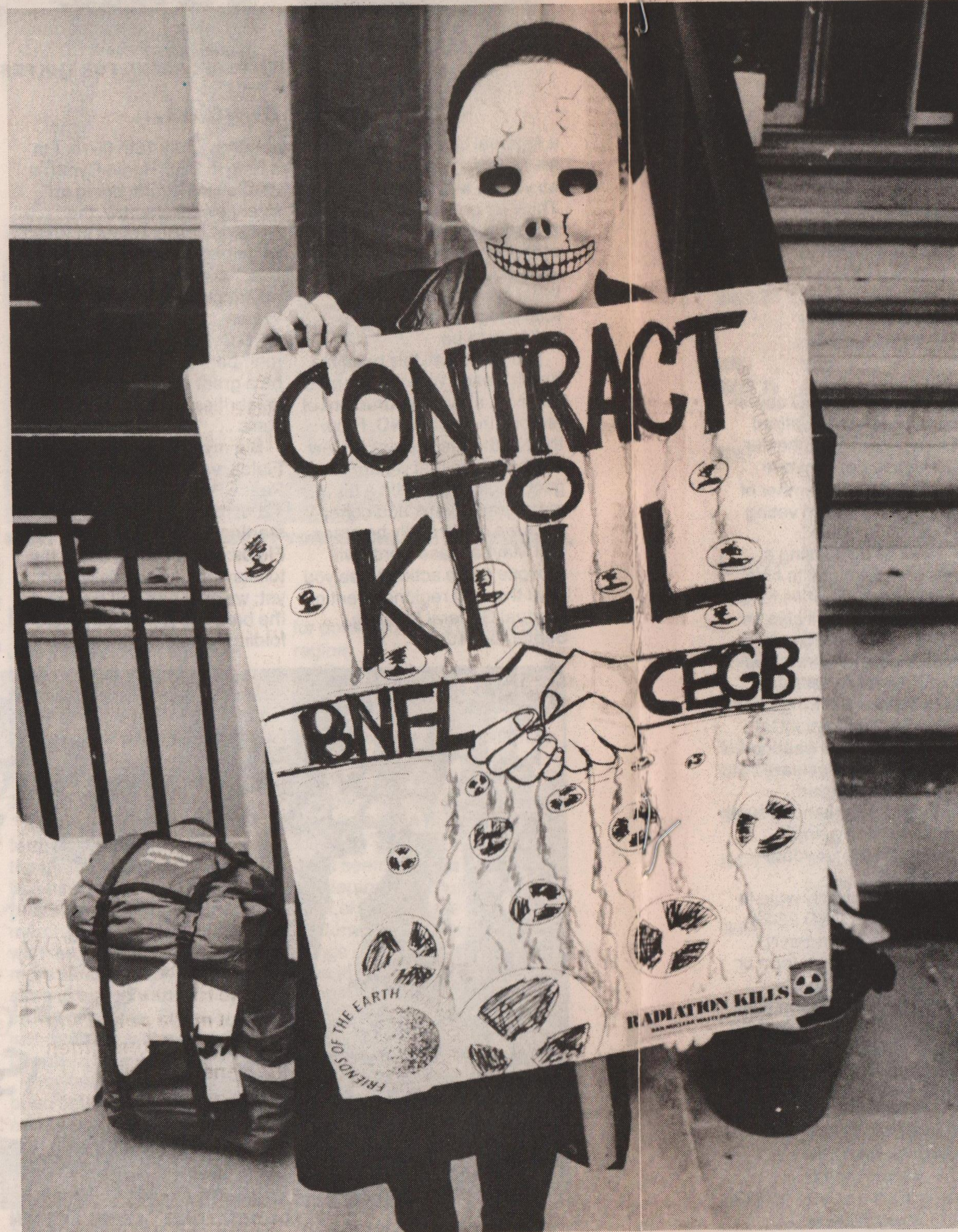
CND will probably be taking the stand and producing its evidence early in the new year. Until then it is important that local groups work to keep the issue of Hinkley Point and the whole nuclear power programme very much in the public eye. One very important method is through Parliamentary lobbying. MPs of all parties should be pressed to question the government at every turn and every contradictory or incorrect statement seized upon.

nuclear power - the power for death?

Having read the facts, you may feel you should be doing something. NOW is the time to start building for a joint demonstration with Friends of the Earth on October 1st.

The timing behind this demo is to tie in with the forthcoming Hinkley enquiry. The theme behind it is that of an economic nature. There are plans afoot to privatise the nuclear industry in order to save the government billions of pounds. However as usual the facts surrounding the Hinkley enquiry are not made public and it's up to us to enlighten the general public.

Therefore the theme on October 1st will be 'Nuclear Power is a lame duck'. And yes you've guessed it, ducks will be playing a very large part



IF IT'S AUTUMN, IT MUST BE RAFFLE-TIME AGAIN!

CND has organised a national raffle again this year to raise money for peace, and the prizes are better than ever! How can you pass up the opportunity of winning a fabulous Caribbean holiday for two, or one of the many smaller prizes - and all in aid of peace!

It is vital that this year's raffle is as successful as ever, since it is crucial to our Autumn fundraising. Not only nationally but also for local CND and peace groups who keep half the proceeds of their ticket sales. So, buy a book of tickets yourself, or persuade friends, relatives and sympathisers to buy some instead.

Tickets are being distributed through local groups, but if you feel you can sell more tickets, don't hesitate to contact me at the national office and I will happily send you some more.

The draw for the raffle will take place at CND's Annual Conference on November 19th, so make sure you have returned your ticket stubs by October 28th.

And remember, apart from the importance of raising money for CND there is the chance you could be enjoying a Caribbean holiday next year!

Apologies once more to those of you who object on moral grounds to raffles and lotteries.

NICK GREEN, FUNDRAISER.

BACK TO SCHOOL

Traditionally, this is the time when people move away from home to begin their University/Poly courses which often results in - "Goodbye" local YCND group!

To avoid this sad state of events why not take a few precautionary steps such as:

- Appoint a new group contact to receive National mailings, as we often find we send things out which are no use to the person receiving them, and the group think we've forgotten them!
 - Appoint someone to organise meetings.
 - Take action! Create an event for the end of September to involve new members immediately and keep them interested. It can be as simple as leafletting or if you're feeling more ambitious street theatre etc.
 - Write to us, that's what the office is here for! We can send you your local list of National members, whom you can mail via the office.
 - If you have well and truly died, organise a re-launch meeting with speakers etc. Completely blitz your local town with flyposting.
 - Organise a Schools Against The Bomb debate for your local school/college/debating society.
- As you can see there are plenty of things to keep you going. Any particular problems, queries or if you simply want a general chat, then ring Claire in the youth office on 250 4010 x164.

in our action.

We will be encouraging people to get out into their town centres, take action outside their electricity stores, market places, busy shopping areas.

For more details send off now for the action pack which will give more details on planned stunts, leaflets to photocopy, useful facts and figures etc.

Get your skates on... write to Claire at YCND, 22-24 Underwood St, London N1 7JG.

If you're reading this by yourself and would like to get involved, contact the office and we

can put you in touch with your nearest YCND group, Earth Action or Friends of the Earth group who should be taking on this campaign.

Plus, it's an excellent way to start up a YCND group and get people involved generally. For more details contact the above...

For this mass demonstration and public awareness campaign to work we need your participation. Just think of the look on Cecil Parkinson's face when he wakes up on October 1st and sees lots of ducks on crutches coming towards him!!!

WHAT'S ON...

We've decided it's time we included a general newspaper in Sign of the Times to tell you what's going on Nationally and in your area. So if you have any relevant pieces you would like to see included in the future please send it to Sott, 22-24 Underwood St, London N1 7JG or ring the youth office on 250 4020 x164.

If Non Violent Direct Action appeals to you as a form of protest, we are in the process of setting up a youth CND NVDA network. Why a network? In one sense it will work as a telephone tree to link people together when relevant actions come up. Its other role will be to organise youth NVDA events solely for those organised by the relevant adult sections. Obviously we'll be providing briefing packs for those with little experience. As we've stressed before it's important that you have parental consent when considering this type of action, plus considering what you would like to do in the future. Many employers will reject you because of a criminal record, it also inhibits your chance of becoming a lawyer - so think before acting!

Our first action will be at the youth gate at Upper Heyford. For more details contact Yuri at 22-24 Underwood St, London N1 7JG.

Skilled and committed volunteers are needed at CND's national office in London. Help is needed with general office services (typing, word processing), press, parliamentary and information work (monitoring papers, indexing, answering queries), and publications (design, paste-up, picture research, sub-editing, proof reading, reporting - some experience desirable). Regular commitment of at least one day per week preferred. Expenses within Greater London can be paid. Please contact Diana Breadmore at CND, 22-24 Underwood St, London N1 7JG (01 250 4010).

The 1988 annual CND conference will be held at Salford University near Manchester, 18-20 November. Anyone who is a national member of CND can attend with voting and speaking rights.

As well as discussing a series of resolutions to help us assess our priorities for the coming year, we will also be holding a major programme of meetings and workshops plus non-plenary sessions.

Discussions will range from 'Looking ahead to the 21st century' (chemical weapons, substitution and nuclear proliferation) to group development workshops such as 'How to keep going'. Registration fee for youth groups is £6.

To register, simply write to Martin Jones at CND 22-24 Underwood St, London N1 7JG for a registration form or ring 250 4010. If you do require accommodation you must register by Monday 10th October, if you don't need accommodation then please register by 28th October.

INSIDE THE MIND OF JOE PUBLIC

Bob Kingham is what you could call an agnostic. He's generally in favour of Youth CND, in the sense that he's pro-disarmament, but this interview is, I think, really helpful in understanding the point of view of (albeit only) one kind of 'person in the street'. I'm very grateful that he agreed to do this and eternally sorry for getting his photo into print...

SOTT: Why is it that you're doubtful about joining YCND?

BK: Because I'm not exactly sure about what you do; what your aims are, how you expect to achieve them and what you want me to do.

SOTT: So you are generally speaking in favour of nuclear disarmament?

BK: Yes.

SOTT: Are you in agreement with Britain's stand of nuclear deterrence?

BK: No, but at the same time I don't think that we can unilaterally disarm without breaking away from the influence of the United States.

SOTT: And what's wrong with that?

BK: Nothing, but it isn't going to happen with the present government, is it?

SOTT: So is it this sense of non-achievement the main thing that's putting you off joining Youth CND?

BK: It's one of them, yes.

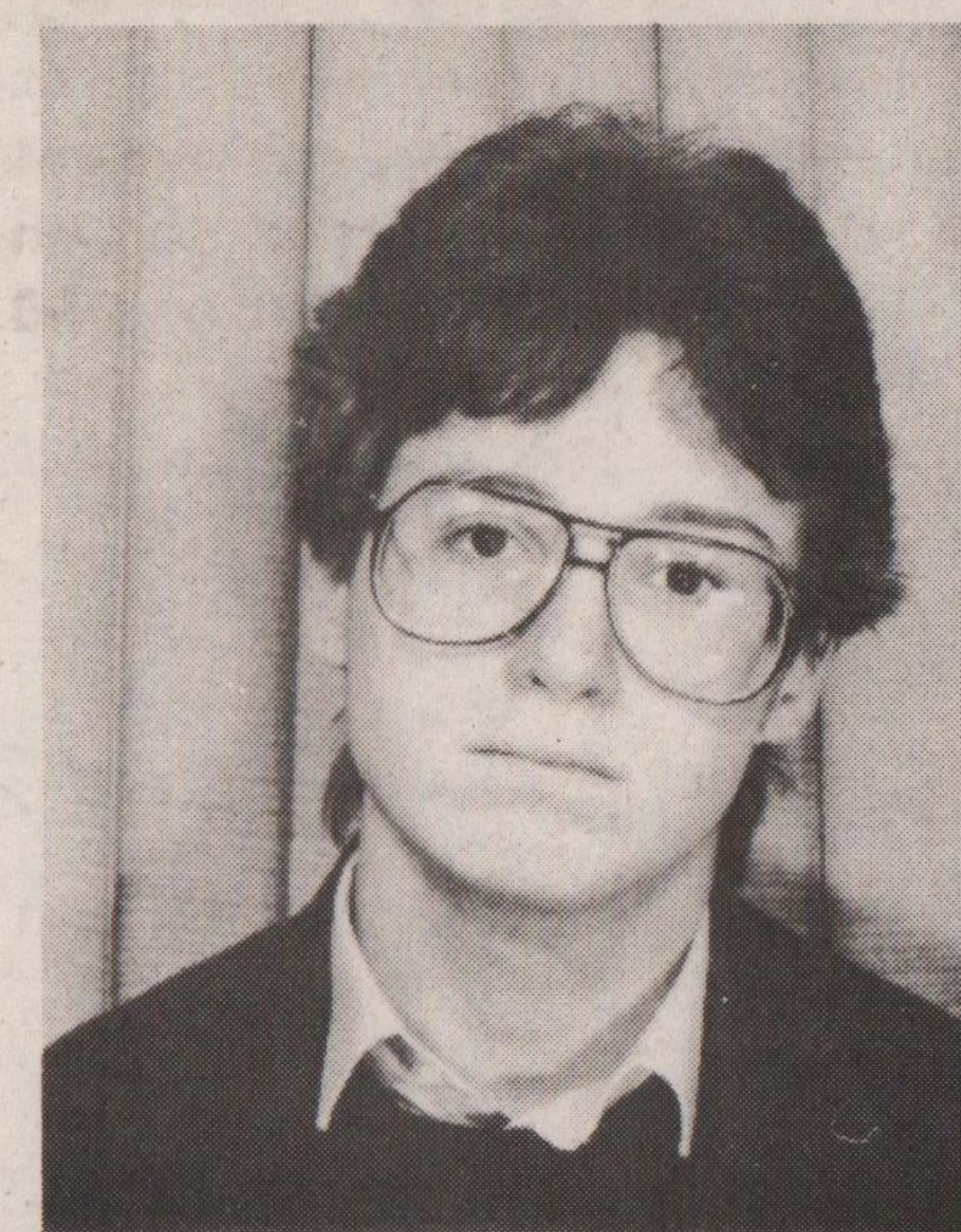
SOTT: So what do you think we should be doing about it?

BK: You're supposed to tell me that!

SOTT: OK: how do you think that we could achieve nuclear disarmament?

BK: Only with the backing of a sympathetic government. I know that the word 'Labour' springs to mind but Wilson got into power in the sixties on a non-nuclear ticket, but changed his mind once he was in office. But in spite of their pledge to nuclear disarmament I still wouldn't like to see Labour in power for lots of other reasons.

SOTT: Do you think that you will see a nuclear war?



BK: No, not at the moment. But I do think there could be a nuclear war: situations change, it might not all be so cosy for ever.

SOTT: Do you agree that CND has been instrumental in bringing the issue of Nuclear Defence into the political spectrum?

BK: Yes, but at the same time you also tend to give the disarmament cause a bad name in the public view with some of your demonstrations.

SOTT: By this I assume you mean NVDA demos. Why are you against these actions?

BK: Because of the bad publicity they attract to CND, and because of the way in which they turn public opinion against you. It's something that you either are happy about or not. I'm not happy with the idea of law-breaking in the name of anti-nuclear protest and it does all put some doubt in my mind about joining.

SOTT: Do you think that NVDA protesters are justified in their

actions?

BK: No, but apparently they do. I suppose that they believe that in this way they can best give attention to the nuclear issue but I think they are deterring people from joining CND.

Recently I replied to a postal enquiry from Bob asking for further information. I sent him the standard envelope full of Q&A leaflets and local contact lists.

SOTT: What did you think of the information I sent you?

BK: It's OK, but it didn't convince me any more than I was already about the whole issue of nuclear weapons. If it didn't convince me to join CND then will it convince anyone else? In itself it doesn't change opinions, and doesn't compel me to join.

SOTT: It seems that even though you are sympathetic to the aims of CND you are reluctant to commit yourself to joining YCND and finding out what you can do as a member. Is it apathy, laziness, or this idea of uncertainty? You would appear to be more pushed by the TV reports of wire-cutting actions than you are attracted to CND. Have we become some kind of mystical body?

BK: It probably is an image thing. I don't have any 'constructive criticism' to give, but if YCND was more widely known about and understood then you might change people's minds. It wouldn't seem such a big step to make, from armchair support to joining Youth CND.

JOHN HANDELLAR