

NOTTINGHAM CND

OCTOBER

BULLETIN 20p

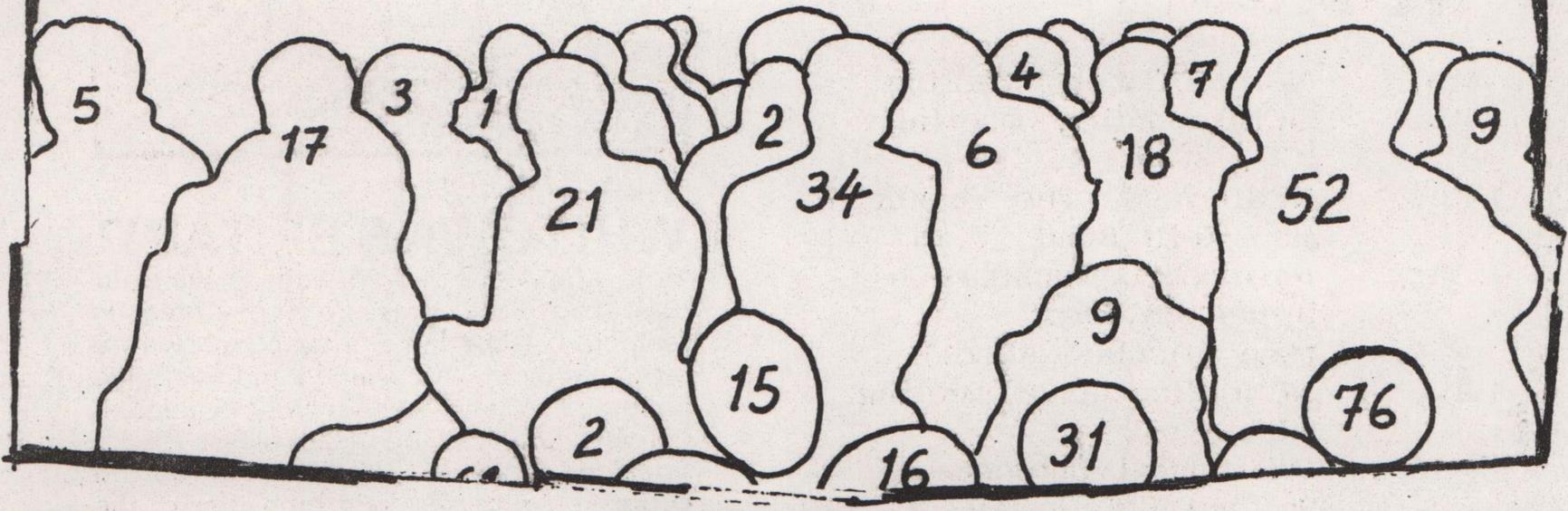


UPPER HEYFORD '83.



©TITANIC COVER DESIGNS '88

WILL THEY BE THERE IN '88?



OCT 15TH - THE STRUGGLE GOES ON!

Watch out for the tanks in Rise Park! Yes, it's red scare time, folks. As you probably know, Byron Ward of the City Council has a by-election and if Labour wins the seat (not impossible), the City Council will have equal numbers, Labour and Conservative. The balance of power would be held by that "raving, extremist, rouble-counting, snow on his books Commie traitor", John Peck. We have an interest in all this since John is one of ours - a long-time active CND-er. And we look forward to sumptuous new offices, at least 10 paid CND workers, free trips to Russia and a ban on the army, scouts and other military institutions from this City. So, here's to John. We look forward to the CND flag flying on City Hall and a ban on all Conservative opposition. Let us march forward, comrades, in the broad democratic alliance of Bulwell allotment holders and militant Greenham women.

P.S. Just in case of misunderstanding, we should point out that this editorial is not serious. (But the red scare comments coming out in Byron will be serious, even if equally nonsensical.)

THANK YOU

The Wollaton Group contact, Jessie Guillon, has stepped down after 8 years of going to meetings, collecting and delivering bulletins and the 101 other things that have to be done. The Bulletin Editorial Team and the NCND Officers group would like to say thank you very much for all you have done Jessie, on behalf of the membership of NCND. We do hope, however, that this doesn't mean we won't be seeing you at NCND events any more! Thank you.

DIARY

- October 4th. NCND Officers meeting
- 5th. NCND Monthly meeting
ICC, 7.30
- 13th. NCND AGM, The Yorker
Mansfield Road, 7.30
- 15th. National Demonstration
Upper Heyford
(see attached sheet)
- 19th. NCND Executive meeting
WEA, 7.30
- November 18/20 CND Annual Conference
Salford University.

- 1st. Dorothy Wilson £50
- 2nd. D. Chauwin £10
- 3rd. Cath Wakeman £5

ONE WORLD

Chris Church
National local groups Co-ordinator
Thursday Oct.27th. 8.00 p.m.
Friends Meeting House
"ONE WORLD WORK MAKING PEACE WITH THE PLANET
WHAT NATIONAL FOE CAMPAIGN IS DOING

Advertisement

THIS LAND IS OUR LAND?

— a series of lectures

Thurs 13th Oct.

ALLOTMENTS

Recreation gardens, or the last, precious vestiges of everyone's natural right to a patch of land to produce food — allotments have their own landscape, culture and history.

Speaker: COLIN WARD — author of numerous books on social history and self-management.



Thurs 27th Oct

WHO OWNS BRITAIN?

More and more people want to visit our rural land — but access to many areas is restricted. At the same time hedgerows are razed, wetlands are drained and rivers are polluted. A new relationship is needed between landlord and the landless.

Speaker: MARION SHOARD — author on countryside matters and presenter of the TV documentary Power in the Land.

All lectures start at 7.30 and are at the Auditorium, County Library, Angel Row, Nottingham. & Tickets are £1.50 (75p unwaged) for each lecture — available from Victoria Centre Box Office, the County Library and Mushroom Bookshop. Enquiries to (0602) 582506.

Nottinghamshire
County Council



NORTH SOUTH: ONE WORLD

OCTOBER IN THE STREETS

This year's national demonstrations at U.S. bases around the country form only a part of a co-ordinated autumn campaign around the theme No More Nuclear Weapons. On Saturdays throughout October and after if necessary, CND groups all over Britain will be on the streets alerting people to the threat posed by the new weapons planned for Britain. To help groups with this street work, CND have produced campaigning material designed for specific activities:

FREE LARGE PETITION

These are to be addressed to local MPs with people's objections to the new missiles in Britain. They will give people who agree with us something to do there and then on the street, as well as providing numerous possibilities for a press photo and forming a part of a street display along with . . .

FREE LARGE POSTER

These are A1 size posters telling people about the possible new missiles that are "on the cards".

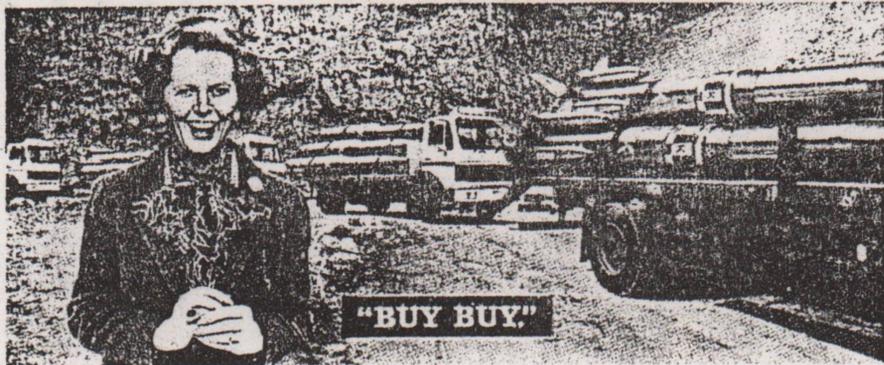
LEAFLETS

People are already saying that the new "playing card" design is as good as the "Jaws" design. In red, green and black, with a striking design, in a few simple words it warns people about the possibilities of new nuclear missiles in Britain.



ADVERTISEMENT

A very effective newspaper advert is available for use by CND groups.



In the interest of world peace the Superpowers are trying to cut their nuclear forces.
How can Mrs Thatcher use the same argument to increase ours eightfold?

A working group has been set up to co-ordinate the leafletting campaign in Nottingham, in the same way as the Jaws leafletting was organised. This group will be contacting your local group to find out how many leaflets your group will be able to distribute.

Contacts for the working group

QUESTIONNAIRE

National CND has also produced the following questionnaire which will be very useful in conjunction with the above activities:

Q1. Did you know that Reagan and Gorbachev have agreed to get rid of the nuclear missiles at Greenham Common?

YES/ NO

Q2. Did you know that Britain and the United States are seriously thinking of putting similar missiles on planes and ships based in this country?

YES/ NO

Q3. Mrs Thatcher is replacing Polaris with Trident nuclear submarines. Polaris has 128 warheads; how many do you think are planned for Trident?

(a) 64 (b) 128 (c) 256 (d) 512

Q4. The superpowers are talking about reducing their nuclear weapons. In the light of this what do you feel Britain should do?

- (a) Reduce our nuclear weapons too.
- (b) Keep about the same number of nuclear weapons.
- (c) Increase our nuclear weapons.

What to say to people in the street

Introduction: 'Good afternoon, I'm from Barchester CND and I'm doing a short questionnaire to find out how much people in Barchester know about the plans to have new nuclear missiles in Britain. Would you mind answering four simple questions? It will only take a moment.'

If they reply '**But I don't agree with CND**', respond, 'That doesn't matter because we are trying to get a good cross-section of the town'.

If they say '**But I don't know much about this**' reply 'Never mind, we are finding that very few people do! So we would be very pleased if you would give it a try please'.

If they say '**I'm too busy**', smile and say 'Fine, please have a leaflet that tells you more about the matter'.

After they have answered: 'Thank you for your time. Please take a leaflet.' To people who gave alternative (a) to Q4 'Would you like to sign the petition over there which is asking for no new nuclear weapons to be put in Britain?'

PS Listening

Lots of people want to talk about this subject. Let them if you feel they are genuinely interested. It is really important to give them the chance.

AGM OCTOBER 13TH

This year's AGM takes place upstairs at the Yorker on Mansfield Road (near Radio Nottingham) on **OCTOBER 13th** at 7.30 p.m.

In addition to resolutions already published in the bulletin, the following two have been received for discussion at the AGM:

The election of the officers will include the following:

6 officers
Bulletin Editor
Treasurer

The Yorker was chosen as a venue so that a social could take place at the end of the meeting. There will be food provided by Sherwood group and a bar.

Proposals for AGM:

That the rear room at 33 Castle Gate be refurbished and arranged as a permanent exhibition area, with public access.

Proposed by Jeremy Jago

In order to provide continuity within the Governing Body, we propose that Officers be elected for two-year terms of office, with half of the places on the Governing Body becoming vacant and up for election each year.

Proposed by Forest Fields Peace Group.

AGM Submission

We note with concern that the officers, in overturning the decision made at a policy meeting concerning the change of premises, have dismissed the members' vote. Submitted by Val Harris.

STOP PRESS NEW OFFICE OPTION

After much debate earlier this year, Nottingham CND decided to make an agreement to move into the top floor office of the Rainbow Centre at 180 Mansfield Road. Anybody who came to the special meeting in May will remember well the lively debate that took place. Various options were thrown around, but at that time, the Rainbow Centre was the only definite option Nottingham CND had. As the termination date on our office in Queen's Chambers was drawing near, we needed a decision.

The other main alternative office option Nottingham CND had to consider was ground floor premises at 33 Castle Gate which, at the time, were not available. Its occupants were "planning" to leave, but no date was known. They, too, were searching for other premises. In late August, I got a telephone call, letting Nottingham CND know that they might be leaving their office soon.

Well, the tenancy for 33 Castle Gate was now available from January 1989. In fact, there is a strong possibility that Nottingham CND could take the tenancy from mid-October as the current occupants are leaving on the 3rd of October. (If only this could have happened in June!) Given this belated new option, the officers of Nottingham CND placed a proposal before the Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 21st September. We proposed that Nottingham CND attempt to gain a tenancy agreement for 33 Castle Gate from January 1989 and, if possible, move in prior to this date in mid-October. Indeed, we have to vacate our current office in Queen's Chambers by October 23rd.

This proposal does not ignore the agreement made with the Rainbow Centre which was to rent an office for six months minimum. As is the way with hard decisions, we took a vote of which 10 were for, 2 against and 3 people abstained. The meeting also concluded that the officers' group should arrange a meeting with the Rainbow Centre to explain the reasons for this new decision.

When the bulletin was produced in September, references were being checked out by the Estate Agents controlling the Castle Gate premises. Should these be approved, Nottingham CND should be able to secure the tenancy for 33 Castle Gate from January if not before. If the estate agents are willing, we could take over the tenancy from the present holders or sub-let from them until the new year. Much will happen quickly, so by the time you receive your bulletin, Nottingham CND may well be in a new office on Castle Gate.

JOHN MITCHELL.

I COUNTED THEM ALL IN AND I COUNTED THEM ALL OUT AGAIN

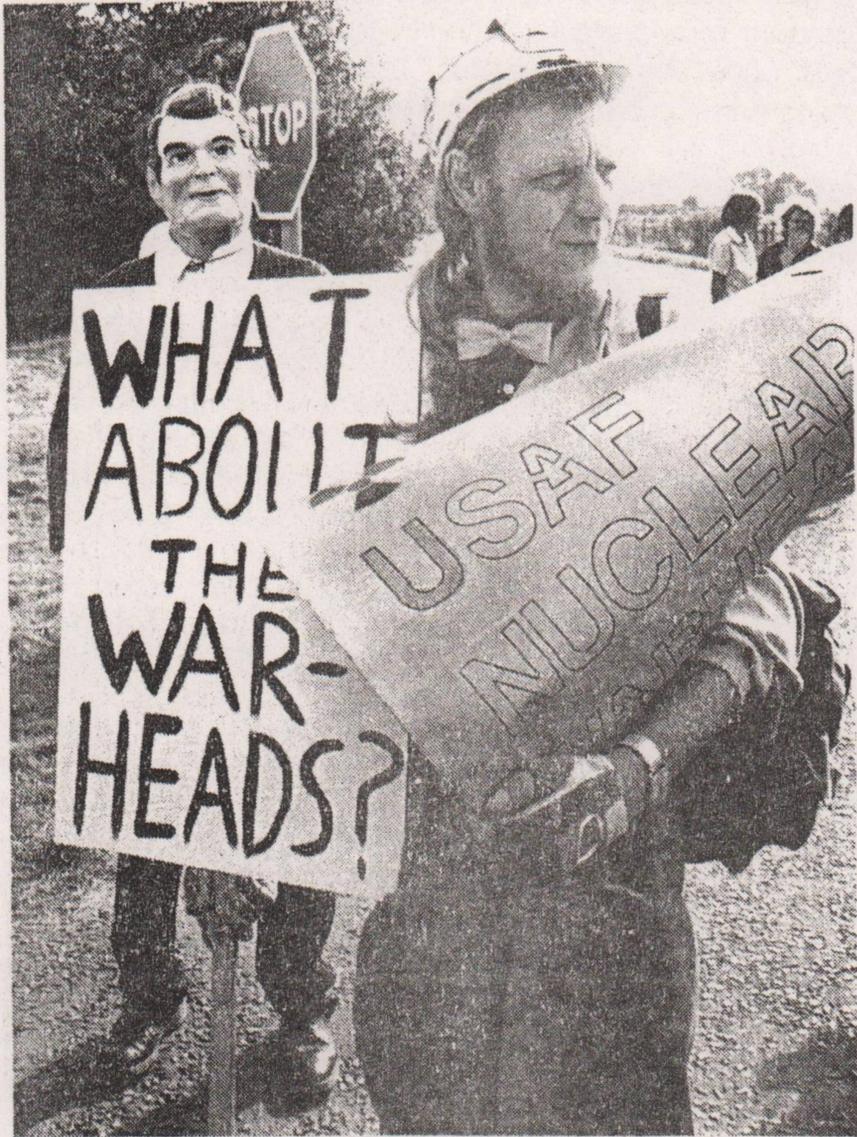
Four members of NCND took a dummy nuclear warhead to Molesworth on the day Cruise Missiles were flown home.

Several attempts were made to hand over the "forgotten" warhead to USAF officials.

Thursday September 8th 1988:
Molesworth, Cambridgeshire.

I looked towards the Cruise transporters trundling off down the road away from Molesworth and thought to myself, "So this is what history is like". My head was filled with the whirrings and clickings of countless Pentaxes, Miloltas and Nikons, as the Media Circus jostled and pushed one another to try and capture for posterity, and for picture editors, this Great Moment. Somewhere behind me, Dave Dickinson was being involved in a scuffle with a policeman and, over the road, a small group of Buddhists were chanting and beating their drums. Some things never change. I shouted out at the top of my voice, "What about the warheads?" and began dancing in a ring ... Meg Beresford gave an interview ...the Media Circus sped away after the Cruise missiles in search of the next photo-opportunity.

So this is what history is like. We had stood on



this very spot four years before and, of course, it was very different then. No fences or police or missiles or media. Just open land, with a few peace campers and alternative lifestylers crowded together in one corner. We had come to see for ourselves the place where the next major confrontation between the massed forces of the peace movement and the military-industrial complex was scheduled to take place. We came four years ago and made our sketch maps and drew up our plans.



Over the following months, we returned many times. We put our plans into action, cutting fences, blockading roads, climbing towers, leafleting villagers, organising sponsored walks, Defend Molesworth Benefits, compiling exhibitions, producing and distributing posters and speaking at meetings. We sent petitions to the United Nations and bits of fence to President Reagan. We dressed up as workmen to divert the construction traffic and dressed up as pink Bunny Rabbits to climb the water tower. They brought in new bye-laws: we broke them. They put up higher fences: we scaled them. One day we came with 6,000 friends to blockade the base in sub-Arctic conditions and made the biggest single mass-civil disobedience in modern British history.

So this is what history is like. I used to speak at meetings and tell people of the great day that lay ahead of us, the day when Cruise would leave Molesworth. I don't know what I really imagined it would be like, but I didn't imagine it would be like this. This is how the campaign ends: not with a bang, but with a whimper. I wish it could have been a bang. I wish we could have had 6,000 people there again, instead of just the Media Circus and three dozen of us. I wish we had all suddenly burst out singing, or had lined the road to Alconbury with banners, saying, "WHAT ABOUT THE WARHEADS?" I wish there could have been a parade of all the characters from the last four years, instead of just the scuffling policemen and the BUDDHISTS.

Bring on the pink bunnies. Bring on Michael Heseltine in a combat jacket. Bring on the Fall-Out Marching Band, playing "Fence-Busters". Bring on the Peace Convoy Hippies. Bring on the affinity groups and the first-aiders and the pick-up drivers and the legal observers and the press-liaison persons. Bring 'em all on.

Of course, this is what I learned as I watched the Cruise missiles slip out of view.. that history never goes like that. You just keep plugging away, taking three steps forward and a couple of steps back and pushing all the time for what you believe in and knowing that you're probably not going to storm the Winter Palace or the Pentagon. TELL NO LIES; CLAIM NO EASY VICTORIES, say the African National Congress. There are no easy vic-

tories.

I turned away and overheard a member of the Media Circus offer £5 to anyone who would go and take that bloody drum away from that bloody Buddhist. A little old lady found an official Molesworth Press Pass on the floor and helpfully handed it to the policemen! (Sigh.) Dave jammed the cardboard warhead into the razor-wire and a policeman threatened to arrest him.

History marches on.

PETE STRAUSS.

GREENHAM

On Tuesday August 2nd, I travelled to London for a court case which started with a stroll around the perimeter fence of a well-know U.S.A.F. airbase in Newbury, Berkshire. Depending on which squaddie you believed, I was arrested on suspicion of undoing, unpicking or removing anything from two strands to a whole section of fence with my bare hands (What, no bolt cutters?) which resulted in my being taken into the base for further questioning. What happened to me on that day in January '84 resulted in a four year struggle to sue the M.O.D. for assault.

After being taken into the base, I was placed in the officers' tea-room with ten male officers who weren't happy with this arrangement. They were not only offended by my presence, but by my sex, my politics and my smell! Two of the officers, P.C. Pizzey and P.C. Lambourn, seemed to particularly upset by my presence and decided that verbal abuse wasn't enough and what followed was described by my barrister in court as loutish behaviour by people in a position of power, in which I had a beaker of hot tea poured over me, I was knocked out of my chair and thrown up against the wall, twice. Then I was taken out of the tea-room and charged with criminal damage.

After trying three times to make a complaint, I contacted the Guardian, Bob Clay the MP for Sunderland, and my solicitor, and an investigation was started.

In September '84, the police complaints board wrote to me informing me that the evidence was not sufficient to justify a prosecution. None of the incidents had been denied, but it would seem that I threw myself out of the chair, the tea was spilled on me accidentally and I was thrown against the wall because the officer concerned felt I would be injured if I continued sitting where I was! The D.P.P. then turned down my application for legal aid twice, but thanks to the Quakers, we were able to pay an independent barrister to review the case and the result of this was that my legal aid was granted. This took two years. The M.O.D. then stalled for another two years until August of this year when the case finally came to court.

The prosecution barrister in his cross examination went on at length about the fact that, as I was living at camp at the time and that, as washing facilities were primitive to say the least, possibly I did smell and that I had struggled for four

years to get this case to court out of spite and that, as a hardened political activist, what happened to me that day in that room had no effect on me whatsoever as I was an unco-operative woman being as awkward as possible.

Then the M.O.D. presented their eleven witnesses, most of them suffering from amnesia, who seemed to be programmed to say, over and over again, "I don't recall; I don't recollect; I don't remember", apart from P.C. Lambourn who explained to the judge at length why his statement, made ten days after the incidents, was completely different to the statement he was making in the witness box. It seems that he'd made a parachute jump, his parachute hadn't opened properly and he'd hurt his ribs and sustained injuries which caused him such distress that he didn't know what he was saying when he'd made his original statement, even though the answers he had given were in some cases half a page long and full of detail. Later on in his evidence which turned out to be a complete fiasco, the judge asked him if he'd had a parachute accident during the last few days, Lambourn assured him that he hadn't, and so it went on. The case lasted for two days and, on August 15th, I went back to receive Judge Lipfriend's judgement.

Even though I'd been telling myself for over four years that I didn't care if the establishment believed me or not, that the struggle had been won by getting them into court, I realised that my feelings had changed. I wanted this man whom I'd never met before and may never meet again, to believe me. I wanted him to say that however they felt about me and my politics, their behaviour was unacceptable and that is what he did.

On delivering his judgement, he said he'd listened to the evidence of the plaintiff and the defendants and that he believed the plaintiff, that the officers had behaving in a disgraceful way for officers of the crown, and he awarded me damages.

For me and my friends who were in court with me that day, it validated my four year struggle and I hope it said to the M.O.D. and the individual officers concerned that my politics did not give them the right to treat me, or anyone else, in the way they did, as a non-person and that sometimes, even a judge can find for the individual and not the establishment.

C. DRAKE.

Women working for change
Locally, nationally, internationally
Women who care
Any woman anywhere
Come and share your concerns with others

There is so much to feel
Be quick to hear
Be quick to hear
Be quick to hear
We can give each other
When women gather

October 22nd
23rd

One World
Many Women
- a growing
Sisterhood

INTERNATIONAL GATHERING OF WOMEN

WOMEN'S PEACE CAMP
GREENHAM COMMON

1988

Solidarity
Actions
Throughout
The World

CONTACTS:
Camp: Indra or Hazel
England: Ruth/Barbara 0524 28208
North: 0783 864634
South: 0283 812048
East: 0749 88470
West: Tony/Ember
London: Gay at CND 01 794 8605
International: Silver 0287 74 312
Scotland: 044 922 4170
Wales: LOCAL:

ISRAEL AND THE PALESTINIANS

Following Pete Strauss's report of his visit to Palestine and his feelings about the issues that confront Palestinians and Israelis, we have received several responses from members who do not wholly agree with Pete's opinion. The NCND bulletin editorial team welcomes both the expression of opinions in the bulletin as well as responses from members, but the opinions expressed should not necessarily be assumed to be either those of the editorial team, the NCND officers or the membership as a whole.

ISRAEL AND THE PALESTINIANS.

At the end of his brilliant book on the roots of conflict in the Middle East, "The Gun and the Olive Branch", David Hirst spells out the grim danger that we now face.

"The fatal Zionist propensity for the extreme solution, which we have seen in action, at every stage of this history, all but guarantees that the last act of violence in the Middle East will be nuclear. Israel has not signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty; it possesses the Bomb and the further development of its nuclear capacity is the only way that it can match its enemies' ever-growing conventional strength. The logic of force on which it has always relied is ultimately a self-destroying one. But, without a peaceful settlement, nothing can stand in the way of its apocalyptic appeal."

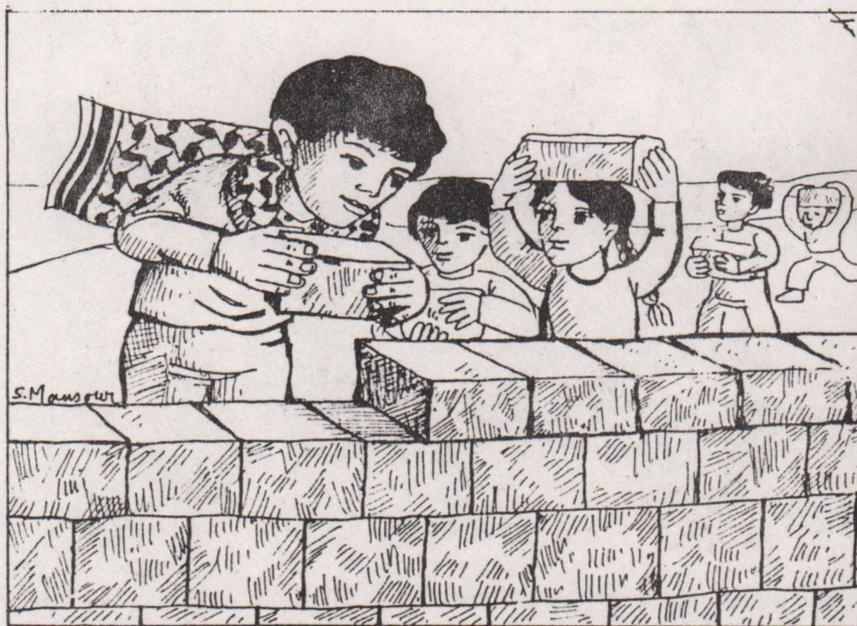
Here is the direct link between what is happening now to the Palestinians and our own concerns in the British Peace Movement. Recent opinion polls have shown that most people now believe a nuclear war is more likely to start in the Middle East than between the US and the USSR. We need to understand the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, for it represents one of the most likely flashpoints for what we all most fear.

The first point we must remember when trying to unravel the threads of the conflict is the pivotal role that the United States plays in it all. America subsidises Israel to the tune of £7 million a day...over £2,500 million a year! As long as that money is flowing in, any U.S. criticism of Israeli policy towards the Palestinians or appeal for a more humanitarian approach, is pretty meaningless.

Why does the United States support Israel so enthusiastically? There are probably many reasons. Partly, it is a result of the strength of the Zionist lobby in the American political system. Partly it is a traditional Cold-War approach to a regional dispute of this kind and is an attempt to keep the Soviets out of what is seen as a strategically important zone. Most importantly of all, the United States sees Israel as a bulwark not so much against the Soviets, but against progressive

Arab nationalism. Ever since 1956, Israel has always been able to prevent any growth of progressive Arab nationalism in the region and so has helped ensure the continued survival of the reactionary and, ultimately, pro-Western Arab governments all around. Any success for the Palestinians (for example, the establishment of an independent state in the West Bank and Gaza strip) would inevitably inspire and fuel serious challenges to the rule of dictators like King Hussein of Jordan. This is what the United States is most afraid of: the success of a movement of progressive Arab nationalism that would threaten its supply of oil and control of the Middle East.

On the face of it, the Palestinians don't have much of a chance. Ranged against them they have, not just the muscle of the Israeli state or the dollars of the US taxpayer, but also the hostility of their supposed Arab allies. (King Hussein's recent decision to sever ties with the West Bank was a transparent attempt to catch the PLO wrong-footed and discredit them in the eyes of ordinary Palestinians.)



Building the new Palestinian state.
(Al Fajr August 14th. 1988)

I have to say, however, that I was amazed by the degree of political sophistication, of efficient organisation and of high morale amongst the Palestinian population. The four main political parties that make up the PLO (Fatah, the Popular Front, the Democratic Front and the Communists) seem to have succeeded in burying their differences and have established a network of popular committees in every town, village and camp across the Occupied Territories. These committees organise most aspects of the every-day insurgent life and do so in a way that defies the Israeli's brutal attempts at suppression. The Intifada is about much more than the throwing of rocks...it is about people taking control of their lives and organising themselves in open defiance of the ruling state. In a sense, the Palestinians are unbeatable.

This leaves the Israelis with a dilemma. If they annexe the West Bank and Gaza and incorporate them into some sort of "Greater Israel", they will saddle themselves with a rebellious and politically mature people whose rate of population growth means that they will outnumber Jewish Israelis by the early- to mid-1990s. If they concede to the Palestinians the right to their own homeland, they have to deal with their own "settlers" who will

certainly put up a struggle rather than abandon their homes. They also have to come to terms with have a Palestine on their borders from where, (as one Israeli told me) a man can stand on a hill with a hand-launched rocket and see Tel Aviv airport only 8 miles away. And then there is Jerusalem. Could Israel ever give up its holy capital city, with its ruins of the original Jewish kingdoms of David and Solomon? Could the Palestinians give up their holiest of mosques, Al Haqsa and the Dome of the Rock?

One option that seems to be gaining credibility all the time is expulsion, euphemistically called "transfer" by its supporters. When the idea of physically expelling the Palestinians from the Occupied Territories was first raised by people like Rabbi Meir Kahane, they were dismissed as being on the loony fringes of politics. When I left Israel last month, I read the results of an opinion poll that said 49% supported expulsion! Kahane's party is expected to increase its share of the vote and of seats at the Knesset at the General Election in November.



Both parents of these children have been imprisoned and their house was demolished by the Israeli army the next day, leaving the family of four, from Rafah camp in the Gaza Strip, including the children's disabled grandmother, living in a tent on the rubble. (Al Fajr July 31st. 1988)

I found Israel a depressing place. There is no peace movement, as such, that can boast of any reasonable public support. PEACE NOW! emerged during the Lebanon War of '82, but has not been able to muster the sort of mass demonstrations against the beatings and killings of Palestinians, as it did against the killing of Israeli soldiers around Beirut. I kept encountering a stubborn refusal to give an inch to the Arabs, a siege mentality that thinks the whole world is against Israel and a profound anti-Arab racism that permeates the whole of society.

A couple of days before I left, I stood and watched a squad of policemen bullying and breaking up a young Arab boy's street stall for no particular reason except that it seemed to give them some sort of brutish pleasure. I had seen similar scenes captured on photographs at the museum called Yad Vashem, only the photos were taken forty years ago and the policemen were German and the street vendors were Jewish.

The immediate future seems to hold little hope for peace. The Palestinian desire for a homeland is not going to go away. There is no sign of aggressive Zionism loosening its grip on the Israelis.

Perhaps the key does lie with the United States and its hold on the purse strings to Israel's economy. America must learn that, in reality, it is not in her interests to keep on picking up Zionism's bill. There will be no peace in the Middle East until the Palestinians have a homeland of their own and, as long as there is no peace in the Middle East, there is a threat to the peace of the whole world.

PETE STRAUSS.

LETTER

Last month you published an article by Pete Strauss on his experience in the Middle East. I read this with a growing sense of unease and concern.

Undoubtedly there is brutality and oppression practised by Israeli soldiers within the Occupied Territories. It is also the case that Palestinians have lost land and rights as a result of Israeli Government policies. It is important that publicity is given to these injustices.

It is equally important to make it clear that there are many Israelis who do not support their government's policies towards the Palestinians and would like to see a negotiated peace settlement with negotiation of the rights of Palestinians to land and self-government.

The Peace Now movement is growing throughout Israel and thousands have turned out in demonstrations against government policies towards the Palestinians. Even within the military, there is a small but significant number of soldiers refusing to serve in the Occupied Territories who risk imprisonment by so doing.

Not far from Jerusalem, a group of Israelis and Palestinians have set up NEVE SHALOM/WAHAT AL-SALAM (The School for Peace) in an attempt to demonstrate a way forward for the two groups to live side by side. The residents not only work towards trying to reconcile their own differences, but have also set up an educational programme of workshops and seminars for groups of young Palestinians and Israelis. Their aim is to promote understanding among those in whose hands the future of the country lies.

If CND wishes to move from being simply an anti-nuclear organisation to one which is concerned with wider issues of political injustice and oppression, I would suggest it find a more constructive way of achieving this. Moral outrage is fine as far as it goes, but if, in the fight against injustice, we do not take account of the positive forces on each side, then we simply create more hatred. It is clear that political solutions will have to be found in the Middle East, but surely lasting possibilities of peace lie in people being able to live side by side with some degree of understanding and acceptance.

MYRA WOOLFSON.

THESE MISSILES WILL FLY NO MORE

On his recent trip to Minsk, Geoffrey Young took part in a meeting with members of the Writers Union - journalists on the Minsk newspaper "Soviet Byelorussia". During the discussion, the topic of nuclear weapons came up and the Deputy editor of the paper mentioned an article they had published on the destruction of SS-23 missiles in Kazakhstan. This article was later offered to the NCND Bulletin for publication and a translation appears below:

ON THE SPOT REPORT

MISSILES WILL FLY NO MORE

In accordance with the INF Treaty, in the USSR the destruction of nuclear missiles continues.

We walked casually across the land of the missile base, across what was once a target. We spoke about missiles that had been deployed there recently - SS-23s. Until now, journalists were not allowed on this land, but times are changing.

Col. V.S. Zaitsev, whom I was interviewing, answered my questions calmly and confidently, even provocative questions, because the subject of our conversation was no longer either a military or state secret. Col. Zaitsev says, "By the way, American inspectors, not long ago, walked this same route. They're very inquisitive men, even though not journalists."

Qu. "Did you satisfy their curiosity?"

Ans. "I think that the group of American inspectors, headed by U.S. Army Marine Lieut. Col. Lawrence Kelly, received all the information they needed, in strict compliance with the INF Treaty."

Qu. "It must have felt very unusual for you to be showing people around somewhere so sensitive?"

Ans. "Of course," Col. Zaitsev agrees, "but I support such mutual openness and such an unusual situation, both in strict adherence to the INF Soviet/American Treaty and for the sake of preserving peace on earth."

We're approaching the protective enclosure which houses the missiles. It's very unusual for me, being a former soldier - you must realise that these places used to be very heavily guarded by soldiers. Now emptiness greets us inside the enclosure.

Within a period of three years, the USSR and USA will destroy more than 2,000 combat nuclear missiles. You might think this is no small figure, but it constitutes only 4% of the world nuclear arsenals.

August 1st. 1988, 12.00 noon Moscow time, near Sariozek in Kazakhstan - a blinding flash and the first 4 short range SS-22s no longer exist. Without doubt this day will go into the history of mankind as an unprecedented one. That was a most peaceful and long awaited missile explosion which brought not death but joy and hope to millions of human beings.

The same day, in Stankovo, near Minsk, they started dismantling the launch pads of SS-22s and SS-23s and their carriers.

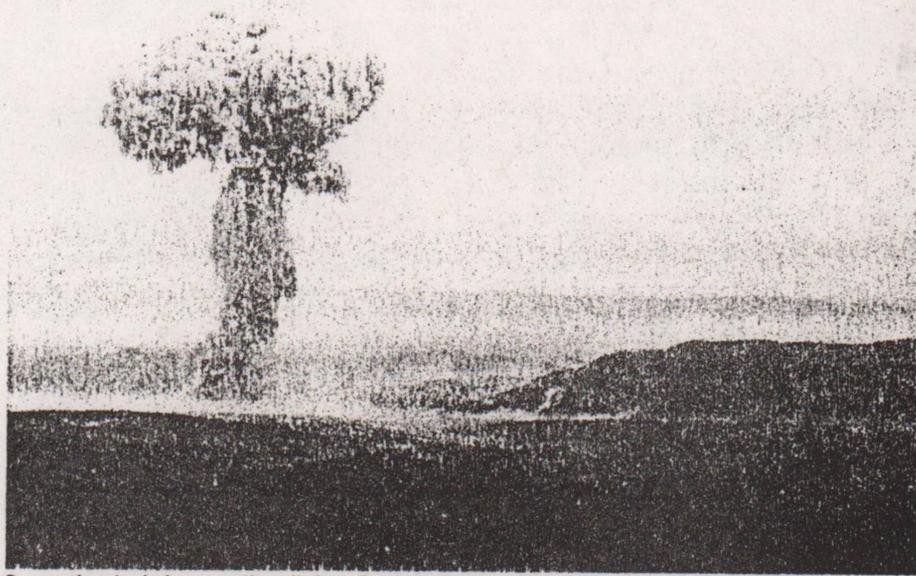
"It's not exactly my first year in the army," says Major F.F. Zdunyuk.

Qu. "But, being realistic, you've lost your job, haven't you?"

Ans. "Well, not exactly. I'll find something to do, though in another sphere. The experience of a missile operating officer will serve me in good stead in the army."

Qu. "But what, specifically, are you and your men doing now? No missiles, no launchers, no carriers left at the base."

Ans. "Since we are busy moving missiles and auxiliary equipment to their place of destruction, our service schedule has been changed. Political education classes are run, soldiers are trained in physical fitness, firing etc., because no missiles will be launched any more."



Some clouds do have a silver lining: Soviets destroy SS12s

It's unusually calm at the base. Birds can be heard singing in the forest. Yesterday all you could hear was loud commands and the roaring of engines here. Those engines roared for the last time, towing missiles to the inspection point where the Americans waited for them.

The inspection was, incidentally, a thorough one. There were no complaints from the inspectors who also were impressed by the friendly and honest attitude of the Soviet military personnel.

Let's remember the chain of events which took place in Geneva, Reykjavik, Washington and Moscow. The summits have yielded their first results. Further movement towards a nuclear-free world, however, will not be simple. But the first steps have been taken.

The American people no longer view our country as "an empire of evil."

We were leaving the base. A non-commissioned officer on duty at the check post snapped to attention and pushed the gates wide open. It was not long ago that missiles, launchers and carriers passed through these gates to the place of their destruction.

H. Dubovik
"Soviet Byelorussia".

TIME FOR THE GREENS

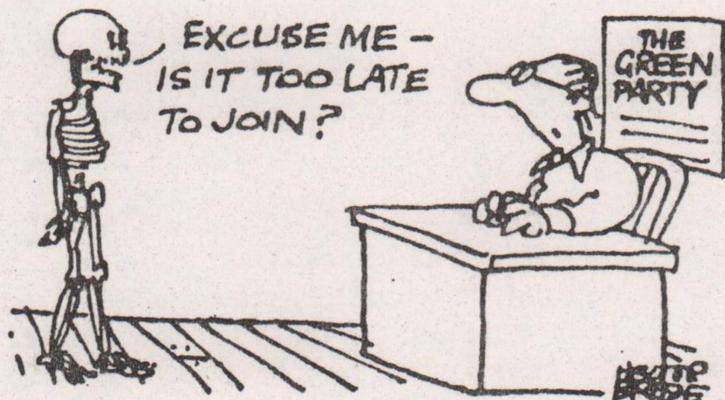
NCND's September Monthly Meeting was one of its best attended meetings for some time. It would be nice to think that NCND could pull in 40 or so people to a meeting on its nuclear weapons policy but, at the moment, unrealistic and surprise surprise, as the Green Party's policy on nuclear weapons coincides precisely with our own, I concluded that most of the people sitting in the WEA's plastic chairs, listening to Jean Lambert outline the Green/CND policy on nuclear weapons (NATO etc) were comrades - or whatever Greens call each other.

It was rather a shame that no-one stood up and proposed an inaugural meeting of the Nottingham Green Party. As no-one did, the party faithful remains without a party. This seems to me a shame since there is a real need for someone to start thinking about our environment here in Nottingham.

The Victorian houses on Mansfield Road, about to be demolished to make way for an office block, provide an immediate example. The filling of the open spaces in Forest Fields with houses (one would have thought there were enough already in that area) while kids have to play in the streets, gives another.

It is these kinds of issues that have provided the West German Greens with much of their political territory. We live in a world which the effects of capitalism threaten daily, from the environment of our neighbourhoods to the future of the planet. Those who engage actively in its defence learn their politics fast, be it through the failure of social democratic parties in the council chamber or police protection of a nuclear base.

So why isn't there a Green Party in Nottingham? I would have thought that, from the Peace Movement alone, there are enough people who have seen those in power lie and cheat and slander and, when necessary, use force to protect the arsenals of nuclear weapons which threaten to finish this planet's short history. Who have seen also the traditional opposition floundering like a fish out of water, unable to grasp the fact that the world is changing, let alone being able to change with it.



Certainly the "wally" image the Greens have acquired (brown bread and sandals brigade) doesn't help, but one only needs to look at an organisation like Greenpeace to see that such an image can quickly be shaken off. More profound, however, is the crippling effect that our archaic simple majority electoral system imposes on British political life. It's not encouraging to campaign for what are, in effect, wasted votes and one can understand people's reluctance to leave the ever present possibilities of the Labour Party.

If the Greens are to succeed, however, it will not be by having elections in isolation. It will be because they have gone out and struggled with those who are concerned with the environment of their children. The sooner the better.

Dave Dickinson

review

These books you may like to read but, because of the price, won't want to buy. Don't worry! They are in the Nottingham City Library.

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament
Paul Byrne
Croom Helm £30.00

Charts the revival of CND in the 80s, analyses its strengths and weaknesses and problems; its impact on political parties and other institutions. It discusses aims tactics and ideas within the movement. It shows that if we are to develop a forward looking attitude, we must remember that although we do not have the 100,000 members of 1983, we do have 80,000 national members and 200,000 members in local groups.

Campaign For Peace
Richard Taylor and Nigel Young
Manchester University Press £29.50

Subtitled, "British Peace Movement in C20th., it has essays on War Resistance; The Peace Movement Since 1914; War, Peace and British Marxism; the Peace Movement Between the Wars; the Labour Party and CND; the Peace Movement Since 1945; the churches and the Arms Race; Women and Peace; and finishes with a useful account of the peace movement in the 80s.

World Military and Social Expenditure 1987-88.
Ruth Leger Sivard
SPRI £4.95

It is packed with information on the world arms race which, which makes it an invaluable source of facts on nuclear overkill, military repression, wars and expenditure, which make it a must to read before you go to a meeting or demo. Have a copy by you!

David Lane

CAMPAIGN

THE WAY AHEAD

For those of you who were unable to attend the executive NCND meeting on Wednesday Sept. 21st., at which there was a discussion on the "The Way Ahead for NCND", the following is a brief account of the ideas which came out. The full minutes of the meeting are available at the NCND office.

Several proposals were put forward at the beginning of the discussion. It seemed that the options were:

1. To carry on as we are.
2. As above with some restructuring.
3. Changes to be made towards becoming a smaller, more "professional" group.
4. Merger with other groups.

The general feeling from the officers present was that too much work fell on too few shoulders. There is a lack of replacements, especially young people to take over.

Several people believed that the old structure of NCND, ie. one based around mass membership, high numbers of volunteers and particularly the neighbourhood groups was outmoded and a millstone around our necks.

There was some admiration of the success of Greenpeace in their fund-raising, high-profile, but limited participation of members style.

Some discussion surrounded the question of methods and message. Even with restructuring, these two elements require scrutiny. As far as methods were concerned, the idea of mergers was not popular, although joint activities with sympathetic groups were. CND's constitution allows for campaigning on broader issues anyway.

A proposal that the new officers group be rationalised into departments as follows met with general approval:

Finance & Fund-raising
Campaign and Press
Publications

with two people in each with one overall overseer.

Allied to this was the feeling that officers should be free from "housekeeping" in order to concentrate on larger issues. Perhaps less demanding or time consuming work could be taken on by individuals outside the officers group.

Not so much time was spent on NCND's message, but some discontent was shown with ideas from National CND and perhaps NCND should decide on its own choice of issue. More links should be made.

The general conclusion of the meeting was that changes have to be made, especially in the structure of NCND. Perhaps the officers should be allowed more power to make decisions, while remaining accountable to the membership.

It was felt that the discussion had been very worthwhile, would be a useful guide to the incoming officers, but that the discussion was worthless unless agreed changes were implemented.

The NCND bulletin team will be happy to publish member's comments on the above topic in future issues.

Geoffrey Young.

JOIN NOTTINGHAM CND HERE

adult £3.75 household £4.50 unwaged £1.50 group affiliations £5 to 50

Name

Address

.....

I enclose £ membership plus £ donation

Please make cheques payable to NCND and return to:

Nottingham CND, 17/18 Queen's Chambers, 3 King Street, Nottingham.

CONTACTS

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BINGHAM
BULWELL/BESTWOOD

BURTON JOYCE
CITY CENTRE
CLIFTON
EAST LEAKE
FOREST FIELDS
HUCKNALL
ILKESTON
KEYWORTH
LENTON/DUNKIRK
MANSFIELD
MAPPERLEY
MAPPERLEY PARK
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RALEIGH STREET /
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WEST BRIDGFORD
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LISTERGATE STALL REMINDER

To co-ordinate NCND's activities at Listergate stall each neighbourhood group has been allocated four Saturdays to apply for a licence.

NOW is the time for your group to apply for it's Listergate stall licence-don't miss it!

Letters of application to be sent to:
Mrs Swain, licencing officer, City Secretary's office, The Council House, Nottingham.

For further advice on completing the form please contact Doreen Gower (785503). Completed forms must be returned in the near future and at least by November 21st 1988.

CITY C·I·N·E·M·A
LIGHTS

CAPTION COMPETITION

WIN FREE FILM TICKETS!

At least two entries this month, none from American presidential candidates, but one from Tollerton, however.

For some reason, Mapperley Park members seem to have a strong grip on this competition. Plans to move the NCND office to Magdala Tennis Club are totally unfounded.

This month's runner up is Simon Bennett, from the aforesaid Tollerton region with:

"Hey everyone! He doesn't believe my finger's really loaded!"



A very brave effort Simon, but the Mapperley Park Caption Competition Winner Syndrome grinds inevitably on. Even though none of the members in the area has heard of Ernest Shuttleworth who describes himself, somewhat modestly, as "a patch of grey slime in a cellar in Mapperley Park" (who says we're not a broad based organisation?), there could be no denying the quality of his entry:

"Say ... shouldn't we dismantle him under the Treaty?"

As, however, Ernest failed to inform us of his address he will have to come forward to claim his prize. Be seeing you Ernest.

Here's next month's picture:



OCTOBER 15TH NATIONAL ACTION AT USAF UPPER HEYFORD

what is MODERNIZATION

The INF agreement got rid of cruise, now we can all relax – or can we? "Modernization" is the way the generals have already found to get round the treaty. By the early '90's, the number of new NATO weapons in Europe will be two to three times the ground-launched cruise missiles negotiated away in such a blaze of publicity.

For NATO, nuclear war hasn't been unthinkable for a long time; it's new requirements are for low yield, accurate weapons which it considers are "politically usable" as soon as war breaks out. "Modernization" means a whole new range of weapons that will fill this role more efficiently than the old ones.

UPPER HEYFORD is one of about 133 US bases in Britain. From it, planes set off to bomb Libya in 1986. It is likely that Upper Heyford will soon receive a further 50 F1-111 bombers to compensate for the immediate removal of Cruise from Greenham and Molesworth. These planes will carry the new generation of nuclear weapons. At Upper Heyford there are always two aircraft armed with nuclear bombs, ready to go. That's how close we are.

THE ACTION

The activities planned at UPPER HEYFORD are part of CND's Autumn Campaign in which groups from all over the country will be taking part. ON the same day there will also be demonstrations at Faslane where Trident is to be based and at Portsmouth where US ships carrying sea-launched Cruise missiles are planned. All three of these demonstrations are calling for NONVIOLENT DIRECT ACTION. Nottingham CND is directing its efforts against Upper Heyford.

THE AIMS OF THE ACTION are to draw public attention to the INF con trick; to show the American government that we will continue to protest against and disrupt their preparations for nuclear war. For us in NOTTINGHAM, this action is the first for many months, and so is an important starting point for a new organization of activities against nuclear weapons. We hope that October 15th will involve many new people.

The demonstration will last from 12 noon to 4pm and will spread out along the perimeter fence of which half is accessible by public rights of way. The rest of the perimeter has narrow paths at the edge of farm fields. PLEASE FOLLOW THE COUNTRY CODE. Activities are planned all round the base with different groups taking responsibility for a particular gate. There are eight major gates (SEE MAP) of which CHRISTIAN CND will be at GATE 8. GATE 10 will be a Womens Gate. Youth CND will be at GATE 13. Cymru CND at GATE 6. Ex-Services CND at GATE 7. GATE 9 is set aside for parents and children and those people WHO DO NOT WISH to take part in direct action.

From Nottingham we have organized for two types of action on October 15th:

1) A demonstration and 2) Non-violent direct action.

INF? A turning point or bluff! The struggle goes on!

THE DEMONSTRATION – FOR PEOPLE WHO DO NOT WISH TO RISK ARREST.

This will take place on the roads and footpaths on the north side of the base (SEE MAP) starting at 12pm. GATE 9 has been set aside for parents and children and anybody who does not wish to take part in direct action.

Of course, people may go where they wish around the base and decoration of the fence and getting to know UPPER HEYFORD will be taking place all day.

At 1pm Christian CND will be holding a service whilst Youth CND will have music and poets at their gate. At 2pm people will be encouraged to plant bulbs and make a noise. The success of the day depends to a large extent on groups providing their own activities so come prepared.

The risk of arrest for these activities should be low, but read the legal advice sheet anyway! Upper Heyford is covered by the same Bye Laws as USAF Greenham Common and Molesworth which technically makes decorating the fence an illegal activity!

COACHES.

Coach Departure is from the "Salutation" on Maid Marian Way at 8.30am.

Coming back, they will leave Upper Heyford at 5.00pm, the exact departure point to be arranged on the day. We hope to drive around the base dropping people off at the gate of their choice with people walking back to their coach departure point. Latest information is that coach parking will be on the Port Way south of the Peace Camp.

Car Parking should be available on the verge of Chilgrove Drive on the East side of the base.

Buy a BLUE TICKET (£5 waged, £3 unwaged) from the NCND office, Ouroboros or Hiziki.

**PLEASE GET YOUR TICKETS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE,
SO WE HAVE PLENTY OF TIME TO FIX UP EXTRA
TRANSPORT IF NEEDED.**



NON-VIOLENT DIRECT ACTION

This will happen at various points around the base perimeter other than the north side. The risk of arrest for this activity is BIG, so read the legal advice sheet you will be given.

PLANNING WORKSHOP

The NVDA action effectively starts with a day of briefing, planning and rehearsal on SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9TH. This NVDA WORKSHOP will take place at Queen's Walk Community Centre, beginning at 10.30am, and finishing around 4pm.

Everyone wanting to join in Nottingham's NVDA on October 15th should come. Plans will be finalized and who - does - what - where - when - with - which - how - many - times will be established. Certain moves and responses will be discussed and practised. We hope to have a solicitor to talk about the consequences of all this, and your rights.

ON OCT 15TH, WE WILL BE RELYING ON EACH OTHER A LOT, SO THE WORKSHOP IS ALSO AN IMPORTANT CHANCE TO GET TO KNOW EVERYONE.

Phone 226436 for further details about the workshop, and if you want child care. Bring your own sandwiches, tea, coffee, soya milk etc.

The NVDA group will use minibuses to get to Upper Heyford and move around the base. These will go from the "Salutation" on Maid Marian Way at 7am. The minibuses plan to leave for home at 5.00pm, or when everyone's out of the nick, whichever is later!

Buy RED TICKETS (£5 waged, £3 unwaged) from the NCND office, Ouroboros or Hiziki.

PLEASE GET YOUR TICKETS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, SO WE HAVE PLENTY OF TIME TO FIX UP EXTRA TRANSPORT IF NEEDED.

WHAT TO BRING ON THE DAY

This briefing pack with its map, maybe in a plastic bag to keep it dry. 10p's for the 'phone if you get lost, dumped etc. Small first aid kit. Food and drink; lack of enough to drink is usually more of a problem than lack of food. It will be cold and wet; both activities will probably involve muddy walking so wear water-proof boots/shoes, layers of dirty old anoraks/cagouls, jumpers, T-shirts, pyjamas, combat trousers, for comfort and that stylish yet casual look. Also useful: Pen and paper, toilet roll, book to read during the boring bits, dry socks. NVDA'ers should bring such tools, accoutrements and heavy duty plant that seem needful...

LEGAL SUPPORT FROM NOTTINGHAM

Whatever activity you decide to be involved in on the day, you should read the legal advice sheet.

UPPER HEYFORD - WHERE IS IT??

If you are not using the organized transport, this is how to get there: Follow the M1 south to junction 16; take the A45, DAVENTRY exit, then, after about two and a half miles, turn left onto the A5. Head south until you reach the A43 at TOWCESTER. Turn right onto the A43 and head south towards OXFORD. About 17 miles after Towcester, you reach the village of ARDLEY, which is at the NE corner of the base, and is shown on the map.

CHILD CARE

If you require child care in Nottingham on October 15th, contact the OCT 15th Working Group at the NCND office, tel 472556. At the base the Oxford men's creche group will be running a creche in the field by Village farm Number 2 (SEE MAP).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE OCT 15TH WORKING GROUP AT THE NOTTINGHAM CND OFFICE TEL 472556 .

U.S.A.F. UPPER HEYFORD

KEY TO MAP

1. Village Farm 1
2. Village Farm 2
Marquee & Creche
3. Base HQ
4. F1-11 Quick Response Area
5. Nuclear Warhead Bunkers
6. Gate 6 - Cymru CND
7. Gate 7 - Ex-Services CND
& Pensioners For Peace
8. Gate 8 - Christian CND
9. Gate 9
10. Gate 10 - Wimmin
11. Main Gate
12. Gate 12
13. Gate 13 - Youth CND
14. Upper Heyford Peace Camp

