

# NCND NEWS

15511

MAY 1990

## BULLETIN IN CRISIS

There has been no Bulletin for some months and the last newsletter was issued in February. This is due to the fact that we no longer have a working bulletin team. Jeremy alone produced the Newsletters, for which we are most grateful but we feel that we can no longer impose upon his goodwill and commitment.

Though several persons have expressed an interest in helping with the production of a bulletin, to date nothing concrete has emerged. The office volunteers feel that we have a responsibility to keep the membership in touch with the campaign and aware of future events.

In consequence we intend producing a newsletter until a bulletin team can be formed.

For a bulletin team the commitments would be -

1. Team to meet twice monthly - time to be arranged.
2. Lay out group to meet once a month. (Good grounding for budding artists and those interested in graphics)
3. to obtain -
  - a) articles and reports from members and other interested persons (can be own experiences or information drawn from publications)
  - b) typists to assist Phyllis - our longstanding support when necessary, manual, electric or word processing machines.
  - c) printers - our faithful and competent team would like to pass on their skills.

If, like us, you feel that the bulletin is a vital link with the membership then please, PLEASE, PLEASE why not do something about it? ? ?

Contact the office, through volunteers or the answerphone, whilst you are still enthusiastic.



## REPORTS.

Wollaton Peace Group: Made £118 at the Jumble Sale, and wish to thank all who helped in any way on the day or made donations.

Anti-Trident Day of Action: On March 31st a full minibus of NCND members joined groups from Derby, Birmingham & Doncaster at Rolls Royce, Derby (Rolls Royce manufacture steel tubes for insertion into land and sea based nuclear reactors).

David Bookbinder, Chair of Derbyshire County Council inspired the demonstration with his commitment to our cause. He also put forward yet another argument for cancelling Trident - a £10 rebate to householders instead of the Poll Tax.

Street Poll: In the lovely sunshine on April 28th NCND members went forth with questions into the Market Square. In a remarkably short time 99 forms had been completed - by, except in one case, persons completely unknown to the interviewers - with results as follows:

Is the Soviet Union a threat to the country? Yes. 25 No. 63 DK 11

Should the Government spend less on the military and use the money save for the Health Service & environment? " 85. " 10." 3.

Cruise missiles are leaving Greenham Common. Agree. Disag. DK  
There are plans to put similar new missiles on planes and ships based in Britain. Do you agree or disagree with these plans? 22 68 9

Britain's Polaris submarine missiles which can hit 64 targets are to be replaced by Trident submarine missiles which can hit up to 512. Do you agree or disagree with this replacement? 21 65 13.

There were 99 completed forms - and no hostile reaction from the public.

Chernobyl: The remembrance function in the Market Square was rather a flop, but the evening function was very good by all accounts. Money raised to go to C.O.R.E.

We have very recently received from Minsk the latest assessment of the effects from the disaster 4 years ago and these effects are considerably worse than the experts at first assumed. Millions of acres of land will be completely unusable in the foreseeable future. Millions of families must be rehoused and millions for persons urgently in need of medical treatment. Our twin town of Minsk has launched an appeal for medical supplies. Can you help?  
THIS PROVES OUR NEED TO CONTINUE OUR ANTI-NUCLEAR EFFORTS.



APRIL C.N.D. National Council Meeting.

Political discussion: Resources, defence spending cuts, arms conversion. Led by John Chowcatt (T.U.C.N.D.)

It's long been a campaign issue within CND - the transfer of the massive input of government funds for military spending to socially worthwhile spending - Joan Ruddock pointed out that the front benches of the Labour Party are reluctant to follow our line. Their first priority is to spend any savings on revitalising industry before spending on schools and hospitals.

There is now talk of a 'peace dividend' - this would be money saved from a sensible reduction in arms spending - related to the changes in Eastern Europe.

Bob Cole's opinion is that CND's strength lies in campaigning for cuts in conventional weapons spending - personally I follow his line, after all it can't be very long before the British Army on the Rhine will be up for redundancy. This leaves CND with the task of persuading the workers in the arms industry of this country that a sensible way forward is to save jobs in industry rather than cut them - i.e. conversion of this industrial plant to resurrecting Britain's almost totally defunct manufacturing capabilities.

If Britain brought its level of military spending down to that of other NATO countries we would save £6 billion a year - £100 for every woman, man and child - certainly P11 Tax reduction (implications involved here !!)

Despite the relaxation of East/West tensions, and super-power arms reductions, the £21 billion British defence budget is scheduled to rise by £1 billion a year for the next three years!

CND'S AUTUMN Campaign: will focus on the 'Peace Dividend' - actions to include street events, publicity etc. One suggestion - to write dummy cheques to pay into accounts of their choice; i.e. schools and hospitals v Air/Sea Cruise and Trident.

'Ask for the Earth' A Festival for Peace and the Environment. Saturday, September 1st. Roundhay Park, Leeds.

A one day open air event - Entrance will be free - to enable maximum attendance and also avoid the erection of an unpleasant security fence around the park which wouldn't create the right atmosphere. To be a fundraising event. (details in next edition)

National Demonstration: a torchlight procession to be held on the Saturday eve on National Conference in Coventry at the end of the year.

Deadlines for Conference to be announced at the next national council meeting, which will be July; although resolutions will need to be received by National CND before the end of July.

Rod Langford. 2.05.90.



LOOKING AHEAD.

- May 12/13 Non Violent Resistance Gathering.  
Octagon Centre, Sheffield University.
- 19th Toward 2000.  
Derbyshire Federation of Peace Groups Conference.  
Chesterfield College of Technology & Art,  
Contact: Ms.R. Calderwood, 0246 862405
- 21st Executive Meeting 7:00p.m. Office.  
Festival Meeting 8:15p.m.
- 28th A People's Summit.  
Week-long programme of events in London.  
see Sanity or contact office.
- July 8th NOTTINGHAM PEACE FESTIVAL.  
Victoria Embankment. 1:00p.m. to 6:00p.m.  
The 10th ....let's make it great.
- Nov. 9-11 National Conference.  
Resolutions to be in by July 10th.

Contacts:

- NCND Office  
All Saints  
Arnold  
Beeston  
Bulwell  
East Leake  
Forest Fields  
Hucknall  
Keyworth  
Mapperley  
Mapperley Park  
Radcliffe  
Ravenshead  
Ruddington  
Sherwood/Carr.  
Stapleford  
West Bridgford  
Wollaton  
Nat.Council Rep.  
Membership  
Rainbow Centre

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