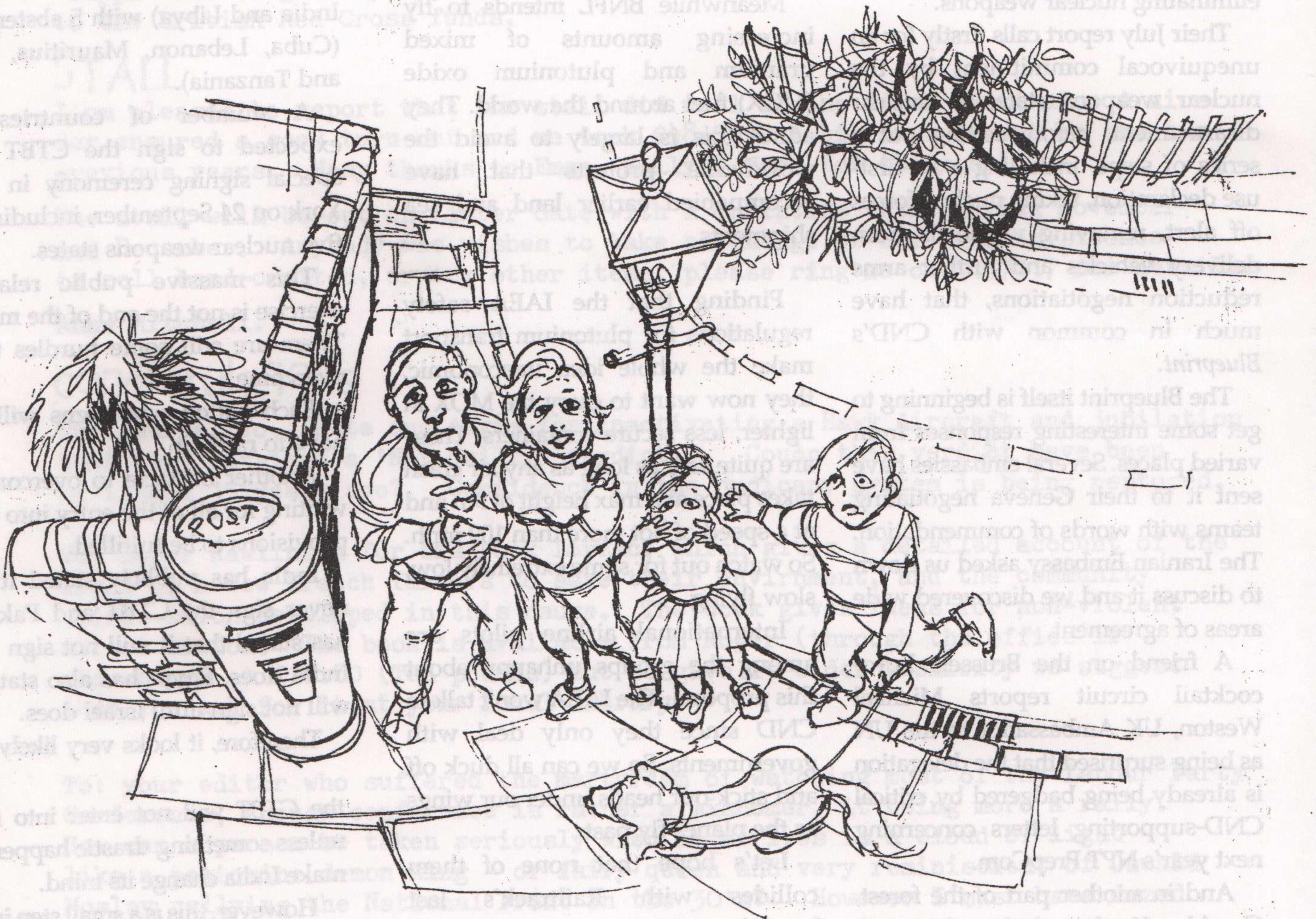


NOTTINGHAM CND

Box 33, 118 MANSFIELD RD. NOTTINGHAM, NG1 3HL Tel: 9588586

AUTUMN

1996



**THE OTHER DAY, UP IN THE AIR,
 I SAW A "NUKE" THAT WASN'T THERE.
 IT WASN'T THERE AGAIN TODAY -
 I WISH THAT "NUKE" WOULD GO AWAY.**



News update.. News update.. Test ban treaty

Lionel Trippett, Information Worker

"The proposition that nuclear weapons can be retained in perpetuity and never used – accidentally or by decision – defies credibility."

So states the Canberra Commission, set up by the Australian government in 1995, bringing together an international, high-level cast drawn from the worlds of science, politics and the military to consider the practicalities of eliminating nuclear weapons.

Their July report calls firstly for an unequivocal commitment by the nuclear weapons states to nuclear disarmament, before setting out a series of steps, including a no-first-use declaration, taking nuclear forces off alert, removing warheads from delivery vehicles and further arms reduction negotiations, that have much in common with CND's *Blueprint*.

The *Blueprint* itself is beginning to get some interesting responses from varied places. Several embassies have sent it to their Geneva negotiating teams with words of commendation. The Iranian Embassy asked us down to discuss it and we discovered wide areas of agreement.

A friend on the Brussels Euro-cocktail circuit reports Michael Weston, UK Ambassador to the UN as being surprised that the delegation is already being badgered by critical CND-supporting letters concerning next year's NPT PrepCom.

And in another part of the forest, Gerald Kaufman suggests an international nuclear disarmament conference where the UK should declare its readiness to get rid of its own nuclear weapons, while Peregrine Worsthorne, ex-editor of the *Sunday Telegraph*, looks back and recants from his support for the Better Dead than Red ideology of the Reagan/Thatcher age. Only CND, he accepts, continued to press the moral question.

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Transport

Following the recent Watford train crash – on a line used by all the nuclear fuel trains between London, the South East, East Anglia and Sellafield – it is reported that there was a long delay before Railtrack could find a breakdown crane since they've 'rationalised their positioning' (ie scrapped half of them). Eventually they had to borrow one from London Transport.

Meanwhile BNFL intends to fly increasing amounts of mixed uranium and plutonium oxide (MOX) fuel around the world. They admit this is largely to avoid the worldwide protests that have accompanied earlier land and sea shipments.

Finding that the IAEA safety regulations for plutonium transport make the whole idea uneconomic, they now want to carry the MOX in lighter, less secure containers. These are quite safe as long as any air crash takes place at a max height of 9m and at a speed of not more than 100 mph. So watch out for some extremely low, slow flying.

International airline pilots are among the groups unhappy about this proposal. The IAEA won't talk to CND since they only deal with governments. So we can all duck off and stick our heads under our wings as the planes fly past.

Let's hope that none of them collides with Railtrack's last breakdown crane...

– not yet?

William Peden, Campaigns Worker

On 10 September the United Nations agreed to open the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) text up for signature by 158 votes to 3 (Bhutan, India and Libya) with 5 abstentions (Cuba, Lebanon, Mauritius, Syria and Tanzania).

A number of countries are expected to sign the CTBT at a special signing ceremony in New York on 24 September, including all five nuclear weapons states.

This massive public relations exercise is not the end of the matter. There are still some hurdles to be overcome.

Each nation who signs will still have to ratify it.

Another obstacle to overcome is waiting for all of the entry into force provisions to be fulfilled.

India has publicly stated it will never sign the CTBT and Pakistan has stated that it will not sign until India does. Egypt has also stated it will not sign until Israel does.

Therefore, it looks very likely that

the CTBT will not enter into force unless something drastic happens to make India change its mind.

However, this is a small step in the right direction towards global nuclear disarmament. It's up to us to keep the pressure on.

There will be a more detailed article on the CTBT and future prospects for disarmament in the Winter issue of *CND Today*.

world court project

After the limited success of the World Court ruling on the illegality of nuclear weapons, the project has now entered into the next stage - to make each Government stand by the Court ruling and renounce such weapons. We have enclosed the up-dated leaflet and new declaration of conscience for you to sign.

hiroshima day

The ~~memorial~~ service was held in the Arboretum on the evening of August 6th. The evening was clear but cool. The Clarion Choir were really on top form in performing appropriate songs, and Barbara Lacey engaged us with her poetry readings - as usual. An addition this year was a solo guitarist, Dale Hodgkinson. Thank you all. The service finished with the symbolic lighting of candles. We miss the floating of lighted candles, with cranes, on the University Lake but the change of venue makes it more accessible - there were 74 persons present this year, and the Arboretum too is a lovely park.

white poppies

We shall be offering White Poppies, for donations, from the St. Peter's site stall on the Saturdays of 2nd and 9th of November, from 11:00a.m. to 2:00p.m. Any help offered, even half an hour, would allow the regulars time off for a 'cuppa' and be greatly appreciated. It is suggested that we donate the takings to the British Red Cross funds.

STALL

I am pleased to report that the stall did well at the Green Festival. A nice day ensured a good turn-out and we took £48=55p. A big improvement on the two previous years. Many thanks to Emma, Sally & Mark for their help.

The stall will be out on Lister Gate with a Christmas theme during November and December. Anybody who wishes to take advantage of our Trading Licence to sell hand-crafted, or any other items, please ring me on 9137317 for details.

Anne Mitchell.

congratulations

To: Andrea, Jo, Lotte and Angie for inactivating a Hawk Aircraft and jubilation that they obtained a 'Not Guilty' verdict. Could this verdict have been envisaged 15 years ago? Confidence in the judiciary system is being restored.

To: Roger Rawlinson for his book Larzac, which gives a detailed account of the fight of a few French farmers to save their environment, and the community spirit which developed in this cause. The book gives ideas for non-violent direct action. The book is available from Roger (through the office if necessary) at £10:00 (Ten pounds) but to give it wider publicity we suggest that you ask for it at your local library.

To: your editor who suffered the martyrdom of watching most of the Labour Party Conference, though conference is rather a misnomer, it being more a rally. How can a person be taken seriously when he arrives in a cloud of light - like a pantomime demon king - or fairy queen and very reminiscent of Oswald Mosley rallying the National Front in the 30's? However I must have dozed off sometime and missed references of turning swords into ploughshares; signing a Test Ban Treaty; cancelling Trident or, in view of the news from Dounreay, stopping the extension of nuclear power? can anybody give me the lowdown on these issues?

I found the Liberal Democratic Party - what I saw of the conference slightly better. Whether I can couch-potato through the Conservative Party Conference and retain my sanity is debatable.

In the age of speech-writers, spin-doctors, image-makers and make-up artists where is the essence of the desire to serve a country and its peoples?

A.G.M.

A.G.M.
SUNDAY

A.G.M.

3rd November

I.C.C.

61b Mansfield Road

2:00p.m.

A.G.M.

A.G.M.

green festival

This year's Festival has been voted the best yet. The day was fine and our organization tightened up somewhat so that things seemed 'easier on the day'. In addition to the many stall-holders who have been faithful for years, we had some new ones - and several persons asking for information about booking for next year. The visiting crowd was larger and well distributed throughout the day. The crowd was good-humoured and, judged by the fact that nobody came to the Information tent to claim anything that had not been handed in to us, very honest.

We notified, helped by the telephone tree, almost 100 members that this programme about possible nuclear leakages at Greenham, was due to go on the air. The executive admit to being disappointed in the programme, as being vague, concentrating on issues not germane to the main theme and the facts inconclusive. We were however impressed with the CND representative.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Will be held on November 23 and 24th at London University Union.

We will cover the expenses of delegates wishing to attend, subject to a written report being presented for inclusion in the next bulletin.

If a member would like to attend please contact the office - Thursday morning direct otherwise by answerphone - to make the necessary registration arrangements and receive copies of the agenda, resolutions etc.

RESOLUTIONS FOR NOTTINGHAM C.N.D. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - ALONG WITH PROPOSALS FOR NEW/ADDITIONAL EXECUTIVE MEMBERS TO BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 29th please. The present Executive have served for four years and could do with a tonic. New thoughts, new ideas, new faces welcome.