

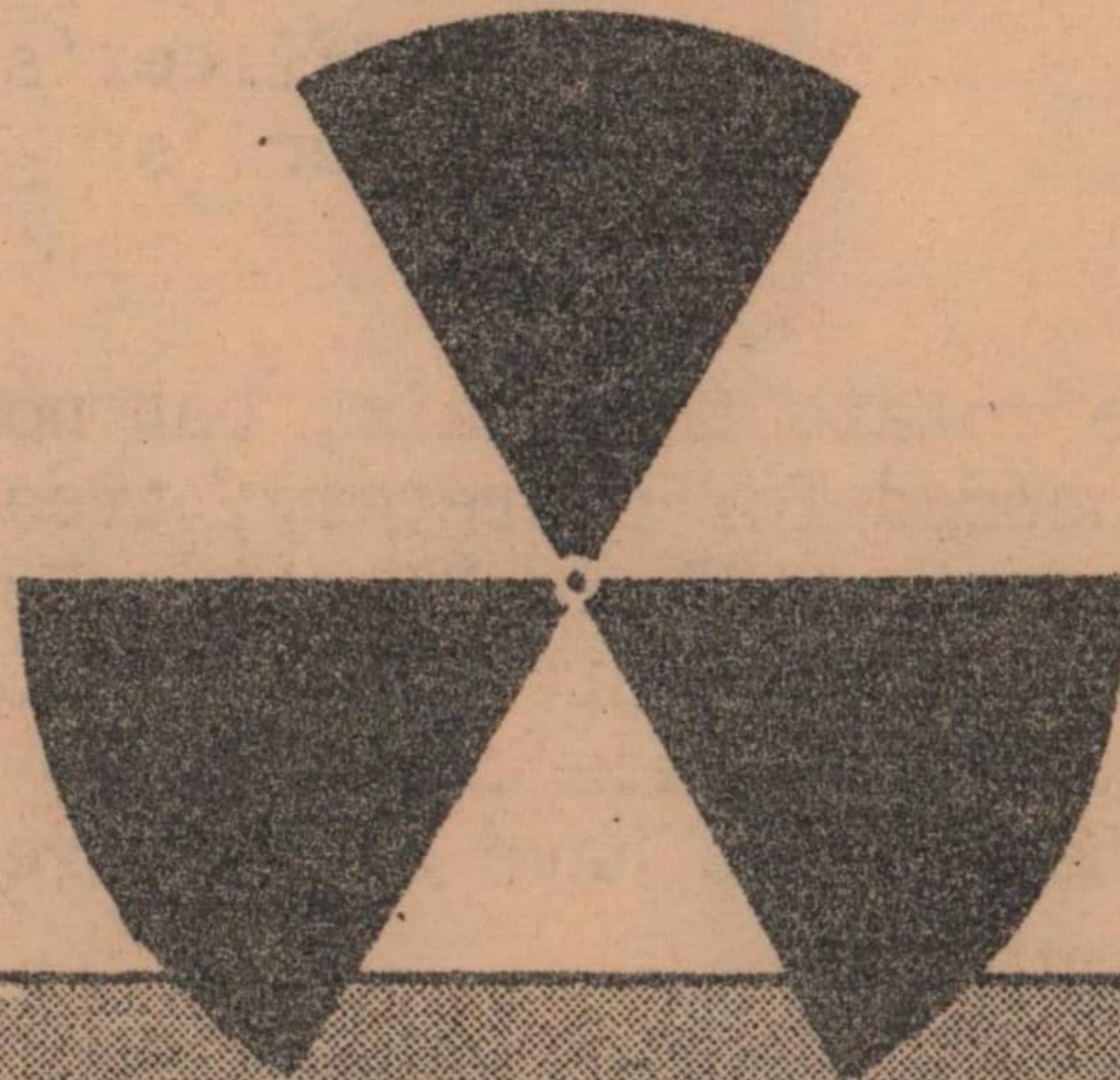


# CHAIN REACTION

NOVEMBER 86

**SATURDAY**

**NOVEMBER 29TH**



**THIS IS A CONVOY ROUTE FOR BRITISH NUCLEAR WARHEADS**

**MARKING THE ROUTES**

# TANG AGM

On Monday November 3rd TANG will hold its Annual General Meeting at Dawley Christian Centre, High Street, Dawley.  
7.30 p.m.

## AGENDA

### I. REPORTS

- a. Secretarys;
- b. Treasurers;
- c. Chain Reaction editors (& membership secretary's)
- d. Press Officer's report
- e. Litt. Sec.'s;

### 2. Elections;

We rotate the chair, but nominations are needed for secretary, treasurer, membership secretary, Chain Reaction Editor, Press officer and Lit Sec., and Campaign against the Arms Trade contact; we also agreed in the past to have a TU Secretary, a Green contact.

### 3. Priorities for 1987

### 4. Mandating delegates to National Conference:

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT AND IDEAS FOR THE YEAR AHEAD, SO PLEASE MAKE THE EFFORT TO ATTEND.



# TOWARD A CND RESURGENCE

The most striking feature of the Peace Movement over the past couple of years has been in decline. The reduced numbers at the last national demonstration in London, the falling off in local group activity, the demoralisation at some peace camps, the loss of National CND membership (down from a peak of 115,000 in 1984 to 91,000 early this year) all seems to tell the same depressing story. However I think it would be a mistake to assume this decline is irreversible, that the peace movement must continue to fade out. The recent slackening of peace movement activity has clear reasons, and there are good grounds for supposing a huge and victorious **upsurge** is possible in the next two or three years.

The present wave of CND activity was started by the plans for the deployment of cruise missiles, and the related 'second cold war' international political climate. Activity peaked in '83, when there were possibilities<sup>15</sup> of stopping cruise deployment, either by electing a Labour government, or through very large scale non-violent direct action. However the Tories were returned to power and CND, in the face of this (and partly due to the attachment to orthodox politics which still dominates much of CND) was unable to organise the sort of extra-parliamentary action which might have made cruise deployment politically impossible.

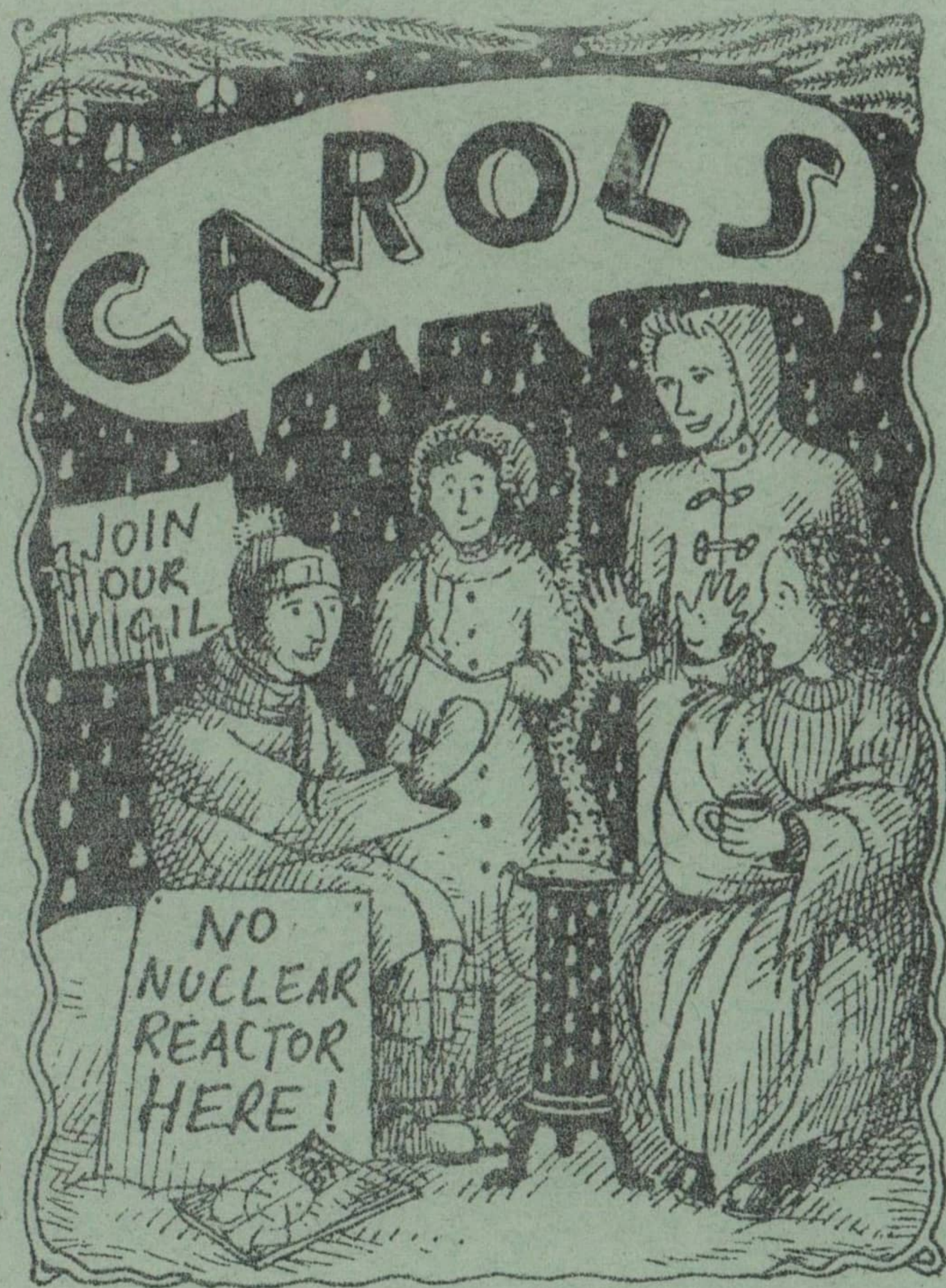
From early 1984 onward CND has run as, basically, a public persuasion and education campaign. Such work tends to be boring, and stressful in as far as it involves encountering hostile people face to face. It is understandable that after a few years of working in this way some CND activists feel they can do no more of it. Understandable too is people's apathy towards going on demonstrations and doing non-violent direct action, confrontation with a government which, as the miners' strike has shown, is willing to go to almost any lengths rather than give in to the use of direct action by its opponents.

However the situation is now becoming rather different. Recent events have led to a major swing in favour of nuclear disarmament, which is now supported by about 40% of the electorate. A political party in theory committed to unilateral nuclear disarmament (and with a large number of very determined CND supporters in its ranks) is ahead in the opinion polls, and a general election is going to take place some time in the next year and eight months. It seems certain that defence will be one of the most important issues in the run-up to the election. Given the extent to which the mass media are controlled by opponents of disarmament, and also the past inability of the Labour party as a whole to argue effectively for unilateral nuclear disarmament, the peace movement will have an essential role in winning the public argument. Hence the importance of supporting CNDs public information campaigns, such as the present one, and the vital necessity of massive CND mobilisation as soon as the election date is set.

If a labour government (with support, one hopes, from MP's from other parties who want nuclear disarmament) is voted into office, the peace movements activity will be crucial. Any tendency by Labour to put off nuclear disarmament under pressure from, say the civil service, the armed force's chiefs and the American government, must be answered with demonstrations, civil disobedience and if necessary industrial action, so that 'people power' can overcome a corrupt establishment. I think there is a good chance that vast numbers of people who feel that demonstrations and other forms of non-violent direct action are futile against a hostile ruthless government, would take to the streets and go to the bases to push a Labour government into keeping its promises.



ANTI-NUCLEAR SONGBOOK. PEACE NEWS.



TANGS

CHRISTMAS  
CAMPAIGN

1986

*Come Alive!*



This year TANG is trying something different for its Christmas campaign. We want to go carol singing not with the ordinary christmas carols (although we may use some) but with anti-nuclear carols from the Anti-Nuclear Songbook. We will also be leafletting.

WHAT WE WANT ARE SINGERS AND MUSICIANS

IS THAT YOU

IF SO PLEASE CONTACT MARK STOKES, 7, BURTON CL,  
DAWLEY TELFORD. TEL 501263

# PEACE VIGIL



AT STIRCHLEY ALL SAINTS, ON NOVEMBER 29th - 30th.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

SANDRA HOWES  
Youthwork Resource Centre,  
4, Hazeldine House,  
Town Centre,  
Telford.

TEL 503242

**BUZBY SAYS:  
LOOK OUT! I'M  
TAPPING  
YOUR  
PHONE!**



## *Star Wars update*

CND Information Room is producing an update on recent developments in Star Wars: votes in the US Congress, contracts in Britain, proposals in NATO for a programme of anti-tactical missile systems, and how Star Wars fits into the latest arms control proposals. If you are interested in following Star Wars, send a large s.a.e. to Sheena Phillips at 22-24 Underwood St. London N1 7JG.

Campaign.

# HILDA MURRELL MEETING

Rob Green and Don Arnott speaking on the murder of Hilda Murrell were lively, extremely well informed, and able to put over that information. A considerable amount of interest was shewn by a meeting that, being larger than Don Arnott's earlier talk on nuclear power, was I think the largest since Green CND spoke at Iron Bridge about five years ago.

But it was disappointing that it was not very much larger still, considering that it was a local issue, that it concerned the probable state murder of someone who asked inconvenient questions about government policy, (an issue that has to of vital interest to any radical,) that we advertised it widely with posters, leaflets, getting promises back in the summer from the Trades Council & Wrekin Labour Party that they would notify all their constituent sections.

In fact our contacts within the Labour Movement were markedly absent; and since the AGM is to discuss the lessons this year has had for the year ahead, it is worth wondering whether there is a parallel with 82/83.

Then people who had encouraged us at our founding, and had been very interested to be associated with the Nuclear Free Zone agittation, suddenly began hinting that we should keep quiet about the bomb until after the election, or stopped coming; & after when we failed to keep quiet we were blamed for losing Labour the constituency in the election. Evidently it has started again, & Hilda's murder is another thing that Labour wants to forget abou for the moment.

Laurens Otter.





# REMEMBER

# DISARM

NOVEMBER 9th

IS REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

## A TIME TO REMEMBER

- the dead of all wars
- the forgotten victims:  
the refugees, disabled, and  
those suffering as military  
expenditure grows
- those dying or about to die in  
wars fuelled by weapons Britain  
and other countries sell

## A TIME FOR PEACE

- to reaffirm our commitment to  
work throughout the year for a  
world without war



# "MODERATE" GENOCIDE

Perhaps the most significant lesson from the liberal Party Assembly, was not that - by a narrow majority - the previously agreed semi-unilateralist policy was reasserted, against the leadership's wish to scrap it for the sake of unity with the SDP.

It was that the leadership and the National Media were then able to get away with chiding the delegates; as if they were naughty children, who had made a silly and irresponsible mistake, had caused irreversible harm to their party, and could't possibly have valid reasons. Such is the degree that the mood of the radical self-questioning of the seventies has given away to complacent conformism.

Just how much this has happened was finally brought home to me by an encounter in New Street. A friend who knows me well enough to know I am in CND nevertheless expected me to be shocked by the Liberal vote, and could not understand that an unilateralist might hardly be disappointed by a rare victory. Did'nt I, he asked, want to see the formation of a viable centre force ?

It is one of the victories of immoderate militarism that the world has come to accept the potential megadeaths of the bomb as moderate, and opposition to them as immoderate. One of the victories of conformism that people are brain-washed into believing that nothing "immoderate" can be good.

An illogical belief, noone after all would trust someone who was "only moderately honest", or admire the intellect of someone who was "moderately intelligent"; and if we were concerned with evils, which though vile, are less so than nuclear weapons, (e.g. Heroin) few would suggest seeking a "moderate centre" between advocating abolition and continued retention.



# UNPLEASANT ECHOES

Unpleasant echoes of the Tory attacks on the miners led to the Coal Strike are to be heard in that once again a series of mines are being closed down, because coal can be found more cheaply in other ways.

It comes as a pity therefore that we must see in this area a proliferation of open cast mining; a form of mining whereby a few people with bull dozers destroy the landscape can bring up some coal cheaply.

Particularly is it a pity, when-as now, at a time when coal mines are being shut, & miners made redundant,- people claim that it is the only alternative to encouraging nuclear power stations.

Given that open casts are generally designed to cut land back to an impermeable clay base, that such open cast mines are deep and the bottom cannot be seen by observers on rights of way, and that any resident supervision amounts to monthly (or every other month) visits; so that it would be the easiest thing in the world to use these open cast mines for dumping radioactive waste; there are rather a lot of reasons other than destruction of pleasant landscapes for being less than enthusiastic about such mining.

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NUCLEAR POWER AND THE JOBS QUESTION & NUCLEAR POWER AND JOBS THE REAL FACTS.

Two leaflets looking at the subject of jobs in the N-power industry and the effects the phase out of nuclear power would have on them.

Available from

Friends of the Earth

377, City Road, London EC1V 1NA

tel. 01 837 0731

# THE CONVOYS

Nuclear warheads convoys regularly travel through Britain from the bomb factory of Burfield to airbases, naval ports and military depots.

The size of the convoy can vary but most convoys consist of the following.

- \* Military motorcycle outriders at the front and back.
- \* Green transit van carrying armed guards of the RAF regiment.
- \* 10 ton mammoth major warhead carriers, each can carry 4 warheads.
- \* A fire tender
- \* Royal Navy transits, distinguishable from the RAF transits because of the letters RN in the number plate.
- \* A green fire tender.
- \* Command and Control centre similar to a plain green furniture van.

The dangers of an accident involving the carriers of the warheads is a real possibility. The impact of a warhead could detonate the extremely volatile conventional explosive surrounding the bomb core ( in no way can this spark a nuclear explosion). An American report by the United States Army states

'The high explosive contained in most nuclear weapons constitutes a major hazard in a nuclear weapon accident... detonation of a high explosive component may pulverise Plutonium into minute, invisible particles that are dispersed in smoke and dust which can cause contamination over a large area'.

On June 20th 1985, the Polaris convoy returning to Coulport was passing through Helensburgh High Street when one of the warhead carriers crashed into another carrier. This time there was no radiation leak.

## NOVEMBER 29th

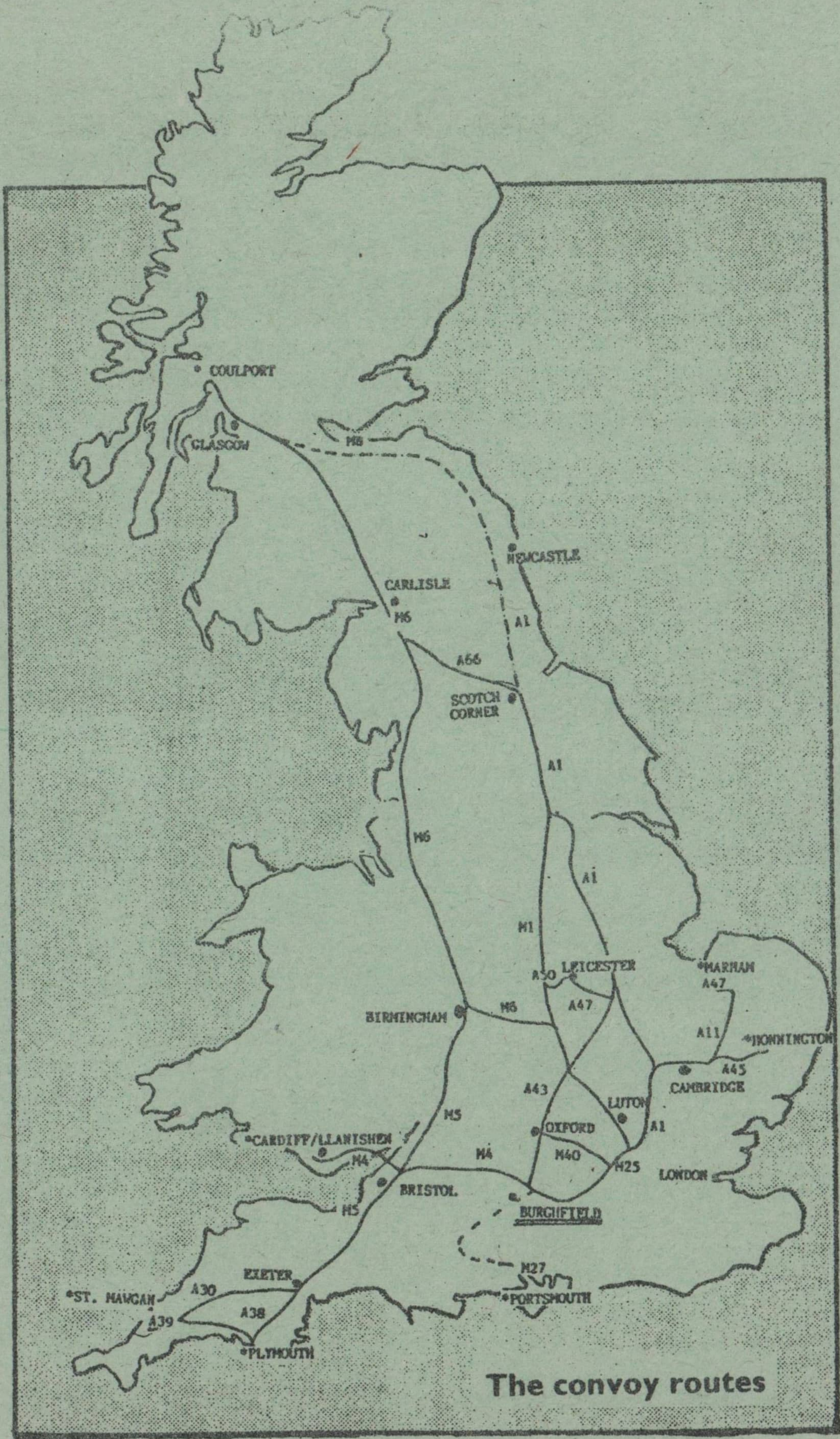
This is the day chosen to make the public aware of the convoy routes, with vigils, motorcades and mass leafletting. It will be a national demonstration with a difference - no coaches to London, but small groups standing along the convoy routes.

Telford Anti-Nuclear Group will be taking part on November 29th. We hope to keep vigil at Gailey where the A5 meets the M6 (a known convoy route). We will have placards & some people will be leafletting the nearby service station.

There are several safety rules that must be observed with this action;

- (1) It is illegal and unsafe to hold vigils along motorways.
- (2) Please make messages on placards clear and simple so that motorists can read them from a distance without causing them too much distraction.
- (3) Make sure you wear something bright or better still some cyclists reflective clothing.
- (4) Have a supply of torches/candles ready in case its a dull day.

TANG will be discussing its plans in detail at its meeting on November 12th.



The convoy routes

# International contacts wanted

## *New Zealand:*

Campaign.

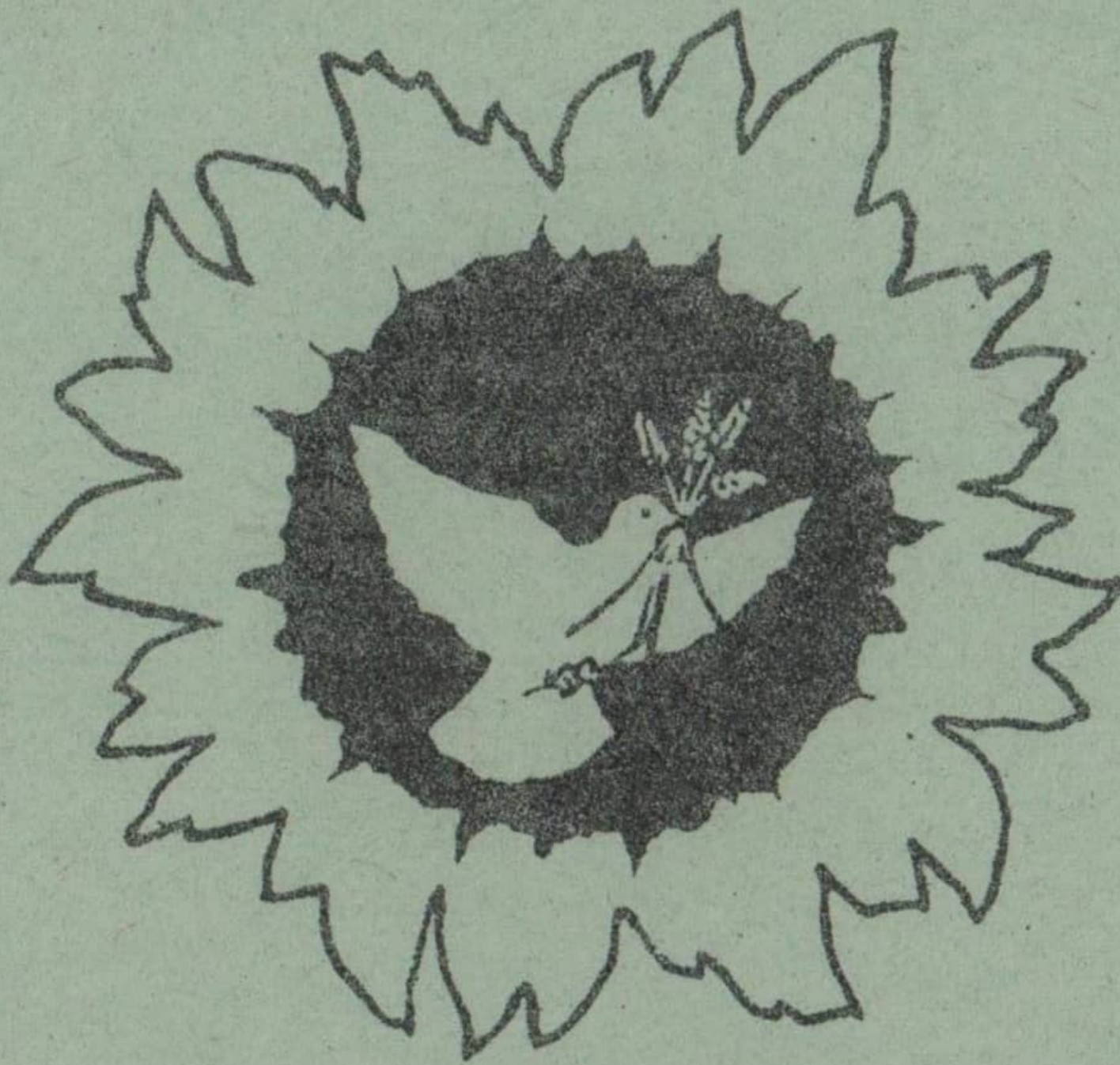
The New Zealand Nuclear Free Zone Committee is looking for peace campaigners from abroad who want to join a 'pen pals for peace network'. People interested in joining the network should write with relevant information and whether you want to write to a male/female, adult/child, to: Selene Cawley, NZNFZC, PO Box 18541, Christchurch 3, New Zealand.

If the world  
were a global village  
of 100 people, 70 of them  
would be unable to read, and  
only 1 would have a college  
education. Over 50 would be suffering  
from malnutrition; and over 80 would  
live in what we call substandard housing.  
If the world were a global village of 100  
residents, 6 of them would be Americans.  
These 6 would have half the village's  
entire income; and the other 94 would  
exist on the other half. How would the  
wealthy 6 live "in peace" with their  
neighbours? Surely they would be  
driven to arm themselves against  
the other 94....perhaps even to  
spend, as they do, more per  
person on military de-  
fence than the  
total  
per  
person  
income  
of  
the  
others.

If the world were a global village .....

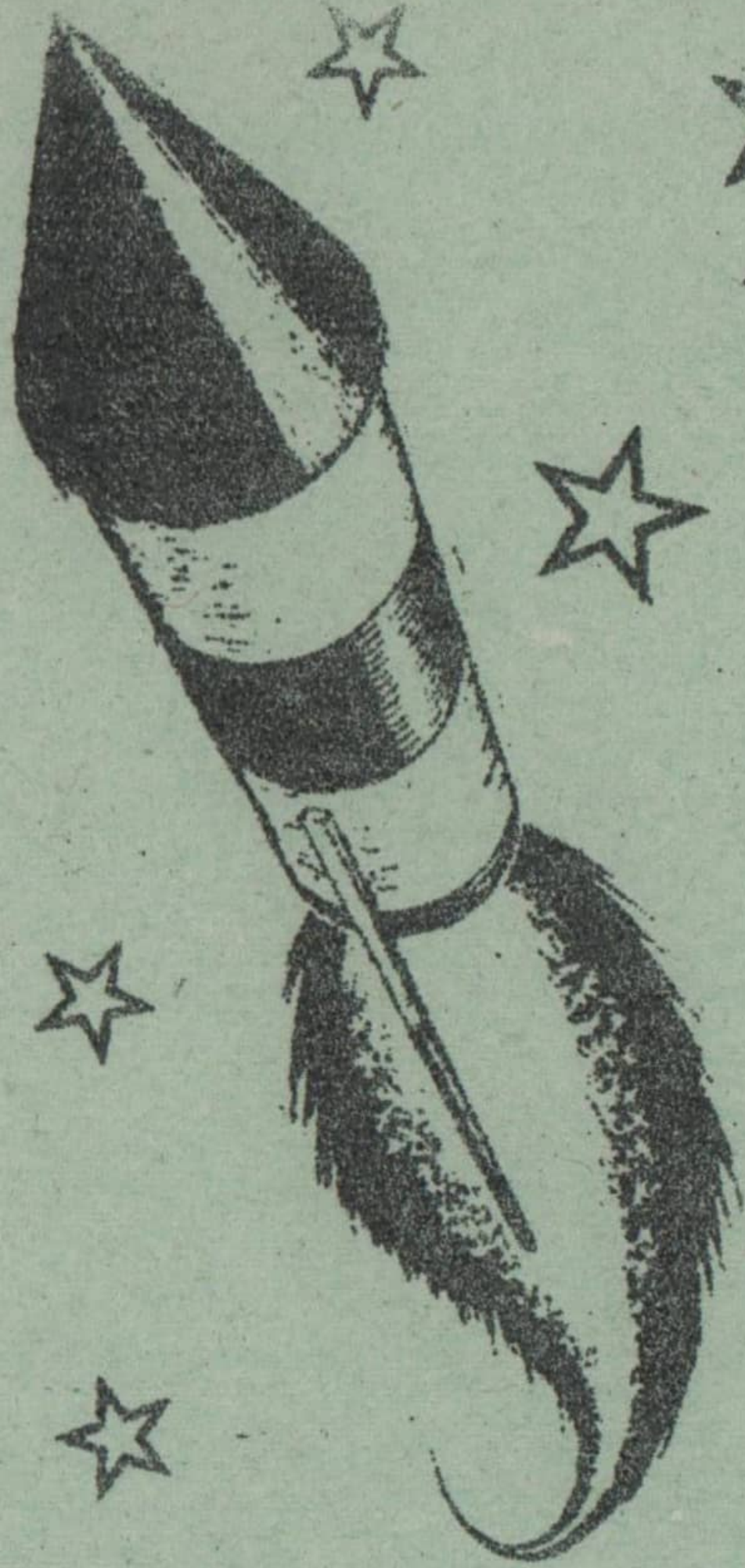
Dear TANG,

I was surprised and pleased to receive a letter from Storm who has recently moved to Telford..She is cycling from Land's End to John O'Groats to raise money for Interhelp. To quote Storm: "Interhelp is a network of people who are aware of the despair that most of us feel in the face of so many threats to life on this planet-the nuclear arms race, deforestation, the depletion of the ozone layer-and of our need to work through our feelings of fear and despair in order to discover our profound connectedness as part of the life on this Earth and to become empowered for the action to create a more just and peaceful world". You remember that Mary Synott ran an Interhelp despair and empowerment workshop for TANG a couple of years ago. Storm is hoping to raise at least a £1000 from her ride. She asks that anyone who feels able to support her effort should send a cheque to her, payable to Interhelp, at 130 Watling St., Wellington.



"WHATEVER BEFALLS THE EARTH, BEFALLS THE CHILD OF THE EARTH. PEOPLE DID NOT WEAVE THE WEB OF LIFE, THEY ARE MERELY STRANDS IN IT. WHATEVER THEY DO TO THE WEB, THEY DO TO THEMSELVES".

American Indian Leader.



**TANG BONFIRE**

**PARTY**

**WEDNESDAY**

**NOV 5TH**

**7-30PM**

Why not join TANG at its bonfire party on Wednesday Nov 5th.

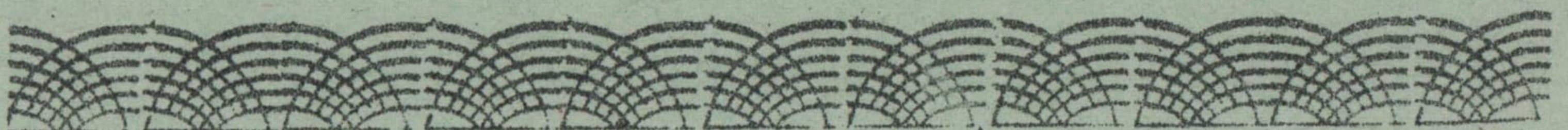
AT

43, Prince Street, Madeley (near the fire station)

★ ADULTS £1

CHILDREN 50p ★

PLEASE BRING ALONG EITHER SOME FOOD OR FIREWORKS.





# SECRETARYS ANNUAL REPORT

Last year I reported a quite spectacular recovery from a very low point in TANGs fortunes; we can't claim to have continued last year's rate of growth, but we have maintained ourselves at the level we reached at the end of last year.

This year has seen two, (&I hope by the time this is circulated three,) very successful meetings the debate with Peace Through Nato, and Don Arnott's talk on the dangers of nuclear power. (Rob Green's meeting on Hilda Murrell's death is yet to come.)

Two other meetings - though they didn't draw the same large attendances - Charles Worth's talks on freedom from hunger issues and on Namibia; neverthe less made significant contributions, so that TANG has kept up its tradition of seeing disarmament in context.

Parties from TANG went to Molesworth & to the American Embassy post-Libya demo; and also to Capenhurst - only Mark was in a position to be arrested on this last, & this is too early to report his sentence; but regrettably, not sufficient interest was shown in the national demo for us to take coach to Llanishen. (we had decided that as an high proportion of those who normally come on our coaches are children, and many others are unwaged, we could not take a coach to Coulpport.)

In conjunction with the Wellington Womens Peace Group, and Brooklands CND, we have kept up a constant record of leafletting (whether house to house, in Madeley & Wellington market squares, or in stalls at larger events,) though this

7 year fewer of these have been our own leaflets. (this is partly because of the EPIC or "Basic Case" leaflets that CND has produced nationally which with some doubts - since they are in part over simplified, & they fail to put the whole unilateralist case - we have used widely.

Attendance at our monthly business meetings remains constant at about the figure achieved this time last year of ten to fifteen, even though two of our stalwarts have moved during the year; and there has been a considerable number of new faces attending the occasional meeting. Though we have tended to shift campaigning meetings away from the night we do the newsletters, discontinuing the attempt to combine these, the general attendance at editorial meetings seems to have risen.

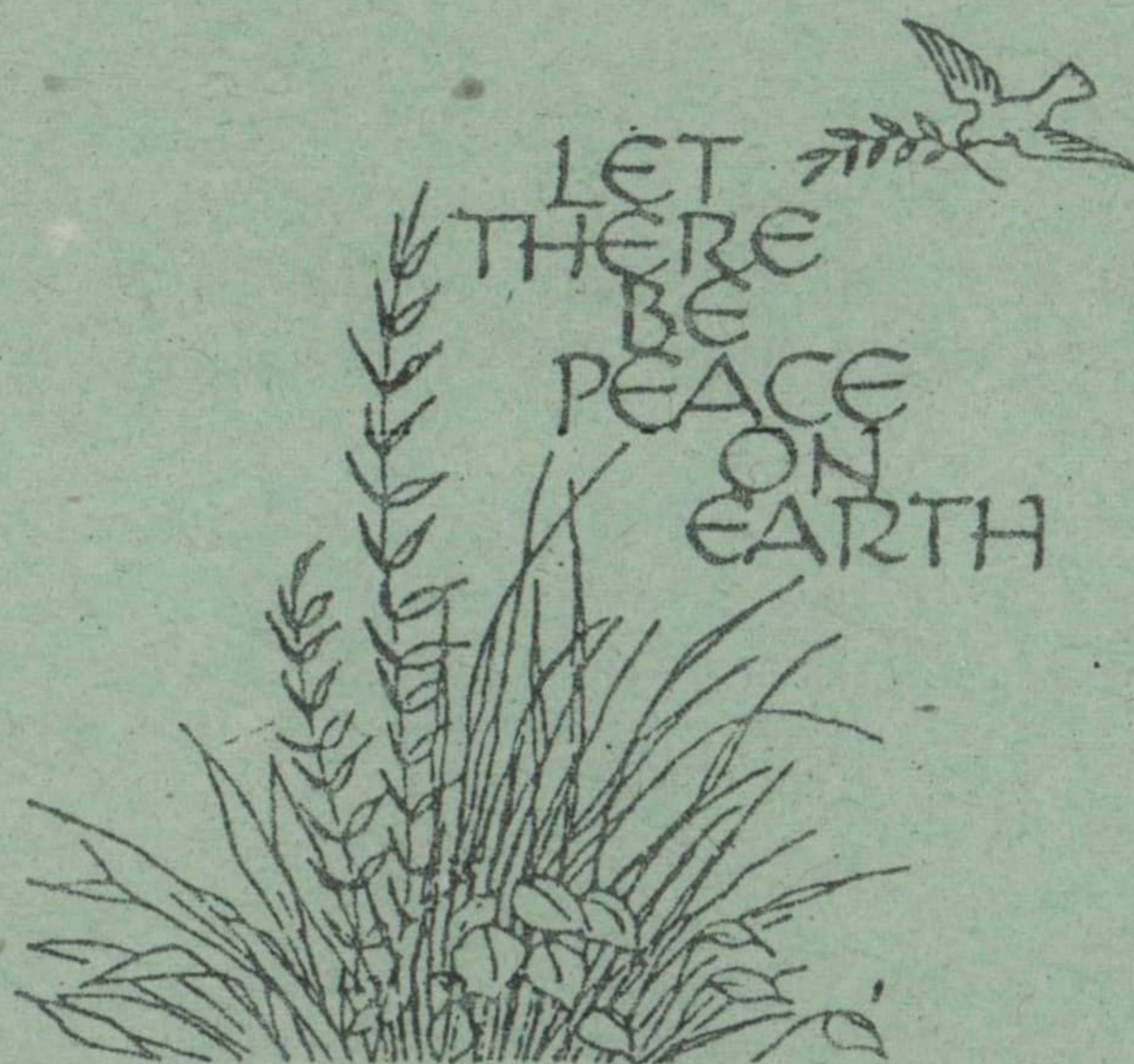
Finances would seem to remain sluggish as will be seen from the Treasurers report, but perhaps this is put in context when we compare how much we raise with the propagandists for the bomb-Peace Through Nato. They only raise nationally four or five times what we do locally (all the rest - 93% - of their money coming from the tax-payer,) despite the fact that they have a battery of titled and other big-wig sponsors.

Mark continues to do wonders with Chain Reaction, which as Paul rightly said at the last AGM, has in a very real sense become the central point in our work. This raises the question of overall strategy.

Seven years ago, when the "second Wave" of CND began, it was trendy amongst teenagers, we used in TANG to remark on the fact that it wasn't difficult to fill several coaches for demos in London or at Greenham, but that we could not get a dozen people to picket Donnington, keep a stall going, or leaflet here in Telford.

Those who came on coaches - now for the most part in their mid-twenties, then at Tech or Sixth Form College, - have in many cases moved away geographically, or for other reasons have stopped coming. But we are now able to get people in greater numbers to do things on their own doorsteps; when we have had a stall in Wellington, people people who have never been to meetings and whom we know only vaguely will come up, and far from needing to be pressed into action, come wanting to help.

That suggests in a way (especially if we are typical of developments in other CND groups) that though numbers on national demos have shrunk, the campaign may have become more serious.



## **—TANG MEETING—**

TANGs next business meeting will be on Wednesday Nov 12th, at 16, Linley Drive, Stirchley, Telford. 7.30 p.m.

We will be discussing Marking the Routes demo, Basic Case, TANGs christmas campaign and other national and local events. PLEASE COME ALONG AND BRING YOUR IDEAS.

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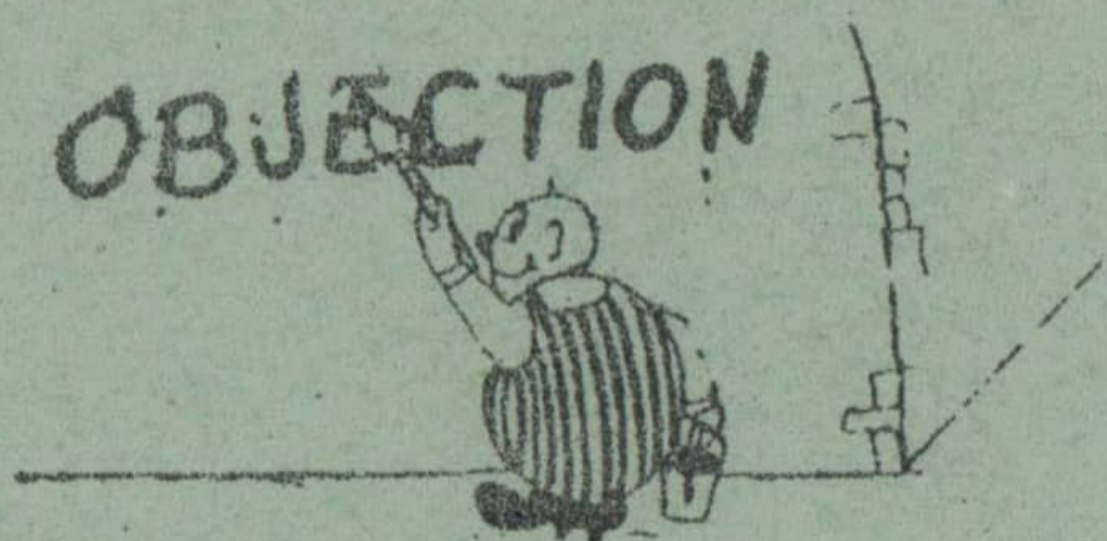
# W79 FOR EUROPE ?

Recent press reports indicate that the government has accepted a NATO plan to introduce new nuclear warheads for use by British troops.

The W79 American warhead with a yield of up to 2 kilotons (=2000 tons of TNT) will be fitted into an 'Artillery Fired Atomic Projectile' which can be fired from a gun.

A controversial feature of the new weapon is that it can be turned into a neutron shell (Neutron or enhanced radiation weapons are designed to kill people without destroying buildings). An attempt to introduce the neutron bomb into the armoury of NATO failed in the late seventies when it was rejected by Western Governments (under public pressure).

Once again this back door method of introducing new weapons may succeed (as with binary chemical weapons) and once again in what has now become common place with this government, Parliament has not been fully informed of the negotiations.



## COPYDATE

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The deadline for the next copy of Chain Reaction is Wednesday 19th November. All contributions are welcome and should be sent to Mark Stokes, 7, Burton Close, Dawley, Telford. TF4 2BX. Tel 501263.

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# NOT SO TRUE BLUE

You've heard of Bexley ? Well you remember Ted Heath. In the Kentish Bourough of Bexley is Bexleyheath. a sort of Telford Town Centre with houses and a bus service ! Then theres Bexley Council and Bexley CND. Banned from the Town Show as a political group and all names taken on the stall every Saturday by the police who admitted they preferred our marches to West Ham playing at home! A super lot in Bexley CND: We tried our best, banging our heads against the local big BLUE brick wall, upset the locals with talk of Trident and had our meetings, jumbles etc. in the local Labour Party halls. And I kept my CND badge on my coat and my Conservative Party membership card in my pocket.....

My mates in CND did'nt mind, thought me mis-guided I suppose, only the Womens Group showed brooding disapproval. But then I did say they were SEXIST. But at Tory shindigs I was about as welcome as the plague when defense was on the agenda.

To the 'foreign' eye TANG would seem to have an easier task - at least locally and I'm delighted I've found you. But even more so after Iceland, how will you regard me? A Tory infiltrator - worse, a Maggie clone? No, more blue jeans than blue rinse me !!

Last week I encountered, on purpose, some of the more prominent local Tory 'ladies' and noted their frozen expressions of disbelief when as they say in London "they clocked the BADGE".

After Iceland I was going to give it all up, forget my vote and ignore the feted invitation to luncheon with J. Archer M.P. at the Great Hay.

But is'nt that worse than being a sort of 'double agent' My intentions are good, my beliefs of all comlexions sincere but I need some back-up folks because, like Edwina, I really do carry a Govt. Health Warning. THIS WOMAN COULD SERIOUSLY DAMAGE YOUR HEALTH! !

I. Brown.

# DIARY



- Monday Nov 3rd..... T.A.N.G. Annual General Meeting. Dawley Christian Centre, High Street, Dawley. 7.30 P.M.
- Wednesday Nov 5th..... T.A.N.G. Bonfire Party. 43, Prince Street, Madeley. 7.30 p.m.
- Wednesday Nov 12th..... T.A.N.G. business meeting, 16, Linley Drive, Stirchley. 7.30 p.m. ALL VERY WELCOME.
- Friday Nov 14th..... NATIONAL CND CONFERENCE
- Saturday Nov 15th..... BLACKPOOL
- Sunday Nov 16th..... TANG DELEGATION
- Wednesday Nov 19th..... Chain Reaction meeting, 7, Burton Close, Dawley. 7.30 pm.
- Saturday Nov 29th..... MARKING THE ROUTES DEMO. NATION WIDE. See newsletter for local details.
- Wednesday Nov 3rd..... TANG business meeting, 16, Linley Drive, Stirchley. 7.30 p.m.

WELLINGTON WOMENS PEACE GROUP MEETINGS CONTACT Jane Dolphin tel 52150

BROOKLANDS ANTI-NUCLEAR GROUP MEETINGS CONTACT Trudi Davies tel 3947.

## A time for action

CANADA

~ PROPOSED NATO BASE  
ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES  
LANDS ~



## CANADIAN INDIANS

The Innu of Labrador & Quebec are one of the only surviving hunting and gathering peoples of North America. For the past 7 years illegal low-flying exercises by NATO air forces over their camps & hunting grounds have seriously damaged the wildlife of the area: now the Canadian Government, in contravention of both Canadian & International law, is threatening to destroy it all together by constructing a huge NATO training base at Goose Bay. If this base goes ahead the innu people will be forced to live in 'Reserves' and become dependent on handouts.

The Innu are carrying out a NATO wide campaign - PLEASE SUPPORT THIS ASKING FOR THEIR RIGHTS TO THEIR TRADITIONAL LANDS, by writing to:  
Lord Carrington, Sec.General NATO Brussels 1110, Belgium.

Rt.Hon.David Crombie, Minister for Indian Affairs and Northern Development, House of Commons, Centre Block, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada KIA 0A7

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THIS NEWSLETTER IS PRINTED ON TRADICRAFT  
RECYCLED PAPER AT DAWLEY RESOURCE CENTRE  
DAWLEY. TEL 502045.

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# JOIN TELFORD

## ANTI NUCLEAR GROUP

I would like to join TANG. Please find enclosed  
my subscription; £3.00 waged \*  
£1.50 unwaged

I understand I will now be put on the mailing  
list for 'Chain Reaction', the newsletter of  
TANG.

.....  
BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE

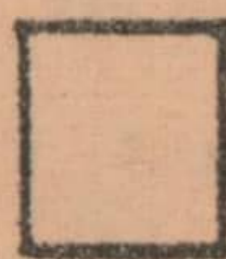
NAME.....

ADDRESS.....  
.....  
.....

TEL. ....

signed .....

Date .....



If ticked subscription due

\* send subscriptions payable to Telford Anti-  
Nuclear Group to

MARIA WAKELY, 15, FELLOWS CLOSE, LITTLE DAWLEY,  
TELFORD, SHROPSHIRE.

WHAT WE CANT  
DO ALONE  
WE CAN DO  
TOGETHER

