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EXHIBITION

PASSING THE MONEY BAGS
AT THE LONDON DEMO

What does TANG stand for?

TANG stands for opposing militarism, specifically but not exclusively by demanding unilateral nuclear disarmament, and by opposing all military alliances based on weapons of mass destruction.

TANG is opposed to the destruction of the environment, seeing the threat from nuclear waste, nuclear power and nuclear weaponry as the greatest single element in that destruction.

TANG opposes imperialism, racialism, and believes that the metropolitan countries which have grown rich at the expense of the underdeveloped world have a moral duty to do more to feed the hungry ; we oppose the exploitation of such countries by companies mining for uranium, and see this as the latest example of imperialist attitudes.

TANG does not believe the Bomb to be an evil in isolation from others ; if there were not great social evils the Bomb could not have been made, as in most countries where it has been made this has been done without the knowledge or consent of the people. It has led to a growth of state power and a loss of liberty.

THIS MONTH'S SUGGESTIONS FOR ACTION

1) Get a friend to join CND nationally today , see coupon elsewhere in this issue.

2) Consider supporting 'Sea Action' , who organise non-violent seaborne demonstrations, send donations to:
Mike Leahy, 95 Upper Shirley Ave, Southampton, SO1 5NL.

LONDON DEMO 89

To me a London demo always feels like the proverbial country mouse coming to town - it's almost as much a sightseeing tour as a protest, with the bonus that you can walk in the road and with police approval!

The Sunday after Easter a coach from Shropshire (shared between Telford, Shrewsbury and Oswestry) joined the moderately sized demo. After a rally and short march, the aim was to form a human chain between the Min of Defence and the Health & Social Security and the Overseas Development Office.

Along this link we passed large bags of money (fake only!) away from the MoD to these other government departments. This was a symbolic transfer of resources from weapons to welfare. We wrote our own messages of peace on small white cut-out doves and handed these along the chain to the MoD. Various cardboard Trident missiles were also sent back by this method.

Finally, outside the MoD building a death-sized tank rumbled up on the back of a lorry. With a fizz and a pop, and with everyone crowded around cheering, the 'tank' fell apart to reveal a tractor instead. A variation of swords into ploughshares.

Memories of the day: a very relaxed family atmosphere: an absence of Labour party banners: and of one of our number lying on the wet pavement just under Big Ben trying to get the photographic angle on the famous clock and TANG's banner in one click.

PETER NIAS

Get a friend to join National CND today!

**Membership rates: Household £12 Waged
adult £9 Unwaged/Student/Pensioner £3
Youth (under 22) £2**

Name

Address

..... **postcode**

I enclose £ **membership**

£ **donation**

**Please make cheques and postal orders
payable to CND and return with completed
coupon to Alison Williams, CND, 22-24 Underwood
Street, London N1 7JG.**

THE ARMS RACE RUNS
EVER ON: A GRAVE
DANGER TO ALL
OF US & A CONSTANT
THEFT FROM GOD'S
K - BRUCE KENT

NUCLEAR SAFETY

The Hinkley enquiry has brought out a lot of interesting material, some of it submitted by American scientists through Rob. Green. This is too complex to summarize & too long for Chain Reaction, but we could photostat if required.

A lot of material has come out that was not available at Sizewell. Even there the Tribunal said that it had had to weigh dangers against what it took to be a sizeable economic advantages; and that had new economic evidence materialised while the Tribunal was sitting, it might well have altered their decision; but that the terms under which they were set up precluded consideration of these new facts.

This time the government will find it harder to make an economic case, the objections seem to be finding it easier to show that nuclear power is unsafe. The Tribunal Chair has on occasions prevented the CEGB spokesman getting away with his wilder claims.

If, as was said, the balance at Sizewell in favour was slight it will look like a rigged tribunal if there is not an appreciable balance against this new reactor. But if the decision does go against Hinkley this will knock a major hole in Mrs Thatcher's claims that nuclear power is ecologically preferable to fossil fuels, (water power, etc., not being considered).

Indeed nuclear power has been central to this government's policy from the Miner's Strike onwards; and there may be people perceptive enough to see that if she is proved wrong at Hinkley she is proved wrong throughout.

Of course we are always being assured, whether it is on the chances of another nuclear power station having a major leak, of Donnington having another fire, or war happening by accident; that the chances are too low to be statistically significant. That there is a fool proof machine-system. So it was interesting to be told by the Shropshire Star (mid March) that for sixteen years all the NATO missiles in arctic Canada had been wrongly wired so they could not have fired.

We do not object of course to the ones that cannot fire. But we can be certain that if they can make that mistake, they will also make one allowing them to be fired too easily.

LAURENS OTTER

On Sunday March 19th, a number of people from Shropshire and the Welsh Borders took part in the annual Hilda Murrell walk in memory of the celebrated Shropshire rose grower & conservationist, who was brutally murdered in mysterious circumstances in March '84. Each year since her death, the Maengwynedd valley, in the Berwyn hills, a natural beauty spot dear to Miss Murrell's heart, has been the venue for this simple act of remembrance led by her nephew, retired naval commander, Robert Green, who is not alone in doubting the official story of her death, - that she was the victim of a bungled burglary, - and is intent on continuing his aunt's work, exposing the dangers of nuclear power.

Commander Green believes that his aunt was silenced because of her anti-nuclear views. She had intended to present a paper on the long term perils of nuclear waste at the Sizewell B nuclear power station public enquiry, but was murdered shortly before she was due to appear. Rob. Green himself subsequently presented his aunt's paper, and her proof of evidence was never questioned.

At a recent press conference in Shrewsbury, he discounted the police theory of bungled burglary; he believes that there is now much new evidence to support the view that Miss Murrell's kidnapping & murder were deliberately brought about by private security agents acting on behalf of the nuclear industry, in particular he suggests, the suppliers of the reactor, who would have stood to lose vast sums of money, had Sizewell B been rejected. According to Commander Green, the police have dismissed all new evidence that does not fit in with the "bungled burglary" theory, though, he says, "Information is still trickling in and there is as much concern now over my aunt's death as there was in the beginning".

Commander Green has recently presented his own paper in objection to the proposed new Hinkley Point C nuclear power station, and at the public enquiry he called as an expert witness Dr Richard E Webb, who had been employed by the US Atomic Energy Commission's Division of Naval Reactors and by private industry in reactor research and development in the USA,

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Press Releasecontinued

Dr Webb was also a consultant in 1979 during the Three Mile Island nuclear disaster. Dr Webb now believes that "We should shut down all nuclear reactors and put our money and resources into evaluating the alternatives to nuclear energy", claiming that all nuclear reactors are unsafe simply because they cannot be tested to their limits; he insists that scientists must get back to Newton's experimental philosophy of science if we are to survive.

Also, in an addendum to his Hinkley Point C paper, Commander Green presented Dr Don Arnott's evidence on the low melting point of fuel rods in pressurised water reactors. It was Dr Arnott who had assisted Miss Murrell with the preparation of her Sizewell B paper. Dr Arnott had also intended to present a paper of his own at the Sizewell B enquiry, prior to Miss Murrell, but suffered a heart attack and was unable to attend. It was Dr Arnott's information on the safety of fuel rods that Commander Green suggests concerned those responsible for his aunt's death. Commander Green clearly believes that those who stand to make money through the nuclear industry have scant regard for safety or ethics. "We have a Faustian contract with the nuclear state", he said.

The police file on the death of Hilda Murrell remains open.

From JULIA GALLACHER

Editors' Note

P.S. (eds.) 4th. April, the "First Tuesday" programme was about a bugging expert who did in fact bug Sizewell protestors. (He did not mention if Hilda was one, nor whether he was the only such expert hired for this purpose.) But, given that Hilda believed she was under surveillance, and that the authorities were certainly bugging Sizewell objectors's houses, it seems likely that she was right. This raises an additional point; - if there was a bug in Hilda's house then there should have been an available recording of Hilda's meeting with her killer. It would if produced give weight for or against the police case. So why has it not been produced?

COLLAPSE OF THE BOGEYMAN

All despotisms need an external bogeyman. Frequently such regimes have a symbiotic relationship, each as the other's incarnate evil.

We have in Chian Reaction argued for some years that the Reagan-Thatcher "ultra_rightism" in the West could not possibly exist if it were not for the threat of residual Stalinism in the Soviet Union; and that the Stalinists there benefit from the Monetarist demonstration of all the evils of classical capitalism.

The Cold War, - of which nuclear weaponry is in one real sense the most visible symptom, - depends on this scare mongering.

But the Cold War and the Bomb are not mere symptoms of flawed social systems; they have been the excuse (though not necessarily the reason) for an enormous concentration of economic resources, an enormous growth, - yes, even within Stalinism, - of state-police power, and for new rules, in the West at least, governing freedom of publication.

The Cold War inevitably fosters hysteria, and allows the emergence of hysterical politicians; that is why in the later years of Brezhnev, Stalinism made its come back. That is why we have been cursed with Thatcher and Reagan.

For this reason we must welcome the contested elections in the Soviet Union, and the interest shown in them. No doubt some of the candidates we would dislike intensely. There are some anti_semites, varying aggressive nationalists, and even some admirers of Thatcher; but the fact that the contests have taken place has punctured the Cold War myths.

For the ideology of NATO, an ideology which is the essential underpinning of our Western order, and of which Thatcheris only an extreme variant, depends on the belief that there to our East is a regime, the negation of democracy, whose people are never allowed a free vote, and they wish to export that system to us.

No doubt in the upper reaches of the Heritage Foundation, even now there are people planning how they can put over to the Western population the belief that a democratic Soviet Union is a greater threat to the Western Way of Life, than is a single-party Soviet Union; (and indeed for once they'd be telling the truth).

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Collapse of the Bogeyman

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But it will take time to put over the mythology: to make the popular press, however corrupt, state the opposite of what it has been saying for so many years. The very success they had in selling the old myth,- a success so enormous that Thatcher has been elected three times running,- will militate against them selling a new contrary myth.

Not that that would stop them for long. I recall being in the army ("National service") in the late Forties, stationed in Germany. When I was sent out (Jan. 49) the orthodoxy was still that the Germans were all sub-humans, could never be trusted again with weapons, and were incapable of democracy; though the frontier with the Russian Zone had been (officially) closed before I went out, the Russians were still then generally seen as our allies of yesteryear.

The army in Germany was of course behind the rest of the army and population in its reindoctrination. We who arrived then had already had the new line, when doing our primary training in Britain. But the percentage of soldiers who had served through the war was higher in Germany than elsewhere; and obviously it was harder to persuade these that the Germans had been the goodies all along, the Russians the baddies.

Even with those old soldiers, I saw over the next fifteen months the orthodoxies change; and let there be no mistake it was not superficial, the indoctrination did not slide off (like water off a ducks back) the rank and file, my draft when we went out, had contained two hard line C.P. members and they became as anti-Russian as anyone else.

But we have a breathing space. Before a new ideology can be imposed there will be a time when people doubt the myths of the advancing asiatic hordes; and in that time there there can be a rebirth of sanity.

LAURENS OTTER

I don't always claim to understand Laurens' articles but I can indentify with this one. I remember being a very puzzled little girl in the early fifties unable to comprehend the difference between the Germans and the Russians and unable to understand which were the "enemy".

TOT DAWES

MAY DAY 1989

This year the May Day march and rally is being held on Monday May 1st in the Dawley area with the rally at the Town Hall. We have attempted to involve more people with different political concerns and interests but who have one view in common, that is the opposition to the Tory Government's values of undermining the community and co-operative action in favour of the individual and personal acquisition.

Examples are numerous - the erosion of the public education system, a constant attack on the N.H.S, an attack upon the rights of people on low incomes to good housing (or any housing) and a fundamental attack on the rights of Trade Unionists to organise strike action without the threat of legal action. These and the proposed flat rate Poll Tax are a few of the ways in which the Tory Government has been eroding personal liberties and attacking those least able to defend themselves.

TIMETABLE FOR THIS YEAR'S EVENT

10:00-10:30 Assemble for March at the Captain Webb Memorial, Dawley High Street.

10:30 March in Dawley.

11:30 Rally in Dawley Town Hall.
Speakers- Bruce Grocott (M.P),
Sid Platt (N.A.L.G.O.),
Liz Owen (County Councillor),
A.N.C. Speaker.

Entertainment- Nancy Stewart (folk singer),
Telford Poets.

There will also be stalls that many organisations and Trade Unions will provide plus a bar and refreshments.

I HOPE MANY PEOPLE WILL ATTEND.

Cllr Paul Wolfe.

DIARY

- Fri 28th April 8.00 pm May Day Ceilidh, Dawley Social Club
Band- Shropshire Union.
Tickets £2.50
(Wrekin Labour Party event)
- Mon 1st May **May Day**
See elsewhere in this issue.
- Weds 3rd May Chain Reaction meeting.
**This month at College Farm House, Mill Lane,
Wellington.**
- Sat 13th May **Peace Pentecost**, Lincoln and
R.A.F. Waddington .
Details : Christain CND 01-250-4010
- Weds 24th May 7.30 pm TANG business meeting .
16 Linley Drive, Stirchley Park.
All very welcome.
- Sat 27th May - 4th June **Disarm the Seas Week**
Phone Laurens (641852) for details.
- Weds 7th June 7.30 pm Chain Reaction Meeting
6 Myford Cottages, Horsehay
- Fri 16th June -18th June Glastonbury Festival.
Infoline: 01 251 0028

CHAIN REACTION CONTRIBUTIONS

Please send or give your letters or articles , in whatever form, to any of the following:

Tot Dawes, 6 Myford Cottages , Horsehay. Tel: 507040
Peter Nias, 48 Victoria Road, Madeley . Tel: 587532
Laurens Otter, College Farm House, Mill Lane,
Wellington. Tel: 641852

Deadline for next issue: 3rd May

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