

FOREST FIELDS PEACE GROUP

NEWSLETTER VOL.3 NO 1

DECEMBER 1983



HIROSHIMA, 1945: CRUISE MISSILES, 1983

AMERICAN CRUISE MISSILES ARE HERE NOW!

WHOSE FINGER ON THE TRIGGER? AMERICAN ADMIRAL GENE LA ROQUE SAID ON 27TH FEB. 1983 -

"THERE IS NO AGREEMENT, ABSOLUTELY NONE, WE WOULD NEVER GIVE MRS. THATCHER OR ANY OTHER BRITISH PRIME MINISTER THE RIGHT TO VETO OUR NUCLEAR WEAPONS..... IF WE DECIDE TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN EUROPE THERE IS NOBODY IN EUROPE THAT COULD STOP US."

THE ADMIRAL IS WRONG

THE PEOPLE OF EUROPE WILL STOP THE BOMB!

PROTEST AND SURVIVE

JOIN THE TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION 9TH DECEMBER - 6.0pm OLD MARKET SQUARE

- MARCH WITH FOREST FIELDS PEACE GROUP -

INSIDE THIS ISSUE - THE MEDICAL EFFECTS OF A NUCLEAR BOMB DROPPED ON NOTTINGHAM
- WHY WE MUST STOP THE INSANE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE

CARNIVAL AT COTTESMORE - DECEMBER 16TH

RAF Cottesmore, near Leicester, is the Tri-national Training Centre for all European Tornado bombers. Tornado is a 'multi-role' bomber, which means nuclear capable, with frightening ability. Flying at twice the speed of sound it can deliver nuclear bombs with deadly precision, precisely the kind of accuracy needed for first strike.

In fact the 220 Tornados replace the 56 older Vulcan and Buccaneer aircraft by more than two to one. It is not a replacement, but an escalation. On December 16th, as part of the Midlands Regional week of action against nuclear weapons there will be a Carnival at the base. Protest non-violently by marching, singing, blockading or any way you choose. You do not have to commit an offence, though there will be training workshops for those that wish to take that sort of action.

Transport from F.F.P.G. departs 7.30am from Cricket Players. Price £2 waged £1 unwaged. If you can't afford it come anyway, and we'll arrange something.

For more information contact Paddy & Cathy 788655 or Les & Jean 702070 or CND office 581948. SEE YOU THERE!

UPPER HEYFORD SEVEN

The first of 7 local people refusing to pay fines imposed after the Upper Hayford demonstration came to court on Friday November 7th. About 170 people came to support Patrick Gray at the Guildhall - the support lasting two hours and being highlighted by music and a giant effigy of a magistrate. After again refusing to pay his fine Patrick was sent to Lincoln prison for 7 days - serving 5 with 2 days remission.

All 7 people refused to pay the fines imposed on them because the Upper Hayford base is an American Air Force base with F111s on it, each capable of carrying nuclear weapons. Further actions are planned for each of the remaining six as they come to trial, hopefully building up to a large strong action.

For more details contact Mark Salmon on tel 626298.

PEACE CAMP AT U.S.A.F. UPWOOD

November 9th marked a new page in history. The Greenham women lodged an 'outrageous' court case under international law which would restrain President Reagan from deploying nuclear weapons in Britain. In support of this action they called for each of the 102 American bases in Britain to have a CND presence. Nottingham CND went to U.S.A.F. Upwood, which is an administrative base near Huntingdon. Eleven campers stayed over-night, with the main numbers arriving early on the 9th.

All went well for ½ hour until the police told us we were trespassing on Ministry of Defence land and the demarkation line, (painted overnight), was at the junction of the drive and road. Having been moved to the roadside the police made a grave error, which a junior constable later confirmed was extremely wrong and embarrassing: rather than slow the traffic down so we could talk to them (analogy with a picket of a factory) they waved them on!! 15 ton Mack trucks are 'nt easy to argue with! So we tried to bring each arriving vehicle to a halt to talk. After ¼ hour the police forceably removed us and cordoned off the drive.

The event then continued as literally a presence at the base. Some people leafletted nearby villages, others stayed to maintain the camp and make music. Altogether a useful day which achieved its purpose. The Greenham Womens court case was not rejected but was deferred for appeal.

NOTTINGHAM AFTER THE BOMB

WE ALL LIVE UNDER THE SHADOW OF THE NUCLEAR BOMB. AS A MEMBER OF NATO BRITAIN RISKS NUCLEAR ATTACK BY THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES. THE RISK OF ATTACK IS INCREASED BY THE FACT THAT NATO CONTINUES TO CLAIM THE RIGHT TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS FIRST. THE RISK IS FURTHER INCREASED BY THE EXISTENCE OF 102 AMERICAN BASES BEING IN THIS COUNTRY, PRIME TARGETS FOR ANY NUCLEAR ATTACK. THE RISK IS NOW BEING MADE GREATER STILL AS AMERICAN-CONTROLLED CRUISE MISSILES COME INTO BRITAIN. WE ARE ALWAYS TOLD THAT NUCLEAR WEAPONS EXIST ONLY FOR DETERRENT PURPOSES. YET, DESPITE THE FACT THAT BOTH RUSSIA AND AMERICA ALREADY HAD SUFFICIENT NUCLEAR WEAPONS TO BE ABLE TO DESTROY EACH OTHER BY THE MID 1950's, THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE HAS CONTINUED, AND CONTINUES STILL. AND, AFTER HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI, THE WHOLE WORLD KNOWS THAT THE POLITICIANS AND THE GENERALS ARE PREPARED TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS, ARE PREPARED TO KILL THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT CIVILIANS, AND DESTROY WHOLE CITIES.

The Government has produced civil defence plans, creating the illusion that we could somehow cope with a nuclear attack. But what would really happen? The Nottingham branch of the Medical Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons have produced a pamphlet, "NOTTINGHAM AFTER THE BOMB" that reveals the effects of just one nuclear bomb being dropped on Nottingham. They write :-

"In this study the bomb dropped on Nottingham is a 1 M.T. weapon (1 million tons of T.N.T.) which explodes at 6,000 feet. This bomb, of medium yield by present standards, will not cause any local fallout and so we have also considered the fallout from a 1 M.T. ground burst on Leicester."

We print below some of their findings.

MEDICAL EFFECTS OF A NUCLEAR BOMB ON NOTTINGHAM

The main initial dangers of a nuclear bomb are caused by heat and blast. Using 1981 Census figures, the SANA group (Scientists Against Nuclear Annihilation) has worked out the casualty figures for each electoral ward in all the blast zones. These are their estimates of those INSTANTLY killed or injured :-

NOTTS. POPULATION AT RISK 642,115
(INCLUDING 271,080 IN CITY)

DEAD (INCL. 1% THERMAL).....	280,701	44%
INJURED.....	179,413	28%
SAFE.....	182,001	28%

ASSUMPTIONS: 1 MT. AIRBURST OF 6,000 FT. OVER SLAB SQUARE. 12 MILE VISIBILITY
2 WEEKS WARNING OF ATTACK. EVERYONE SHELTERING AT HOME.
CASUALTIES DUE TO BLAST AND HEAT ONLY, AS FAR OUT AS 10.4 MILES

HEAT WAVE AND BURNS

35% of a hydrogen bomb's energy is released in the form of an intense heat wave, which moves at the speed of light. A single one megaton bomb detonated at a height of 6000 feet over the Old Market Square would produce an enormous fireball, 1.5 miles across, 10 million degrees Centigrade at its centre, scorching the ground below and instantly vaporising all forms of life. Metals would melt up to 3½ miles away eg. the middle of Clifton. Cars travelling along the Ring Road would melt and the occupants be vaporised. Exposed skin could be deeply burnt and charred up to 8 miles away, as far as Eastwood or Bingham. There would be thousands of burn victims, most dying in agony, with little or no prospect of medical treatment.

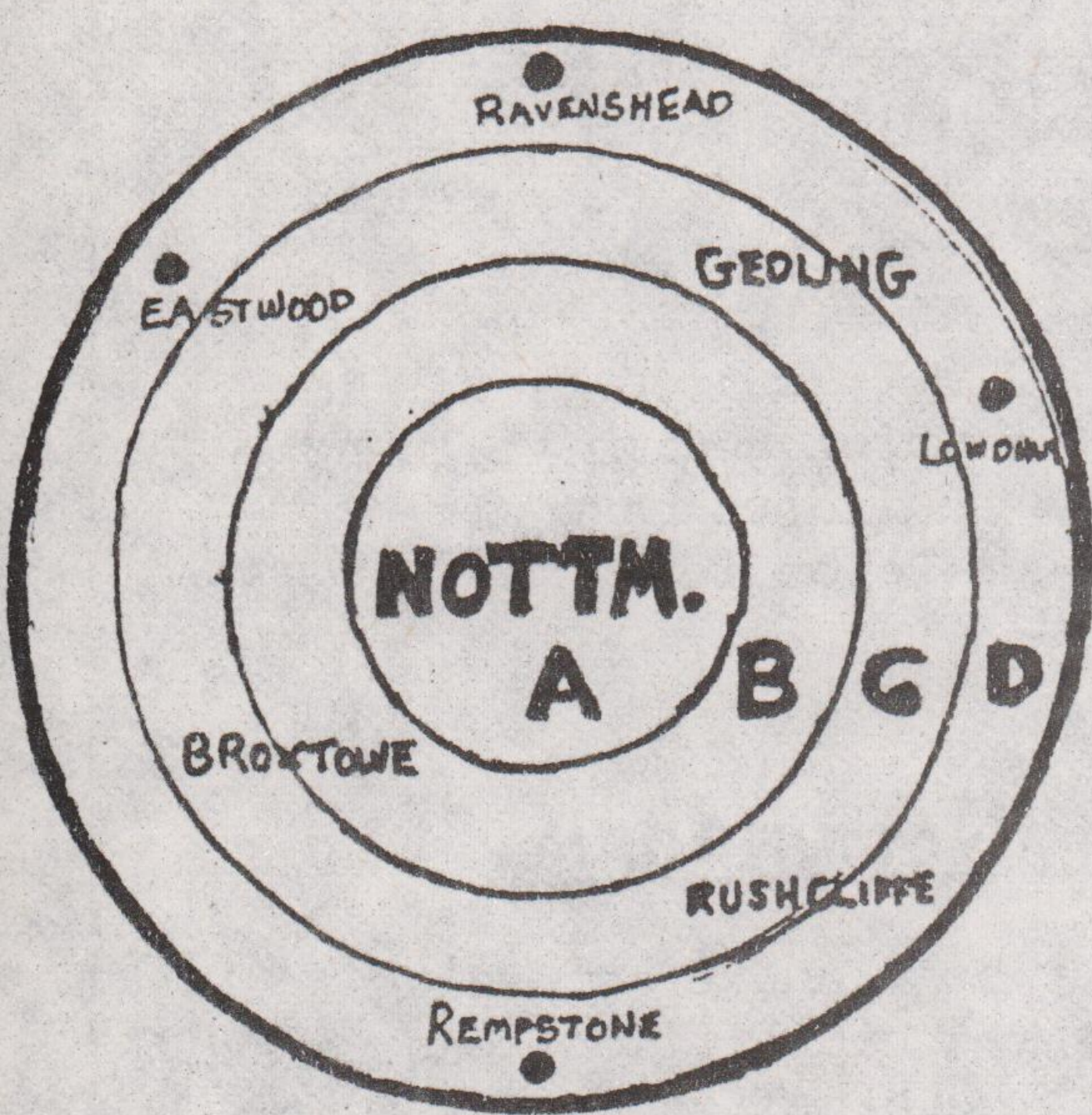
BLAST EFFECTS

Following Behind the heat wave would be the blast or shock wave, which contains 50% of the bomb's energy, moving at about the speed of sound. A single one megaton bomb is 80 TIMES MORE POWERFUL THAN THE HIROSHIMA BOMB WHICH KILLED AT LEAST 140,000 PEOPLE. The blast wave would leave behind it a trail of wrecked buildings, piles of rubble blocking the streets, uprooted trees and broken bodies. Public services such as mains water and sewerage, gas, electricity, telephones, radios and TV would be destroyed.

Most of the immediate deaths and injuries would be caused by blast. Those most at risk would be the elderly, the sick and the disabled. All the main suburbs of Nottingham and the city itself would be devastated by just one bomb. AND OUR THREE MAIN HOSPITALS, THE GENERAL, UNIVERSITY AND CITY HOSPITALS WOULD BECOME SMOULDERING HEAPS OF RUBBLE.

The following diagram shows what the bomb would immediately do to Nottingham

NOTTINGHAM AFTER THE BOMB. 1 MT. AIRBURST



AREA OF DAMAGE

IMMEDIATE CASUALTIES (BLAST + HEAT.)

<u>A</u>	DEVASTATION 0 - 2½ MILES	98% 2%	DEAD INJURED
<u>B</u>	HOUSES FLATTENED 2½ - 4 MILES	50% 40%	DEAD INJURED
<u>C</u>	SEVERE-MODERATE DAMAGE 4 - 7 MILES	5% 45%	DEAD INJURED
<u>D</u>	LIGHT DAMAGE 7 - 10 MILES	25%	INJURED

SO HALF OF US WOULD BE KILLED IMMEDIATELY BY A SINGLE BOMB, AND HALF OF THE SURVIVORS WOULD BE INJURED. THERE WOULD BE WORSE TO COME. THE MEDICAL REPORT GOES ON TO LOOK AT OTHER CONSEQUENCES OF THE BOMB.

RADIATION EFFECTS

The report studies the likely effects of radiation - "THE ONLY CONCLUSION WE CAN COME TO IS THAT MOST OF THE SURVIVORS OF THE EFFECTS OF HEAT AND BLAST WOULD BE KILLED BY LETHAL LEVELS OF RADIATION, AS THEY WOULD BE LIKELY TO ACCUMULATE OVER 1000 RADS IN TWO WEEKS, AND THE DOSE THAT WOULD KILL 50% OF THE PEOPLE OVER A PERIOD OF TWO WEEKS IS 900 RADS FOR HEALTHY YOUNG ADULTS.....IT IS IMPORTANT TO REALISE THAT THESE LEVELS ONLY APPLY TO FIT, HEALTHY YOUNG ADULTS. THE LETHAL DOSES FOR INFANTS, CHILDREN, THE ELDERLY, SICK AND INJURED ARE MUCH LESS."

In addition the report looks at the terrible psychological effects on the survivors of such a holocaust, and at the high risks of disease for those who survive.

CIVIL DEFENCE

The medical report concludes that government civil defence plans are inadequate and unrealistic ; - "The whole of the Civil Defence Policy does not take into account the devastation that is likely to occur.....for the Civil Defence Policy to be successful, many people - including W.R.V.S and British Red Cross workers - would have to be immune from the effects of a nuclear attack. WHAT WAS POSSIBLE IN PREVIOUS WARS WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE IN A NUCLEAR WAR."

This article is only a brief summary of the report. For further information about 'Nottingham After the Bomb' contact Madeline Wells, Nottingham 264905.

CRUISE MISSILES

Bringing Nuclear War Closer to Home

In 1979 NATO announced its decision to station 464 ground-launched CRUISE missiles in Europe, including 96 at Greenham Common and 64 at Molesworth. These weapons are now arriving. CRUISE is the latest development in U.S. Nuclear Missile Technology. It is extremely accurate and can be fired up to a range of 2,500 miles. Each warhead it carries is 15 times more powerful than the bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

WE ARE TOLD that we need CRUISE to counter the threat of Soviet SS20's. WE ARE TOLD that they will make Britain and Europe a safer place. WE ARE TOLD that the decision to have CRUISE was arrived at democratically. WE ARE TOLD that CRUISE is a defensive weapon.

THESE ARE ALL HUGE LIES

CRUISE missiles are not a response to the SS20 missiles - their deployment has been planned for years as a development of NATO nuclear strategy, as revealed in the Observer 6 weeks ago. They pose a new threat.

CRUISE missiles will not make Britain safer, but ensure that it becomes a nuclear battleship, the obvious target of an aggressor in a nuclear conflict.

Decisions to place CRUISE missiles in Britain were not democratic - the people of this country were never consulted. Britain will have no control over the use of CRUISE missiles here on our soil, whatever the politicians say. The U.S.A. will decide when they will be used. The recent invasion of Grenada has shown us that the U.S.A. will not take a blind bit of notice of the opinions of other friends and allies.

CRUISE missiles are not defensive weapons - they are designed for first strike purposes, to threaten, attack and kill millions of innocent people.

WE ARE NOT FOOLED BY THESE LIES

Recent opinion polls showed that over 61% of British people do not want CRUISE missiles in this country and

94% oppose sole U.S. control of these weapons.

For two years women at Greenham Common have joined together to protest against CRUISE in what has been described as the most important peace protest in history.

They are not politicians or generals or the men who manufacture the bombs of mass death.

They are ordinary women who know that CRUISE and similar weapons can kill millions, destroy families, the sick, the poor.....and will do so, if allowed, as they did at Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945.

They know that if NATO believed in peace it would not deploy CRUISE.

They know that if the Warsaw Pact believed in peace it would not deploy SS20 missiles.

THEY KNOW THAT TO BELIEVE IN PEACE IS TO SAY NO TO THE HORRIFIC WEAPONS OF MASS SLAUGHTER.

THEY KNOW THAT NUCLEAR DEFENCE CAN ONLY MEAN MASS SUICIDE.

For over 20 years the leaders of the East and West have been pretending to negotiate arms reduction. But through all this time the only thing to be achieved has been agreements which neither side honour, and the construction of more and more bombs, enough to destroy the world many times over.

The U.S.A. has recently confirmed that it will militarily intervene in any country if it is in the interests of its national security.

Who then, will stop the U.S.A. from firing its British based CRUISE missiles if it wants to? And if they did so, Britain would be almost totally destroyed.

THE PEOPLE OF BRITAIN DO NOT WANT CRUISE MISSILES.

WE KNOW THAT THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE IS REALLY ABOUT OUR LIVES AND THE LIVES OF OUR CHILDREN.

WE DO NOT INHERIT THE EARTH FROM OUR ANCESTORS, WE BORROW IT FROM
OUR CHILDREN.

**SAY YES TO LIFE
SAY NO TO CRUISE**

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 28th Peace Lecture: Barbara Goodwin speaking on "Peace in Utopian thought". 7.30p.m.

Venue-Workers Education Association, Shakespeare Street, Nott'm.

Dec. 5th Peace Lecture: John Keegan speaking on "Defending Europe without Nuclear Weapons" 4.15 p.m.

Venue- Social Sciences Building, Nottingham University.

This is the issue the Government continues to ignore. This is your chance to learn of the many ways Britain could successfully defend itself without Nuclear Weapons.

DEC. 9th Torchlit Procession in Nottingham City Centre.
assemble Old Market Square - 6pm.

Protest against the arrival of U.S. Cruise Missiles in U.K.

Dec. 9th. Nottingham Cnd, Disco. Narrowboat, Canal St., £1.20 waged
70p Unwaged.

DEC 10th. Demonstration in Leicester against Cruise Missiles.

Driving a Cruise Missile Replica launcher around Groby, Desford and Glenfield areas of Leicester. Complete with 'Ronnie Reagan', Fall ou suits, death masks, Gas masks etc..

Contact:- Pat McCrory, Leicester 876377

DEC. 11th U.S.A.F. Greenham Common - Woemens Day of Protest.

An Afternoon for every woman to make herself heard.

For information on Transport please contact 250756 or 473145

DEC. 12th Peace Lecture: Stephanie Duzceck speaking on "The role of Peace Centres in the community" 7.30.p.m.

venue - Workers Educational Association, Shakespeare St., Nott'm.

DEC. 13th Demonstration in Nottingham against Cruise Missiles

Driving a replica Cruise missile launcher into Nottingham City Centre. Leafletting in Old Market Square. 10 a.m.

the missile launcher travels down Hucknall Road. 11am arrives city centre. (old market Square)

DEC. 13th. Chesterfield Protest....An action has been planned in Chesterfield with associated leafletting- all welcome. Please contact Plankton (tel. Ripley 874771) or Greg (tel. Chesterfield 204484) for details.

DEC. 14th Forest Fields Peace Group Meeting 8 p.m.

Venue : Forest Fields Neighbourhood Centre, 69 Wiverton Road.

Forest Fields Nottingham. All welcome.

If you would like an item on the agenda please phone :-

Paddy & Cathy 788655 or Les & Jean 702070

DEC. 16th RAF COTTESMORE.....Midland Regional Day Of Protest.

Forest Fields Peace Group is running a bus to the action.

This is going to be the principal protest action in our region and we urge as many people as possible to support it.

Details:- assemble at cricket Players Pub., Radford Road. Hyson Green. Departure 7.30am ; Return 8.30pm. (approx.)

Cost :- Unwaged £1 , Waged :- £2.

Bus tickets available from Paddy & Cathy, 96, Burford Road, Forest Fields. (tel 788655)