

NEWSLETTER  
VOLUME 3  
NUMBER 4

8681 N  
FOREST FIELDS  
PEACE  
GROUP

APRIL 1984

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OCCUPATION OF ARMY CAREERS OFFICE, MILTON STREET (SEE PAGE 2)

***"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."***

*U.S. Admiral Gene la Roque*



## CRUISE TRANSPORTER LEAVES GREENHAM

Midnight on Friday 9th March  
.....Cruise transporters leave  
U.S.A.F. Greenham Common in  
Berkshire on a training drive.

The missiles are housed in large mobile transporters which can be dispersed to various points within 150 mile radius of the base. This brings Nottingham just within the radius. Each transporter carries four missiles, each 15 times more powerful than the bomb dropped on Hiroshima in 1945 which killed 200,000 people. The fact that the missiles can be launched from almost anywhere in a huge area means that the Soviets will not be sure from where they have been fired.

The Americans have to practise the dispersal of the missiles on "test runs" in order to be fully prepared for the "real thing". The incident on the 9th March was the first attempt to do so. However, these practice runs are fraught with danger for the people of Britain. For at a time of high international tension between the super powers, how will the Soviets be able to distinguish between a practice run and the "real thing"?

On the first trial run the missile transporters came out at midnight and a massive operation was co-ordinated to "minimise possible public disruption". The women peace campers at Greenham had been exhausted by a week of heavy evictions by the bailiffs.

Therefore at a time when they would have been co-ordinating a massive exodus by peace protestors to Greenham from all over the country to disrupt the return of the transporter, the women were actually being surrounded by hundreds of police officers. Local telephone boxes were suddenly "coincidentally" out of order!

As mentioned, at a technical level, Cruise missiles jeopardise the safety and very existence of British people since they can be fired from virtually anywhere in the country. How does anyone, the Soviets or the British people, know whether the missiles are on a training run or on the real thing? Britain, after all, has no control over the missiles. That is solely in the hands of the United States.

But the more important issue is the way Britain and other Countries are being used as puppets for U.S. military expansionism, in the same way as East European countries are being used by the Soviet Union. The British Government is complying with U.S. military policy which heightens international tension, makes war more likely and which puts millions of innocent people at risk.

The U.S. motives for doing so are solely to protect and expand big business interests and nothing at all to do with defending the interests of ordinary people. But more and more people are becoming aware of what is going on and opposition is mounting against the presence of U.S. troops, missiles and bases in Britain.

In Nottingham there was a spontaneous demonstration after it had been announced that the missile launcher had left Greenham. Four hundred people gathered in Slab Square and then marched to the Army Recruitment Centre on Mansfield Road where a group of 16 protestors occupied the building. The demonstration marked the resilience and determination of the peace movement in its opposition to the war machine and was exemplified by the words, repeatedly sung  
"You can't kill the spirit,  
She is like a mountain,  
Old and strong,  
She goes on and on and on."

\*\*\*\*\* S T O P P R E S S \*\*\*\*\*

Thursday 29th March. 12.40am Cruise transporters leave Greenham Common for a four hour training mission. Two cars block transporter on return. One lady jumps in front of vehicle. For implications see report in this issue.  
Thursday 29th March. Over 350 protestors arrested at Stop the City 2 demonstration in London. See article next issue.

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## Sarah Tisdall Jailed

Sarah Tisdall has been charged under Section 2 of the Official Secrets act and is awaiting trial at the Old Bailey. Her "crime" was that of leaking the secret MOD memo. concerning the expected date of arrival of Cruise missiles at Greenham, and the handling of 'public response' to their siting.

The memo was sent from Mr Hesletine to Mrs Thatcher and circulated to six other M.P.'s including Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary. Sarah was working in Mr Howe's inner office and took a photocopy of the document which she sent anonymously to the Guardian. Despite a two-day legal battle the paper handed the photocopy to Scotland Yard who were able to trace it back to Sarah's office and to Sarah who was promptly charged and suspended from duty.

The penalty for breaking Section 2 ranges from a fine to 2 years imprisonment. The court case is on Friday 23rd March. I hope to be able to publish an interview with Sarah in the next newsletter.

Sarah has been sentenced to 6 months imprisonment, an outrageous punishment, totally out of proportion with the crime. Many leading figures have condemned the judge's decision as, I am sure will many ordinary people. If you would like to show your dissatisfaction write to your M.P. Michael Knowles, Houses of Parliament, Westminster, London, or phone Barbara 626721. There is a petition which will be around the usual places in Nottingham or contact Barbara.

## Meeting Meeting

Due to the extraordinary amount of business and activities to cover at each of our meetings members of the F.F.P.G. have decided to hold an extra meeting each month.

These meetings will be held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 69, Wiverton Road. The first of these will be held on Thursday 26th April at 8.00pm. All members and anyone interested in becoming involved in the Peace Group is most welcome.

## Chilwell Demo

A regional action has been organised at R.A.F. Chilwell on Sun. April 15th, to protest against the plans to lease part of the base to the U.S.A.F. making it the 103rd U.S. base in Britain.

There is to be a march from Beeston Recreation Ground (corner of Queens Rd and Dovecoat St). F.F.P.G. will be assembling here at 11.30 am for a 12.00 start. Placards will be available but bring your own if possible.

Plans for the action include a mass sing-song around the base, chanting and decorating the fence with slogans and symbols of peace and opposition to the American military presence in Britain. Local campaigners will give speeches and Tony Benn has been invited to speak, although it is not clear at this stage whether he will be able to.

Please support this important action. Add your weight to the fierce and growing opposition against U.S. bases in Britain.

## Reclaim Chilwell

Plans for the biggest demonstration yet against the leasing of the Chilwell Depot to the U.S. Air Force are already well underway.

The event planned for July 1st is to be a Civil Disobedience event in the form of a mass trespass onto the base.

As well as Peace groups from all over the country it is hoped to involve many local groups such as Trade Unions, the Labour Party and so on. The response so far has been very encouraging.

If you are interested in being involved in the steering group please contact Dave (leave message with Paddy or Cathy on 788655)



## SEA-LAUNCHED CRUISE MISSILES

The fierce opposition to ground-launched Cruise missiles now based at Greenham Common has created much more awareness and understanding of the horrendous nature and implications of siting such weapons in Europe. However, much less public awareness exists about an equally dangerous aspect of U.S. military policy: the sea-launched Cruise missiles (S.L.C.M.)

The U.S.A. plans to deploy thousands of S.L.C.M.'s and the first of these will be on board ships and submarines of the U.S. Navy in just three months from now, June 1984. S.L.C.M.'s are very similar to Greenham type Cruise missiles. They can be fired from the torpedo tubes of submarines or from the decks of surface ships - anything from an aircraft carrier to a disguised fishing trawler. Each missile has several times the destructive power of the bomb that killed hundreds of thousands of people in Hiroshima in 1945.

Perhaps the most frightening aspect of the S.L.C.M.'s is that the U.S.A. is including them in a new programme to create an essentially new strategic nuclear force. In a report dated October 30th 1981, Admiral Willins, the U.S. Navy's Director of Strategic and Theater Nuclear Warfare in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations stated "Sea-launched Cruise missiles would provide additional survivable Nuclear Forces for the Strategic Reserve Force....the latter role could be pivotal in the post war balance and struggle for recovery."

There it is, in black and white, an admission that the U.S. plan to fight, survive and "win" a nuclear war, holding back S.L.C.M.'s to fight world wars four, five and six.

Put simply, Pentagon plans reveal the S.L.C.M.'s could be used after a nuclear "exchange" to destroy any remaining targets or, by holding them back, used to dictate surrender terms to a Soviet Union whose nuclear weapons had been destroyed in a "disarming first strike"

Sea-launched Cruise Missiles have another terrifying consequence - the end of any chance of a negotiated arms control or any possibility of verifiable multilateral nuclear disarmament. Nuclear arms control depends vitally on the fact that the weapons systems involved have been relatively visible to the kind of surveillance technology that has been developed. This all important visibility will end with S.L.C.M.'s. In other words no-one will know exactly how many S.L.C.M.'s the U.S. has deployed, nor where they are deployed because no-one will see them. This simple fact makes arms control and disarmament absolutely impossible. Even the smallest boat would have to be counted as a possible carrier of Sea-launched Cruise Missiles.

One can assume, that because of this massive escalation of number and nature of nuclear weapons by the U.S., the Soviet Union is not far behind. The Soviets do have S.L.C.M.'s, not of the same range or accuracy as the Americans - but in reaction to this new force of U.S. missiles we can be sure the Soviets will do their utmost to produce weapons with the same power and "strategic value"

Of course the situation facing the people of Britain is desperately serious. Any Naval base in Britain that plays host to U.S. ships or submarines is now a potential Cruise base with at least as much military significance as Greenham Common.



# The Necessity for Theory in the Anti-War Movement

In recent times especially the anti-war movement has made giant strides. An example of this was the enormous demonstration last year in London at which half a million people took part against the war preparations of the American, Russian, British and other imperialists. These demonstrations, the militancy and vigour of this mass movement, have occasioned serious setbacks to the plans of the warmongers.

But these strides, great as they are, are to a certain extent limited, curtailed, by some incorrect orientations, formulations, theories and so on that exist in the anti-war movement. Chief among these problems is the unwillingness, or inability to seriously enough, deeply enough and maturely enough think things out. There is the need to in an all-round way analyse the war preparations and draw the necessary conclusions regarding actions, tactics and strategy for the movement.

In fact among some quarters the very idea of thinking things out, of attempting to ponder over complex problems with maturity and logic is frowned upon as being unnecessary and even harmful for the peace movement. But this view is fundamentally incorrect because the basic fact is that before one can act it is necessary to think and the more developed, mature (and scientific) the thought, the more effective the action. Before the anti-war movement can lead the "masses" to even further adopt our positions we must be clear (and constantly strive for greater and greater clarity and consciousness of these positions) ourselves. (Thought only becomes "harmful" if it is divorced from practice, if one does not have the courage of one's convictions and mistakes the thinking of ideas on their own as being the carrying out of the action).

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The Forest Fields Peace Group has started monthly discussion groups on topics of concern to all in the anti-war movement (see back page). Everyone is invited.

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If you would like to subscribe to our monthly newsletter or simply make a donation please contact us at the Neighbourhood Centre.

In the same way that the warmongers have studied and refined the "art" of waging war, the peace movement must study and refine the art of waging peace - if we can be excused this clumsy formulation? - in fact to a greater degree, because we need to defeat the warmongers, to stop them carrying out their vile plans. To this end a fight (opposition to or struggle against, if you prefer) must be waged in the peace movement not only against the warmongers, but also against any wrong views, orientations and practices which tend to hold the movement back, irrespective of whether these views are pushed deliberately to harm the movement or by friends who with the best intentions in the world harm the struggle for peace.

Only in this way will the anti-war movement hone itself into an irresistible force and realise the very lofty aims that the movement has set itself - the task of averting war between the super-powers and their allies and establishing genuine and lasting peace.

## Mobile Affinity Group

Eleven members of the Forest Fields Peace Group recently formed a mobile affinity group bringing the total number of such groups in the Nottingham area to six. The idea of a mobile affinity group is that at short notice we can travel down to the Greenham area when the first Cruise convoy is brought out for a full practice exercise (probably lasting some 18 hours).

We would join other groups from all over Britain in trying to stop the convoys returning to the Greenham air base by means of non-violent direct action. The facts that the complete convoy can only travel at 20 mph and that only six roads leading from Greenham are suitable for it means that we do have a fair chance of being successful.

The group is mixed (we would not be going to the women's peace camp itself) and is open for any member of Forest Fields Peace Group to join. Transport would especially be appreciated.

For more information contact Dave c/o Paddy and Cathy 768655.



# FOREST FIELDS PEACE GROUP

## DISCUSSION GROUP MEETINGS 1984

<p><u>APRIL 25th</u> 8.00pm</p> <p>CAN CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE STOP WORLD WAR?</p> <p>The Tornado Programme - A Massive Escalation of the Arms Race</p>	<p><u>MAY 23rd</u> 8.00pm</p> <p>U.S. MILITARY - INVADERS OR ALLIES ?</p> <p>The Peace Initiatives of the Superpowers - Genuine or a Sham ?</p>
<p><u>JUNE 27th</u> 8.00pm</p> <p>WHERE DOES THE DANGER OF WAR COME FROM ?</p> <p>Something of Britain's Nuclear and Conventional War Preparations</p>	<p><u>JULY 25th</u> 8.00pm</p> <p>KICK CRUISE AND TRIDENT MISSILES OUT OF BRITAIN !</p> <p>The Links Between Nuclear Energy and Nuclear War.</p>
<p><u>AUGUST 22nd</u> 8.00pm</p> <p>CHEVALINE - LABOUR'S SECRET WAR PROJECT</p> <p>Who Profits from war ?</p>	<p><u>SEPTEMBER 26th</u> 8.00pm</p> <p>SOME QUESTIONS OF VIOLENCE AND NON- VIOLENCE FACING THE PEACE MOVEMENT.</p> <p>End All Preparations For War</p>
<p><u>OCTOBER 24th</u> 8.00pm</p> <p>CELEBRATE THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF FOREST FIELDS PEACE GROUP</p> <p>Non-violent Direct Action in the Anti-war Movement</p>	<p><u>NOVEMBER 28th</u> 8.00pm</p> <p>SHOULD BRITAIN GET OUT OF NATO ?</p> <p>Will an "Alternative Defence Strategy" Bring a Genuine and Lasting Peace ?</p>

Forest Fields Peace Group meet bi-weekly at the Forest Fields Neighbourhood centre 69 Wiverton Road, (off Sherwood Rise) on 2nd Wednesday and 4th Thursday of each month. (this months Wed. 11th Apr. & Thurs. 26th Apr.)  
For more details of the group please contact us at the above address or phone Paddy & Cathy on 788655.

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All meeting take place at 69 wiverton Road (off Sherwood Rise)  
Printed and Published by Forest Fields Peace Group.

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