

Colin

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SPECIAL EDITION



FOREST FIELDS PEACE GROUP

20p

# FOREST FIELDS GOES TO ALDERMASTON

APRIL 4th EASTER MONDAY



# ALDERMASTON

THE BRAIN OF BRITAIN'S BOMB

PRIVATE PARTS IN PUBLIC PLACES

## SECRECY

Aldermaston is situated in the undulating wooded countryside of Berkshire. It is one of only a handful of its type in the world and contains the most closely guarded secrets of the nuclear powers. The government tries to keep the work carried out at Aldermaston secret through the use of "D-Notices". D-Notices have no legal force but are widely respected by the media. AWE Aldermaston is officially described as a "self-contained centre for scientific and engineering development of advanced nuclear technology for both defence and civil purposes." First built in 1950, Aldermaston is both a nuclear weapons laboratory and production facility. It designs, develops and tests warheads for:

1. British submarines, i.e.: Polaris, with its updated costly and secret Chevaline warheads, and Trident
2. The RAF's nuclear capable aircraft
3. The Royal Navy's nuclear depth charges
4. And manages special collaborative arrangements for nuclear co-operation with transfers of nuclear material with the USA.

## 'INSUBORDINATION'

The scientists at Aldermaston have a lot of influence within the MoD. They have been an important factor in the Government's reluctance to agree to a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. David Owen went so far as to suggest that they "were even prepared to undermine the politically agreed negotiating stance: in the UK the insubordination reached such a serious level that one official had to be disciplined.

## THE A90 COMPLEX and TRIDENT

At the moment a largely secret £350 million complex is being built at Aldermaston. The complex under development, codenamed "A90", will provide Britain with a nuclear weapons capability up to the end of the 1990's and into the next century. A90 will provide the plutonium for Trident warheads and blueprints for the generation of nuclear weapons beyond Trident. It is due to go into production possibly as soon as the Spring/Summer of '88.

## ACCIDENTS and HEALTH

There have been many accidents and leaks at Aldermaston, only some of which have been made public. As recently as the 3rd December '87, the MoD were forced to admit a leak from the 30 year old underground pipe which discharged contaminated water from Aldermaston into the Thames. A number of workers at Aldermaston have been contaminated and have died of cancer. Some of their widows are suing the Establishment. "I was told by the surgeon that unfortunately there was a very large tumour wrapped around my husband's body. And there was nothing they could do about it as far as they could see. If anyone could have seen my husband's body, believe me, it was pitiful. He went from 14 1/2 stone and I shouldn't think he weighed no more than 3 stone when he died.

## LEUKAEMIA

In December '85 a YTV documentary, 'Inside Britain's Bomb' shocked the residents of Berkshire by revealing evidence of higher than average rates of childhood leukaemia around the nuclear establishments at Burghfield and Aldermaston. The most recent investigation, carried out by the Imperial Cancer Research Fund showed that local children had four times more chance of dying from leukaemia than the average. The children at greatest risk are age under ten.

## From NAMIBIA to ALDERMASTON -THE APARTHEID CONNECTION

The raw material for plutonium is uranium. There is evidence to show that uranium for the British Trident programme originates from the Rio Tinto Zinc owned Rossing mine in Namibia.

In 1971 the United Nations declared that the occupation of Namibia by the apartheid regime of South Africa was illegal. Decree No. 1 issued by the UN makes it quite clear that the British government's uranium contracts with RTZ since 1974 are illegal.

**STOP TRIDENT** 

**SHUT ALDERMASTON**





# NATIONAL EVENT

## EASTER 1988 CND AT ALDERMASTON

### AFTER INF

After the INF agreement scrapping Cruise and SS20, we in the peace movement must renew our focus on British nuclear weapons, and in particular Trident. Mrs. Thatcher wants to press ahead with the nuclear arms race, press ahead with Trident, just as the superpowers are apparently beginning to disarm.

So at Easter, we shall go to Aldermaston, the brain of Britain's nuclear industry, and we shall say loud and clear  
**NOW LET'S SCRAP THE LOT!**

### PLANS FOR THE DAY

National CND are calling for people to begin assembling at Aldermaston from 12 noon on Easter Monday, and to encircle the base at 2pm. They are asking everyone to bring peace symbols with them, to cover the Aldermaston fence. There are military by-laws in force at Aldermaston which prohibit putting things on the fence. We in the peace movement consider such by-laws to be an attempt to silence our protest, and we will defy their oppressive and absurd rules.

National CND are not however encouraging other forms of action at the base such as trespass because Aldermaston is a dangerous place and highly radioactive in some areas inside.

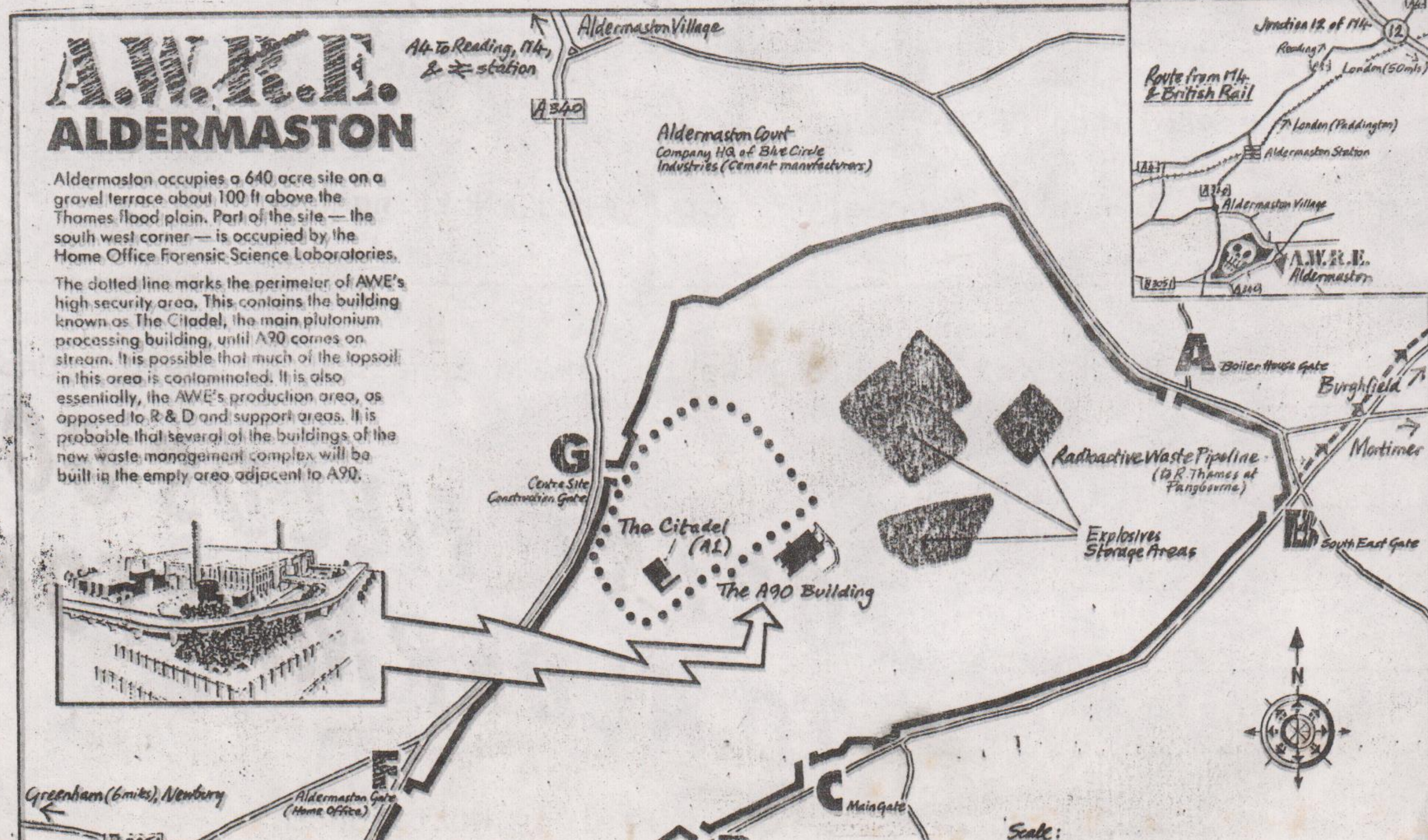
There will be plenty of activity in the form of music, street theatre and singing around the perimeter of the base during the day. Instead of one rally site, there will be four mini-rallies, so that it should be easier for everyone to see and hear the speakers and performers. Different gates at the base will have different themes, to be announced when we arrive.

### SURROUND ALDERMASTON with SOUND

From 2:15 until 2:30 we will surround the base with noise, so everyone is asked to bring musical instruments, whistles, drums, bells whatever....

### NOT A NOSTALGIA TRIP

National CND celebrates it's 30th anniversary this month and it is in a sense significant that we are returning to Aldermaston:- the site of our very first marches and protests all those years ago. But it is not a nostalgia trip. Aldermaston was the focus of Britain's bomb then, in 1958, and it has returned to the centre stage once again in 1988, as Thatcher tries to push ahead with Trident. The issues are as clear now as they were then.....



# SHUT

# ALDERMASTON

# APRIL 4th EASTER MONDAY



# SHUT ALDERMASTON

FOREST FIELDS GOES TO ALDERMASTON - MEET AT CARLTON HOTEL 7:30 AM

Forest Fields Peace Group is organising a bus to the demonstration. We feel this is such an important event that we want to see our members friends and supporters give it their support.

We will leaflet the entire neighbourhood, and are promoting the demonstration with posters. It's a long time since we asked all our members to get involved with something like this, but we call on everyone to do their utmost to be there. We have arranged for a special Forest Fields Bus to pick us up at the Carlton

Hotel at 7:30 am and drop us off back at the Carlton at 8 pm. We will all travel down together, and have the opportunity to march together behind the Forest Fields Peace Group banner.

As well as being a powerful and stirring event in the national peace movement's campaign, we think it would be a great day for us all in the local group. It will give us a chance to get together again, renew friendships and contacts, and feel part of something big and strong.

Tickets for the Forest Fields Bus will cost : £5.50 waged, £3.50 unwaged

## PLEASE BUY YOUR TICKETS IN ADVANCE

You can get them by:

1. phoning Pete on 625198 and ordering some
2. filling in the form below and sending it off to Doreen Gower (at 38 Austen Avenue, Forest Fields)
3. or direct from Basics Wholefoods on Foxhall Road or Mushroom Bookshop, 96 Burford Road

On the day you will need to bring:

1. A peace symbol to tie to the fence
2. Something for making noise (musical instrument or something to blow, bang or shake)
3. Warm weather-proof clothes
4. food and hot drinks
5. all your family and friends!

**APRIL 4TH**  
**FOREST FIELDS GOES TO ALDERMASTON**  
**BE THERE!**

CARLTON HOTEL 7:30 AM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**COACH TICKETS**

PLEASE SEND ME.....TICKETS(waged).....TICKETS(unwaged).....

I ENCLOSE.....(made payable to FFPG).

Please return to Doreen Gower, 38 Austen Avenue, Forest Fields, Nottingham.

I am unable to join the demonstration but would like to make a donation to help fund FFPG's Aldermaston campaign.

I enclose \_\_\_\_\_ (payable to FFPG)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to Doreen Gower, 38 Austen Avenue, Forest Fields, Nottingham.

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