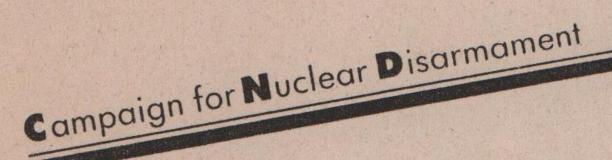
NOTTINGHAM END Jan Bulletin 20p



BRUCEKENT HEREFER 27

(Note: the 'sins' he mentions are merely not telling us when he last spoke in Nottingham ...)



19th December 1989

Nottingham CND 33 Castlegate Nottingham NG1 7AR 22-24 Underwood Street London N17JG Telephone 01 250 4010

By way of making up for previous sins I hasten to tell you that I have accepted an invitation Dear Everyone from the University Free Speech Society Derby Road,

Lenton, Notts) to speak on February 27th evening on "Nuclear Weapons and British Nonsense". It's

due to start at 7.15 Would you let; the CND world know,

All good Wishes for Christmas.

Yours sincerely

Bruee Kent Chair CND Chair, CND

The lecture will be held in the BROWSING LIBRARY of the Portland Building, 7.15, Tues. Feb 27th It will be well signposted, and refreshments will be available.

CONFERENCE '89

1989 ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT
Nov 17-19 City University London
Sue Fox

Sitting down, trying to write this report, just after Christmas, the Conference seems a long time ago. As I re-read my notes Itry and think of my overall impression of my first CND conference.

The main business was conducted in the University's lecture theatre, a room that was large enough to hold around 600 people, and was full for most of the meetings. Bruce Kent opened the meeting and Meg Beresford presented the Annual report. You will be pleased to hear that CND's membership is NOT going down but levelling off, that CND have produced a video on the nuclear issue which is directed at schools and can be bought from CND. There was a lively account of the finances of CND from Frank Parker, the treasurer, and we have a deficit of under 2000 which CND is going to cut but ONLY if it doesn't interfere with CND's work of 'Direct & Visible campaigning' (Get someone you know to join and help the budget.) There is also a new fundraising video which has sold over 5000 copies by mail order and presumably will be in the shops at some time. After voting for the chair and vice-chair we adjourned to the bar for lunch. Bruce Kent regained the chair and there were four Vice Chairpersons elected, one being Alasdair Mackie who spoke in Nottingham recently.

After lunch there were workshops and lectures to go to. 'Pensioners for Peace' opened by Tony Benn sounded interesting, but as I'm not quite old enough to be a senior citizen I decided on 'Red-Green dialogue on Unilateral Nuclear Disarmament' - speakers Ken Livingstone MP and Penny Kemp, Green Party. It took me (and others) around twenty minutes of wandering round endless corridors to discover I was in the wrong building and to find the right room which was by now quite full but devoid of any speakers. 33 mins late, Ken and Penny plus lots more people found the room and squeezed into it to begin the debate. Penny spoke first and had positive anti-nuclear policies, aiming to convert existing nuclear industries into socially useful industries and products and unilaterally get rid of weapons, 'Peace is not absence of war but a mutual cooperation and trust between peoples.' Political will is needed if we are to disarm. At a CND confrence her stand on nuclear issues was obviously well received. Ken Livingstone then spoke saying that he was not a pacifist but that he mainly agreed with everything Penny had said. The problem for Ken was obviously his party's policies on defence and their multilateral stand. He did say that he thought Labour would get rid of the bomb if and when they gain power and that Labour's policy on the arms issue was inconsistent with its financial policy. There were many questions from the floor but the main issue seemed to be on how a CND supporter could vote for Labour. No real conclusion was arrived at.

I then attended other workshops, one called Linking with the Greens. This concluded that our campaign was a green issue and that CND could save energy and resources by linking with other groups with similar aims (although not the Green Party as we are politically non-aligned.) It was suggested that a liaison officer could be appointed to link groups, information and campaigns.

The final workshop was called 'Dealing with Burnout & Exhaustion' and consisted of ways of learning to relax and cope with the burdens of work which many CND campaigners take on.

This workshop, I think, had the biggest influence on me, at the conference. I had met and heard many people over the weekend who had campaigned and worked tirelessly and purely voluntarily for something which they, and we, believe is vital to the safety of this planet. As a very part-time activist I had slight feelings of guilt when I started to realise just how much work many people put into CND. During this workshop people talked about how it had caused stress in their lives by doing too much. How one person had had a breakdown because he just couldn't say no when things had to be done. How someone else never had time for friends and for activities such as walking in the country, due to commitments to CND. How someone else seemed to exist on very little sleep as there was 'always so much to be done'. And on and on.

What does happen in most groups is that a few people end up taking the whole burden of responsibilities while everyone else reaps the benefits. It made me a little more determined to do more and perhaps, as you read this, you can give a little more of your time to help CND this year. Perhaps you can help with the bulletin, or the stall or something else but if everyone does SOMETHING it helps everyone else.

On Sunday the conference was addressed by a Pastor from East Berlin who brought greetings from the peace movement there, saying that we need to learn from one another, to communicate and to go forward into a new Europe. It was a moving speech which highlighted the changes taking place and the need to work towards using our energies peacefully, for change.

After all the resolutions were debated and voted on and the results of the election of council members announced the conference was brought to a close.

This is only a very brief (or not so) account of two very full and interesting days spent at CND's Annual Conference 1989.

Rod Langford, NCND Delegate

January council began with an emergency resolution, to condemn the British-made seaborne laser used to blind airmen from on board Royal Navy vessels; and for CND to take action and request workers at the development establishment to refuse to work on it. The logical decision was to link this new weapons system, which permanently damages the cornea of the eye, with the forthcoming Nuclear Free Seas actions.

CND's opening poitical discussion was on how we should react to the rapidly changing political situation in Eastern Europe. Where, it was asked, is the sense in wasting our resources on targetting 'our' nuclear capability on our potential new free market friends in the Warsaw Pact states? To quote a ststement from New Forum: 'on one hand we want a wider supply of consumer goods and better distribution, on the other we see the resulting social and ecological costs and plead for a departure from unbridled growth.'

An invited speaker, Mehmet Ali Dikerdem, a Turk, told us of his pleasure at seeing East/West detente but warned (after peering over the precipice) of his forebodings about the current state of Worth/South relations. He told us of his view of the third world war, which he said was already taking place in the economic climate of the Third World; relating the debt situation to the war scenario, urging us to be conscious of how we are treating our fellow humans in the undeveloped nations of the southern hemisphere.

In order of ballot selection at the November annual conference CND's priority for campaigns is as follows: (1) Trident & Modernisation (2) Disarm the Seas (3) The Environment (4) Proliferation (5) Low Flying (6) Conversion (7) New Thinking & Disarmament (relating to E. Europe political changes (8) The United Nations (9) International Work (10) Resources (reduction of British military spending and reallocation of funds to real social needs (11) The Labour Party.

Meg Beresford (General Secretary of CND) urged us to focus some attention on the 'Helsinki Process': the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. A forum of 35 nations, which includes some from the Warsaw Pact, from NATO and the rest neutral. M. Gorbachov, in Malta, suggested that the scheduled 1992 meeting of the CSCE be brought forward to 1990 - but the USA found reason to disagree. CND should take this on board in its political and parliamentary role; and and link the CSCE with the Peace Parliament, the European Assembly for Peace and Democracy, a logical extension of the END process.

The next major area of campaign work to be 31st March - an international day of action against Trident, under the title of 'Shut Out Trident'. The Anti-Trident network have called for protests at 26 places in Britain connected with the Trident programme. Among them is Derby! (Nottm CND has details of Derby CND proposed action - see elsewhere in this issue). This writer urges all Notts campaigners to join the action - see you there?!

During March and April there is to be a street opinion poll, relating to nuclear weapons and socially useful spending. The results to be mentioned to the media locally and backed up by an official national poll which is to be commissioned by CND (see next edition of Sanity for more details).

Youth CND presented two papers for discussion by council. The first relating to a new group 'Student CND' focussing on Universities, Polytechnics & Colleges of F.E. with proposals to harness the predominant anti-nuclear instincts vis a national network; working with the student unions to finance a permanent worker to coordinate the movement out of CND Headquarters in London (ex Underwood St).

YCND's second paper related to campaign events—'Nell out of order!' is their slogan for 1990—and 'Bin the Bomb Day' in September will be the culmination, when local groups will organise protests in their areas. The idea being to represent the uselessness of nuclear meapons and the maste of the huge amounts of money the government is pouring into 'defence'. The symbolic action will consist of putting bombs and paper money into wastebins, dustcarts etc. An action pack, leaflets, stickers etc. will be distributed from the new London Office.

DOWE OR DON'T WE?

Eric Jessop

It was announced in the Bulletin that the Radcliffe Peace Group were laying a wreath of White Poppies at the Remembrance Day Service at the Radcliffe cenotaph. This did not take place and I believe raises questions which should be resolved. What should be our attitude towards official ceremonies of this kind?

Several years ago we placed a wreath of White Poppies as part of the official wreath laying ceremony. The wreath was removed later and put in the waste bin. We recovered and replaced it.

Last year we made formal application to join the official ceremony and received a reply to state we 'would not be welcome' on the advice of Rev Newcombe, Vicar of the Parish (who it must be said denied this later), and if we persisted the wreath would be removed in full sight of the people present. We did place a wreath of White Poppies after and were present as a group wearing our White Poppies and were duly shadowed by the Police.

This year we made the application again and in reply they stated they did not agree with our laying a wreath but we could purchase a wreath of Red Poppies from the British Legion and lay it 'in Remembrance of the dead of Two world wars, hoping there never be another one'.

Members of the Group discussed this proposal and decided that if it appears our presence would cause offence, we would not participate in the ceremony.

This decision was based on two points of view. (a) As it was a ceremony designed in principle, content and effect in terms of patriotic jingoism, we really could not support such a demonstration. (b) No useful purpose or argument would be advanced by our offending the official concept and purpose with the banners of the British Legion, the Services, the Scouts, Boys' Brigade, Cubs, Girl Guides and the Brownies, bugles and all the paraphernalia of nationalistic euphoria.

It must be said there was a point of view that we should lay a wreath of White Poppies after the Official Parade.

It raises the question, Should we participate and under what terms, or in the interests of harmony, not to challenge emotionally held beliefs which are likely to cause hostility and isolate us from the general life of the community.

What do you think?

CND VICE-CHAIR BLOWS UP THE WORLD

Jeremy Jago

The Evening Post could have had that headline if their bloke hadn't departed before the kick-off. Air Commodore Alasdair Mackie inflated a plastic globe during the introduction to his December 6 talk, 'A Nuclear Free Europe?'

Europe, he said, is in constructive turmoil. The supporter of disarmament is a child in a sweetshop, spoilt for choice amid the goodies. The only hold-out against the reform process is of course Britain - its government attitude epitomised by the Sun headline DEMOB THREAT TO OUR LADS! Alisdair indicated his military map of the world and how its straightened out lines of latitude made the UK look much bigger than its true size against other countries. No matter how the map is drawn, superpower divisions are dissolving.

But how did they start and what started their decline?

The Soviets inherited an invasion psychosis from their imperial days. Soon after the revolution it was reinforced by an event underplayed in the history books—an allied sabotage invasion (this is why some WW1 memorials are dated 1914-1919!). North America's similar psychosis about the Soviets kept it in Europe as NATO, whose nuclear arsenal is designed for preemptive attack. In the early 80's, Soviet fear of U.S. attack was all but replaced by a perceived Middle East threat. Euro-war was now remote—explaining Soviet politicians' and generals' acquiescence in the cold war thaw.

NATO's thousands of bases were designed for the containment of communism within a European battlefield. The 'flexible response' retaliation strategy allows for an ascending scale of firepower up to Trident. But its short range end (eg West German based Lance missiles) is outdated. Modernisation proposals caused a split: on one side West Germany, supported by most of Europe, and on the other, USA, supported by Britain. (We can all remember Mrs Thatcher's mission to W. Germany to, quote, 'stiffen their resolve' to accept new missiles which if fired would land within their host country - but then the same could be said of Trident if recent tests are anything to go by).

Another Nato change of the early 80's was a new offensive initiative — an explicit nuclear first strike capability whose inevitable result in war would be full escalation within minutes. Other US aims included 'Competitive Strategy' or trying to wear out the opposition in endless rounds of technological development, and 'Discriminate deterrence' — a euphemism for tailor-made nuclear capability. All these stategies are now in trouble.

Regaining democracy, communist countries will start a period of turmoil while the Warsaw Pact threat weakens. Any military intervention needed would be mediation in nationalist wars, U.N. peacekeeper style, showing superpower conflict to be irrelevant. 'Just Defence' is a new philosophy outlined by Gorbachev, a state of 'reasonable sufficiency' in which the US and USSR collaborate for mutual defence. But the U.K's shallow rhetoric about Europe covers an isolationist outlook.

If Europe is a sweetshop, Alasdair Mackie concluded, CND is driving the Cadbury's van ...

Many questions after the talk concerned dangers of military threat between other states. Alasdair's theme throughout was that a potential 'bloc' existed only if threat existed. For instance France boasts 'La Droit', a militaristic insular tradition from its two ravages in recent history. If current trends ever led to a unification with Germany, La Droit would lose its reason to exist. Similarly the importance of NATO membership is set to decline within the EEC. German unification would ultimately dissolve NATO completely. In fact Alasdair Mackie's Taiwanese PVC globe had no division printed between East and Nest Germany, but he imagined it had been made late on a Friday.

Asked about his career, he outlined his RAF background: rising through the ranks he piloted bombers during the war. Afterwards he taught strategy at the Joint Services College, and here saw that nuclear strategy made no sense. He was allowed to describe its faults in his teaching — later, as a Cabinet military adviser, he was always careful to emphasise he saw no USSR threat. Leaving the RAF after a spell as a forensic adviser he took various civilian advisory posts, finally working at the Health Education Council. Even his civilian jobs prevented him from joining CND by their requirement for 'impartiality'. It was only on retirement that he could express his views in practice.

GREENHAM WOMEN EVERYWHERE

LET'S STOP NUCLEAR TESTING starting on International Women's Day for Disarmament May 24

* We want to link up with women all over the world to make a big protest on that day - so that all the nations which indulge in this anti-life habit receive protests from women all over the world.

We are trying to assemble infromation on nuclear testing, also to assemble the addresses of governments, embassies etc - help please. We want to make contact with women who are interested in this project.

A further possibility is an International Contact Network to inform each other when a test is about to, or has just taken place, so that we can all protest to the country which carries it out.

Telephone Peg: 0635 27444, Blue Gate, Bury's Bank Road, Greenham Common, Newbury, Berks.

SAY NOTO TRIDENT

Andrew Hill, Derby CND

Anti-Trident Network Day of Action.
Local Action at Rolls Royce, Raynesway,
12 noon, Saturday March 31st

You may feel that there never was a good time to spend upwards of £10 billion on a massive unilateral escalation of 'British' nuclear capability. In any event, in the current state of East-West relations the Trident programme is even more of an obscenity than ever. Trident missiles won't just kill communists, they'll kill us all.

Not since the deployment of Cruise at Greenham has the insanity of nuclear warmongering been so obvious. Now is the time to act.

The Anti-Trident network has organised a day of action on March 31st. Separate actions will take place all over the 30 or so Trident-related installations in Britain. Derby CND is organising the local action outside Rolls Royce on Raynesway, Derby - THIS IS THE ONE TO COME TO.

In a changing world, with escalating costs and with huge technical problems with both the missiles and the warheads, the whole Trident programme is vulnerable.

Join us in Derby to register your opposition to the Trident programme as a whole, and to publicise the role of R R & A, and the risks posed to local people by this plant handling nuclear fuel. Publicity materials and detailed plans will be sent to Nottingham nearer the day. Final planning will be done at the Derby CND meeting on Feb 22nd at the Derby Labour Club at 8 pm. Get in touch or send a rep. if you wish. Some indication of likely numbers would be a help.

Andrew Hill, 7 South St., Derby. 0332 368499

The following notes summarise Derby CND's briefing paper - copies available in full from Jeremy (621453)

The two Trident related Derby plants are Rolls Royce & Associates (labs) and Rolls Royce Nuclear Division (works). R R & A builds reactors, powering Royal Navy submarines. MoD uranium is handled on site, for engines, not bombs. Since 1959 RR & A have built power units for 17 submarines, Dounreay prototype HMS Vulcan, and the Trident prototype, PWR2.

The site also houses Neptune experimental test reactor. Recently fast breeder reactors have also been researched.

Nuclear Division makes reactor cores and valves and supplies uranium rods. A loaded reactor fuel core left the works in 1984, its destination secret, probably Rosyth, Devonport, or Dounreay, where RR&A staff exist. Fuel cores probably leave Derby 3 or 4 times yearly. Used fuel doesn't return and is presumably put through Sellafield. There are grave doubts over the safety of transport for this operation, since safety flasks appear to be confined to the civil industry. Equally obscure are fuel movements into the Derby plant.

Derby CND concerns are (1) the need for information on shipments to & from the plant, (2) routine atmospheric radioactive discharges and permitted active Derwent discharges. (3) the need for information on Trident reactor progress.

NEW WORKING CROUP

PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION: WORKING GROUP
Greater Manchester & Dist. CND

At November's National CND AGM, a resolution was passed unanimously which recommended the setting up of a working group to prepare for the UN Review Conference on the Non-Proliferation Treaty next August in Geneva. The group will plan a number of regional dayschools and a national conference, and organise CND participation in international NGO activities in Geneva. It may also be able to continue some of the work of the Chemical and Biological Weapons working group.

As the focus of world tensions is now shifting from East-West to North-South (and South-South), this opportunity to speak out against the dangerous proliferation of nuclear systems, both energy and weaponry, is particularly timely.

If you feel concerned about the future of regions such as the Middle East, S. Africa, the Indian Subcontinebt and Latin America, or are simply worried about the risks of global destruction; and if you can spare some time for this campaign over the next few months, please get in touch quickly. You don't need to be an expert to serve on the Working Group, and even if you're busy there may be other ways in which you can help. Whatever we decide to do, we need to be getting on with it rapidly.

CONTACT Colin Archer, c/o Gtr. Manchester & Dist. CND, 13 Paton St, Manchester M1 28A 061 236 1588 day, 061 226 3688 evening.

HMS NOTTINGHAM

Nottingham has an official affiliation between the city and the nuclear capable Type 42 destroyer HMS Nottingham. As a type 42 destroyer, HMS Nottingham is certified to carry nuclear depth bombs in wartime. These would be delivered from the ship's Lynx helicopter as part of an offensive not defensive NATO maritime strategy.

This is why Nottingham CND has been given a priority invitation to the UK Nuclear Free Seas Campaigning Conference in Birmingham on the weekend of March 10/11. The conference will, in the context of the current political climate, cover the full range of pressure tactics, from non-violent direct action at sea to letter writing and imaginative ideas for the street stall.

If you wish to accompany the NCND contingent to the conference, please contact Rod Langford as soon as possible, at his workplace, Nottm 626582.

/

WHY I BELONG TO CND

Doreen Gower

My abhorrence of violence started way back, whilst still in junior school, when a young boy was seriously injured with a stone from a catapult. I thought that it was stupid and unhelpful to the injured party that time and effort was being spent caning the culprit while the victim was shivering from shock. The final stupidity was returning the catapult with a lecture not to use it. Of course it was used again, but somehow fell into the hands of my cousin and then hidden by me in the girls toilet. A replacement catapult went amissing and a peashooter got trodden on in an urgent desire to be early for school by my cousins and me. From then on I do not remember any incidents of bullying at school - though we had a few guilty moments when the theme at assembly was 'Thou shalt not steal' and we heard that not only thieves, but 'sensorys after the fax' and people who 'sided an abetted' were also on the road to perdishun.

When fascism came upon the European scene, my thoughts were 'why doesn't someone take away their catapults?' Only the USSR took this view (in other words of course) but the rest of Europe preferred to add to their toys — and not until the Hitler-Stalin pact was signed did our government realise that 'they' now wanted OUR toys. Whilst it is easy to give away other people's catapults taking ours was not a very good show.

Two memories of the 1930's still remain - how suddenly money was available for war after none had been available for the unemployed to relieve the miasma of misery in which they lived, and seeing a trainful of boys, going to France, too young to vote, too young to marry but not too young to be expendable. Or were they the first expendables because there would be no pensions to pay?

Came May 1945 and the on-again-off-again-on-again armistice and after six years of being brutalised and being taught that killing was the reason for living then it was 'Jolly good show, lads, and now you can return to normal with a new suit (utility of course) a packet of sandwiches and a pint of ale, with a medal to come, and return to touching the forelock, bending the knee and working long hours with low pay again'. The flowers from the seeds of violence sown then still permeate our society. Then August 5th 1945 when the earth bled and Jesus wept, along with Mohammed, Buddha and all the philosophers and humanists who ever lived, to see the summit of man's (white man's) achievements. A new, hig bully boy was born, with nobody it would seem to take away his catapult.

All one could do for some years was raise a lone voice against the British bomb and stand up and say 'but you are not making it in MY name,' until CND became a coherent body after the action of the Greenham Common women when I could join their ranks.

THIS SIDE OF THE WALL

Eric Jessop

The thoughtful article of Margaret Peck, much of which I would like to agree, seems to be based more in hope than reality. A united Germany will not necessarily mean the withdrawal of NATO from Central Europe. It could mean only a shift of the East/West frontiers. The Arms Barons for whom the Berlin Wall has been the raison d'etre of their deterrence and huge arms expenditure.

Mrs. Thatcher still talks about keeping our guard up and still persists in Trident and nuclear exercises until such times as the East Bloc countries adopt a form of society of which she approves and that into the 21st century.

Behind the smoke screen there is an economic battle going on for the hegemony of Europe, something we fought two world Wars to prevent. Kohl must be laughing all the way to the Bundesbank.

A united Germany gave us the Kaiser 1914-18, Hitler 1939-45 and a strong German mark against the wobbly pound 1989-92. The people of E. Germany are making a point from which we can learn much. Perestroika and the need for change is not confined to Europe. Democracy is not a vote every five years, they are showing that it is the fabric of life around us. The ambulance workers, GCHQ Peace activists could do with a bit of it right now.

100,000 people in Prague get 20 minutes prime news time. Greenham Common demonstrators get 2 mins.if that.

We must be careful not to be deluded into a false sense that the battle has been won and we can leave it to 'Gorby'. No way! Thatcher and all she represents is in retreat. We have to keep up the pressure and increase it.

Gorby and E. Germany have shown us the way. Let's keep it up, all the way!

PEACE FEST THE TENTH

NCND's executive committee have agreed to HELP organise 1989's event themselves. The name & structure will be new. Ideas people - come to the first meeting at 33 Castle Gate office, 7.30, Monday Feb 19th.

LOCAL CONTACTS

DIRW

- FEB 19 First Peace Festival meeting 7.30 , 33 Castle Gate
- FEB 26 CND Executive meeting, 7.00, 33 Castle Gate
- FEB 27 BRUCE KENT LECTURE:

 7.15, University Free Speech
 Society. SEE INSIDE FRONT COVER
- MAR 10-11 Nuclear Free Seas Conference, Birmingham
- MAR 31 Anti-Trident Action, 12 noon, Rolls Royce, Raynesway, Derby
- MAY 24 International Women's Day for Disarmament

DESPERATELY

SEEKING AN EDITORIAL TEAM

A few members liked December's tiny newsletter. Others couldn't read it. The Bulletin's now back to normal format but still too short. It was compiled, word-processed & laid out by one conscript. Then it was printed by Langford, Rod, on his tod. Thanks also to W. Bridgford for collation and to Pat Robson for transport. There is still no new editorial team and some members have expressed interest in forming one. If you want to join in, contact Pete (625198). A meeting will be held soon.

Jerenny Dego

STOP PRESS Feb 1st: Meeting at
the Golden Fleece pub, Mansfield Rd,
for those keen to help organise a
commemorative event for Chernobyl.
Organiser: Sharon Higginson
Time: 7.30 onwards

Yes, I want to help. Here is my subscription to Nottingham CND adult £3.75 household £4.50 unwaged £1.50	
Name	
Address	
	5. 水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水
l enclose £ membership plus £ donation	
Please make cheques payable to NCND and return to: 33 CASTLE GATE	, NOTTINGHAM