.

Thursday 29 February

9.30am-5.00pm: Nuclear Awareness Group - Open Forum on Nuclear Transport. Discussion, questions, seminars and speakers including Stuart Kemp (Manchester City Council) and Jan Batty (Leeds City Council). Fee: Public Organisations £25, Individuals £10, OAPs-/Students £6. The Civic Centre, Reading. Contact: Pam Vassie 01734 780148.

Sunday 3 March

2.00pm-4.00pm: Abolition 2000 Network meeting at Queen's Hall, Edinburgh. Contact: Janet Bloomfield, c/o 162 Holloway Rd, London N7 8DQ.

Saturday 9 March

11.00am-4.30pm: Alternative Europe. A conference to connect with European Greens, socialists and Peace Movements. Friends Meeting

Contact: the Campaign for Non-Alignment, c/o Jeremy Corbyn MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA or Fax: 0161 236 1103.

Sunday 10 March

7.30pm: MANA Concert for Peace. A flute and piano recital at Lauderdale House, Highgate, London N6. Contact: MANA on 0181 455 1030.

Friday 22 March

7.30pm: MANA Concert for Peace at Fraser Noble Hall, Leicester University, Leicester. Tickets £4/£3 from Leicester University Music Department: 0116 252 2781.

Saturday 23 March

10.30am-5.30pm: 'If I had a hammer' An introduction to the Ploughshares Movement. Videos, talks, workshops, discussions, food and a fundraising social in the evening. Contact: Ploughshares Support, Network, Box X, 111 Magdalen Rd, Oxford OX4 1RQ. Tel: 01865 793820.

Saturday 30 March

9.00am-5.00pm: 'Roots of Conflict What Creates Enemies?' Leicester City Council Peace Action Group 1996 Conference. At Vaughan College, St Nicholas Circle, Leicester LE1 4LB.

House, Euston Road, London. Speakers: Alan Simpson MP, Dr.Mark Levene, Dr.Dorothy Rowe. Also seminars on Chechenia, conflict resolution, the media, race and religion. Tickets £8/£6. Contact 0116 251 7368

Regular events

First Tuesday of the Month

7.30am-9.30am: Vigil outside AWE Burghfield. Contact Wokingham Peace Group 01734 341069.

Every Tuesday afternoon

5.00pm-7.30pm: Vigil at the French Embassy, 58 Knightsbridge, London. Bring whistles and instruments. Contact YCND 0171 607 3616.

Every Friday morning

10.00am-11.00am: Vigil outside the Randulf French Consulate, 11 Crescent, Edinburgh. Contact Scottish CND 0131 449 3695.

First Saturday of the month

Mixed gathering for peace at the Menwith Hill Women's Peace Camp. Contact Anni 01943 466 405.

Last weekend of every other month

Sellafield Women's Peace Camp, outside Visitor's Centre. Contact 01706 371 387.

Sea Action are appealing for dry suits and wet suits to help them continue their excellent work. If you can donate one please contact Bob Sprocket on 01273 770 330.

Incorporation

approving in principle the incorporation of CND as a limited company. This will reduce the risk of Council members becoming liable for any debts CND may incur. Council will appoint a working group to produce the legal documentation which will be presented to the 1996 Conference for approval.Contact: Incorporation Working Group, c/o 162 Holloway Rd.

Sall on

Conference passed a resolution



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Nuclear Disarmament A Sinister Sea Cruise

Eddie Gonçalves, Press Officer

n Sunday 7 January HMS Victorious, the first of Britain's Trident nuclear submarines to have its missiles modified to target non-nuclear Third World countries, set out on patrol.

Next day, Polaris submarine HMS Renown limped out of Faslane, the third of the four Polaris subs to head for the scrapyard. But not only is Polaris at the end of its life, so is its purpose.

With the Cold War over, a new function has had to be invented to justify Trident. So, on 16 November 1993, then Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind proudly announced the new role: to "deliver an unmistakable message to potential aggressors" in defence of Britain's "vital interests."

Nor is this just some piece of political rhetoric aimed at those who believe Britain will only remain Great while there are ravens in the Tower, apes on Gibraltar and British nuclear weapons on the High Seas. Although the target states are unspecified and the vital interests undefined, it is clear that, for the first time, non-nuclear, Third World states are to be openly threatened with nuclear attack.

The new, single-warhead Tactical Trident missile is part of a trend towards smaller, more flexible, highly accurate weapons that the government hopes will be more publicly acceptable and actually usable in situations short of all-out war.

With both US and French strategic thinking moving in the same dangerous direction, we are seeing the dawning of a new age of gunboat diplomacy, as crude and brutal as the last, but far more destructive.

This is the new nuclear nightmare - a doctrine and a deployment that actually increases the likelihood of nuclear weapons being used.

Chernobyl Information

A campaigning pack containing maps, pictures and information about Chernobyl and ideas for actions in your town or at your nearest nuclear site will be available from mid-February from GMCND, One World Centre, 6 Mount Street, Manchester M2 5NS at £5, including p&p. Ring Linda Walker on 0161 834 8176. Leaflets will be available in mid-March.

To coincide with the publication of her book Children of Chernobyl (Harper Collins £7.99), Adi Roche will be speaking at a number of meetings in February.

Adl Roche's speaking tour

Tues 6 London, Public Meeting 7.30pm at Friends Meeting House, Euston Road.

Manchester 0161 834 8176 0151 928 6738 Sun 18 Liverpool Mon 19 Birmingham 0121 643 4617 0141 423 1222 Tues 20 Glasgow 0131 226 2719

Wed 21 Edinburgh 0113 247 4341 Thurs 22 Leeds

0117 942 0163 23 Bristol 01222 889514 Sat 24 Cardiff

Let's trash Trident

Jon Nott, Vice Chair

French nuclear testing and our most successful campaigning of recent years have raised public awareness of the new nuclear nightmare, but how many people are aware of Britain's role? How many have fallen into the xenophobic trap of blaming the French government without looking closer to home?

Our challenge for 1996 is to capitalise on the high level of interest in nuclear issues to get the message of Tactical Trident across.

"We've got nukes and we're not afraid to use them". These ten words sum up our government's policy on Trident and it won't change, even if there is a general election. The only way we can change that policy is to rebuild a grassroots campaign for nuclear disarmament in this country. This means educating the public about Britain's use of nuclear threats against the third world and our government's willingness to use Trident as a first strike weapon on countries that don't even have nukes. So much for deterrence.

The arguments, as always, are on our side. The French Embassy protest parties and local campaigning countrywide, have shown that we have the creativity and enthusiasm to get our message across. The abolition of nuclear weapons by the year 2000 may seem like a lofty ideal, but the international movement is growing and our role is to rid the world of Trident. We can and must succeed.

If you do nothing else this year, then persuade one other person to join you at Faslane on 15 June. Let's send a vibrant, visible message to both the politicians and the people....

There's a monster in the loch

Liz Westmorland, Campaigns

It's a new year - the year nuclear weapons may be declared illegal by the World Court and a CTBT signed. It may also be the year the CTBT is scuppered because of French nuclear testing and insidious preparations are made to use Trident as an offensive weapon against countries which threaten our 'vital interests'.

All Britain's nuclear weapons are now based in Scotland. They are hidden away from public scrutiny in

That's why this demonstration, organised jointly by British CND, Scottish CND and Faslane Peace Camp, is so crucial and why as many of us as possible should go to Scotland to confront the beast in its lair. There's something for everyone a whole weekend of activity of all types, for all ages. But our message will be clear - Trident must be trashed – and it's time to do it now.

Saturday morning Helensborough will give us a chance to let the holidaying public know what this huge monstrosity is doing a Scottish loch. Out of sight, out of in one of the most beautiful parts of mind? We can't allow that to happen! the UK. In the afternoon there will be

0121 643 4617 Route Birmingham/Wolverhampton/Stoke 0161 834 8176 Manchester/Warrington/Preston/Lancaster 01274 730795 Sheffield/Leeds/Bradford/Skipton 0191 261 6143 Newcastle/Edinburgh 01274 730795 Hull/York/Durham 01392 832467 Exeter/Bristol/Gloucester 01703 672420 Portsmouth/Southampton/Newbury/Oxford 0171 607 2302 London/Watford/Luton/Bedford/ 01372 727462 Northampton Colchester/Ipswich/Cambridge/ 01394 386273 Peterborough (inc Norfolk) 01150 750260 10 Cardiff/Newport/Worcester 0141 423 1222 11 Inverness 12 Aberdeen/Dundee/Perth 0141 423 1222 0116 254 0618 13 Leicester/Derby/Nottingham 0151 708 7764 14 Merseyside

a march to the base's north gate for the main demonstration and witness, plus music, blockades, picnics, stalls and lots more. We may have a little competition from a game I hear is being played on the same day, but I'm sure we'll be more than a match with games of our own! On the Saturday evening, boat trips up the loch will show us the base from as close as possible (Cost:approx.£3). Later there will be a Ceilidh.

Make a weekend of it, there are places reserved in the Youth Hostel at Loch Lomond, but call Scottish CND quickly because space is limited (Cost per night: £7.80 adult/£6.40 child). There will also be well that not only did I accommodation in Helensborough or camping at Faslane.

CND's budget for this demonstration includes a provision for seedcorn money for regions to organise transport. This is NOT to subsidise seats but to make sure that the organisers can book transport early and guarantee that it will run. Ask your local Union branches to sponsor their members to join us or perhaps to sponsor the transport. Are you in a Nuclear Free Local Authority? Approach them as they may help financially, with publicity or in some other way. Look at the routes, contact the appropriate person and book your seat now.

It's the Faslane Peace Camp's 14th birthday in June. They have kept up the pressure on Trident and Faslane all that time. Now they may be The poll, on the other hand, I did under threat after local government reorganisation in May, so it's time for us all to shoulder our responsibility for British nuclear weapons and make sure our voices are heard. In 1995 we and thousands of others were galvanised into action by the French tests - now let's translate that energy into a demonstration of our disgust at our own country's weapons.

Trident is made, deployed and may be used by our government. Come to Faslane and make it very clear, it's not in our name!

Carol Naughton, Vice Chair

Like a lot of us, I couldn't get to grips with 'Tactical Trident'. I mean, when is a weapon Strategic, Tactical, Sub-Strategic, Stand Off, etc. never mind trying to work out the millions of acronyms! So I have to admit I went to the West Midlands CND dayschool (with Mil Rai) out of duty rather than anticipation of a fun day.

Thank you, thank you Mil – it was excellent. Mil put the whole background and concept over so understand, but felt able to contribute to discussions and came away with ideas for campaigning on Tactical Trident. It was a great opportunity not only to educate ourselves but to activate and re-energise those flagging grey cells sleepy after a cold winter.

Mil, or Invite another equally speaker informed and get a few of you together to Educate and Activate. It CAN be fun!

Street polls

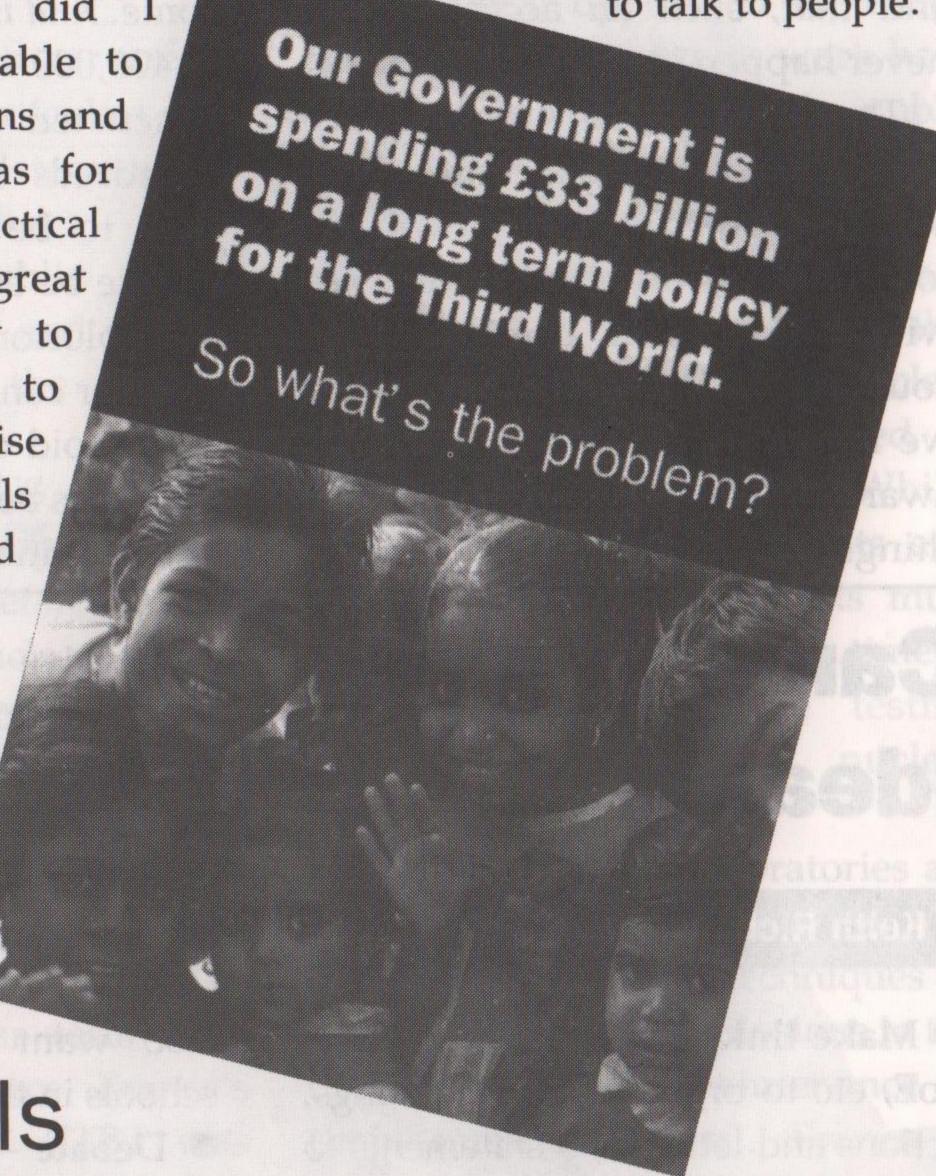
take on, expecting to have a good day campaigning and it certainly proved so.

It was a laugh to get dressed up, no badges or anything to identify me with CND, and make a huge effort to be completely dispassionate and pick a real cross-section of the public to poll. The idea is that you give the punters a card with a statement on it and ask them two questions. Then another card and one more question about the present Government's policy on the use of nuclear weapons. Tell them it will

only take a moment. You need to be very fair in recording replies and not ruin them as I did on my first two by saying 'Oh great' when they gave the right answer!

At the end, I told them I was doing the poll on behalf of CND and watched their reaction. I had a lot of good discussions and had a lot of fun. Most people were supportive and happy to take away information on nuclear weapons and British policy. I think the venue helped as we were in a square by a library and an art gallery, so people were not rushing past shopping. Have a go -

> it's easy to do and a great way to talk to people.



New leaflet

This is the design for the new leaflet on Tactical Trident. The answer to the question posed on the front? - it's being spent on nuclear weapons to threaten the Third World. It is available to groups at a cost of £1.50 per hundred. See the enclosed order form. There will also be a new In Brief on Tactical Trident available soon as well as a the June 15 leaflet for demonstration at Faslane

LET'S TRASH TRIDENT!

Ten Years After -Chernobyl Never Disappears

Linda Walker, Greater Manchester CND

The tenth anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster has already been targeted by the nuclear industry as an opportunity to reassure the world that the effects of the accident have not been nearly so serious as the 'scaremongers' have made out and that, such an accident could never happen in the West.

The International Atomic Energy Agency is planning a conference in Vienna in April at which it will seek to convince everyone that all is well with the nuclear dream. Nothing could be further from the truth and we must plan early to raise public awareness about the hazards of all

reprocessing, disposal, waste production weapons transportation of waste and warheads.

Chernobyl is not just something that happened ten years ago. It is an ongoing catastrophe which will continue to blight the lives of hundreds of thousands of people for years and perhaps generations to come. And it could happen here.

400,000 people have been evacuated from their homes. Hundreds of thousands more still wait to be moved. Where would people be evacuated to if there was an explosion at your nearest nuclear plant or convoy route?

Thyroid cancer has risen by over 100 times because children absorbed radio-iodine in the first few days.

What plans are there here to urgently dispense iodine to more than a million children?

How would our health service cope with the huge rises in cancer, leukaemia, respiratory diseases, heart problems and birth defects which would arise in Britain if there was a major accident? Where would we turn for help to take our children on clean air holidays?

A report commissioned by Nuclear Free Local Authorities in 1994 showed that an explosion in the high level waste tanks at Sellafield could release far more radiation than Chernobyl which itself released several hundred times more radioactivity than the Hiroshima bomb.

See back page for details of the Chernobyl campaigning pack.

Campaigning ideas

Keith Richardson

- Make links talk to Greenpeace, FoE, etc to organise joint meetings, actions and letters and statements to the local press.
- Local Plans ask what plans your local authority and emergency services have in the event of an accident involving a nuclear power station, warhead convoy or nuclear waste train. In particular, ask what facilities hospitals and GPs have for distributing iodine.
- The Fire Brigade Contact your local Fire Brigade's Union and suggest a joint commemorative event for the 13 firefighters who died fighting the fires at Chernobyl. Many more will have died later but exact figures are hard to obtain.

- Involve Schools see if your local education authority will circulate the schools pack produced by GMCND which has information on Chernobyl, fundraising events schools can do for the Chernobyl Children's Project, etc. They may also want to make links with schools in the Ukraine.
- Debate Suggest to your local Fire and Civil Defence Authority that they set up a meeting between representatives of the nuclear industry, police and fire brigade and members of CND, FoE and Greenpeace.
- Street Poll in the run-up to the anniversary, organise a street poll to find out how much people know about Chernobyl and its consequences. When was it, how many people died, how long did the effects last in Wales and the Lake District, etc and then publicise the results in your local media.
- Churches Get local churches

and other places of worship to include a prayer for the victims of Chernobyl or of the nuclear age on the weekend of 27-28 April with perhaps a collection for the Chernobyl Children's Project.

• Publicity Events - . There has been a call for people around the world to hold a candlelight vigil as part of a world day of mourning for the victims of Chernobyl. The Atomic Mirror Pilgrimage will culminate at Sellafield on April 26.

Organise fundraising events to raise money for the Chernobyl Children's Project.

Petition people outside electricity shops demanding that your local company does not buy electricity generated from nuclear power.

Hang banners along routes used by nuclear waste trains and warhead convoys or outside nuclear facilities highlighting the dangers of an accident and the effects on the local population.

Fool if you think it's over



Entente Un-cordiale - Welcoming committee for French Warships visiting London.

Nicola Butler, Campaigns Worker

As France completes its last nuclear test it's easy to feel that a massive campaign of opposition from Governments, the public and groups like CND world-wide has been ignored.

What has been achieved?

Governments of nuclear powers will never admit publicly that pressure groups such as CND have achieved anything. However in the slow moving world of nuclear arms control, the terrain has shifted Chirac's significantly since announcement of a resumption of testing on 13 June 1995.

In June 1995, the nuclear powers an NPT Conference which had given them the indefinite extension of the treaty which they hoped would ensure an indefinite perpetuation of the nuclear status quo.

UK Foreign Secretary, Douglas Hurd described the objectives agreed by the NPT Conference as 'in line with the policies we have pursued and will continue to pursue'. Whilst France and China completely ignored their NPT commitments to exercise utmost restraint on nuclear testing with France insisting that her nuclear

power status 'confers on her special responsibilities, and particularly the right to maintain her deterrent at a credible level'.

Since June the public outcry against nuclear testing and nuclear weapons has taken the nuclear powers by surprise.

Proposals from US Defense Department officials (supported by British defence chiefs) for resumption of US nuclear testing have been quietly dropped by the US.

France suddenly realising that its commitment to a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) was in question, announced that it was dropping its demand to continue with low-yield nuclear tests even when a CTBT was in force. France's call for a 'zero yield' CTBT was lobbying by the Pentagon and the Ministry of Defence for continued tests of 100-500 tons in yield. Suggestions from France that its nuclear weapons could form part of a European nuclear deterrent were also roundly rejected.

France and Britain announced that they would sign a protocol to the Treaty of Raratonga, supporting the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific.

Britain and France have been exposed as nuclear proliferators,

advancing their nuclear weapons programmes in the face of world opinion. In Britain opinion polls indicate for the first time that over 50% of the public no longer think that nuclear weapons are necessary and the campaign for a nuclear-free world has been given a tremendous boost by the award of the Nobel peace prize to Joseph Rotblat.

Where do we go from here

As the vocal opposition to testing tails off, we will have to work hard to keep nuclear issues in the public

Continued monitoring and lobbying of the CTBT negotiations to ensure that it really is signed this year will be a priority. The nuclear powers must not be allowed to procrastinate further. Whilst protests against Chinese tests and possible Indian nuclear tests must continue. But most of all, it's time to turn the focus of the testing campaign on all new nuclear weapon developments.

The US weapons laboratories are at the forefront of developing computer simulation techniques to replace nuclear test explosions in the development and maintenance of their nuclear arsenal. France is had just emerged triumphantly from backed by the US and eventually by proceeding with its laboratory a hesitant Britain, ending months of simulation programme, PALEN, at a cost of 10 billion francs (approximately £1.3 billion). And this year Britain's annual Statement on the Defence Estimates refers to developing a new nuclear weapons system to replace Trident and the UK's ability to develop new nuclear warheads by 'above ground experiments and computer simulation'. The public are opposed to nuclear weapons. It's up to us to use this support to create pressure for an end to the nuclear arms race.

The name of the game

Lionel Trippett

British Energy: a smart new name for a brand new company. But behind the new name lurks an old entity: the British nuclear power industry. Used to be Nuclear Electric and Scottish Nuclear but by now 'nuclear' is a bit of a PR disaster.

Two new subsidiaries: Nuclear Electric, and Magnox Electric, are responsible for the AGR and PWR stations that are to be privatised, and the old Magnox plants that even this government admits are unsaleable.

Of course changing a name is nothing new in British nuclear history. Once there was a place called Windscale. But then came the disastrous fire and an official coverup was decreed. So Sellafield was born. But a new logo and new headed paper don't change old attitudes.

Recently at a break in at Berkeley

nuclear power-station, computer chips were stolen. The site consists of the Magnox nuclear power station, now being decommissioned, laboratories and offices. Both reactor and lab areas contain radioactive material. So local residents, particularly with children, concerned that the perimeter had been breached, might want to ask the management a few questions about security. Sounds reasonable – unless you're British Energy.

When asked about the possibility of a public enquiry, they tartly replied that the incident was purely a private internal matter. So there you are. And if the same thing happens again, they can always change the name of the place or the company again. Meanwhile, don't mention the word *nuclear* in the brave new world of squeaky-clean British Energy.

Money's too tight to mention

Ian Cleary, Membership & Fundraising Development Worker

As an immediate response to the headlines and main news items regarding the recent bout of French nuclear tests, the Campaigns and Fundraising teams had a brainstorming session on how best to raise funds and exploit the wave of public opinion. We contacted a large London venue (which has supported CND in the past) and obtained permission to collect money as people enter and leave the building.

We had to have written permission from the bands playing there as well as the promoter. The request was an 'urgent response to raise much needed funds to continue the campaign against French nuclear testing'. We had to ensure that we had enough enthusiastic volunteers to shake buckets and part of the

agreement with the venue was that we would have not more than ten people to do this and that we would provide a list with a named coordinator for the evening. We said that we would like to put up a 'Stop Nuclear Testing' banner and also asked the band to mention CND during the performance. We have collected at seven concerts to date, bringing in over £2000. Our plan is to collect at five concerts per month with a target of £200 per concert. The most popular acts that have invited CND to collect have been Pulp and Paul Weller.

The key advantages to this type of fundraising are that it costs very little to raise the money, only volunteer expenses at most, people enjoy the time they spend collecting as they get to see a free concert and we usually manage to let people collect at bands that they like.

Dancing in the Streets?

Janet Bloomfield, Chair

We will be if the vision of the Abolition 2000 Network becomes a reality. This vision is nothing less than than the complete elimination of nuclear weapons and nuclear power from the face of the earth for all time. This network of over 250 organisations around the world (including CND) has grown out of the NGO Abolition Caucus that met at the 1995 NPT Conference. Its work is based on the Statement produced by the caucus. It was formally established at a meeting at the Hague in November 1995. It is not a membership body but is open to all organisations endorsing the Abolition Statement. Public reaction worldwide to French nuclear tests in the Pacific and the hearings at the World Court have given an added. impetus to the anti-nuclear movement which makes this a timely and important initiative.

The Abolition 2000 Network is a "tight network" which aims to provide groups concerned with nuclear issues with a forum for the exchange of information and the development of joint initiatives.Its structure will be based on a clearing house which will collect and disseminate relevant information. It is envisaged that a number of working groups will play a key role in the network. A number have already been agreed on issues such as a Nuclear Weapons Convention, the Eurobomb, the use and threat of use of nuclear weapons, and the 10th Anniversary of Chernobyl.

The network will meet once a year and will operate via electronic mail and an e-mail conference, fax and a newsletter. There will be an *ABOLITION 2000* meeting at the Edinburgh Peace Festival on March 3rd and 4th. Please consider taking part.

For further information contact me at Holloway Road

Muriel's Grapevine

Half a Million Signatures



9 year old Emily Freeman, Cynog Dafis MP, Jill and Rod Stallard deliver CND Cymru's Stop Testing petitions to the French Embassy bringing the total number so far to over 500,000. Now onwards to a million! Photo: Paul Aston.

CND groups are still doing an enormous amount of work out on the streets campaigning against French nuclear testing. Collecting signatures, leafleting and getting excellent local press coverage has been happening all over the country. Central Liverpool CND, Hemel Hempstead CND, Hastings CND, Adur Valley Action For Peace, and Orpington CND have all been busy. **Brighton & Hove Action For Peace** conducted a street poll in which 93% were against testing and 36% were in favour of the boycott. Wanstead & Woodford CND held a very successful concert performed by MANA which raised £700 of which £500 was donated to the Chernobyl

Children's Project.

In December North Cumbria CND received local television and press coverage after persuading the Chief Executive of the County Council to invite the Assistant Director for the Nuclear Response Unit at the MoD to attend a meeting of the Emergency Planning & Public Protection Committees.

They pressed to be allowed to make an alternative presentation rather than just ask questions and for the meeting to be made public. Both requests were agreed and the meeting was very successful.

For more details contact Nigel Chamberlain, Glovers Cottage, Lazonby, Penrith, Cumbria CA10 1AJ.

What's going on

Local group report from Sylvia Boyes

On many Saturdays throughout the year members of Scarborough Peace Action Now (SPAN) can be found at a street stall on the corner of Westborough and Huntriss Row in the town centre. This spot is well and truly ours. The use of the street stall may be in response to depleted resources and active members, but it is the most effective way of reaching the general public.

SPAN, affiliated to CND, CAAT and the National Peace Council, consists of around 30 people. Only a few of these are active but others can be called upon for specific actions. From our experience 'on the street' we know there is a great deal of support for our campaigns. So we petition and leaflet, argue and listen, and the money collected usually covers our costs.

We also write letters to MPs, telephone our local radio station and newspapers, as well as supporting regional and national activities. Each year we commemorate the events of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, sell white poppies in November and hold a Christmas Eve vigil. A sponsored walk, in support of the Yorkshire & Humberside CND walk but centred on Fylingdales, is becoming an established event.

In 1995 the highlight of the year in terms of numbers supporting, must be seen as the protest against the French nuclear tests - unfortunately it takes a crisis to activate many people. Despite hopes for a CTBT, the realisation that such a treaty will only come into existence when the nuclear powers have perfected their computer simulation techniques takes the gloss from our efforts but reinforces our intentions to work continually in 1996.