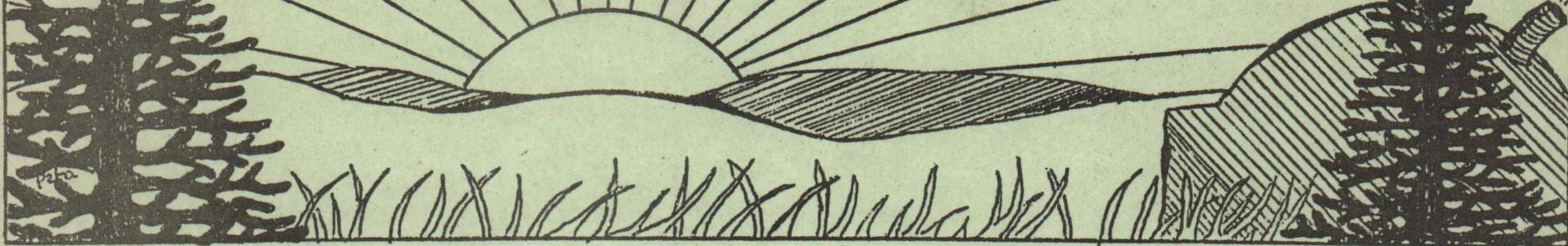




MENWITH HILL



20p.

RADOME REACTIONS

"We are the major communications link for our NATO forces," Americans inside the base told us when OPAG members were invited in for a slide-show one wet Sunday morning in 1983. So, for starters, that must mean they transmit messages to and receive messages from ... Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Fed.Rep. of Germany, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, U.K. & U.S.

"sixteen nations joined together by a common belief in freedom" - proudly proclaimed on the back cover of every issue of 'NATO Review' - sent to staffrooms throughout the country. And always printed in lower case - to parallel the nato case based on first use of nuclear weapons? Is the NATO Inf. Service, 1110 Brussels, Belgium, abashed that "freedom" in their terms now denies the 800+ Americans at Menwith Hill the right to come out and talk to we "foreign nationals"?

We're forever being told: "You couldn't demonstrate in Russia." What's the difference when our allies on the base cannot even comment on the weather with us now without facing the prospect of a £100 fine? Perhaps we should sponsor an American to maintain his/her right of free speech - to communicate with those they say they protect. There must be something they do in there they are proud of. Apparently not.

Instead, all the information is

beamed back across Swinsty to Fort Meade, Maryland, headquarters of the N.S.A. (No Such Agency they call it - a tired joke now.)

The National Security Agency was born on 4th Nov.1952 - authorised by Pres.Truman - without debate in Congress. Not one word of the 7 page memo. mandating this Agency has ever been released. By 1978 it controlled 68,203 people - more than all the employees of the rest of the US "intelligence" community put together.

No law has ever been enacted prohibiting the NSA from engaging in any activity. Think about it. There are only laws to prohibit the release of any inf. about the Agency. And think about that. So - no press releases. Just slide shows of 'Uncle Sam's Beefburger Bar' and the 'Nearly New Facility'. And - down the road - the hum of mindless computers sucking digits from radome nipples concealing more tracking dishes absorbing messages from satellites silently circling our planet earth.

This Temple to Technology is very canny. It can see nuclear weapons in Russian submarines in the ocean; it can "hear a door slam in Russia" - very useful! It witnesses and records the horrors of the effects of nuclear weapons tests. But the NSA machine-minders do not tell us. We learn instead from the Pacific women themselves that they are giving birth to breathing lumps of meat - the next generation of true nuclear families.



We must react to the radomes and dishes on the Yorkshire moors and see them in the context of the paranoia which is already killing our planet. The Peace Campers have faced this fact and present a constant reminder to the workers in the base of the old way of communication - between people. Richard & Doris Porteous have learned - so could the Americans inside the base. They're not "plugs wearing headphones" as our local MP called them. They are our brothers and sisters preparing for the final, irreversible pollution of our planet.

We live in an occupied country prickling with 135+ U.S. bases. Our Yorkshire captors appear imprisoned by their machinery. There is not one U.K. base in America. The American Constitution does not allow foreign bases on its soil.

Look at the radomes. Think globally - react locally.

Chris Dean, O.P.A.G.

HELP!

To ensure the continuation of the Peace Camp the following are needed.

1. FIREWOOD
2. Visitors: long or short stay.
3. Vegetarian food.
4. A Windmill.
5. Candles.
6. Signs or Hardboard to make them with + paint & brushes.
7. Pallets.
8. Tarpaulins.
9. Transport. People to help out when asked.
- & 10. Camp Sitters - to give us a break sometimes.

We ask for this assistance as our resources are limited and the constant stream of visitors, etc. have to be catered for. We would NOT like to have to ask people who come to be totally self-sufficient. So .. anything you can spare would enable us to continue the camp in the spirit of Peace & Welcome.

ILLEGAL TELEPHONE LINK TO HUNTER STONES TOWER AND EUROPEAN TELEPHONES



WANT TO KNOW MORE?

THEN READ ON.....

The following books are recommended for their specific references to Menwith Hill.

'The Puzzle Palace', James Bamford, Sidgwick & Jackson, 1982.

This book's title refers to the headquarters of the NSA @ Fort Meade. It traces the growth of the NSA and its special relationship with GCHQ, Cheltenham. (Rumour has it that the £110m. being spent at Menwith now is to provide independence from GCHQ for the NSA.) The arrival of the Americans at Menwith is detailed.

'Phonetappers & the security state', Duncan Campbell, New Statesman.

This book sets out the facts about the cable link between Menwith and Hunters Stones tower 5 miles away at the top of Norwood edge.

America's 'Big Ear' in Europe is reputed to be the biggest phone & telex-tapping centre in the world. (Don't call us - we'll call you.)

'The Unsinkable Aircraft Carrier', Duncan Campbell, Michael Joseph, 1984. The whole terrifying truth of the insidious arrival of over 135 US bases on UK soil - such

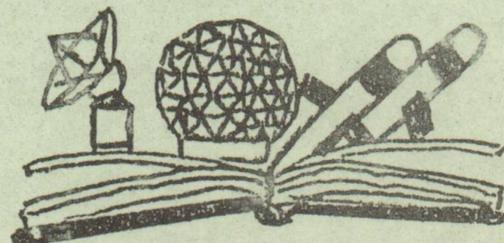
"hospitality" often being an exchange for weapons technology.

'Rooted in Secrecy', Cocksedge, Coldicutt & Harant, CAPP.

Menwith's twin base at Pine Gap in the centre of Australia develops on parallel lines with its Yorks. counterpart. This book is the Australian counterpart of Duncan Campbell's researches here.

Borrow one of these books from your library and read it in the authentic setting of the Peace Camp. The base is sprawling at such a pace, you could add your own appendix!

BOOKS ON



MENWITH

DEMONSTRATION & CAMPS



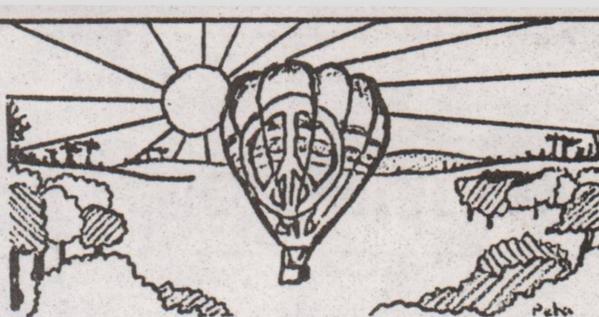
DEMONSTRATE!!

Come to a demonstration at Menwith to coincide with the Base's celebrations of THEIR independence from the British Empire. Our theme will, however, be the demand for Britain's independence from the expanding American Empire. We also want to publicise the plight of the 'New Poor' in America.

The nature of the day's demo. will depend on what people want to do ... But we have a few ideas that groups may want to consider. We would hope that most, if not all, could be accomplished during the day. Some would 'risk arrest', others will be legal so there should be something to suit everyone. So we leave it up to YOU to plan an action/activity suitable for YOUR group. Please come prepared for the activity(s) of your choice.

SUGGESTIONS

1. A 'Peace Picnic' on the Public Footpath.
2. A vigil at the Main Gate or other gates.
3. A walk to reclaim the closed Footpath.
4. A Mass Trespass.
5. A Torchlight Procession around the Base (starting 10.00pm).
6. A Blockade of the Base.
7. Any other 'Surprises' you may dream up to keep the MOD PLODS busy.



FIRST BIRTHDAY PARTY!

JULY 4th -

PREPARATIONS

The resources of the Camp are limited so please come as self-sufficient as possible. We will however be providing a limited amount of food, drinks, etc.

For Groups planning to stay overnight ... please bring tents, sleeping bags, etc. (It has hailed up here on 4th July before!!)

OUR FIRST BIRTHDAY PARTY

Yes, the Camp will have been here for a YEAR on July 4th ... so we thought it a good excuse for a Party.

Plans so far include various BANDS, the CND HOT AIR BALLOON + a COMMUNAL MEAL.

It's up to YOU how it goes, but it would be nice for those planning to stay for the Party to bring VEGETARIAN FOOD to share, some liquid refreshments, their friends, musical instruments, etc. etc.

So there you have it. We will love to see you and hopefully, between us, we can have a worthwhile, enjoyable and above all Peaceful Day.

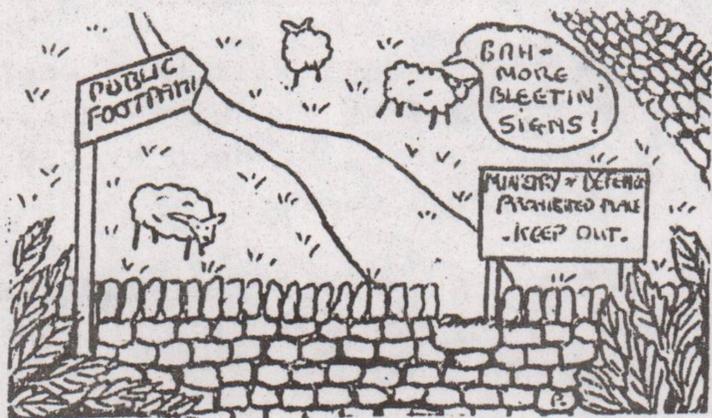
For information about the above, please write to MENWITH HILL PEACE CAMP, OUTSIDE THE AMERICAN SPYBASE, MENWITH WITH DARLEY, NR. HARROGATE, HG3 2RA. OR ring CRESSY on LEEDS 576569.



RAMBLING ON

Menwith Hill lies on the high ground between the Washburn Valley & Nidderdale, a very attractive walking area with points of natural history and industrial archaeological interest. If only the 'Blot on the Landscape' could be removed it would be more extensively enjoyed but, to keep our belief in the future alive and to affirm our oneness with generations that have gone before, it is good to walk the network of local footpaths.

The area abounds in watermills such as Fringill with its attractive millponds and nearby waterfall, and Darley (called Menwith Mill on the 1773 Jeffrey Map). The riverside footpath along the Nidd between Dacre and Darley is very pleasant with stepping stones near Darley, and Birstwith has New Bridge, a stone packhorse bridge rebuilt in 1823.



There are remains of 19th Century coalworkings and intriguing circular brick shafts at Kettlesing. One wonders whether the underground 'reservoir' marked on the Ordnance Survey map at Cinder Hills is really something more sinister but there is no doubt about the bunker building close to the public bridleway through the aerial-festooned Forest Moor R.N. Station!

A 'trod' of stone slabs through bracken towards Norwood is shown on the 1773 Jeffrey Map as the earlier route of the western end of Penny Pot Lane (how charming!) from Harrogate; with a donkey in a paddock through which it goes it is easy to visualise it being used by packhorse trains.



Moorland is not far away, with local remaining areas at Gallows Crag, near Swarcliffe, Long Stoop & Thornthwaite. Many will know the Washburn Valley reservoirs and the smaller Beaver Dyke Reservoir in Haverah Park, itself the scene of a lengthy struggle to get public footpaths recognized.

There are some mucky farmyards, missing stiles and bridges & other obstructions but the County Council is being urged to deal with these and improvements such as new stiles and waymarking to help people follow the paths have already been carried out.

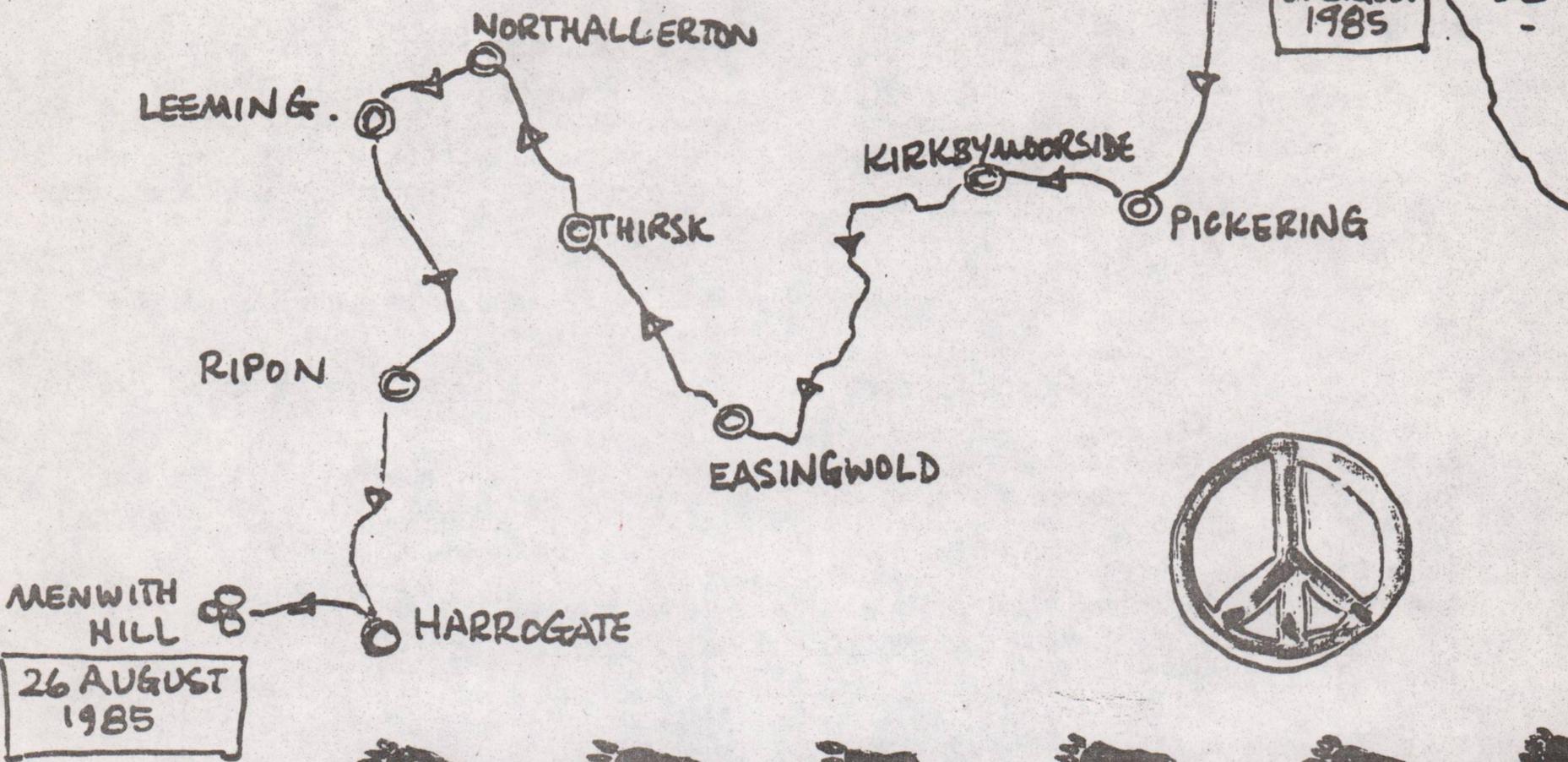
Of the two footpaths across the 'Spy Base' itself, the one across their 'Sports Field' is now sign-posted and the route indicated by concrete slabs let into the grass at intervals. (You may be watched by a high-level camera from the adjoining field!)

For the other path, which is obstructed by high fences and buildings, the County Council earlier this year sent the Ministry of 'Defence' a possible line for a diversion to avoid the obstructions and thus enable the right of way to again be used. We await further information about the proposed line and the legal procedure under which the official diversion would be dealt with.

Anyone interested to see things at first hand is invited to join the 5 or 6 mile circular rambles being held on the second Saturday of each month, meeting at the Peace Camp (junction of B6451 and Menwith Hill Road) at 1.20pm. (Park cars nearby, or use 12.45pm No.29 Blubberhouses bus from Harrogate Bus Station.)

Bob Brewster

WALK FROM FYLINGDALES TO MENWITH HILL. SUMMER ACTION 1985.



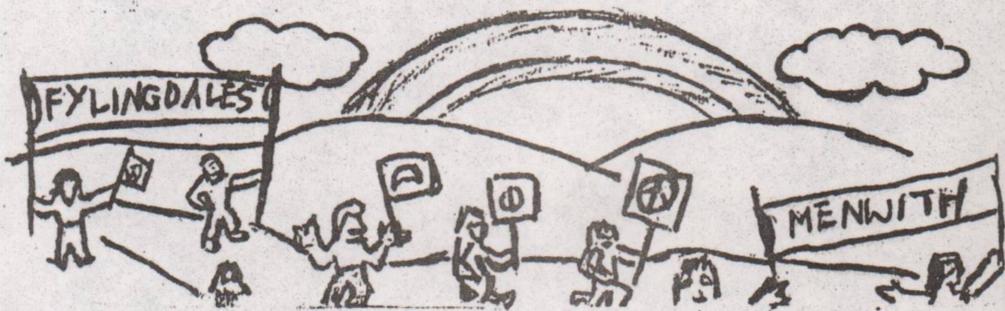
START 5th AUGUST at RAF FYLINGDALES.

4 day peace camp at EASINGWOLD from 9th August. Need help from groups in N.Yorks/W.Yorks in setting this camp up for 4 days. Walk to

LEEMING - 4 day peace camp. Walk to MENWITH - actions over the Bank Holiday weekend. March from

HARROGATE to MENWITH as last stretch of walk on SUNDAY 25th August. March needs lots of support.

WHAT THE WALK NEEDS RIGHT NOW IS : MONEY for publicity; SUPPORT for major actions especially at Easingwold & Menwith; A VAN or several vans (each for a few days only?) to be with the walk - for transport of tired walkers/kids etc. - constantly; MORE WALKERS - for however long.



THE WALK is being planned RIGHT NOW and WILL happen. Hopefully it will be seen as an important statement and action by small(ish) YORKS. groups by local and non-local people. BUT IT NEEDS SUPPORT!

The walk is seen as a local action linking up the local peace groups which it travels through and making more aware the dangers of living in an area with 4 major targets to local people by linking up these 4 main places.

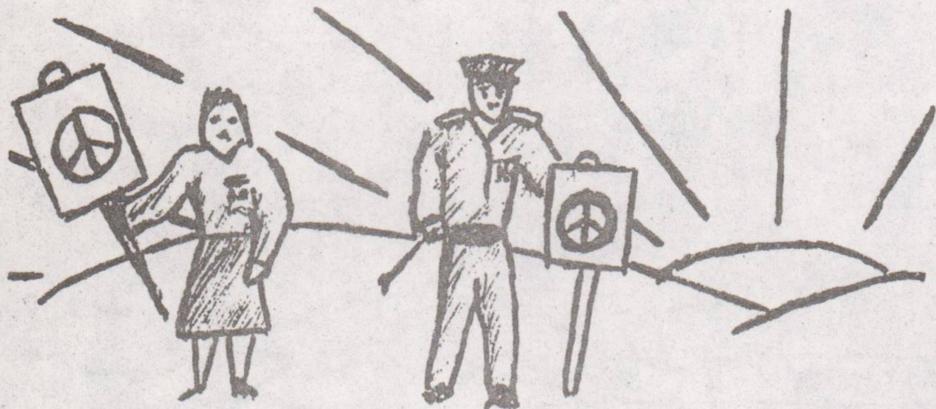
CONTACTS: NINA, 11 ASPIN WAY,
KNARESBOROUGH HG5 8HL.
Tel: 0423 - 867210.
KIRSTY : Tel: 0751 - 31693.

EX. SERVICES C.N.D. VIGIL AT THE BASE

We decided some time ago to try and support the permanent Peace Camp at Menwith Hill. In our particular circumstances we felt that this could best be achieved by frequent visits to the American base. We thought our two hour vigil would be most effective if we stood at the main gate at a time when traffic was at its busiest - when staff were arriving for duty in the early morning.

So we dash off, after breakfast, up the hill from Otley, through some of the loveliest countryside in Yorkshire, to that sinister blot on the landscape, the American Communications base. There we stand, medals shining, two rather elderly people who have experienced the full effect of a world war.

Why do we do this? Hopefully to show the young and dedicated peace campaigners that we also care about their future, and that all the older generation are not a lot of flag-waving jingoists.



It inspires us to know that they are determined not to make the same mistakes that we made when we went blindly into War just because our fathers had done so before us.

We learned our lesson the hard way. War is an unnecessary evil, and Nuclear War in particular too horrible to contemplate. We want the younger generation to know that we support them wholeheartedly and feel sure that there must be many more people in our age group who feel the same but lack the courage to stand up and be counted.

It saddens us to think that the country we loved and served so well is being taken over by the Americans as a gigantic missile base and that money which could do so much good in the world is being wasted on nuclear weapons.

Ex-Services C.N.D. Yorkshire Region are hoping to give more support to the Menwith Hill Peace Camp, so with a bit of luck reinforcements should soon be on their way.

If anyone is interested in joining Ex-Services C.N.D. information can be obtained by phoning OTLEY 461778.

RICHARD & DORIS PORTEOUS
224 WESTON DRIVE
OTLEY LS21 2OT.

PEACE CAMP BADGES



Here are a few rough designs.

Available soon ... A New Design (or two?) depicting the Peace Camp. Help spread the message about the dangers of the Spybase.



- CAMP DIARY -



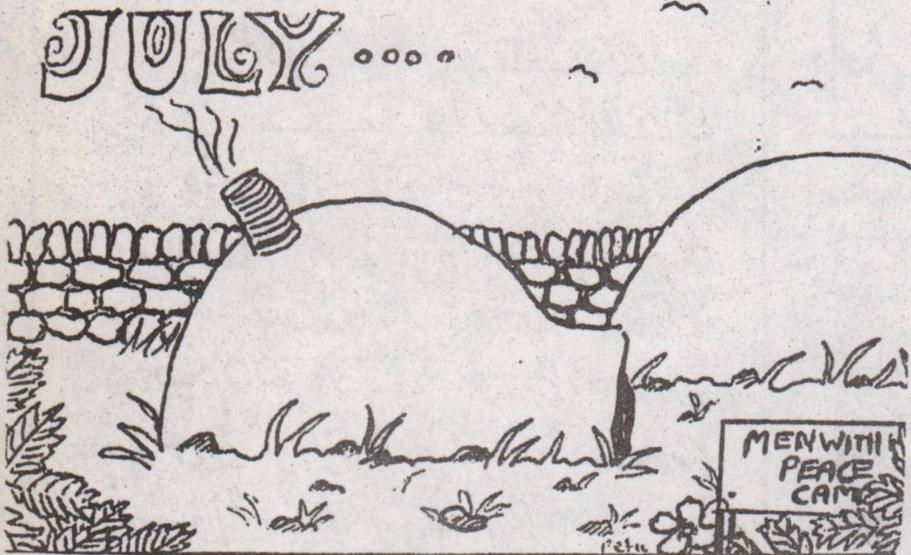
A YEAR (NEARLY!!) IN THE LIFE OF THE CAMP.

(A few of the happenings at the Camp)

4th July 1984 : Demonstration outside Gates of the base.

Later that day : Half-a-dozen or so people decide to camp overnight.

July onwards : Permanent Peace Camp set up.



Women's weekend - 6 women arrested for "Criminal Damage + Breach of the Peace."

August : 'Walk for Life' (Greenham-Menwith) Weekend. Festival with Chumbawumba - many visitors. Good time had by all.

August - 2 more permanent campers arrive.

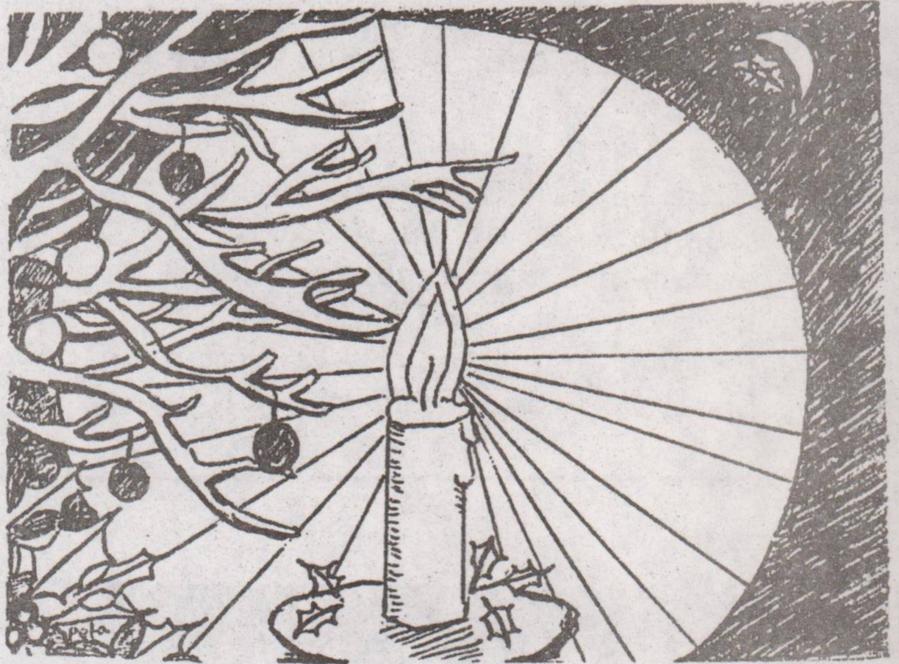
October - the 6 women found NOT GUILTY.

November - the 3 Permanent Campers decide to stay through the Winter & beyond.

Bonfire Night - a good get together with local Groups. Singing, food and of course - fireworks.

December - Solstic Celebrations - Peace Carol singing outside the gates of Forest Moor & Menwith bases. Local Group participation with a Camp Fire + food.

Christmas - many people staying over + visits during the holiday period. A peaceful & simple Christmas meal enjoyed by a baker's dozen of permanent campers + visitors.



THE NEW YEAR - A traditional celebration of the coming of the New Year including 'First Footing' the base. Lots of visitors!

January - the 'Footpath across the Base's Sports Field' officially recognised. Their response ... the installation of a 'security camera' to film all walkers.

Phil & Martin arrested for cutting 'The Fence' - (not charged yet!)

Lots of snow but no real problems. Great support from local Groups.

February - Stand Pipe arrived! Water problem finally solved.

Shock at Camp over violent eviction at Molesworth. Much distress amongst Campers.

2 new permanent Campers arrive with living bus.

Weather bitterly cold but Camp surviving with few problems.

West Yorks. Peace Newsletter features Camp.

WINTER



