8th NOTTINGHAM PEACE FESTIVAL



SUNDAY JULY 10th VICTORIA EMBANKMENT

Editoria

"Think Globally - Act Locally" is an expression coined by the Peace Movement which has particular pertinence this month. As we trudge door-to-door with our Trident leaflets, there opens in New york the Third UN Special Session on Disarmament.

Not much will come out of it - on the surface. But it takes place at a time of growing recognition that there are crises of global proportion which need global co-operation to even begin to address.

There's not only the arms race, but also the debt crisis and the emvironmental crisis ... interconnected problems of enormous and growing scale that recent international reports such as Palme, Brandt and Brundtland have highlighted.

There are times in history when people stop dismissing the United Nations as a nice idea that doesn't work and start addressing themselves to how it can be made to work. There are signs that this is happening.

SSD3 won't solve the big problems, but it may help to define the components of the problems and in a small way help push governments towards the necessity of co-operation.

Eventually, we hope, there can be a world assembly that effectively provides the machinery for global peace and security. It may be a long way off, but every small step towards it must be valued.

Bulletin Editorial Team



THIS COULD BE YOU!



If you are a good typist and want to help out NCND for one day in the month by helping to type the bulletin. You would also learn to use a word processor! Interested ? Phone Geoff on

200 CLUB RESULTS

Helen and Ian McHugh 1. £50

2. £10 Cath Wakeman

3. £5 Valerie Clay

WEST BRIDGFORD MEETINGS HAVE CHANGED TO THE FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE LIBRARY.

DISARM THE SEAS EXHIBITION

Nottingham CND have bought a copy of this exhibition from Scottish CND to tie in with the Disarm the Seas Campaign, but it will be useful as a longer term campaigning tool as well.

It comprises 7 Al size sheets covering topics such as war gaming, nuclear accidents at sea, proliferation of nuclear weapons in the Indian & Pacific oceans, the impact of military activity on small communities, provocative naval strategies, other countries' protests etc.

The exhibition contains a great deal of information and would be most suitably displayed at a library or school, for example. Any groups or individuals who are interested in borrowing the exhibition can either contact the NCND office or Cath wakeman



Don't be out of Nottingham on July 10th - it's the Peace Festival again. The eighth annual opportunity for relaxation, celebration and collective rejoicing (over what?).

There will be stalls, exhibition, music and plenty of T-shirts (our fashion editor says turquoise print on black is definitely IN this season). Thanks very much to the people who answered our plea for volunteers, by offering driving and general help. The team, still laughably small, is working now to finalise services and facilities - some things are costing double this year.

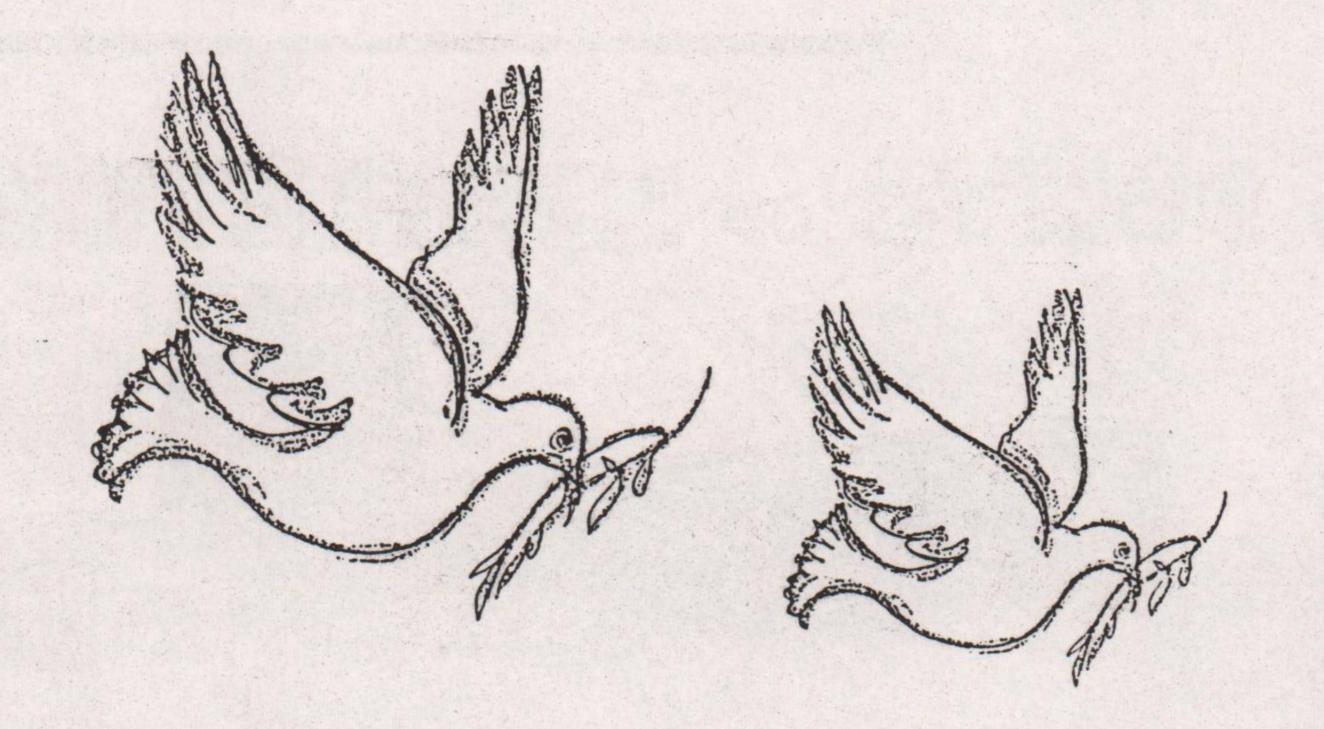
Exhibitions are handled for the first time by the Rainbow Centre, and a West England group will provide children's entertainment throughout the day. Several local musicians and bands will perform; but our 5.5 hour stage programme is not yet full. We hope also to have speakers. One intrepid member has even volunteered to auction off donated goods in the afternoon to raise funds. Have you any suitable stuff ... like a chip-basket woven out of Molesworth wire?

Every local group should have a stall - maybe you don't hold regular meetings, but why not work something out between three or four members? Groups and individuals can help right now, too - by distributing posters and leaflets. I'll contact local group reps about this.

You may have wondered whether to offer help to the Festival project - put that thought into action. We still need help - particularly in the hectic days near the event and on the day itself. Even the day after involves heavy physical labour, taking everything back in trucks.

So, don't let a handful of organisers take all the credit. What happened to democracy?

JEREMY JAGO



12 noon

SUNDAY JULY 10th VICTORIA EMBANKMENT

WHAT A DILEMMA!

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING 18 MAY 1988

As soon as the committee members came into the room, they could tell something exciting was going to happen. An unusually organised officers' group had taped sheets and sheets of paper to the walls, had written up the agenda on the back of the door and the various options were written on the chalkboard. Papers had been circulated in best Amstrad print, complete with architects' impressions of roads, rooms, doors and trees. Not so hushed whispering in various corners indicated that people were genuinely interested in tonight's item for discussion: it had started already. In just 90 minutes, Nottingham CND was to decide where it should be located within our city.

(Should we stay at Queen's Chambers and fork out another £2,500 plus, for an office which is rarely open/used, but is right in the centre of town and does have a very nice answerphone.) Our immediate decision was whether or not to go for the tenancy of the old Earthwise Shop at 182 Mansfield Road (pigeons and all) as the current lease runs out on 23rd June (?) and if we want it we need to "get in quick" (like the pigeons have). In an attempt to make an informed decision, we also discussed the other options available, so that we had some benchmark to measure 182 Mansfield Road against.

If the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers Office on Castlegate was available, would we want it?

Could we buy a house and gain some longer-term security and a focus for NCND's activities?

Should we take the top room in the Rainbow Centre (180 Mansfield Road) and run a cheap, cosy, campaign at least temporarily?

Or should we aim to search and scour Nottingham City Centre for shop fronted, central and inexpensive premises?

Rational and logical ways of deciding the relative merits of each option were lost amongst the bubbub of brainstorming, disagreements, raised voices and attemps to establish how much progress we'd made. After a "very full and lively debate" (I think that's the usual espression to describe a touch of heated chaos) and several non-vote votes (I'm going to stick my neck out here).

This is what we decided -

1. We will start negotiating with Rainbow to take on the top office (plus space in the adjoining store room) as am immediate remedy which may be temporary because

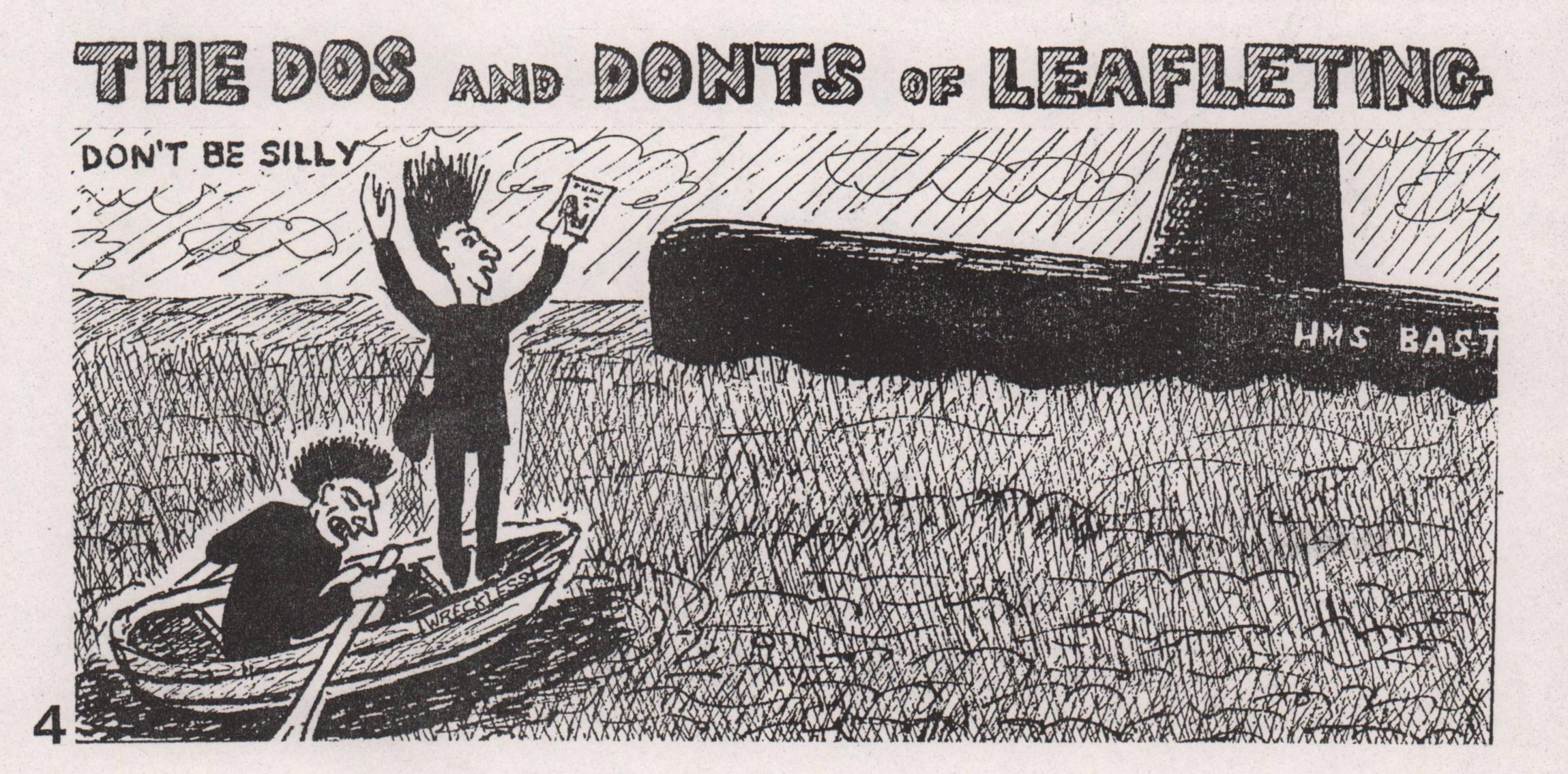
2. we will further investigate the possibilities and potential of 182 Mansfield Road and report to the Policy-making meeting on 9th June for a decision on whether to pursue it or drop it. (Whether this decision will be final or not will depend on (a) the availability of more information and (b) the date we need to apply for the tenancy.

The choice of rooms at Rainbow was made on the almost unanimous non-vote vote, where only neighbourhood group reps, elected officers and national council rep were allowed to raise their hands. We think this was in the general gist of the constitution. (If you're interested in the constitution and what exciting policy and proceedural principles it contains - come to the June 9th Meeting when all will be revealed!)

I hope this is a reasonably accurate picture of the meeting, if people do not agree, I accept responsibility for these words and disclaim any intent to mislead (or any characters in this article which resemble any person....)

We did talk about a few other things, but they weren't really as exciting and if anybody wants to know what else goes on at Executive Committee meetings - why not come along? Every 3rd Wednesday at the WEA, 7 30 p.m.

BARBARA COULSON.



THINKING ABOUT

THE "FRONT LINE"

After a long trail of contributions to the Bulletin which badgered members about the low turnout at CND meetings or direct action events, Diane Bailey's "controversy" article came as a real breath of fresh air. What struck me, though, was that there is a positive side of her criticisms that we are in danger of missing completely.

NUMBERS GAME

It is absolutely right to say that CND should stop being consumed by worries about the numbers game. To do so is an act of self-indulgent reminiscence. That is not to dismiss the main rallies as an important part of the campaign; rather it is to put them in their proper context. The enthusiasm which swept the country, challenging the moral and idealogical basis for ever-increasing nuclear stockpiles, gave rise to a wonderful example of how much can be gained from a single issue campaign. The numbers involved reflected the extent to which those with diametrically opposed political views could share in the same campaign. CND was proud of its links with TACT (Tories Against Cruise and Trident) and with many other bodies who simply asserted their non-political nature.

DIRTY TRICKS

Faced by a government which knew that the issue clearly was political - and used all the dirty tricks that it coule lay its hands on to discredit the movement - CND's mass momentum was bound to run into difficulties.

I believe that that phase of CND's life got about as far as a single issue, liberal-minded campaign could do. The momentum flagged, partly as the age of innocence came to an end, as the agenda of demands widened (and the political differences became more apparent) and as notions about tactics changed.

Where I disagree with Diane is over her comments following the statement, "I left CND before it began to feel stale". Many of those that I worked with in those early (heady) days are people who no longer form the hub of CND's activities. But my optimism stems from the fact that considerable numbers are doing precisely what Diane argued for without abandoning their CND beliefs. They are people who have attempted to make wider links; who are concerned about poverty, homelessness, unemployment, health, arts, etc.; who do take up issued about repression - in Britain and across the globe. Many are doing so precisely because the experience of CND politicised them in terms similar to those Diane described for herself. That is surely more a sign of CND's success than its failure.

I also have no doubt that this same process is going on within CND's framework today, but what has changed is the tactical and political terrain upon which disarmament issues are having to be assembled.

MAGINOT LINE MENTALITY

Many people feared that CND was developing a Maginot-line mentality - believing that mass rallies and moral crusades would suffice in themselves; ignoring the fact that the greater risk came from being bypassed than crushed by the opposition. The "direct action" response to this accurately judged the need to put pressure on the government in more diffuse and unpredictable ways, but it also carried with it the divisive presumption - sometimes stated, sometimes implied - that the movement could be split into those who were "there", "doing it" and "committed" and those who weren't.

The experience of the miners' strike taught me that many of thos who were most "committed" were involved in work far removed from the picket line. It also showed me that the tactics of mass rallying in one place increasingly played into the hands of a state that is quite willing to deal out beatings and phoney charges to break the organised base of working people. This is a real challenge to us all, not simply to re-examine the tactics we pursue, but how we recognise and value the commitment of those not involved in civil disobedience.

I say this, not to put anyone down, but simply to point out that there is much going on in today's wider campaign's that draws heavily on the commitment of CND supporters. This is hard to quantify or lay claim to - particularly when the government mounts an assault on so many areas of public provision at the same time - but I don't believe that it makes it any less true.

DEFENCE NIGHTMARES

The key issue, for me, remains where it has always been - namely that we have not successfully confronted the defence "nightmares" implanted in the public consciousness, which makes people fearful of de-escalating the arms race and unwilling to relate defence policies to broader social and economic policies. CND members who have extended their activism into other areas of struggle may not in any way have abandoned CND. It may be more useful to ask whether this is a realistic appraisal of how the "front line" has itself moved. British capitalism is busy crushing the life out of large sections of low- (and no-) income households and dismantling the whole fabric of state provision. To make links with those resisting such pressures, and to build up an understanding of where the military and authoritarian imperatives fit into this, may be the nut that CND has had to crack all along.

In the '70s, Edward Thompson said that in an increasingly repressive society, the nurturing of broad, alternative visions about society would become a precious process. We would need to organise to support each other, sharing and replenishing the intellectual contraband that we harbour. Contributing to this process, rather than counting bums on seats, is what should preoccupy us now.

ALAN SIMPSON.



And up to date it is with the Bulletin Editor breathing down my neck and a team of relay runners waiting to sprint it down to Phyllis at her typewriter as this months Bulletin production grinds into action.

May's mammoth task has been arranging the collection, overprinting and distribution of 35,000 "JAWS" leaflets in Nottingham - not one to be sneezed at.

National CND had to embark on a second round of printing to cope with the demand and even though the Arts Centre's offset printer may keep going for a bit longer, its two operators Geoff and Cath won't. Their overprinting leaflets in their sleep and beginning to get this strange feeling — "Just when you thought it was safe to go out ... along comes JAWS LEAFLET 34,999!"

Apologies must go to Wollaton group who are putting their own local details on as we only left them half the number they'd requested blank — in our enthusiaope with the demand and even though the Arts Centre's offset printer may keep going for a bit longer, its two operators Geoff and Cath won't. Their overprinting leaflets in their sleep and beginning to get this strange feeling — "Just when you thought it was safe to go out ... along comes JAWS LEAFLET 34,999!"

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Apologies must go to Wollaton group who are putting their own local details on as we only left them half the number they'd requested blank - in our enthusiam the other 1,500 slipped into the printing machine.

Distribution is still going on at present and then the last week in May should see the end product of this epic poking its way through unsuspecting letterboxes all over town and lying in wait for the potential 35,000 new members - Peggy, prepare for the onslaught!

We're waiting for the local press to pick up on the story and Sherwood Group plus Trident headgear will have emerged (or submerged?) down at Listergate on 21st. May handing out leaflets and displaying the Disarm the Seas exhibition bought from Scottish CND and prepared by the Radcliffeon-Trent Group.

Thank you to all the group co-ordinators who have rallied lots of local members to help with the leafletting - only one area of the country has beaten has beaten our grand total ... Merseyside.

The Listergate stall is gradually making a comeback after the upheavals of changes in licensing, losing its storage space and finally emerging in a totally different form (it seems to look less like a suitcase on ironing boards legs each time it goes out!)

The stall group would like to make sure it gets out at least once a month, unlicensed, for the distribution of leaflets etc., so if you're able to help for an hour or two on a Saturday, once or twice a year, please contact Hilary (625198).

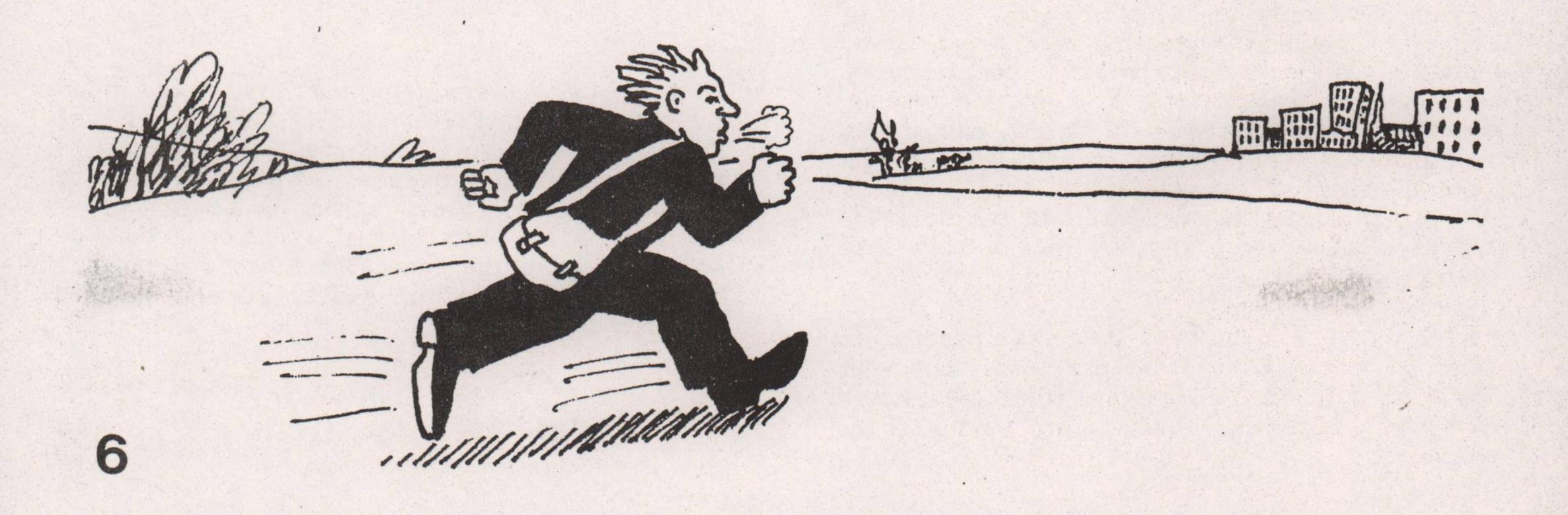
IT IS STILL AN IMPORTANT FOCUS FOR THE WORK OF NOTTINGHAM CND!

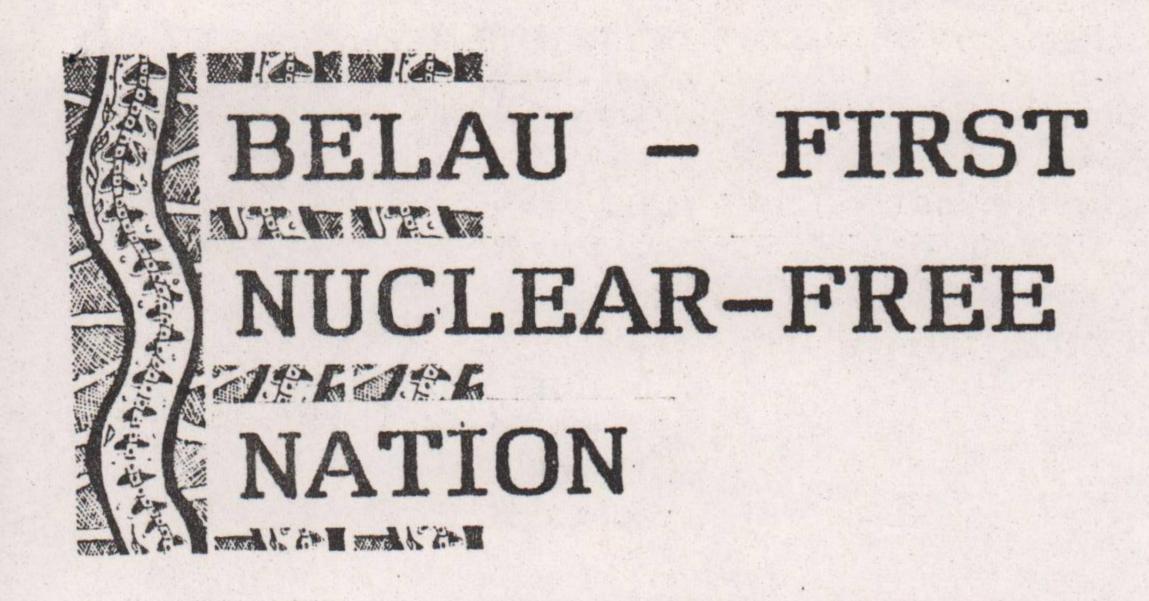
We're very pleased that Peggy and Doreen had a good time in Russia and that they are safely back - the office and membership missed them.

Cath Wakeman

THE DOS AND DONTS OF LEAFLETING

DO CHOOSE TO LEAFLET A POPULATED AREA OR YOU WILL QUICKLY BECOME EXHAUSTED

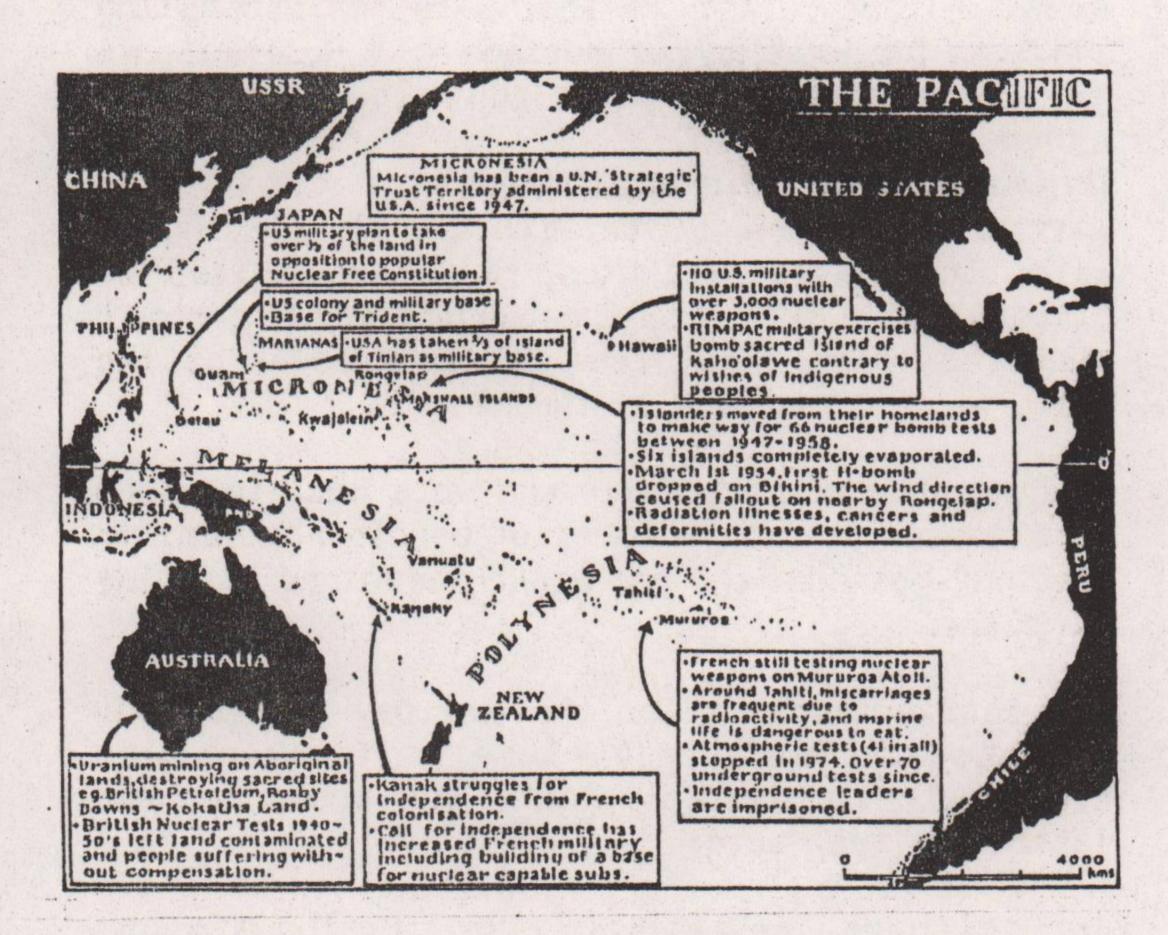




Several SCANWA members went to Sheffield last month to hear a woman from Belau speak at a meeting organised by Sheffield Women for Peace. Never heard of Belau? It deserves to be better known.

Belau, also known as Palau, is a group of 200 islands, part of the 2,000-plus islands making up Micronesia, which covers an area of the Pacific the size of the continental U.S. It is in that part of the world the U.S. and France like to regard as uninhabited. As Kissinger said: "There's only 90,000 people out there. Who gives a damn?"

WHO GIVES A DAMN?



In common with the rest of Micronesia, Belau has been colonised by , in turn, Spain, Germany, Japan and the U.S. The U.S. had already established itself in parts of these islands and, after the war, the U.S. engineered the designation of Micronesia as a Strategic Trust Territory - administered by them but overseen by the U.N. Security Council. Under this arrangement, the U.S. was to "promote the development of the inhabitants towards self-government and independence ... and encourage the development of the inhabitants against the loss of their lands and resources". Belau et al was now safely in their hands.

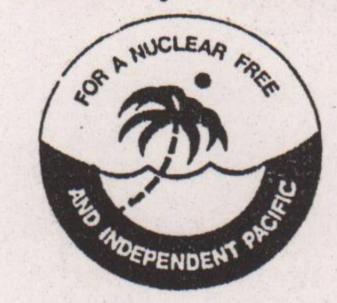
The Trusteeship is divided into 4 parts: the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marianas and Belau. The U.S. has already negotiated Compacts of Free Association with all the parts of Micronesia except Belau. Under these Compacts, "independence" is to be granted, similar to the independence of the Bantustans of S. Africa.

A look again at the geographical position of Belau helps explain its importance to the U.S. U.S. military strategy includes an island-based defensive arc running from the Indian Ocean to Japan, including Guam - already a massive U.S. nuclear air and sea base, the N. Marianas and the Philippines. The present agreement with the Philippines runs out in 1991 and, if the U.S. were to lose its bases here, Belau would be an ideal replacement, with its deepwater harbours for Trident submarines. It is already important as a base.

The Compact offered to Belau gives the people limited sovereignty and several million dollars. In return, the U.S. government could take any land it wanted - giving 60 days' notice to the people! They plan to use one third of Belau for military bases including training grounds, weapons storage and military airfields. This Compact could only be ended by the agreement of both sides, i.e. it would be for ever.

NUCLEAR-FREE CONSTITUTION

Unlike the other 3 parts of Micronesia, Belau is refusing to accept the Compact and, in 1979, they became the first nation in the world to write itself a nuclear-free constitution. 92% of Belauans voted for a constitution banning all nuclear weapons, power plants, ships and waste and all chemical, biological and gas weapons. This provision in the constitution can only be overturned by a 75% majority in a referendum.



The story since then is one of mounting pressure on Belau from the U.S. to accept their Compact.

President Remelik, one of the authors of the constitution, was assassinated in 1985, hours before he was to reveal a scandal about a power plant. This enormous power plant - far too big for Belau's needs but perfect for powering a military base - has bankrupted Belau, but the Reagan administration insists it must be paid for, as bankruptey makes the Compact money more attractive to voters.

PUPPET PRESIDENT

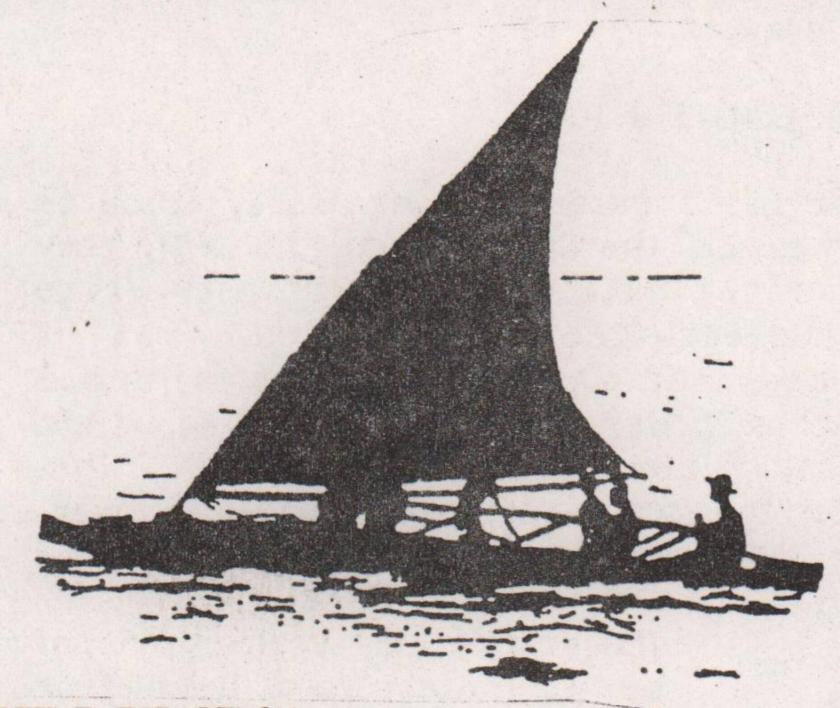
The puppet president, Lazarus Salii, has held no less than 10 referenda on accepting the Compact. These referenda are accompanied by vote-buying sprees, violence and intimidation of voters, firc-bombing of opponents' homes and murder. Economic blackmail methods are used, such as cutting off the electricity and water supplies every night and laying off all government workers to convince voters of the necessity of the Compact money. He is now trying to revoke the clause in the constitution which requires 75% of the vote to alter the constitution.







A further spur to the U.S. to impose the Compact is the situation in the Marshall Islands where victims of earlier U.S. nuclear tests are trying to claim compensation. The puppet government there has agreed to accept just \$150m. for all the victims - which would be a very cheap settlement. The U.S. have declared that the Marshall Islands, Mariana, and Federated States of Micronesia are sovereign nations, but the U.N. Security Council is reluctant to accept the breaking up of the Trusteeship piecemeal. They will not accept the President of the Marshall Islands as leader of an independant nation and thus able to accept this settlement until the status of Belau is decided.



BATTLE FOR BELAU

The U.S. considers this battle with Belau one that they cannot afford to lose. They fear the spread of "anti-nuclear allergy", that if Belau gets away with it, everyone else, even Nato countries, will expect to get away with it, too.

SCANW is to begin its campaign for Belau with a speaker and vide - "Paradise Lost", at a NCND meeting ...details to be decided... and a library exhibition will be available, plus various fundraising events are planned.

Meanwhile, the contact for Women for a Nuclear Free Independent Pacific is: Cas, c/o Women's Centre, Chaucer Street, Nottingham. amnd money can be sent to: "Pacific Fund - Belau",

WWNFIP, c/o Sue Upton, 80 Sevier Street, St. Werburgh's, Bristol. BS2 9RA.

We are asked to write to MPs and MEPs to get questions asked by Parliament, and to write to the UN and US Congress.

Pauline Wareham



NOTES OF OPTIMISM

After a disaster within one Hour of the Commencement of our journey, when we were ably and courteously helped on our way by the Leicester East Motorway Police, the holiday went according to a well-organized plan.

The May Day celebrations were on the Peace Theme and we witnessed the Parade in Bokhara.

Thanks to Jessie for making, Lila for assembling and Emma for writing our message - in Russian - we had a wreath and two sprays of white poppies.

The wreaths we laid on the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior in Moscow. After tentatively placing it with other floral tributes, we were invited to place it in a more prominent position on a stand. When the message was read by the persons at the Tomb, we were personally thanked.

We hung around for a while and were well rewarded to witness the large number of people who came to read our message, and the wreath remained in pride of place.

Due to preparations for the May Day events, our tribute at the Eternal Flame in Tashkent was almost unnoticed at the time, but would be seen later - we feel sure.

In Leningrad, we laid our Spray by the Eternal Flame in the Communal Cemetary - Pistarorsky - for the million persons, civilian and army, who died during the 900 day siege. The White Poppies stood out against the other floral offerings, but did not have quite the outstanding reception of Moscow.

Later, in Leningrad, we met Peace Activists cutside St. Isaac's Cathedral and exchanged badges and gave out Nottingham Special Bags. The Group Veterans Against Nuclear Arms included personnel from the U.K. and Canada.

Amongst the 29 persons in our Central Asia party were fellow activists from Wales, New Zealand and Canada and we all felt encouraged by knowing that our efforts were being duplicated elsewhere. The common aims, progresses and disappointments were the same for all of us, fighting despair and apathy - but we left the U.S.S.R. with a feeling of hope and friendliness.

Doreen Gower

FAST BREEDERS -THE END

A confidential review of the UK fast breeder programme carried out by Mr. John Fairclough, chief scientific advisor to the cabinet, is expected to recommend ending the programme's £105 million a year funding from Whitehall and the CEGB. If the government carries out the review's recommendations, it may well mean that the whole European fast breeder programme is at risk as both the Germans and the French are much less enthusiastic about the reactor than they were even two years ago.

The long term future for the rest of the nuclear programme would also be less rosy. One of the main arguments for reprocessing nuclear waste is to remove plutonium from that waste for future use in the fast breeder. The economic argument for reprocessing is very shaky at the moment, but with no potential fast breeder market for the plutonium the argument disintegrates.

The only reason left for reprocessing would be for military purposes and a question mark would hang over the future economic successs of the THORP plant (new reprocessing plant at Sellafield). From a proliferation point of view, the demise of the fast breeder can only be good. If the European programme stagnates then it is unlikely that other countries will start to build fast breeders either as a source of electricity or for the weapons grade plutonium that they produce. There would also be fewer reasons for other countries to build reprocessing plants to extract plutonium which they could use for a secret bomb programme (if they cannot pretend that they are reprocessing it for a future fast breeder programme).

There is also the question of what will happen to the present stockpile of plutonium that is owned by the CEGB.

Thermal reactors (AGR, PWR etc.) can only supply a relatively small amount of energy in global terms before the uranium supplies run out. The nuclear industry always considered the fast breeder essential to the long term future of the industry, because the fast breeder produces more fuel than it consumes. Without it there IS no long term future for the nuclear industry.

Nick Armstrong.

NURSES' SKILLS WOULD BE IRRELEVANT IN NUCLEAR WAR.

Nurses' skills would be "virtually irrelevant" in the event of a nuclear war, the RCN claimed last week.

The college said it agreed with the findings of the new British Medical Association report on selection of casualties in the event of a nuclear confrontation.

The BMA claims most of the badly injured would be left to die because resources would be inadequate to deal with them.

An RCN spokesman said, "Not only is nuclear war unthinkable but the actual care of people afterwards is impossible.

"The skills and training of nurses would be rendered virtually irrelevant, with the possible exception of psychiatric training."

Treatment could be offered to the less severely injured, the BMA report says, but because drugs would run out very quickly, people like diabetics and haemophiliacs would become ill and die.

And it adds that nurses and doctors should not feel they had a duty to risk their lives to help others in areas with high radiation levels.

The report was described by the Medical Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons (MCANW) as "profoundly depressing reading".

Both hospital and community nurses would be able to offer little more than basic first aid, said MCANW member nurse, Mary Holdstock. "We have difficulty in coping with a major accident or civilian disaster, so the idea that we could somehow deal with nuclear war victims is totally ridiculous," she said.

"The report talks about the need for selecting whom to treat but allowing others to die, but of course that's totally against nursing ethics and training.

"I welcome this report because I do think it brings home the totally impossible position nurses and doctors will be placed in."

NURSING TIMES, May 18-24 1988.

Yes, I want to help. Here is my subscription to Nottingham CND adult £3.75 household £4.50 unwaged £1.50 group affiliations £5 to 50
Name
Address
I enclose £ membership plus £ donation
Please make cheques payable to NCND and return to:
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WOMEN FOR PEACE





UPSTARS OLD DEPT! WIN FREE FILM TICKETS!

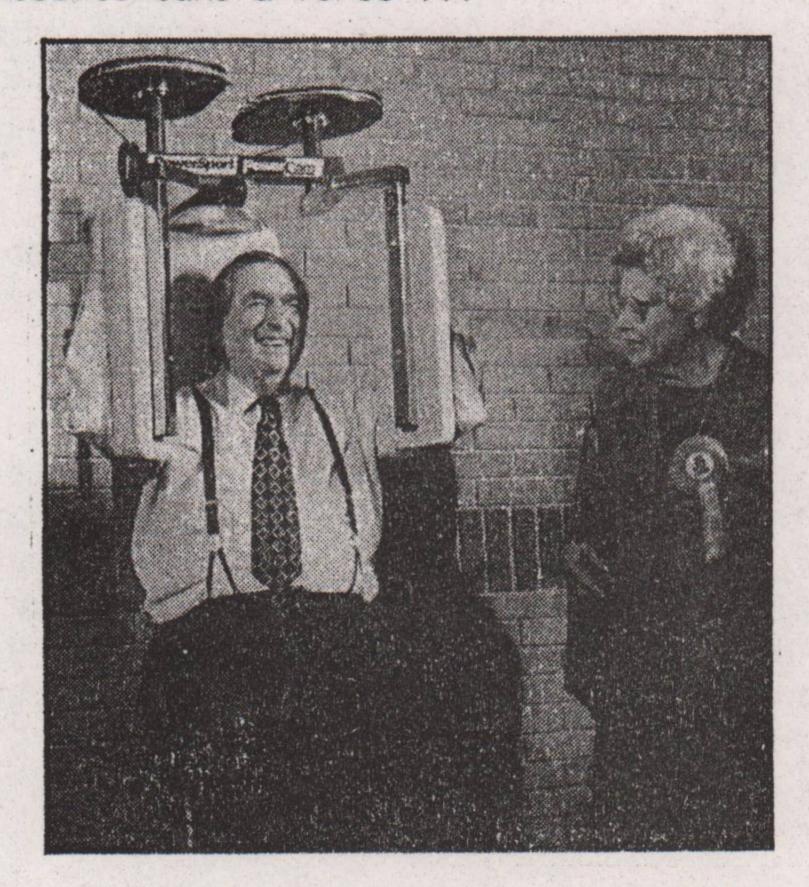
CITYC I N. E. M. A

CAPTION COMPETITION

We weren't inundated with entries this month. In fact there were NO entries sent in this month. So I entered and I won a free double ticket to City Lights Cinema to a film of my choice. My captions were:



"Anything you say will be taken down ..." and "No need to take a fence ..."



Maybe if you'd entered you'd have won. This month might be your last chance.

Bulletin Editor.

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DEADLINE FOR JULY BULLETIN - JUNE 20TH.