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NOTTINGHAM CND

Dec/Jan Bulletin 20p

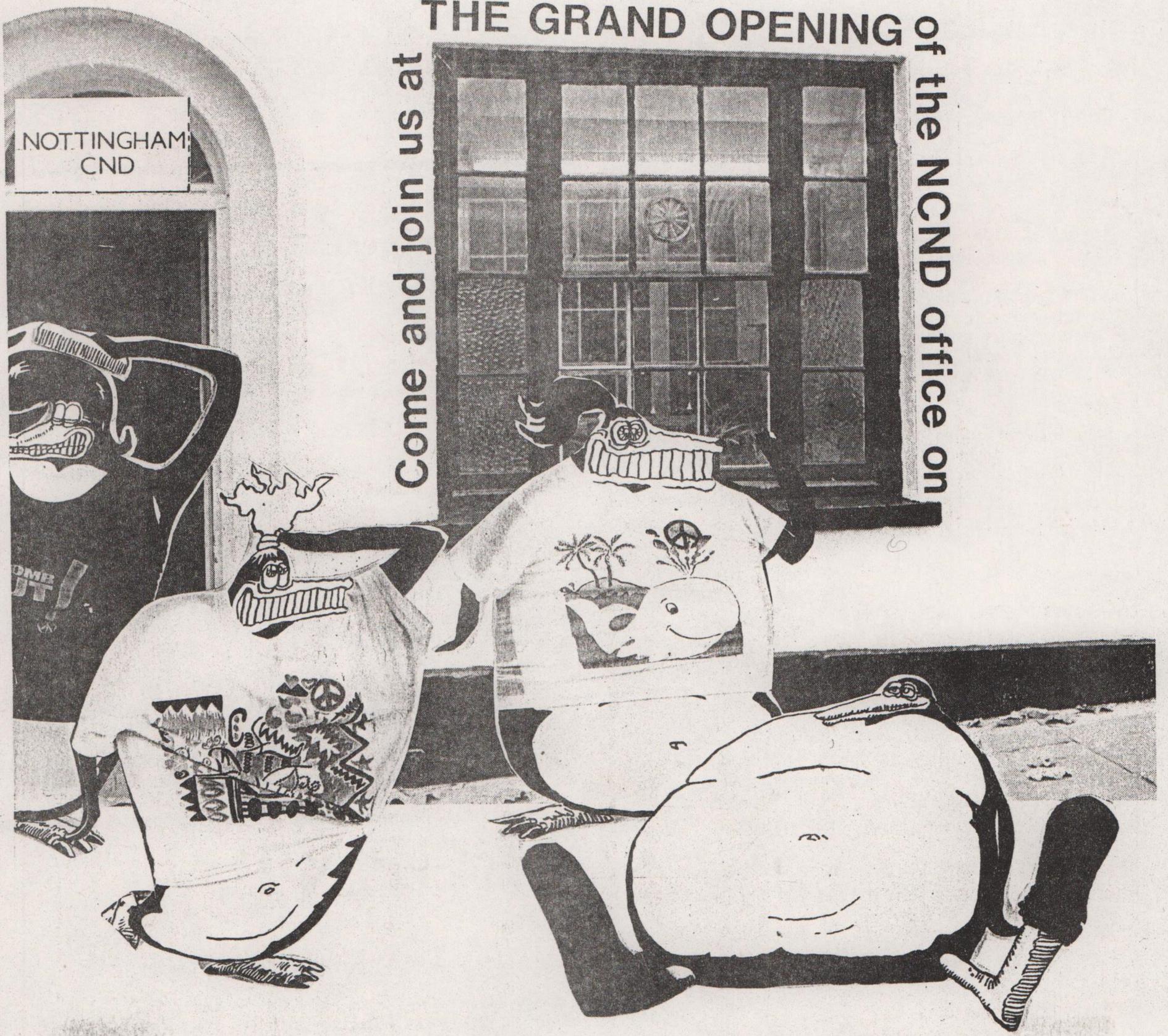


33

THE GRAND OPENING

Come and join us at

of the NCND office on

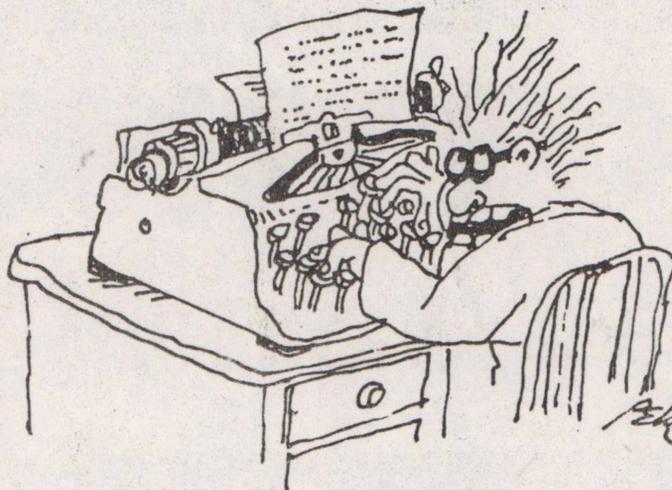


WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 14TH. 6-8pm

EDITORIAL

A New Year - a new beginning? Looking to next year, our priorities seem obvious. At a big-politico level, 1989 is the 40th anniversary of NATO. We would guess that at least one NATO country has been involved in a shooting war at all times during these forty years. We'll be focusing on that. NCND will want to build on some of our successes of this year - the Hiroshima 'paper crane' floating, the White Poppy campaign and, of course, using our new office as a campaigning base. This last year has seen some major changes on a world scale - Reagan has shuffled off the stage (and Bush couldn't be that bad) and Gorby is everyone's hero.

NCND has held up well in 1988 and we look forward to next year with a degree of guarded optimism. Have a peaceful holiday.



APPEALS! APPEALS! APPEALS!

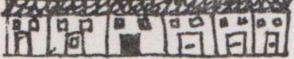
Calling all potential typists, layout artists, printers..... why not come and realise your potential helping with the NCND Bulletin team! Any offers (however tentative) to Cath.....tel:620459.....

DIARY

- DECEMBER.**
 Sat. 3rd. Lister Gate stall out. Christmas sales.
 Mon. 5th. NCND officers' meeting. 7.00 pm. 33 Castle Gate.
 Wed. 14th. "GRAND OPENING" of the new NCND office. 6-8 pm. 33 Castle Gate.
 Sat. 10th. NCND Christmas Market. 10.30-4.00. Congregational Centre, Castle Gate.
 NCND office Open Day. 11-3. 33 Castle Gate.
 Listergate stall out. Christmas sales.
 Wed. 21st. NCND Executive meeting. 7.30pm. 33 Castlegate, Nottingham
 Sat. 24th. Listergate stall out.

** LISTER GATE STALL also aiming to go out during the two weeks leading up to Christmas. Please help us staff the stall and sell our Christmas stock! OFFERS OF HELP to Jane Goldsmith. Tel: 626887. **

- JANUARY.**
 Mon. 9th NCND officers' meeting. 7.00 pm. 33 Castle Gate.
 Wed. 18th. NCND executive meeting. 7.30 pm. WEA. Shakespeare St.
 February Bulletin deadline: 19th January.

NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP MEETINGS 
 (As yet not a comprehensive list - please can other groups send details of regular meetings to the bulletin team.):

- Forest Fields:** Every 3rd Thursday 7.30pm F. Fields Neighbourhood Centre, Wiverton Rd.
Radcliffe-on-Trent: Every 2nd Monday 7.45 R-on-T Library, New Road, Radcliffe.
Sherwood/Mapperley Park: Mon. 12th Dec. 8.00 20 Waldeck Rd, Carrington. (variable venue)
West Bridgford: Every 1st Tuesday 7.00pm West Bridgford Lib rary(side entrance).

Visiting the new office
 Best days and times at present until we are sorted out, are:
Thursday 11-2.00pm
Wednesday 5-7.00pm
 To be sure please phone before visiting.

Pete Strauss in RING DANCE RUMPUS! SHOCK! HORROR! PROBE!
 In a dramatic turn of events, following Pete Strauss's denial of ever having danced in a ring (see 'apology', p.2. Nov bulletin) we publish the following photograph

29th. Party at Molesworth - rabbits and policemen conga past the fence, under the watchful eyes of the constabulary.



URGENT

Have you got 2 hours to spare?
 Volunteers wanted to run the stall on Lister Gate:
 Monday 12th ----- Saturday 17th December.
 Monday 19th ----- Saturday 24th December.
 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. or 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
 Choose any slot any day and ring 588586 or call in at the office to get your name down on the rota.

OUR NEW OFFICE

Since the last bulletin, the office has been cleaned, decorated and carpeted. The two small front rooms have been knocked into one room of useful size, which now accommodates our desks and filing cabinets and has a window on to the street. The larger back room has yet to be renovated, but it has great possibilities for exhibitions, sales and other uses and both our rooms are helped by being on the ground floor. Radio Trent studios are only yards away.

Starting from Market Square, you can reach the office quickest by going up Friar Lane and turning left after the Co-op. Bank. Reaching "The Royal Children" pub on your right, the office is opposite. If you are down at Broad Marsh Centre, go up Castle Gate opposite Marks & Spencer. If you are coming in from the south, say from Collin St. bus stop, it's just round the corner, up Maid Marian Way, behind St. Nicholas Church. If in case of doubt, just ask for "The Royal Children"...

The old office, although excellent in itself, was often a source of frustration, particularly for bulletin bundle collectors. You would find it closed and accessible only via a faulty answering machine. Members soon learned not to bother visiting, so when a volunteer did do staffing duty, hardly anyone came and another volunteer was lost through loneliness.

The new office changes nothing - unless we can make a fresh start. The plan is for reliable opening at certain known times. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday are suggested, opening from, say, 10.30 to 2.30. Also planned is Wednesday evening, 5.00 to 7.30, to fit in with late town shopping. Seems over-ambitious? Why not be a staff volunteer once in a while? You'll be welcome, or if you're in town at the right time, combat boredom by just saying "Hello" to the office volunteer. The scheme is planned to begin the first week in December: please phone first, always - we're getting a decent ansaphone - promise!

So you collect the bulletins for your local area? Good news for you, too: you'll be able to collect at any time during office hours, even if our office is closed. Bulletin packs for each area will be put in a purpose-built locking cupboard in the hallway just outside the office. Keys will be given to each collector or group.

The office CAN succeed - if duties are shared with the existing volunteers and we don't let the 'no callers - no staff - no callers' vicious circle start up again. Lecture over! Are you coming to the GRAND OPENING on the evening of Wednesday December 14th, starting 6 o'clock? You never know whom you might meet!



HOLD THE FRONT PAGE



After only a month as Nottingham CND's "press person", I'll take this opportunity to report on my first impression of the job and, perhaps, a follow-up piece in a year's time when my term of office is over.

To be fair, I have to say that my impressions of the local media pre-date my election as an officer of NCND and these impressions were not always positive. My most recent dealings with the Hacks were over the departure from Molesworth of the Cruise missiles (minus warheads). I sent them all a press release to tell them that this was going to happen and that we were going to organise a little bit of "action" (as we like to call it) and they all ignored it. When the departure of Cruise actually happened and received wall-to-wall coverage on national TV and radio, all the local media were running round like chickens with their heads cut off, trying desperately to get a story and to contact me. By now, of course, I was down in Molesworth and unreachable. So they dragged an NCND officer away from his job to come to the office to do a TV interview, only to stand him up, with the excuse that the editor had changed his mind.

The Hack's Universe.

This was my impression...that the local media wouldn't recognise a news story if you ground their noses in it and, unless you hand it to them on a silver platter, they just can't cope. Furthermore, when it comes down to it, they'll treat you like s..t if it suits them and their editors, and all normal standards of human behaviour and politeness simply don't enter into the hack's universe.

Perhaps this is unfair.

The White Poppy Story and the NATO-talk at County Hall make an interesting pair of case-studies.

We took the trouble of writing to Radio Trent on advance of the NATO visit to offer a list of possible CND people to appear alongside anyone from NATO who might come in and do an interview. They never replied to our letter. We phoned them up and they told us to relax..there's no point getting in touch until a few days before the NATO event. We waited until a few days before the event and phoned again..."Oh, yes. We've got someone from NATO. Your letter must have got lost. We're not interested in a national CND person...we want someone local." "But the NATO man isn't local!" we said. "That doesn't matter." was the reply.

Eventually we managed to get Ken Coates of the Nottingham-based Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation on Radio Trent, alongside the NATO-man, but it was all a bit of a rush job.

I phoned Radio Nottingham to ask if they were also having someone from NATO and, sure enough, they were. When I asked if they would consider having someone from CND as well, they got rather shirty and defensive: "Are you suggesting that our programme is unbalanced?" I back-track madly: "No, not at all, I just thought it would be more interesting if you had someone from our side asking questions about first-use and so on." "There's no question of your being able to come in and do the programme at the same time as NATO". The best they can do is have me in the following day, to answer questions from the Radio Nottingham interviewer. Better than nothing.

The white-poppy-story didn't seem to go down too well with the Nottingham Evening Post. I sent them a press release to say the NCND had written to the Royal British Legion to ask if we could lay a wreath of white poppies at the Cenotaph and they covered the story but totally ignored the press release. Under a headline reading "CND IN WHITE POPPY ROW", the Post wrote that the British Legion's poppy appeal organiser said, "We don't approve of the white poppy".

Unbalanced coverage.

They published at least three letters in the letters page, attacking the white poppy, one of which alleged that the correspondent had been "stopped and hurled abuse at" by an NCND member for wearing war medals. I phoned up the editor to complain that the coverage had been a little unbalanced, to say the least, and the Assistant Editor (to his credit) agreed to publish a letter from me, outlining the reasons behind the promotion of the white poppy.

Radio Nottingham and Radio Trent - again to their credit - were rather more helpful, right from the start, and asked me to come in to do an interview. Radio Nottingham had me worried for a while, when they suggested doing a listeners' phone-in poll on the question: SHOULD THE WHITE POPPY REPLACE THE RED POPPY? Rather stark choice, I suggested, and they relented and asked instead whether listeners would wear red or white this November.

The good old Nottingham Trader could always be relied upon to use a half-decent press release, often without so much as changing a single word of it, which may be more to do with staff shortages than sympathy with the Cause. (Thank goodness, they no longer print the stories under a regular by-line of BOMB SPOT).

Proper Debate.

All in all, it's an uneasy relationship. The local media seem to find us most easy to handle when we appear either in a defensive/reactive role (i.e. justifying the white poppy or replying to NATO) or hooked superficially onto an "action" story ("CND PROTESTERS IN COURT"). What we hardly ever get is the local media treating seriously, as a representative voice from perhaps 39% of the Nottingham population, able and willing to engage in proper debate about the most urgent and pressing issues of our time.

I'm afraid there are no easy answers to this problem. All we can do is work as hard as we can to get our voice heard even if it isn't always on precisely our own terms. Ultimately, it's up to every single NCND member to write that letter to the Nottingham Evening Post or the Nottingham Trader; to phone-in to the phone-in on Radio Nottingham and Radio Trent. As long as the mass-media in our society is controlled by state or financial interest, we are unlikely to ever get a completely fair hearing, but nevertheless, it's well worth plugging away at them because some of our message is bound to get through.

Write to:

PETE STRAUSS.

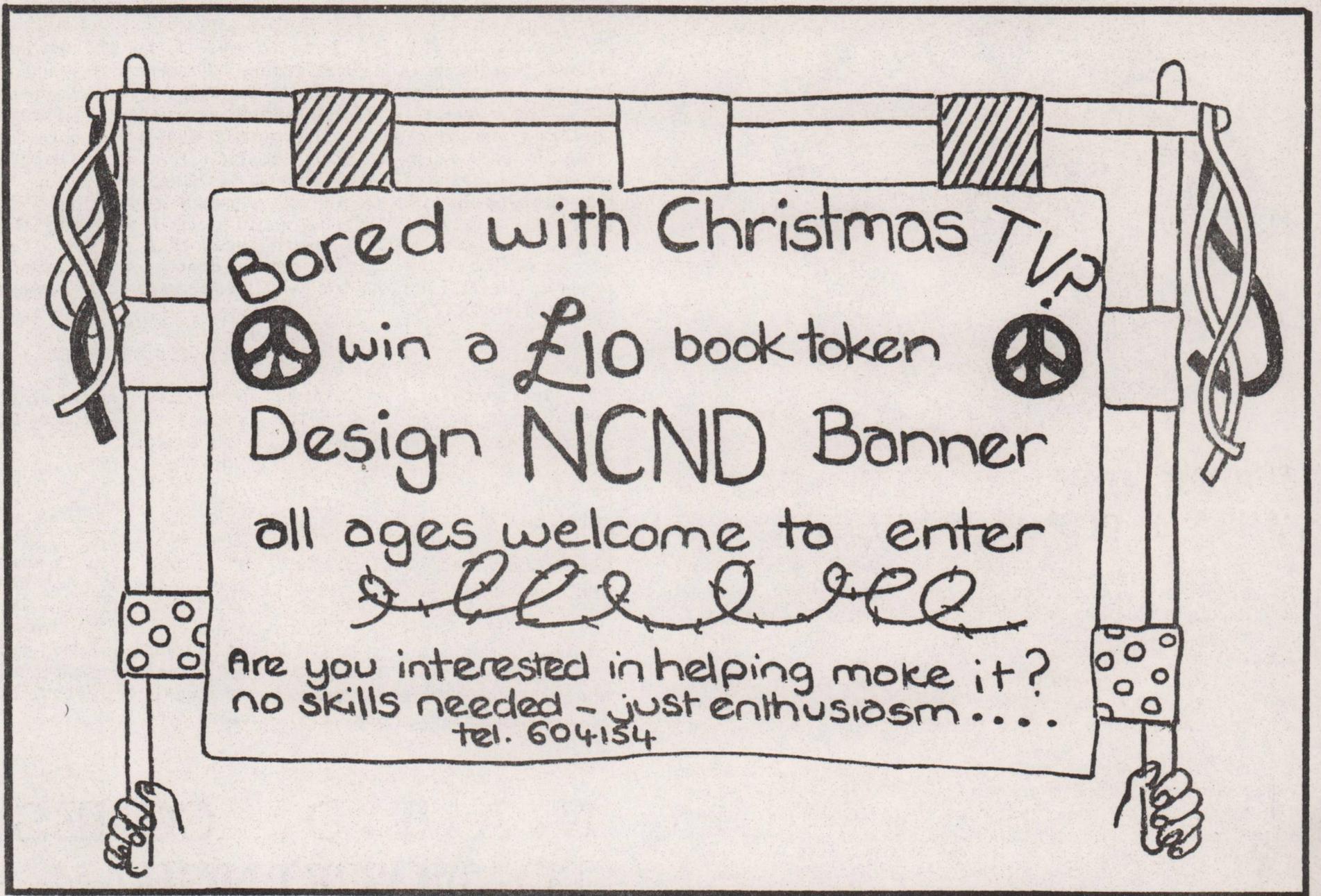
Opinion,
Nottingham Evening Post,
Forman Street,
Nottingham.

Nottingham Trader,
Stamford Street,
Nottingham.

Phone:

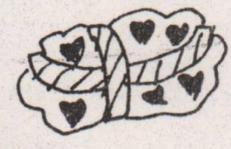
Radio Nottingham 415161

Radio Trent 581731



Don't forget to come and see the Christmas stock available now at Listergate stall and the office!

DIARIES STATIONERY  T-SHIRTS CALENDARS 

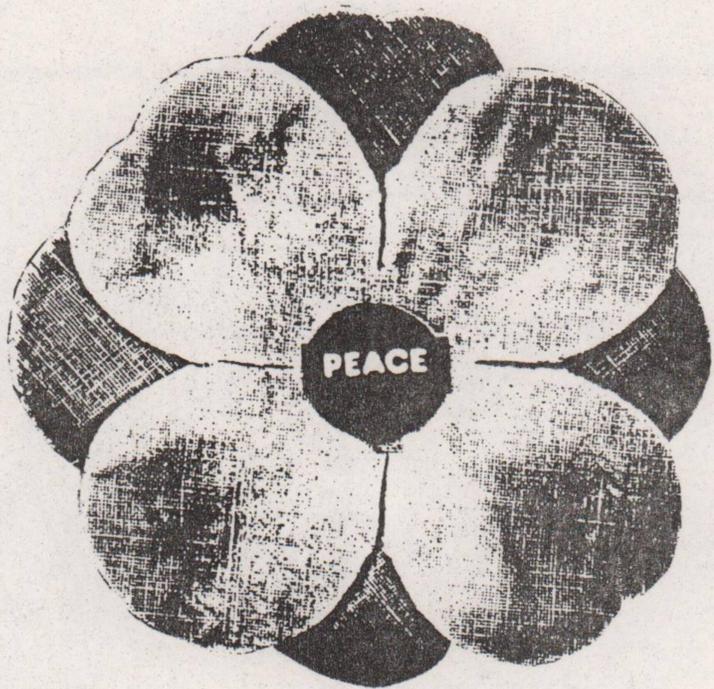
MOBILES  CND TOWELS WRAPPING PAPER 

 SOCKS CARDS MUGS JEWELLERY  PEACE BELLS 

 A present for everyone! 

Also on sale at the NCND CHRISTMAS MARKET
December 10th. 10.30-16.00.

At the Congregational Centre, Castlegate, Nottm.



'OVER ONE IN SIX WEAR WHITE POPPIES' SHOCK

An astonishing 17% of local people intended to wear a white poppy to commemorate this year's armistice day, according to a telephone poll, carried out by Radio Nottingham. The question given out over the air was, "Do you intend to wear a red poppy or a white poppy?" and listeners were asked to phone one of two alternative numbers to give their answers.

The poll was carried out during a live interview with Pete Strauss, in which he was questioned closely about the white poppy issue and, in particular, had to deal with the criticism that the white poppy robs money from the red poppy appeal.

Asked by the Radio Nottingham interviewer what he thought of the poll result, Pete replied that it was terrific. Given the amount of publicity for red poppies and the negative and even hostile reaction to white poppies from official circles and local newspapers, it was a remarkably high figure in support of the white poppy.

WHITE POPPIES AND RED

I have vivid memories of both World Wars, although I was only six when the first one ended. At that age there is a certain glamour in a soldier which radiated from my handsome young Uncle in his khaki.

Had Uncle Fred died or even lost an arm or leg, he would have retained his heroic image forever. Instead he was one of the first few men to inhale the newly-invented poison gas and it changed him to a trembling invalid. He apparently recovered, but his lungs were permanently damaged and, over the next twenty years, he dwindled into a pathetic and cantankerous wreck in a wheelchair.

The Second World War interrupted all the good things of my life, scattered my friends and hindered my career. How I hated the blitz and the blackout, the monotonous food, the cramped living in cellars and, above all, the shattered hopes and the random deaths. I resolved to do whatever I could to prevent future wars and make the peace last.

I could not understand it when rockets and bombs were stationed all over England in an effort to intimidate the Russians who had been our allies.

Most people want peace and masses of them campaign for it, but our government will not even renounce the first use of indiscriminate weapons. There seems little that an old lady can do, but at least I will wear white poppies at every Armistice "celebration". I put a little red one alongside the white in my buttonhole, however, because as Mother said, "The British Legion were very good to your Uncle."

CONNIE FORD.

POPPIES.

By chance, this year, I found myself in the Market Square watching the Nottingham Remembrance Sunday Parade. Set before the Council House were two field guns, three quarters of the parade were men in military uniform, one section of the parade was small boys in camouflaged combat military gear. The whole debate around the red and white poppies is complex; many of our members have come to CND through taking part in previous wars and, indeed, would defend fighting the second world war still. Having seen this parade, I am convinced that the official parade **does** glorify war and promote militarism - for why else were small boys "dressed to kill"?

ROSS BRADSHAW.

P.S. Incidentally, my article on poppies in the last issue had my father dying young: it was my grandfather! Gremlins have a lot to answer for!

(Typist's apologies.)

POPPIES (2)

Readers may be surprised that two of our members were refused approval to sell white poppies to the Nottingham Vegetarian Society's "Taste-In". The "Taste-In" was part of "One World Week" which had a theme of bringing peace to the planet. Had our correspondents not themselves been strict vegetarians, they'd have chomped into the nearest cow forthwith. Letters to the Veg. Soc. will follow.

N.A.T.O. COMES TO NOTTINGHAM

The NATO roadshow, celebrating "forty years of peace" hit Nottingham towards the end of last month. Amid a great deal of publicity, a public meeting was held in County Hall, with a platform full of NATO's top-brass on hand, to answer difficult questions from the ordinary public.

The trouble was, there were no difficult questions and there was no ordinary public. Well, that's not entirely true because there was one difficult question (asked by me); but, by and large, the meeting had the cosy, comfortable and complacent atmosphere of your average Conservative Party branch meeting. Apart from me, everyone else there seemed to be a cosy, comfortable, complacent, corpulent Conservative and the questions were along the lines of: "How will we cope if Labour win the next election? (heaven forbid)"... much laughter.

The speakers' platform was bathed in a sensuous blue light and slides were projected onto a backdrop showing reassuring images of the Union Flag and the NATO flag lovingly intertwined. All around us were display boards with maps of Europe showing big red arrows coming our way and small blue arrows going their way.

"What about your First Use Policy?" I asked. "What about it?", the top-brass replied.

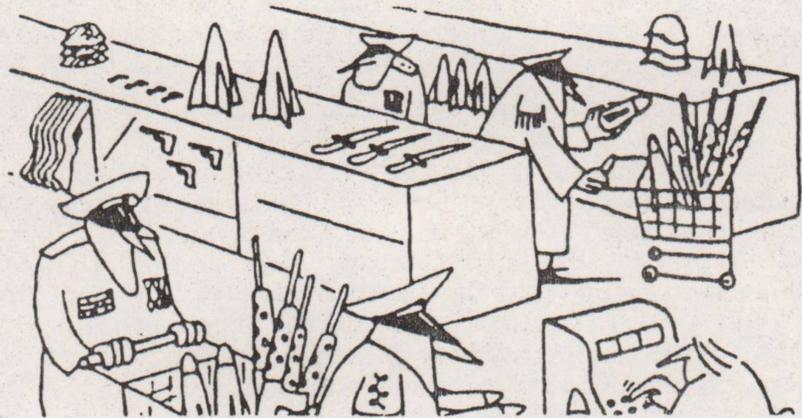
"What about the Cruise missile warheads?" I asked. "What about them?", the top-brass replied.

There really was nothing for us to fear from a meeting like this. Their public meetings are rather like ours; we both preach to the converted.

More worrying, perhaps, were the large advertisements in the local newspapers, publicising the meetings under a huge logo saying "FORTY YEARS OF PEACE". The only way to deal with things like that is to bring out our own materials, so watch out early next year for an anti-NATO campaign, planned to coincide with their birthday celebrations.

PETE STRAUSS.

NUKES, NEIGHBOURS AND NIGHTMARES



I had been trying to dissuade my children from watching yet another ghastly episode of "Neighbours". They listened patiently to my catalogue of criticisms - appalling acting, turgid dialogue, totally out of touch with real life, etc. and they then "zapped" me with the devastating one-liner: "Well, at least, it's not boring like a lot of the political stuff you watch!"

When I thought about this (particularly in the context of this year's party conference debates on defence), the thing that troubled me most was that the kids were probably right. By comparison, "Neighbours" was better acted, more enlightened and certainly more entertaining.

Frightening Trivialisation.

1988 will hardly be remembered as a high water mark of the defence and disarmament debate. All we were treated to was Paddy Ashdown telling us how we might come to know and love Trident; Labour hiding nuclear disarmament under a patchwork quilt of "international" issues and the Tories not even bothering to give nuclear arms a mention. It all seemed such a frightening trivialisation of the enormous issues that face us. Just in case the Labour Party has completely missed the point, I want to spell out some of the consequences of the INF Treaty that are likely to leave Britain with far more nuclear missiles rather than less.

The INF Treaty bans all ground-launched nuclear missiles with a range of 500-5,000 km. This will remove the 112 cruise missiles based in the UK. However, in return, we are likely to see as many as three times more nuclear missiles and warheads based here in other forms. Britain, it seems, is central to the survival of US defence planning in the post-INF era. The Americans have us lined up for a complex package of goodies, including:

- basing their new F-15E "Strike Eagle" nuclear bomber in Britain,
- keeping existing F111 nuclear bombers here for at least another 10 years,
- bringing in a new version of the F111 which will be a long range version of the original and fitting aircraft with at least one, possibly two, new nuclear-armed, air-launched missiles.

400 more.

In all, this little package could land us with the burden of an additional 80 planes based in the UK, carrying around 300 nuclear weapons (with as many as two-thirds being "stand-off" missiles). By the mid-1990s, there could be as many as 400 more US nuclear weapons in Britain than there are now!

A hoary old question.

This is the sort of thing that Private Eye used to refer to as "a not-insignificant development". Yet, politicians arguing the nuclear disarmament case apparently missed it completely. So the closest we came to any serious discussion was around the hoary old question of the independent deterrent.

Maybe this was inevitable, given the sad drift of prevailing values, prejudices and perceptions in this country towards the cubbyhole of Little Englandism.

For it is this that cuts us off from understanding (and then influencing or, at least, being involved in) the important global changes taking place around us. If there is to be a "third wave" of CND - a resurgence of mass-based popular opposition to the nuclear arms race - then the strategies of the peace movement have to address these changes.

The developments in American foreign policy are entirely predictable. "Making INF work" has basically meant seeking nuclear superiority through other channels. Britain's role in NATO and our user-friendly subservience to United States' interests make us an ideal place to establish a new nuclear superiority in this "game without reason". For the Soviet Union, despite Gorbachev's reform programme and his pressure to begin the START talks, these developments will raise real difficulties. Strategic arms limitations would have to address substantial cuts in strategic, long-range missiles. How far can the Soviet Union go along this path if it knows that America has a ready-made European bypass to any START Treaty (a bypass which already makes a mockery of the INF Treaty).

European complicity with such American manoeuvres not only endangers our own security, but it will throw into question the credibility of any strategic arms reduction talks.

Mutually hostile.

Addressing this does not mean abandoning the campaign to get rid of Trident. What it does do is to connect it to the enormously high stakes involved if we fail to block the escalation of American missiles based here. Inevitably it raises, again, the question of NATO membership. It breaks my heart that, at a time when there is so much discussion about Britain and Europe, the Labour Party still fails to rise to the challenge of bringing together Socialist parties in Eastern and Western Europe to set down the framework of a non-aggression pact that would offer a positive alternative to the nuclear-dependant, mutually-hostile presumptions of NATO. This, rather than a retreat into Little Englandism, is what we need.

Is that so unreal? Doesn't it require some such leap of faith into the area of "common security" to break the siege mentality, which sustains the nuclear arguments? If so, then how on earth do we reshape the political agenda around such an approach?

More fantasy than "Chaaaalene".

There's always the chance that my kids were right, that the political defence debates are more fantasy than Chaaaalene and the rest of the cast of "Neighbours", that there is such a state of unreality about the political agendas we are offered that reclaiming a sense of sanity and perspective would be a monumental task.

It is, however, a challenge that CND has to meet, for it could make or break the movement. Internationally, the consequences of our campaigns here over the new two years could have enormous repercussions. To fail to do so could propel us along a path of permanent nuclear-dependancy that would be immeasurably worse than even the worst horrors that I can attribute to that blasted "Neighbours" series.

Have a peaceful Christmas, coppers!

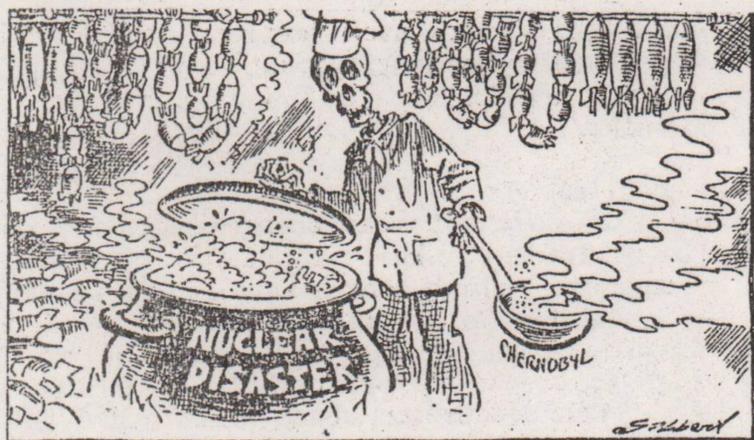
ALAN SIMPSON,
(County Councillor).

CAN HINCKLEY 'C' BE STOPPED?

PRO NUCLEAR PROPAGANDA.

In the wake of the Chernobyl disaster, the Central Electricity Generating Board intensified its pro-nuclear propaganda directed at the public and its own staff. Safety was seen as the main public concern. In the 1987 "Power News" Report staff were told:- "The Board accepts that, without public confidence, it could not have nuclear power: that is why it must continue striving to win public confidence." However, in spite of growing public concern and a strong campaign run by the East Anglian Alliance Against Nuclear Power, CND, FOE and other groups, work started in March 1987 on Britain's first Pressurised Water Reactor (PWR), Sizewell B in Suffolk. Even before the record 340 days' Public Inquiry had opened, the CEGB has spent millions of pounds on design and research and further millions' worth of contracts were signed. The Inquiry Inspector's recommendation for consent and the Energy Minister's approval came as no great surprise.

In conformity with the Government's policy which will require private companies replacing the CEGB to produce at least 20% of electricity from nuclear plants, the CEGB lost no time in applying for a second Three Mile Island type PWR to be built at Hinkley Point, Somerset, where there are already two nuclear reactors.



"Here, want a taste?"

IMPORTANT POINTS.

Objectors are raising important points at the Inquiry. Fourteen year old, Steven Seldon, the youngest objector so far, told the Inquiry Inspector, Michael Barnes, that he thought it wrong for the Board to have already committed £17 million on material for the PWR. Steven, a member of CND, also drew attention to the nuclear weapons connection: "I've had information that they take out the fuel rods every 18 months, although they only need to do so every three years, in order to extract plutonium." George Pritchard, previously a Greenpeace campaigner, drew an admission from Dr. Surman (for the CEGB) that wind power would be cheaper than nuclear. His questioning also showed that the CEGB's quality control in the building of nuclear plant had been sadly lacking. The CEGB, after stalling for months, have now agreed to produce evidence about the comparative economics of coal and nuclear power. This has been hailed by the media as a victory for the protesters.

LARGE DEMONSTRATIONS NEEDED.

A recent Gallup poll shows that 75% of people favour a halt to nuclear power. However, the Government's determination to build still more PWRs has not changed. Wylfa B (Anglesey) is next in line.

If Hinkley C is to be stopped, large demonstrations may be necessary. A strategy of expressing opposition through official channels combined with demonstrations and non-violent action has proved successful on the Continent, while at Elstow, Fulbeck, Killingholme and Bradwell, local people stopped nuclear waste dumping by similar methods.

ROGER RAWLINSON.

For further information, contact:-

SHE, Hockpitt Farm, Nether Stowey,
Bridgwater, Somerset. TA5 1EX

For Public Inquiry information, contact:-

Stop Hinkley Centre, Cannington Court,
Cannington, Bridgwater, Somerset. TA5 2HA

CHRISTMAS QUIZ

In the tradition of end-of-year issues, the NCND Bulletin presents a Christmas Quiz. Do it for fun or do it to try to win a 1989 Housman's Peace Diary (first prize) or a CND Wall Calendar (second prize). It might be worth entering if you can get most of the answers, as there are one or two awkward ones! Entries, please, by 10th January, to be sent to the new offices at 33 Castle Gate, Nottingham. Answers will appear in the next issue.

- 1) When was CND formed?
- 2) What do these initials stand for: N.A.T.O., S.E.A.T.O., I.C.B.M., W.R.I., P.P.U., A.A.M.?
- 3) What were the "Spies for Peace"?
- 4) Who would "fight, fight and fight again" to save the party he loved?
- 5) And who didn't want to go naked into the conference chamber?
- 6) Who announced that the bombing of Russia would start in five minutes?
- 7) And who was quite prepared, or rather said that the British people were quite prepared, to be blown to atomic dust?
- 8) Complete the names of these disastrous nuclear power stations: Ch..... T.... M.... I....., W.....
- 9) Who died recently, aged almost 100, a lifelong anti-militarist and founder of the Movement for Colonial Freedom?
- 10) Other social movements...Who were the Wobblies, W.S.P.U., White Rose.
- 11) Which womens' organisation established the White Poppies?
- 12) What does the CND symbol stand for?
- 13) Which women were mysteriously killed...when investigating nuclear power in America (clue - her story became a film) and, in Britain (clue - she grew roses)?
- 14) Who was, or is...Uncle Ho, Uncle Sam, Uncle Joe?

- 15) What is the main Catholic peace organisation?
- 16) Which political party did Meg Beresford (General Secretary of CND) join and which did Bruce Kent join?
- 17) Name two places or streets in which NCND has had an office.
- 18) Which Communist Councillor is a member of CND?
- 19) Name 4 British political parties which support CND's policy towards nuclear weapons and NATO? (Clue - 2 have seats in Parliament).
- 20) Nottingham CND has been very active at the following places: Chi....., Upper....., Lake.....,orth.
- 21) What year did Greenham women's peace camp start?
- 22) What country did the women walk from?
- 23) Countries, please, of Victor Jara, Archbishop Romero, Daniel Ortega, Federico Garcia Lorca?
- 24) Which two countries was Gandhi active in?
- 25) Which ship did French agents blow up in New Zealand?
- 26) Which member of the British Commonwealth did America invade?
- 27) Famous women peace activists of the century: Vera, Dora ..., Ethel ...
- 28) Greenham Women renamed the gates there. Name three.
- 29) Movie time; Where was "Threads" made? Which country had a Syndrome? Which film did the BBC ban for years?
- 30) Name 5 CND neighbourhood groups, without turning to the back page.
- 31) Which youth organisation supports CND, promotes Internationalism and co-operative games?
- 32) Who are the Hibakusha?
- 33) Where is the nearest nuclear power station to Nottingham?
- 34) What was "Little Boy"?
- 35) Complete the names of these peace activists, E.P.T., M.L.K., M.K.G.

Quiz compiled by Kate Marsden and Ross Bradshaw.
HAVE FUN!

YEARLY REPORT

Nottingham's CND year finished with a burst of activity with the national demonstration at Upper Heyford, closely followed by a big upheaval as we moved offices from King Street to 33 Castle Gate. The move of office has taken up a lot of time, discussion and energy and I think it was with a feeling of some relief that we finally moved on October 16th. We can now start to take advantage of the particular features of Castle Gate (ground floor and still in the centre of town) and the fact that there has been some rationalisation of the office contents.

We hope to revive the CND stall (no disrespect to Jeremy's portable version which has been very useful since we lost our storage space at Birdcage - and thanks to them for providing a space as long as they did). Stalls at Listergate came into prominence last Autumn when the council changed its policy on collections at Lister Gate. Each group was only able to have a maximum of four licences per year, dependent on being granted the licence. We're hoping that this may now be repealed, but, if not, are relying on Neighbourhood Groups to take up licence applications for sales.

PERPLEXED PEOPLE

The stall hosted several events this year: white poppies on Remembrance Day and "Disarm the Seas" where Radcliffe-on-Trent displayed an exhibition and some "sub"-humans arrived to draw attention to the Jaws leaflet. Hiroshima Day at Lister Gate saw several perplexed people folding pieces of origami paper and, to their amazement, producing paper cranes which then made a very attractive feature. The day was also marked with shadow painting and leaflets to explain what was happening.

A first for Nottingham CND was the Nagasaki evening event where candles and paper cranes were floated on the boating lake at dusk. This was a moving event and attracted 70 or so people. It was something which will hopefully be repeated.

The office has continued to have staffing difficulties, particularly towards the end of the year. The acquisition of an answering machine has helped with communication, although it has not proved the easiest machine for volunteers to fathom out!

JAWS

NCND members made a mammoth effort in May and distributed 45,000 Jaws leaflets (the second largest number for any individual group), drawing attention to Trident and the escalation it represents. Not content with this, members embarked on a second round of leafleting, as part of national CND's autumn campaign. This time it was informing people about the increases in weapons since the INF Treaty.

Signing of the INF Treaty was marked in Nottingham with a procession and bonfire on the Forest and an attempt to point out to people that cruise missiles are only a tiny percentage of the nuclear arsenals. Members of NCND also went down to Molesworth to witness the missiles being taken out of the base and to draw attention to the fact that the warheads are not actually being destroyed.

Other events in the year have been the national CND demo, at Aldermaston, which had a good turnout from Nottingham, including some people who joined in the march from London. The Peace Festival was well attended and did well financially, despite torrential rain. A very big thanks to the small number of people who organised it.

A need has been felt this year for more regular information and discussion meetings and this autumn has seen the first two monthly meetings being held and attracting reasonable audiences. Other meetings held during the year have been a joint one with Anti-apartheid, on Namibian uranium and a meeting spoken to by Meir Vanunu.

I'm sure I haven't included all the events or done justice to the really hard work that people have put in to make sure that Nottingham CND has kept going with a solid membership throughout the year. A lot of that work is unseen and unacknowledged, particularly on membership and by office volunteers and the officers would like to thank everyone for their time and effort.

CATHERINE WAKEMAN.

A BETTER READ FOR A BETTER WORLD

The peace movement today is about much more than simply opposing the bomb. It's a whole new politics of alliances with independence and human rights movements, aid and development organisations, women's groups, the greens, the anti-racist movement and the unions.

Analysis, imagination, outrage, perseverance, courage and humour: they're all part of the peace movement, and they're all in SANITY. Be informed and get involved - read SANITY.



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FEAR AND LOATHING

THAT LULLS YOU TO SLEEP

A report on the American presidential selection.

On November 9 of this year, the American people briefly awoke from their perpetual slumber to the fact that they had been involved in a campaign to select the leader of their country rather than a circus-like preference poll asking which television series they'd choose to watch. The people chose to extend the run of the current tragic sit-com in the White House with the same cast of liars with their hilarious statistical exaggerations and manipulated distortions that they choose to call an economy, a political process or a way of life.

What does it mean when a people selects a government that has consistently lied to them and broken the laws it was elected to uphold? What does it mean when a voting populace chooses an administration from which a large number of powerful figures have been indicted and convicted for numerous criminal offences and self-serving breaches of the public trust? What does it mean when a populace says it wants more of the same, after years of being so blatantly manipulated and lied to? Does it mean the people believe the lies or that they just prefer being lied to?

It's common knowledge that George Bush is so crooked he has to screw his trousers on in the morning, but that's just part of his good-ol'-boy charm and part of what it means to be politi-cally experienced.

But how much different would the world have been if, instead, the Democrats had been victorious? The last president from that party, Jimmy Carter, presented the image of a concerned and cautious politician who was not afraid to face his mistakes or compelled to hide them behind delegated coverups. The Carter administration probably supported as many brutal dictatorships and military juntas with American aid as did Reagan, but perhaps less vigorously. A fragile and paranoid national security requires the constant vigilance of military enforcement perpetually prepared to engage any perceived threats to the deified freedom to consume.

Sad, but they think it's true.

How difference would it have been if Dukakis had won instead of Bush? The Democrat's declared policy was to reduce the deficit with spending cuts in the budget and to stabilise defense spending at current levels (i.e. reduce public programs and maintain the military). While supporting the INF Treaty, he favoured the research into SDI but opposed its deployment (i.e. more money wasted on sabre rattling). Dukakis did oppose aid to the contras, police action in the Gulf and the

sale of arms to Iraq or Iran, but these differences in policy were not emphasized, probably because they appeared to be too liberal. A campaign with a real liberal Democrat would have stirred more social debate and offered a significant difference between the two parties - a difference which hasn't been seen in American presidential elections for a long time and may have appealed to many of the eligible who chose not to vote (over 45% stayed away). But liberal is still seen as a losing cause.

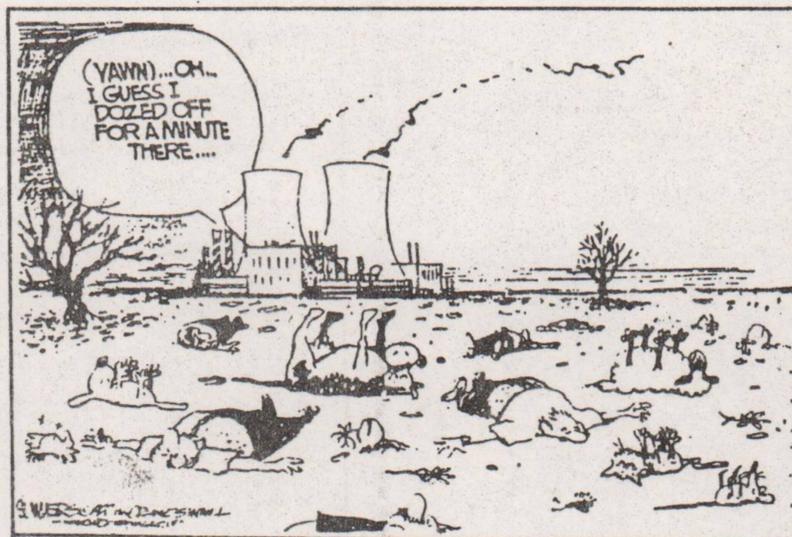
Instead, since the candidates' positions were so similar on most of the issues, the voters were subjected to the traditional campaign of hollow phrases and character assass-ination. The image of being a liberal was made to be more hated and despised in the public mind than the image of the dealers in death that are empowered, employed and supported by American money around the world. That's not to mention the outright crooks and fanatic military zealots, too numerous to mention and too secretive to see, running rampant in the White House itself. This picture is reminiscent of those drawn by Reagan of various Moslem fundamentalist governments and other "evil empires". Parables mentioning black kettles and glass houses would spring to mind if it were not so sadly tragic to think of how long and how successfully this massive hypocritical brainwashing has been going on.

And so, we witnessed the cross-country slanging match between the enraged but friendly "wimp" who didn't fight fair and the soft swaying "liberal" with the funny last name. All this was inflated by the media to such grandiose proportions of importance in order to convince the viewing public that this election had more relevance to their lives than did "Dallas" or "Dynasty".

America has long been successful at disguising the exploitive pursuit of its monied interest as being for the benefit of democracy and all freedom loving peoples. But then history is written, interpreted and justified by the victors: another way of saying "might makes right". The only thing that exceeds my horror at the cunning and guile of the lies and terrorist tactics used by the perpetrators of power politics under the guise of promoting peace and freedom, is my amazement at the gullibility of the governed populace that allows them to swallow unquestioningly those bare-faced lies.

Much of this should be familiar to the British reader and may sound similar to their own entrenched democratic process: a high-handed and self-righteous government elected by a small minority of the electorate; statistical exaggeration and distorted rhetoric used to create false impressions; paranoiac extra-legalities at home and abroad in the name of an ill-defined national security. The United States of America has learned well from its European colonial ancestors and is, in turn, instructing its former imperial mentors.

S. STEELE.



FOREST FIELDS PEACE GROUP



NEIGHBOURHOOD UPDATE

"To counteract the mis-information in the mass media" was the brief given to the F.F.P.G. Newsletter team early in 1987 and, with this in mind, more than one third of the membership has been actively involved in producing and distributing our own local update. More recently, due to the "cyclic decline in membership" theory, publication has become slightly haphazard, though the writer is pleased to report that a new edition will be available from early in December 1988. I mention this first because we consider the newsletter to be the lifeline of the group, by inviting members and supporters to submit articles, etc. and to help with production.

Despite having an N.C.N.D. membership of about four dozen, for the last year, and almost a hundred other members of F.F.P.G., we rarely have more than six to eight present at each monthly members' meeting (always held on the third Thursday of each month at 7.30 p.m. in the Forest Fields Neighbourhood Centre, 69 Wiverton Road). Through the newsletter system we have contact with most members and hopefully those potential members who buy the spare copies. So far we've a regular subscription for about 150 of each edition, leaving us with about the same number for sales.

Local "right on" business outlets and occasional Saturday morning selling sessions in Hyson Green provide us with the funds to keep producing.

From January '87, we've held what we call "Education Meetings" at the Neighbourhood Centre. Approximately every two months we've invited speakers to lead discussions, including, in March, John Gee from the London-based "Council for Arab-British Understanding" to talk on the "Palestinian Question" and, in May, Ken Fleet from Nottm's own "Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation" on "Disarmament Development and the U.N."

In the October edition of the NCND Bulletin, it was reported, in the opening lines of an article by our own P. Strauss, that "Four members of NCND took a dummy warhead to Molesworth on the day Cruise Missiles were flown home..." I think it's fair to point out that all those members were also F.F.P.G. which leads on to our part in National Demos. We organised and ran our own

coach from the Carlton Hotel (Noel Street) to Aldermaston in April "thereby eliminating the trek to and from the city" (Minutes: members' meeting, Jan. 21st. '88). This followed up an article by this writer in the May edition of NCND Bulletin.

Then, there was N.V.D.A at "U.S.A.F.", Upper Heyford on October 15th. F.F.P.G. again sent a sizable contingent, the three arrestees of the day being our members. These three were, happily, lightly dealt with last Friday by the local Oxfordshire magistrates with a £10 fine each for "resisting" arrest.

We've also helped with the staffing of the Listergate stall three times this year; in February, May and September, when the city's licensing policy has been in our favour.

The Group may have seemed to have had a conspicuous absence at the Peace Festival this year. Because of holidays and other commitments, we didn't follow up our "year of the water-melons" (1987) by booking a stall. Instead we agreed a donation of £20 from the Peace Group funds to the Festival and assisted NCND where appropriate throughout the day, despite the weather.

Our final claim in '88 to a "Mention in Dispatches" is our panache at mass leaflet drops. We can and have, three times this year, covered our catchment area - from Forest Road in the South to Sandon Street in the North, from Radford Road in the West to Sherwood Rise in the East - with "Aldermaston '77", "Disarm the Seas" and "More Nuclear Weapons on the Cards".

We shall be holding our A.G.M. at the Neighbourhood Centre on Thursday 15th December. A bring-and-share buffet with a little wine provided on a pay-as-you-drink scheme. All members and supporters welcome.

Until then, then, power to your elbows, Neighbourhood Groups!

ROD LANGFORD.

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As usual there cannot be a January edition (Christmas gets in the way).

NEXT BULLETIN DEADLINE: January 19th.

MORE PAIN FOR SERGEANT GUELL.

As if mention of his misdemeanours in last month's NCND Bulletin wasn't enough, Sgt. Guell has now had to suffer the indignity of exposure in the Guardian Diary.

We did, of course, sympathise with Sgt. Guell's plight, but we felt, in the circumstances, that the British public had a right to know and deserved a good laugh.

Photocopies of the notes of Sgt. Guell are winging around the country at this very moment - who knows where they will be seen next?

The spirit of Glasnost has reached British shores at last.

CAPTION COMPETITION.

Jeremy Jago just can't resist the caption competition and, for yet another month, his is the winning entry:

"I want the Coal Industry **THIS SIZE**".



Nor is Jeremy content with one entry, but is a runner-up, too! Who is going to challenge his stranglehold on the competition?

"Abra-cadabra..... Scotland disappear!"

And a rather last minute attempt by Cath Wakeman,

"Just wait till I get my hands on the NCND Bulletin Team."

Last minute attempt from The EEC wine lake yachting club.....

"Whoever it was will deny dropping that brick" just too late though, Ed.

