



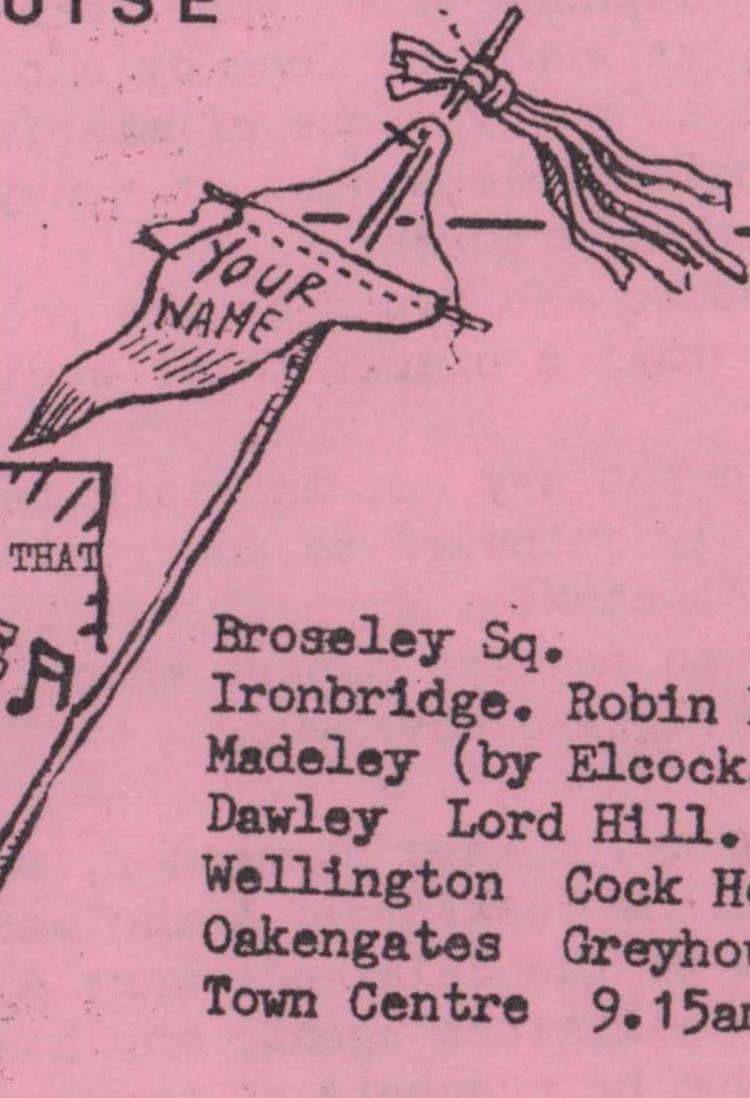
CHAIN REACTION

April 1985

No. 52

DEFEND MOLESWORTH

AGAINST CRUISE



"RINGING" THE SITE:
 WE ALL BRING SOMETHING THAT RINGS

Ring them as we move to site boundary - stop when we've planted our pennants.

6 foot cane →

- Broseley Sq. 8.30am.
- Ironbridge. Robin Hood. 8.35am
- Madeley (by Elcocks) 8.45am
- Dawley Lord Hill. 8.55am
- Wellington Cock Hotel. 9.00am
- Oakengates Greyhound. 9.10am
- Town Centre 9.15am.

'MAKE YOUR PRESENCE FELT' that's the call for this years Easter demo at Molesworth. Already groups and individuals from all over the country have visited the site to demonstrate their resistance to the siting of Cruise missiles;

TANG is organising a coach on Easter Monday to take part in the mass demonstration. Times & pickup points can be found above. Tickets cost £4.00 waged £2.00 unwaged. For more information contact - Laurens 54728. Maria, Telford 594842.

IF YOU SAY NO TO CRUISE COME TO MOLESWORTH.

Anniversary

A year ago, as this issue of Chain Reaction is being prepared, Hilda Murrell, a Quaker, active within the Shrewsbury Peace Group & the Shropshire Peace Alliance, was murdered.

There is now a total conflict of evidence as to what happened, in reports in both the Press & TV or Radio, so that these could report two completely different events. The police story was conveyed in the Crime Watch programme on March the 14th., which in a "reconstruction" said that:

the telephone wires were torn inexpertly from the fixture, as would be done by a casual thief;

there is no evidence of missing papers;

a considerable amount of money was stolen from Miss Murrell's purse;

the house was found by the police in the sort of disorder that a casual thief would have left.

Though it did not say so, in stark terms, this account was obviously intended to contradict Tam Dayell's account which said that Miss Murrell was suspected of having knowledge and perhaps papers which could reveal too much about the Belgrano cover-up.

She had a nephew, a Navy Commander, who was an intelligence officer, in the TaskForce, & who was disillusioned by what he saw of the Falklands war; & he Tam Dalyell has named an intelligence agent, who has since committed suicide, whom he suspects of involvement in the murder.

Accounts, emanating from non-police sources, & relayed, amongst other places, on HTV programmes have claimed; (though the police reconstruction said that British Telecom would confirm their account of the telephone;) that the telephone engineer involved says that a sophisticated method was used to make the telephone appear to outside callers to be in working order & ringing, but which would nevertheless render it impossible for Miss Murrell to ring out.

There are a number of discrepancies in the Crime Watch reconstruction:

Miss Murrell was driven - by a roundabout route, which involved taking a series of right-turns, one at least across traffic - (already battered) to a lonely wood, & only killed there. The police asked why a sneak thief, killing in order to avoid detection should have put her live into the car, initially driven towards the centre of town, with her visibly bruised and ill by his side; merely answered; - "We'll know that when we catch him".

The murderer is alleged to have come to Shrewsbury along the A 5, from the motorway, from the Birmingham conurbation, whether with his own car or hitching; & to have left hitching; no mention is made of what may or may not have happened to any car, & no consideration of whether a casual thief, going to a strange town (for his route to the wood is said to prove he did not know Shrewsbury) would go without transport to carry away his gains;

The Crime Wave pictures were not taken in Miss Murrell's house, but next door, as the former had been sold, & the police could no longer gain access; is it normal for police in the middle of an investigation to allow evidence to pass to where they no longer have access? or what pressing need over-rode normal police procedure here?

Miss Murrell's age has been variously given as 78 or 9. The Crime Watch & other police accounts talk of evidence of sexual activity & sperm ("which is altogether the most disturbing aspect of the case") suggesting perverse rape. Yet according to the reconstruction Miss Murrell was attacked at the top of the stairs & was then tied to the bannisters; she neither went, nor was taken, into the bedroom where the sperm, etc., were found.

Miss Murrell was & had long been a Quaker, an exponent of total non-violence. Yet this elderly woman faced with an young & healthy male is alleged to have fought desperately & with some success in a way that was almost calculated to provoke greater violence; to have been knocked out, to have regained consciousness in her car & immediately resumed the struggle, eventually causing a crash. Yet though the car passed people known to her at no time did she attempt to alert others to her danger.

That despite the fact that the police show that the draft of the Sizewell B report left in Miss Murrell's papers had been worked on that morning, there are witnesses who insist that the draft the police have produced was not the last, that it was being improved, & a new draft had been written & was almost complete, & that this was taken. Also it is stated that children saw papers on the back seat of the car, & that these were no longer present when the police went to the car.

That there was money left easily visible in the house, & Miss Murrell's purse was open with money in it, lying beside her bag, & was seen before the police moved into the house; and it is also alleged that at that stage there were no signs of disorder, & the effects of violence.

These direct conflicts of evidence are less significant perhaps than the omissions from the police account, - whether of comment on or denials of; -

there was the coincidence of a simultaneous break-in at a cottage owned by Miss Murrell in North Wales; a farmer reported having told the police that Miss Murrell's car, in which the murderer travelled with her & which crashed, was abandoned by the road; when they ignored the report he repeated it, but it was only after a third time that any investigation was made;

it is alleged that even when the car was identified the police did not then go to Miss Murrell's house, when they finally did they found the front door open, closed and locked it and went away, not going back for a further 24 hours.

before the murder neighbours saw a car driving slowly up & down outside her house.

There is also a conflict between an early and a late police account; originally Miss Murrell was alleged to have been attacked down stairs while she was unloading her shopping. In the reconstruction it was said that she heard something from upstairs, went up, & was tackled at the head of the stairs. Originally she was said to have tackled the intruder, subsequently that he knocked her out from behind.

It may not be entirely irrelevant that the Guardian reports that Judith Cook, who has been responsible for most of the research on the case for non-police based TV reports has found more than usual evidence of her post being searched. In one instance a package, very securely taped, and with more than one layer of paper, was nevertheless torn open, and (quite irrelevant) documents removed from inside.

The only thing that appears certain is that it is doubtful if we will ever know the truth of Hilda Murrell's death.

DEATH OF A ROSE - GROWER:

Who killed Hilda Murrell ?

By Graham Smith

Death of a Rose Grower is a fascinating real-life thriller in which the author brings together for the first time, all the available evidence so that readers can make up their own minds.

PRICE £2.50. Housmans , 5, Caledonian Road, London N19DX. tel 01 837 4473.

The rights of the citizen cannot be upheld when matters of national security are threatened—the government not the law decides when security is under threat. The courts must accept, albeit with reluctance, that the claims of executive power must take precedence over those of the individual.
(Lord Roskill, GCHQ Appeal)

PEACE RIBBON AROUND THE PENTAGON

On August 6th 1985, Women's Action for Nuclear Disarmament (WAND) will encircle the Pentagon with a Peace Ribbon, made of pieces of fabric from all over the USA and other countries. If your group would like to add a piece to the ribbon, it should be made

of muslin or equally sturdy fabric to a finished size of 18" x 36". The size of the finished artwork should be no bigger than 14" x 32". To strengthen the piece for assembly, machine stitch a 2" border on all four sides. Use this border to carry name, peace group and country. Send pieces to WAND, 440 Leroy Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14215, USA.



NEVER MIND THE TALKING

Can we all relax our protests now that the arms control talks between the Americans and the Soviet Union have started?

Consider the following :

- 1) No previous arms control talks have actually reduced the number of weapons. At best, they have slightly slowed the rate of increase.
- 2) President Reagan has said that any agreement is over 4 years away! Will he come up with something by 1988 when the next presidential elections are?
- 3) The talks are being held in secret.

This doesn't appear to be a good start. Also, the Soviets want an agreement covering all nuclear weapons, whereas the Americans seem to be interested only in the 'Star Wars' systems.

There is a more subtle factor. All the time that the Superpowers are talking in the years ahead, the 'Star Wars' research goes on. By the time the talking might come to an agreement, space warfare may be quite possible. It'll be too late to stop it. It's a case of technology galloping ahead of negotiation.

A recent example may illustrate the point. Compare the assumption that research into weapons leads to production of weapons with the Falklands War. The British Task Force set sail from Britain, giving three weeks for everyone to come up with a peaceful solution. We thought that time was quite adequate for the talking to succeed.

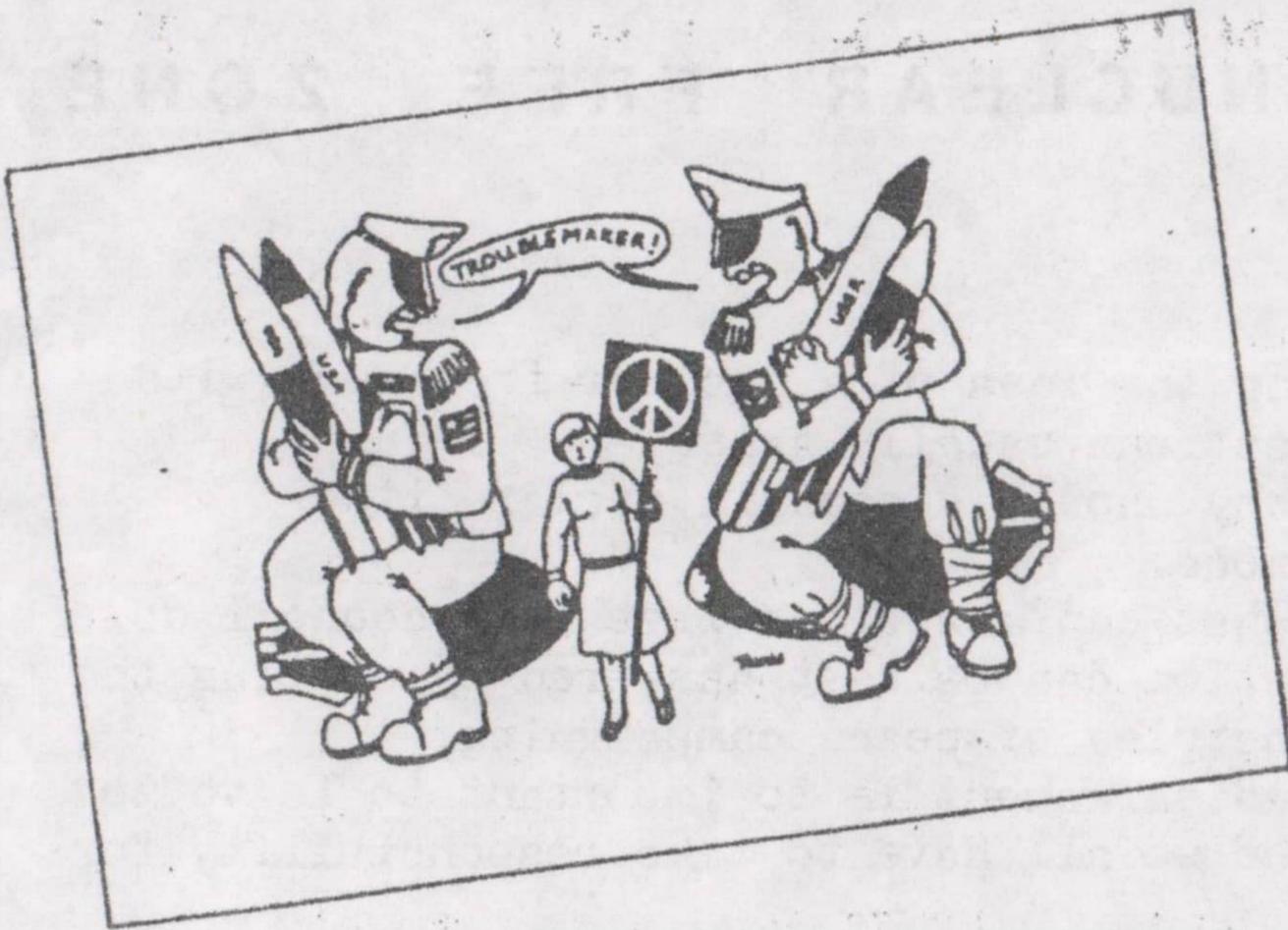
However, it is now acknowledged that a war was virtually inevitable from the start simply because the task force was on its way with a job to do.

Similarly, research on Star Wars will have built up its own momentum within a few years. By then it will be difficult for either side to stop its own anti-satellite weapons actually being made.

Indeed, the USA Assistant Defence Secretary, Richard Perle, said just before he left for the initial talks in Geneva :

" I don't agree that we and the Russians can compose our differences into a treaty."
In other words, he was saying that the talking was a smokescreen to hide the reality from a worried world.

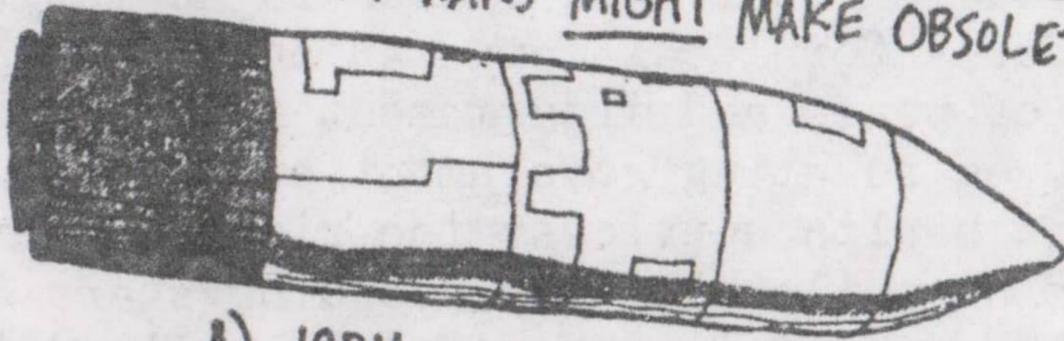
So the arms race goes onand on



Mrs Thatcher says she's prepared to push the button to fire our nuclear missiles. May I ask where she will be when she presses it? In a nuclear bunker sixty feet underground, I should imagine. Most of the population of Britain will be on the surface when it happens. That's food for thought, isn't it?"

(Anne, Greenham Common Woman)

DELIVERY SYSTEMS 'STAR WARS' MIGHT MAKE OBSOLETE.

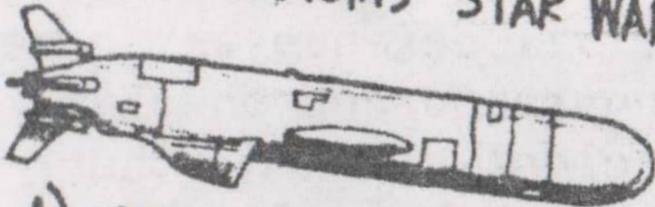


A) ICBMs

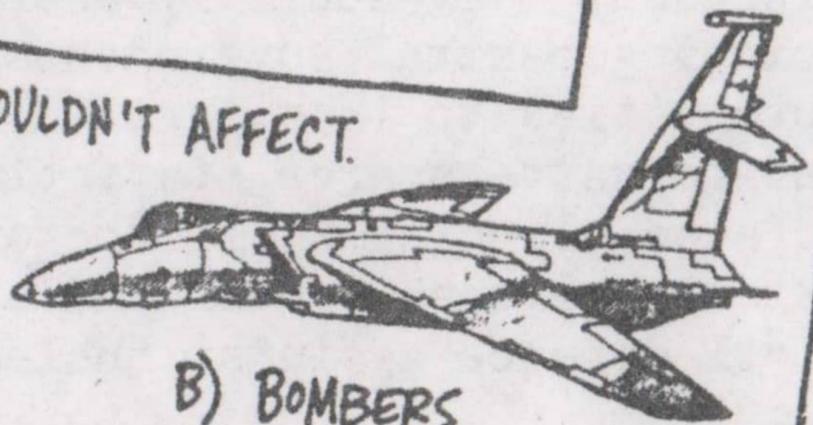
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AUTH

DELIVERY SYSTEMS 'STAR WARS' WOULDN'T AFFECT.



A) CRUISE MISSILES



B) BOMBERS



C) FEET

WHY A NUCLEAR FREE ZONE

When discussing the idea of a nuclear free zone with people two questions usually arise,

1. Why should a council declare itself a nuclear free zone.

2. What can a nuclear free zone council do.

The first question can be best answered by stating the two basic principles of peace campaigning,

(1) Nuclear disarmament is too important to leave to governments and we all have to take responsibility for what is done.

(2) We need to set achievable objectives which will lead step by step to disarmament.

The importance of involving the official representatives of local people - our councillors - in this task is clear. Councillors are charged with the health safety and well being of local people. It is important to make sure they are aware of the nuclear position and their responsibilities.

Seeking to persuade local authorities is an action which provides focus for local campaigning, it helps to draw the issues of peace and disarmament into peoples every day lives. eg relating government cuts in education and the health services, the rise in unemployment & ratecapping while military spending soars and military projects such as Trident (£11.5 billion) take precedent over socially useful projects. And by pin pointing central governments attempts to force local authorities to take part in civil defence war games and to waste scarce staff time and resources on civil defence planning while doctors, scientists and other experts have said over and over again that effective civil defence against nuclear attack is impossible.

WHAT CAN A NUCLEAR FREE ZONE COUNTY DO?

below are listed a few ideas.

* Refuse to pretend that civil defence can protect us against nuclear war.

- * Publicise the real effects of nuclear war.
- * Hold exhibitions, film shows & meetings.
- * Build friendship links with communities in other countries.
- * Give practical support to peace groups.
- * Encourage the expression of peace through music, plays, poetry, paintings, parks etc.
- * Take action against companies involved in nuclear weapons.
- * Introduce peace education in schools and colleges.
- * Pinpoint the transportation of nuclear materials & weapons through the county.
- * Examine & publicise research on arms conversion.

Chain Reaction over the next few months will be examining some of these ideas in more detail and how they may work if and when the county is declared a nuclear free zone.

Please note ; As a part of Shropshire Peace Alliance campaign a county wide petition will be launched on 23rd March.*

The petition reads,

We the undersigned, do not wish to have nuclear waste carried through Shropshire. Do not believe civil defence would help us survive a nuclear war, do not want nuclear targets including Cruise missile convoys in Shropshire. We therefore call upon the County Council to declare Shropshire a nuclear free zone.

* The N.F.Z workshop on March 23rd it was decided that a nuclear free resolution from Bedfordshire County Council is to be put forward at the first County Council meeting after the May 2nd elections. This means that all campaigning will need to start NOW. We need your support especially with the petition. The next TANG meeting on April 9th will give us chance to plan the local campaign. PLEASE BE THERE.

DIARY

Thursday 4th April - Joint public meeting of Telford Anti-nuclear Group & the Wrekin Anti-Apartheid Movement. The Elephant & Castle, 1, High St. Dawley; 7.30pm. see newsletter.

Monday 8th April - 'DEFEND MOLESWORTH AGAINST CRUISE' Easter demo. Coach from Telford please see newsletter.

Tuesday 9th April - TANG meeting, 7, Burton Close, Dawley. 7.30pm.

Saturday 13th April - Airland battle. West Mid CND day school. see newsletter.

Tuesday 16th April - A talk by Ann Pettitt on the UK trust builders. Elephant & Castle Dawley. 7.30pm.

Tuesday 23rd April - Chain Reaction meeting, Dawley Information Centre. 7.30pm.

BROOKLANDS ANTI-NUCLEAR GROUP.

10th April - BANG meeting, 30, Stokesay Road. 7.30

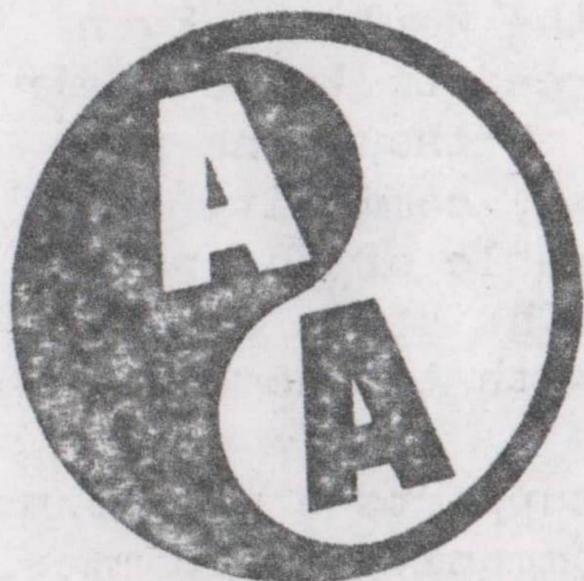
20th April - BANG social evening, @ Fighting Cocks Oakengates, 7.00 - 11.00; band from Shrewsbury, free, (collection for band)

24th April, BANG meeting, @ 30, Stokesay rd. 7.30

Ex South African Prison in Telford

Mr David Kitson, having spent 20 years in jail, speaks on his experiences at Dawley Town Hall; at 7.30 P.M., Friday, 29th. March.

Other speakers include the Bishop of Shrewsbury & Cllr. Phil Davis.

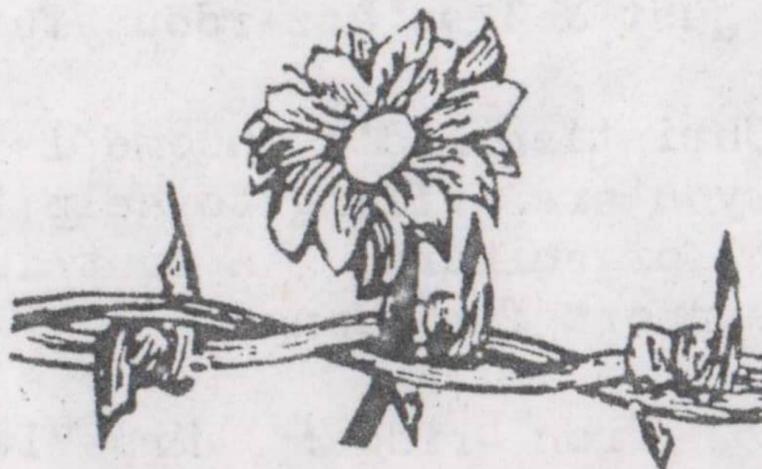


Namibian Uranium in Telford

Mr Michael Shrimpton of the Campaign Against Namibian Uranium Contracts is guest speaker at a joint public meeting of Telford Anti-Nuclear Group & the Wrekin Anti-Apartheid Movement.

Hear how apartheid S. Africa is linked to nuclear weapons via Namibian uranium.

The Elephant & Castle, 1 High St., Dawley; 7.30 P.M.; Thursday 4th April.



April 16th - Ann Pettitt one of the group that initiated the march from South Wales to Greenham Common and founded the peace camp there- will be talking to TANG about Trustbuilders, the western support group for the unofficial Moscow peace movement, The Group of Trust.

Ann has visited the Group of Trust in Moscow.

see diary

Christian Aid



PO Box No 1 London SW9 8BH

Telephone: 01-733 5500

May 13-18

Whether victims of drought, war or oppression, there are now an estimated 15 million refugees in the world. Even greater numbers of migrants have been forced to leave their homes in search of water, land or work. Without the protection of a home, be it shack or tenement, community or country, these people are the most vulnerable of the poor. Their needs are the focus of this year's Christian Aid Week whose campaign theme is "Charity begins with the homeless".

Across the Third World, Christian Aid supports a wide range of health, education, agricultural and community programmes, including slum improvement schemes, refugee resettlement projects, & rehabilitation programmes for victims of drought & flood.

But despite - indeed because of - the tragedy of famine, drought and civil war, charity does not stop at short-term emergency relief. Rather, it is long-term development aid which ensures that the poor, deprived and exiled can help themselves to create the home & community they need as a base for a more just & less hazardous future.

Much of Christian Aid's income is raised during this one week. If you are willing to help then please contact one of the local organizers. A contribution however slight is positive support for change.

Iron Bridge:	Mrs Vivian Norgrove, "Buckfast", Doseley Rd., Dawley;
Oakengates:	Mrs Sylvia Bailey, 18 Stable Row, Priorslee Village;
Wellington:	Mrs Shirley Jones, 1 Herbert Ave.;
Central Telford:	Rev. Peter Clay, 9 Chiltern Gdns., Dawley;
Hadley:	Robert Saunders, 24 Glastone Ho., High St.

Robert.

AIRLAND BATTLE: NATO's war plan for Europe

WEST MIDLANDS CND REGIONAL DAY SCHOOL

"Airland Battle", "Follow On Force Attack" and "first strike" are terms which probably mean very little even to people active in the peace and labour movements. But behind the mysterious jargon the NATO armed forces are being trained and equipped with strategies and weapons which blur the distinctions between nuclear, conventional and chemical warfare and make nuclear war more likely.

This day school aims to help people in the peace movement, trade unions and political parties (and all others interested) to clarify the nature of US and NATO war policies, and look at the implications for British foreign policy and NATO membership in particular.

speakers

JOY HURCOMBE

Vice-Chair CND; Chair, Labour CND

CYNTHIA ROBERTS

Co-author, 'Europe - First Continent of Lasting Peace'
and 'How to Secure Peace in Europe'

Digbeth Civic Hall, Birmingham

Saturday 13th April, 10.00 to 4.30

Registration Fee £1. Creche available if booked by March 23rd.

For booking contact,

Charles Godden, 60 Rectory Drive, Exhall,
nr. Coventry. Tel Bedworth 311033.

M.I.5 & C.N.D

The Channel 4 documentary on M.I.5 secrets confirmed reports from CND members that phone tapping and other surveillance techniques have been used (and are probably still being used) on members of the peace movement.

CND was removed from M.I.5s subversive lists some ten years ago and as such it is illegal under M.I.5s charter to implement surveillance on anyone who is not both a "threat to the safety of the state" and seeking "to overthrow Parliamentary democracy".

Cathy Massiter who worked for M.I.5 for 14 years alleges that regional special branches hold several thousand files on CND members around the country while M.I.5 itself holds several hundred files on non-subversive members of CND. Already believed to have files on them are CND Chairwomen Joan Ruddock, Vice Chairman Roger Spiller, Treasurer, Cathy Ashton also Christian CND organiser Barbara Eggelston is believed to have had her phone tapped and her personal mail (bank statements) interfered with. It also seems that West Midlands CND has also suffered interference when during a visit by Bruce Kent in February to Birmingham it was found that the protective rubber casing of the five telephone lines from the building had been ripped from the telegraph pole and CNDs line had been severed. Interference with telephone trees during Cruise convoy exercises is now well documented and reflects the ability of the government to put into practice the Telephone preference scheme that will become operational in the lead up to nuclear conflict.

M.I.5 is a very powerful very conservative and completely unaccountable the only information released to ministers is on "a need to know basis".

CND is very interested in hearing from anybody who feels that either their telephones or post is being tampered with, Contact, Sarah Pepper, CND, 11, Goodwin Street, London n4 3hq

CALLING ALL CHRISTIANS!

The Bishop of Peterborough is on the verge of selling a portion of land to the MoD adjacent to the Molesworth nuclear base.

The army has also encircled the peace chapel (recently blessed by the Bishop of Huntingdon) with a razor-wire fence, thus making it impossible to worship there.

Please write to your local vicar/bishop to complain about both these issues and ask them to bring it up at all levels of discussion.

ACTION!

CHEMICAL & BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

A briefing just received from Elizabeth Sigmund, Co-ordinator of the Working Party on Chemical & Biological Weapons (CBW) points out that binary nerve gas weapons are again being discussed in Congress in the USA. Some questions that you could ask of your MP, the MoD include:—

1. Will HM Government be making sites available for the storage of binary nerve gas in the UK?
2. Will Britain be willing to make precursors for binary weapons?
3. What US & MoD contracts on CBW exist at present in British universities, hospitals or other scientific institutions?



CRUISE IS OUT— GIVE US A SHOUT!

The MoD's aim in regularly bringing Cruise out of Greenham Common is to make them no longer a matter of public concern. One way that we can ensure that the MoD know of *our* concern is to ring them up. The person answering your call will ask your name and, normally, refuse to give theirs. All calls are noted down (as examples of legitimate peaceful campaigning, rather than subversive activities surely!).

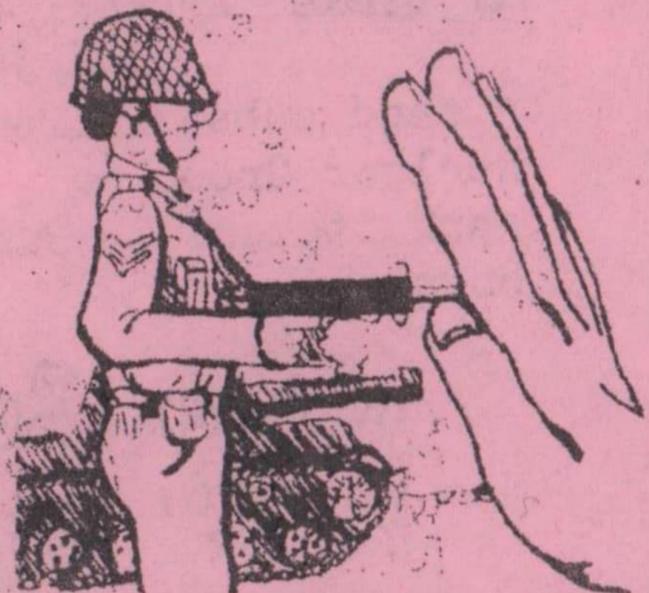
Contact:

MoD Whitehall, London SW1.

01-218 9000

US Embassy, Grosvenor Square,
London W1.

01-499 9000



JOIN TELFORD ANTI

NUCLEAR GROUP

I would like to join TANG. Please find enclosed
my subscription; £3.00 waged *
£1.50 unwaged

I understand I will now be put on the mailing
list for 'Chain Reaction', the newsletter of
TANG.

.....
BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE

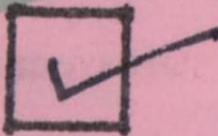
NAME.....

ADDRESS.....
.....
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TEL.

signed

Date



If ticked subscription due

* send subscriptions payable to Telford Anti-
Nuclear Group to
Mark Stokes, 7, Burton Close, Dawley, Telford
Shropshire.

WHAT WE CANT
DO ALONE
WE CAN DO
TOGETHER

