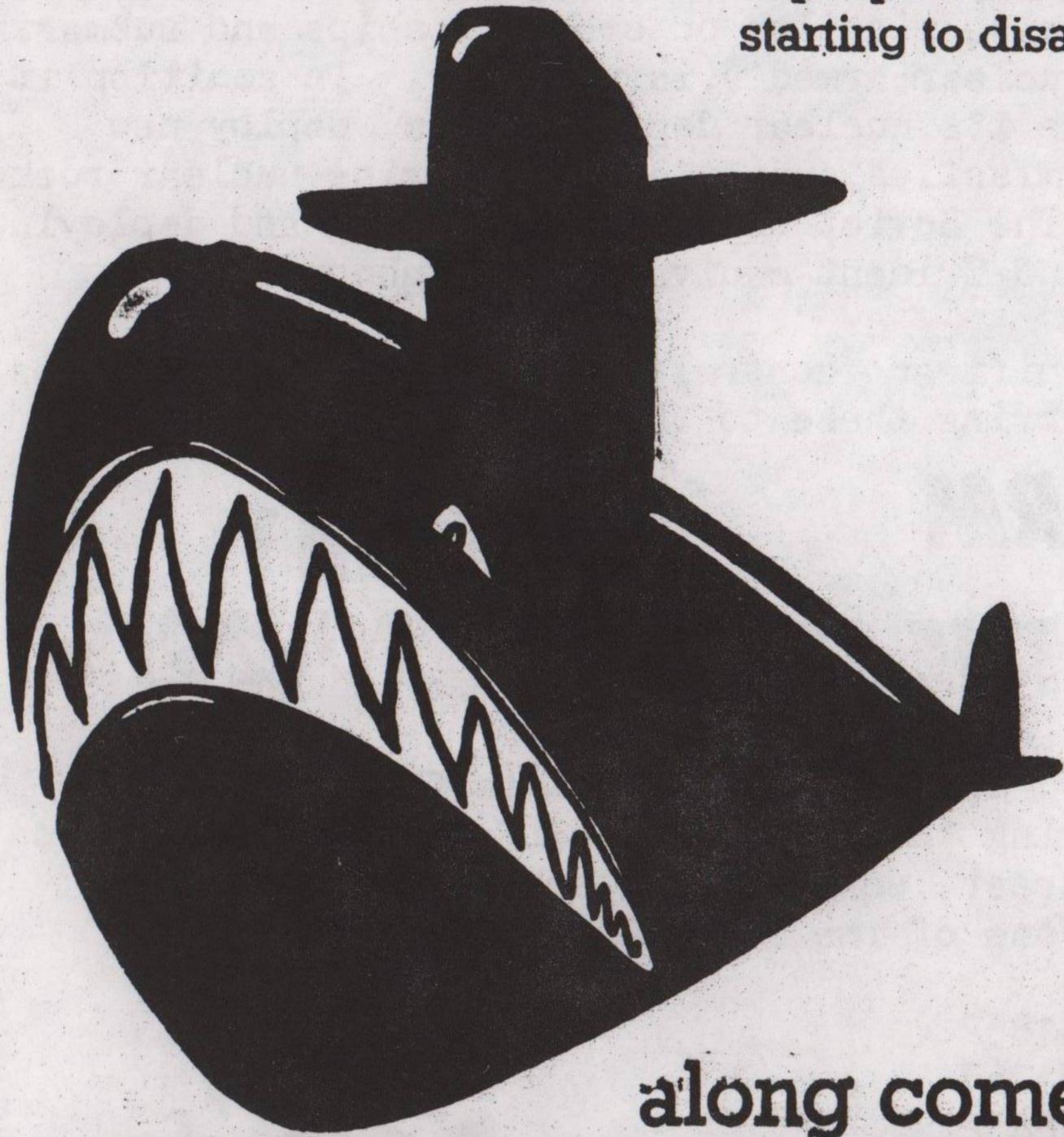




MAY

NO. 87

Just when you  
 thought the world  
 was getting safer ...  
 Just when the  
 superpowers are  
 starting to disarm ...



along comes

**TRIDENT**

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DISARM THE SEAS WEEK

MAY 20TH - 29TH

Peace movements in the North Atlantic and the Pacific have declared May 22nd - 30th ' Disarm the Seas ' week. CND is participating in this week of protest and action against the arms race at sea.

While the INF agreement seeks to reduce medium range nuclear forces there is a massive build-up of nuclear arsenals taking place at sea. Britains purchase of the Trident weapons system will increase its capacity from 128 warheads to up to 512. The U.S. is deploying nearly 5000 Trident warheads by the year 2000, and a programme to deploy 4000 sea launched cruise missiles on over 150 ships and submarines ( 758 will be nuclear armed ) is underway. In addition it plans to up-date its nuclear depth charges, deploy new surface to air missiles and an anti-submarine nuclear rocket in the 1990s. The Soviet Union is developing and deploying its own SLCMs and Trident equivalent ( Typhoon ).

There is no significant control on naval nuclear armaments, and no move to bring these to the negotiating table.

**DISARM**

**THE SEAS**

**MAY**

**20-29th**

TANG has ordered 2,000 Trident leaflets for door to door leafletting during the week, YOUR HELP IS NEEDED. Can you leaflet your street, workplace or school. If you can please contact one of the following

Laurens	641852
Mark	501263
Barbara	598452
John	587947



## Prisoners of Peace

Following last month's *CHAIN REACTION* article we will be publishing some names each month of people who have been imprisoned for their actions in the cause of peace. We are sure that your letters would be very much appreciated should you feel able to write.

### **Nikolai Kisilichak**

c/o 265410, obl. Rovenskaya, Berezovskly rayon, st. Malinsk (parents). Religious conscientious objector, arrested in 1986. Not to be released before 1989. USSR.

### **Enn Tapto**

c/o 202400, Estonian SSR, g. Tartu, ul. Anne 20, kv. 7 (wife). Arrested in 1986, sentenced to 10 years' camp and 5 years' internal exile for circulating appeals to make the Baltic republics Nuclear-Free Zones. USSR.

### **Helen Woodson**

141242, M.C.F. Shakopee, Box 7 Shakopee, Minnesota 55379. Plowshares activist imprisoned until 11 November 1996. USA.

#### **WHEN WRITING AND SENDING CARDS**

- \* If you don't know a prisoner's address, send the card c/o the relevant embassy in your country and ask them to forward it;
- \* Write names and addresses clearly and in capital letters on envelopes;
- \* Include your own name and address;
- \* Send your card in an envelope;
- \* Don't add extra messages on cards going to Eastern Europe or South Africa but just sign them;
- \* If a card is returned, please do not send it to the WRI but to the relevant Ambassador with a request that he/she forward it.



## DIARY

- Mon. 2nd May                      May Day March and Rally.  
10.00 am.                              Cordingley Hall, Donnington.
- Weds. 4th May                      TANG business meeting  
7.30 pm.                                16 Linley Drive, Stirchley Park.  
All very welcome.
- Weds. 11th May                      Wrekin Anti-Apartheid Movement.  
7.30 pm.                                Public Meeting- see insert.  
Malinslee House
- Fri. 13th May                        Fashion show to launch Traidcraft clothing  
7.45 pm                                catalogue. St. Michael's, Church St.,  
Madeley  
Also launch of Kairos SA, Midlands Christian  
Action for South Africa.
- Weds. 18th May                      Chain Reaction meeting.  
7.30 pm.                                2 Attingham Close, Holmer Lake.
- Fri. 27th May                        One World Group Meeting.  
7.30 pm.                                23 Saxon Court , Leegomery  
**ALL VERY WELCOME**
- Weds. 8 th June                      TANG Meeting .  
7.30 pm.                                6, Myford Cottages , Horsehay.  
**Note temporary change of venue.**

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Articles, letters etc. are always welcome. These may be typed to fit into our page directly, typed roughly, or hand written legibly. Please send or give to any of the following:

Mark Stokes,	7 Burton Close, Dawley.	Tel: 501263
Tot Dawes,	6 Myford Cottages , Horsehay.	Tel: 507040
Stephen Cupitt,	258 Burford, Brookside.	Tel: 594825
Laurens Otter,	College Farm House, Mill Lane, Wellington.	Tel: 641852

**Deadline for next issue:      18th May**

## BIKO

When Cry Freedom was filmed there was a bitter exchange in the columns of the Guardian and elsewhere with denunciations that this Anti-Apartheid film had been made by breaking the boycott of South Africa.

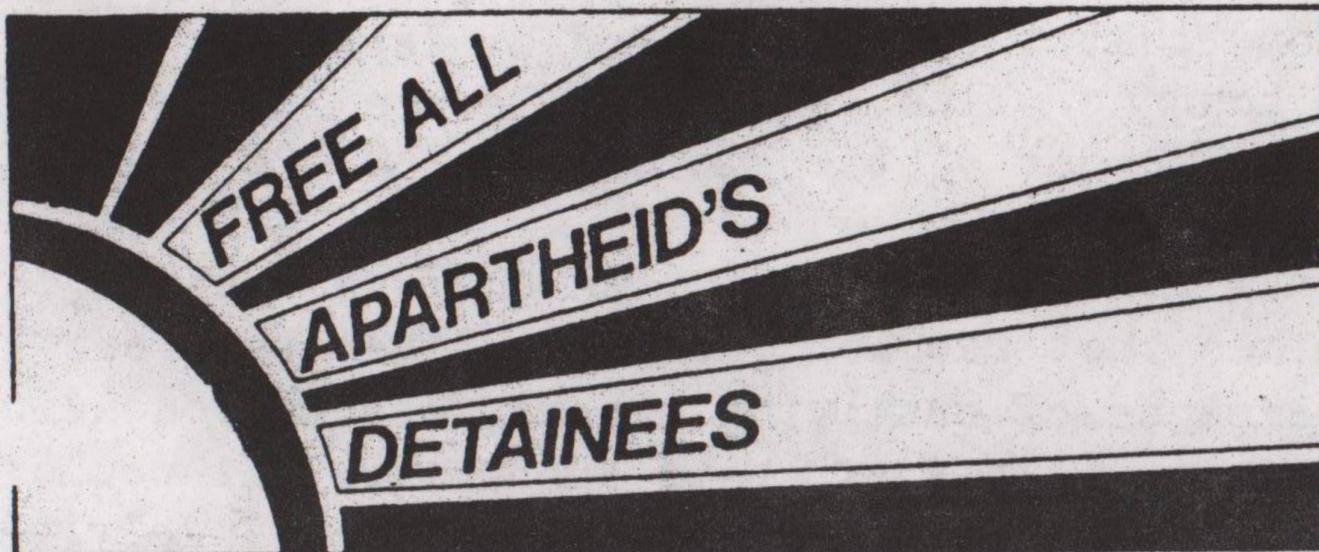
Those who filmed it replying that they had been asked by Africans active in the resistance to Apartheid to go and film, had done so at considerable personal risk, that leading British personnel had forgone personal payment and advantage, and that they had made what they believe to be a film that will spread the anti-apartheid message.

Since then the Anti-Apartheid Movement has more or less confined itself to saying that the film is sentimental.

It has now been shown in Bridgnorth and Shrewsbury, and may sometime be shown in Wellington. It would be hard to see how it can be regarded as less than a very moving account of conditions in South Africa; hard to see in what way it differs from other films made there illegally.

It could be criticised for giving too much of Donald Woods and too little of Steve Biko. But Biko's message that African liberation is not just a matter of assimilation as second class whites, but it must be based on respect for the African heritage comes over clearly. Indeed remembering that AAM didn't back Biko alive, one wonders if the criticisms are purely that he was seen as a rival.

*Laurens Otter*



## Peshwa

Just after Passover as Chaim Bermant put it in The Observer the Jews become a nation of ramblers. Despite the reasoned & compassionate account of the tragedy when a party of such sparked off a stone-throwing riot, which in turn sparked off shooting and deaths, various significant factors in the incident remain unexplained in conventional reports.

The fact that a party of ramblers should just happen to have with them two armed bodyguards might be put down to an unfortunate necessity because of the "barbarity" of the PLO. Though even then would a ramble under such conditions really be the example of nature-loving, good exercise-gaining recreation it has been painted?

But some may have noticed the photograph, published a little while ago in the Guardian, showing the ramblers a little before the stone throwing started. May have noted that the walkers were not in single, double or even treble file, but were in stead, spread out trampling across a field of crops.

Perhaps only someone used to the discipline of a British Ramblers' Association would immediately notice that. But if one adds that the exile Israeli Leftist paper Khamsin has said in the past that it is a frequent tactic of the Gush Emunim settlers in the Occupied territories to trample down the crops of those East Bank Palestinians who remain to cultivate their lands, as a means of forcing them out, then the stone throwing is perhaps explained.

There has been an outcry in Israel, even though the Israeli girl who died was shot by the bodyguard, that because of the shooting all the Palestinians should be evicted. Bermant reports that the editor of the Labour Party paper has received a mass of letters supporting just such a policy. It is obvious that the popular mood in Israel is hardening for an even tougher line. Few people are likely to deplore the Mossad murder of the 2ic of the PLO.

The original passover liberated an enslaved people, it is a pity to see that people, once more liberated, but liberated at the expense of enslaving others, use the occasion to tighten the manacles of their subjects. It would be bad even if the Holy Land were not an all too likely place for WWII to start.

## Not the Lady!!!!

First they came for .....

The imminence of the vicious new legislation (clause 28 of the Local Government Bill) making illegal any sponsorship which might be said to promote homosexuality, brought together in Shrewsbury representatives of a number of organizations, under the auspices of the Organisation for Lesbian and Gay Action.

Chaired by Dr Alex Brown of the Shropshire Lesbian & Gay Switchboard, there were six speakers: Graham Bould representing the Labour Party; Geoff Hardy the Greens ; Robert Hutcheson the Democrats; Philip King of National OLGA ; The Lichfield Diocesan Youth Officer; Rose Hardy of the local advice service for parents, siblings and neighbours of gays & lesbians.

There was a fair sized audience , though two members thereof , Col. Richey & a friend, probably came under the impression that it was a meeting of Lady Olga's.

King, the first speaker , dwelt on the uncertain meaning of promote ; Hutcheson on the illiberal & nonsensical impact on the arts , he also used the well known quotation from Pastor Niemoller as above; Geoff spoke both personally as a gay and as the representative of a party totally opposed to the legislation; Graham , while admitting that Labour was originally divided on the issue, saw it personally as a matter of basic solidarity. The chair stated that she had been aware of being lesbian for about 6 years and that she had started the switchboard when she became aware that there were others needing the support of people with her and similar experience ; we were told that the Bishops of both Shrewsbury & Lichfield were worried and found the bill obnoxious , so wanted support expressed, - "churches are often not good at handling sexuality, let alone homosexuality", "if we are not allowed to talk about the development of human personality,.....I would consider this suppression, not merely of people but suppression of truth", "obstruction of our understanding of what it means to be a member of society" ; Rose movingly described both the need for her group and its functioning.

....continued

Thrown open to the floor , the first speaker was Andy Brown, it is perhaps a tribute to his ingenuity that he managed to work in all the usual SWP cliches and still remain relevant; if only his three comrades who subsequently intervened had contrived as well! Of the five others who managed to speak from the floor , one spoke movingly of his experience when homosexuality first became legal; one had a proposal for activity - denuding libraries of remotely gay related books;- one saw this as dangerously akin to book burning; and one made a pertinent enquiry as to how this would effect the education of the mentally handicapped.

Before the meeting application forms had been circulated for supporting membership of OLGA, (that is people not taking up active membership , regardless of their sexuality), but, as the subscription was £4.00 a month, I don't think there was a rush amongst the TANG members present to join, and few members of the audience looked that much more affluent. Except of course Col. Richey and his friend, who had distressed some people present by allegedly spending their time giggling at the back.

Contact address:

Organisation for Lesbian and Gay Action,  
PO Box 147,  
London SE15 35A. Tel: 01 833 3860

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**OH NO. NOT AGAIN!!!**

As we go to the printers the national and local newspapers contain reports of ANOTHER Donnington fire.

Let us hope that the calls for a full public enquiry are heeded and that it is not left to us to conduct a community enquiry as we did last time.

We welcome the fact that this time the presence of asbestos in the roof was acknowledged speedily and appropriate clean-up measures were taken by Wrekin District Council.

We wonder how great the potential hazard was , i.e. what radioactive materials are stored there and how safely?

## The 'Nightmare in Paradise' is no dream!

The other Thursday I went to the public meeting, 'Nightmare in Paradise', held at the Environmental Action Centre in St. Georges. Sadly the attendance was rather low for such a powerful and complacency-shattering talk and slide show.

Our guest speaker, Penny Strange, from Oswestry Women's Peace Group ran the tape/slide show which really brought home some little known facts about life (and death) in the Pacific area.

Since the first nuclear explosion there have been some 250 more, either in the atmosphere, on the surface or underground. To facilitate the progress of nuclear weapon technology the local people of the islands have been shunted around, have lost their traditional homes, lifestyle and culture as the American way of life barged in.

The USA clearly ignored its responsibilities as the guarantor of the Strategic Trust Territory, set up after the second world war. It wilfully used the Pacific Islands and people in its nuclear experiments. Yet the USA is not alone- Britain and France have also carried out tests in the Pacific area, with France continuing to do so. Japan proposes to dump nuclear waste in the Pacific Ocean.

As brothers and sisters of the Pacific peoples we are obliged to listen to them when they ask for our support.

We can write letters to the press, to the government, and to M.P.s as and when the need arises.

British companies are also deserving of our attention, such as B.P. which is involved in the Roxby Downs uranium mining operation in Australia.

The good news is Belau's dogged retention of its nuclear free constitution and New Zealand's stand against US pressure. Perhaps these examples will spur us on.

ROBERT SAUNDERS

## ANTI-NUCLEAR CHEQUEBOOKS

CANE (Consumers Against Nuclear Energy) have produced Anti-nuclearcheque books which can be used for paying electricity bills or payments to other organisations involved in the nuclear power industry. They cost 50p and contain four cheques.

Although the cheques are quite valid legally, they cannot be processed automatically so they cause more work for the recipient and their bank and are also seen by more people.

The wording on them is:

This ANTI\_NUCLEAR CHEQUE is a protest against the contribution that I am forced to make to the nuclear programme - to which I am totally opposed.

I paid my last electricity bill with one of these cheques at the M.E.B. in Telford where it was received without protest (though with some surprise!)

CANE also has a Withholding Campaign which involves sending to them a symbolic proportion of each electricity bill.

CANE will hold it in trust for you until you require it and denote the interest to alternative energy research.

More details (and chequebooks) from:

Consumers Against Nuclear Energy,

P.O. Box 697,

London,

NW1 8YQ

BARBARA LAMPLUGH



Those who were on the Aldermaston Demo will have seen TANG's new banner . The attractive banner which bears the Telford Anti-Nuclear Group's symbol was made by Chris Nias. Our thanks go to her for all her hard work.



### Aldermaston March 1988

Over the Easter holiday nine people from Telford joined over a thousand other people on the London to Aldermaston march. The march , which took three and a half days to complete , ended with a demonstration at the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment on Easter Monday. An estimated 30,000 people attended the demonstration including forty people from Telford.

A full report on the London to Aldermaston experience will be included in next month's Chain Reaction. Our thanks go to those who returned their peace symbols (& contributions) to us.

In addition Laurens joined the Llanishen to Aldermaston walk which covered a distance of 100 miles. If you would like to sponsor his efforts it is not too late to send a contribution to TANG.

MAKE SURE OF YOUR NEXT  
COPY OF  
CHAIN REACTION

I would like to be put on the mailing list for chain reaction. Please find enclosed my subscription for the next year's issues:

Waged £3.00

Unwaged £1.50

I have no objection to my name and address being stored on a computer purely for the purposes of addressing chain reaction to me.

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Tel .....

Signed .....

Date .....

Please send subscription payable to Telford Anti Nuclear Group to:

Laurens Otter, College Farm House, Mill Lane,  
Wellington, Telford, Shropshire.

