



AUGUST  
 SEPTEMBER 1988  
 NO. 89



" AN INDIVIDUAL HAS NOT STARTED LIVING UNTIL HE  
 CAN RISE ABOVE THE NARROW CONFINES OF HIS  
 INDIVIDUALISTIC CONCERNS TO THE BROADER CONCERNS  
 OF ALL HUMANITY."

Martin Luther King

核子  
 和平  
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 第一  
 号

## MAKE YOUR MARK FOR PEACE

WHILE THE SUPERPOWERS are talking about scrapping more nuclear weapons, Thatcher is planning to bring in new ones. These will include the £10 billion Trident nuclear submarines, air-launched 'stand-off' missiles and sea-launched cruise missiles.

IT IS TIME people in Britain found out about our Government's plans. This autumn CND will be campaigning in the streets throughout Britain and holding demonstrations on October 15th at three of the bases likely to get these new weapons, Faslane, Upper Heyford and Portsmouth.

OCTOBER 15TH is the day the West German peace movement will also hold a mass demonstration at the site of a new NATO command centre for nuclear war-fighting. The strength of public feeling there has forced even the conservative government to oppose the new nuclear weapons.

JOIN US ON OCTOBER 15TH. 'Make your mark' for peace at the bases by decorating the fence, planting trees and bulbs, or simply by being there. Affinity groups are making their own plans for non-violent direct action within the overall theme of the day.

Our nearest action is at:

### **Upper Heyford**

Upper Heyford, Oxfordshire, is one of the sites at which new nuclear capable F1-11 planes or their replacement look like being sited. The demonstration is planned to last from 12noon to 4pm. People are being asked to spread around the perimeter of the base, there is access to the fence for most of its length. No blockades are being organised because there is little traffic in and out of the base at the weekend. The demonstration will concentrate on the operational rather than the residential side of the base. Many of the gates will have different themes. There will be a youth gate, a women's gate and a Christian gate. Some of the gates are being allocated geographically- Oxfordshire and South Wales are already planning their activities.

People are intending to 'make their mark' for peace both inside and outside the base. Outside people will decorate the fence and plant bulbs. What happens inside will be left to the imagination!

A central marquee near to the base will serve as an information point and creche. Transportation from Oxford to the base is being arranged with a shuttle service in operation throughout the day. There will be an affinity group training day on Sat. September 3rd at Blackfriars, St. Giles St., Oxford.

Contact for the action: Oxford CND, 34 Cowley Rd, Oxford .  
Tel: (0869) 726441.

## Is TANG at a Crossroads?

I read the article, 'Should we change our name?', in the June/July issue, with much interest and concern. It is time to assess the group's strengths and weaknesses and the role members wish the group to play in the the life of Telford and its people.

For several months now, I believe, individuals within TANG had been giving thought to the value of the group and the degree of commitment they were prepared to offer as individuals. This appears to have happened independently and members expressed their concern at a business meeting several months ago now.

I beleive that not only is a change of name required but also a thorough examination of our local objectives and strategy to attain them. Given the physical lack of the 1980 version of the constitution the approaching AGM will be the ideal venue to discuss the possibilities and begin the drafting of a fresh constitution. With an agreed strategy and objectives a new name can be decided on.

The active members of TANG , and those closest to the group , have a wide variety of concerns which I believe need to be expressed through the activities of the group. Not surprisingly there is much common interest between members on areas such as nuclear weapons, nuclear power, apartheid, racism, ecology, human rights, Third World issues, and others. I believe these need to be reflected in our activities and our newsletter

Between now and the AGM I propose that a debate be conducted through the pages of Chain Reaction and at general meetings of TANG to clarify the options and preferences people have. The AGM can then debate these with a fuller contribution from TANG's wider membership, and decisions can be made.

I believe TANG is at a crossroads and that we need to make the decision on our future path after much thought, debate and reflection.

ROBERT SAUNDERS

## Time tells - or does it?

When the Second Wave of CND began - as the shock of first Callaghan & then Thatcher showed people how flimsy had been the supposed gains, after the first - two CND characteristics particularly annoyed opponents.

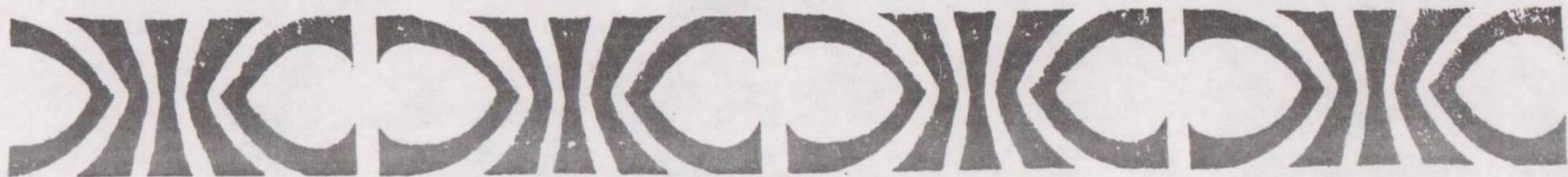
Our claim that Cruise was provocative & more likely to cause war, that it was less scientifically perfect than it was claimed and could well cause as much harm to friends as to any supposed enemies, annoyed all established military authorities.

Our insistence on non-alignment, and the readiness of groups like END to contact Warsaw Pact dissidents, similarly annoyed the Soviet "Peace" Committee & its Western representatives.

It ought therefore to be gratifying that CND has since won both arguments. NATO as it agrees to withdraw Cruise, now admits that it has engineering faults, implicitly admits it was a first strike weapon. Glasnost & Perestroika involve the admission that the Warsaw Pact dissidents were not the agents of the Pentagon, that the Soviet "Peace" Committee used to call them.

Unfortunately there is abundant evidence that INF is merely serving to allow NATO to update and replace Cruise by something even more deadly.

And, while we might concede that Gorbachov's reforms are somewhat more genuine than INF, it is already clear that the critique of Stalin will need to go far further than Krushchev or Gorbachov have gone, if the Soviet Union is really to restore the power of the soviets; & that is hardly likely to happen while Soviet leaders are expressing admiration for Thatcher.



## LETTER TO THE EDITORS

Dear Editors,

I was pleased to read about TANG's basic policy document and that the core of members who keep TANG going & perform a valuable service for supporters, sympathisers, & the general public, was reconsidering its role in Telford, as reported in June/July 'Chain Reaction'.

For some time I have thought TANG should stress even more strongly the insidious & distorting effects that the nuclear power industry & the possession of nuclear weapons have on the civil freedoms, the rights of citizens, & on the healthy psychological balance of people & their total environment. No small task.

However, if the scope is too wide it will lack focus. Politics is a specialised 'game' which suits some people but looks increasingly peripheral to the real movements and changes taking place in social consciousness. Perhaps TANG should try to reflect more issues that affect everyone, which are at bottom 'environmental' in its widest sense.

So I suppose I am suggesting a return to the basic constitution in more positive and non-political terms. There is certainly a need for an umbrella organisation. Is it wasteful of active people's energies to have both Chain Reaction & Telford One World Group newsletters? The overriding concern is : How do we reach a much bigger public with a fresh profile? If we can't, is it time for TANG to announce publicly, with resounding reasons, its retirement?

Speaking personally I would prefer TANG to drop its formal connection with CND, & become a group liaising with Friends of the Earth, with local environmental groups, anti-nuclear campaigners, & groups practising non-violence.

The only name the Hortons can conjure up is 'Telford Environmental Action Movement' (TEAM for short). This sets before people the positive objectives. Any refreshed aims and change of name would have to be very well publicised.

Yours sincerely, *Laura Horton.*

## DIARY

- Weds. 10th Aug. TANG business meeting .  
7.30 pm. 16 Linley Drive, Stirchley Park.  
All very welcome.
- Mon. 11th July- **One World Walk.**  
31st Aug. Bruce Kent's 1000 mile walk.
- Weds. 7th Sept. TANG business meeting .  
7.30 pm. As 10th Aug.
- Sat. 10th Sept. TANG Barbecue.  
4.00 pm. Village Green, Lightmoor New Community.  
See elsewhere in this issue.
- Weds. 21st Sept. Chain Reaction meeting.  
7.30 pm. 6 Myford Cottages, Horsehay.
- Sat. 1st Oct. Survival Saturday.  
The Square, Shrewsbury.
- Weds. 5th Oct. TANG business meeting .  
7.30 pm. As 10th Aug.
- Sat. 15th Oct. Make Your Mark For Peace  
See elsewhere in this issue.



## **CHAIN REACTION CONTRIBUTIONS**

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
Laurens Otter,	College Farm House, Mill Lane, Wellington.	Tel: 641852

**Deadline for next issue: 21st September**

Extra help with editing, typing etc. always appreciated.

Think before you jump

Two, mutually contradictory, reasons are-being advanced for changing TANF's name:

i. we are in a period when people are prepared to act for social change in a variety of non-violent & other direct actionist ways, but at the moment they are not, in any large numbers, moved to act on the Bomb; we could therefore attract more people to act with us, on these other issues, if we dropped from our name the nuclear issue, & broke the CND connection.

ii. we need to develop our ideas, for our own sake, to take the concept of unilateralism further, to spell out what follows from unilateralism on the Bomb, and the context of other associated changes that would need to be made in order to make ND meaningful; & we need a name that would be adequate to a more far-reaching approach.

The first of these implies a broader unity than CND; an attempt to enlist people who find CND too radical. The second implies the exact opposite.

The first is the line already being taken by the leadership of the Labour Party, and is being resisted at branch level. It is to be assumed that some of our ex-activists are involved in this resistance, & for us to abandon the struggle at the moment would weaken their position. It is also to be assumed that some people will leave the Labour Party in disgust or at least redirect their activity, & so it is by no means certain, that watering down our policy is the best way to attract new members.

To some extent the actual discussions within TANG on the matter have avoided pitfalls, & the contradiction. The suggestion is made that we should be simultaneously a CND & an FCI group, (not to mention

War on Want, etc.,) meeting at one time and changing our hats for differing issues. But we have not considered how non-ND members would be expected to behave when we wanted to discuss CND issues. Would they be excluded from voting? Would time on the agenda be reserved - whether or not the majority present wished to discuss these matters?

When as secretary I tried to write a neutral article informing subscribers that this discussion had been mooted; I referred back to the policy basis adopted by the first TANG AGM; to the fact that unfortunately no copies of this remain & its author, Mike Davies, is still detained. I reminded Chain Reaction readers that it spelt out policies that the TANG founders deemed flowed logically from commitment to unil. ND; - withdrawal from NATO & opposition to all nuclear power blocs,  
- civil disobedience & other forms of direct action,  
- Green, War on Want, anti-racist, anti-sexist, & anti-imperialist issues.

At the time, in terms of direct action, of fundamental opposition to nuclear power, & (to a lesser extent) in terms of the other issues, TANG was clearly going beyond the policies of CND generally. But soon thereafter national conferences adopted much the same policies. It is obvious therefore that most nuclear disarmers regard such other issues as part & parcel of the same thing, stemming from the same moral issues & political philosophy.

The impact of the Greenham Peace Camp, (and others such,) obviously helped shape the campaign's thinking, in this Second Wave; opposition to the Falklands War, (where roughly 85% of the Campaign opposed the war, at a time when about the same percentage of the total population supported it,) showed that campaign views on war go further than opposition to one weapon.

CND policies have further crystalized as the campaign found itself campaigning on uranium mining in Namibia; support for the Moscow Group of Trust, for Charter 77, Solidarnosc, & similar movements has flowed from the campaign's commitment to non-alignment in the Cold War.

It is clear, therefore, that the founders of TANG were not alone in believing that unilateral ND is not an issue divorced from other issues. Nor in this does the Second Wave differ from the first; in both cases campaigns which were launched stressing that this was a single issue that was so urgent that it had to be taken alone, found themselves forced to take positions on other issues; & in both cases the campaign adopted similar policies.

It is clear also that in both waves, the majority of campaigners have believed that unilateralism can only be achieved by direct action. (Despite the bitter opposition of Canon Collins.)

The fact that every country that has made the Bomb has so done in secret is no accident. The whole apparatus of governmental secrecy is very much tied in with the war process; and with it in turn the whole apparatus of the security services. So it is no accident that the campaign found its members spied on by the latter.

The fact that the Media is overwhelmingly controlled by supporters of the military, and consequently constantly denigrates opponents of militarism, falsifies accounts of comparative weaponry, libels demonstrators, and suppresses news is also no accident.

Just how much the actions of security services & media are relevant to us has been amply illustrated by the Hilda Murrell case.

So campaigners have generally wanted a more open society, one with access to decision making, and more widespread dissemination of information. From this has grown suspicion both of delegating all decision making to a privileged parliamentary elite, and equal suspicion of self-styled revolutionary vanguards, (claiming an all-wise knowledge of the way to power, & the right to take that power.)

Most campaigners believe it to be manifestly true that monetary interests benefit from the Cold War, & the arms' trade & consequently promote jingoism. That such interests need to be opposed. But many have found little evidence that either parliamentary socialist or Leninist governments are any great improvement.

So while at times CND has in the main not objected to being described as broadly socialist, there has never been any suggestion that it should uncritically support any existing socialist movement.

The greater comprehends the less; the implications of an unilateralist stance take in all the other issues that those who would change our name want to cover. But without that central unilateralism the other issues can lose meaning.

The ecological movement is deeply split, under the name Deep Ecology, an elitist - & in some places fascistic - movement is springing up saying that salvation of the world involves destroying four fifths of humanity; in the Thirties the Kibbo Kith Kin, which still survives as a faction within the ecological movement, said much the same. Without the values that produce unilateralism it is a natural degeneration.

In the past both the anti-racist & the feminist movements have had similar developments; but more commonly is the habit of seeing racism in South Africa, in the Soviet Union, or wherever, but ignoring it at home on the doorstep. Imperialism is to be opposed in Kampuchea, but not in Northern Ireland. It would be unlikely that that sort of blinkered attitude would grow up where such movements are allied to CND.

If we abandon unilateralism on the Bomb we abandon the yardstick which makes the rest meaningful. If on the contrary we spell out in too great detail, & with too much repetition what we believe follows from unilateralism; we will make it harder for people who have only just reached the first stage to join us.

That, latter, may not matter at the moment, when the most likely new activists will be those disillusioned by Kinnock's temporizing; but if in the near future a new generation of youth, - comparable with that of eight years ago, - manifests an interest, we do not want a barrier to their joining.

Laurens Otter

A great gulf fixed.

July 20, the news programmes today, (as we go to press,) give conflicting reports as to whether there will or will not be a cease fire in the Gulf War. Iraq, which has recently been driving the Iranians back, obviously wishes to prolong hostilities as long as possible.

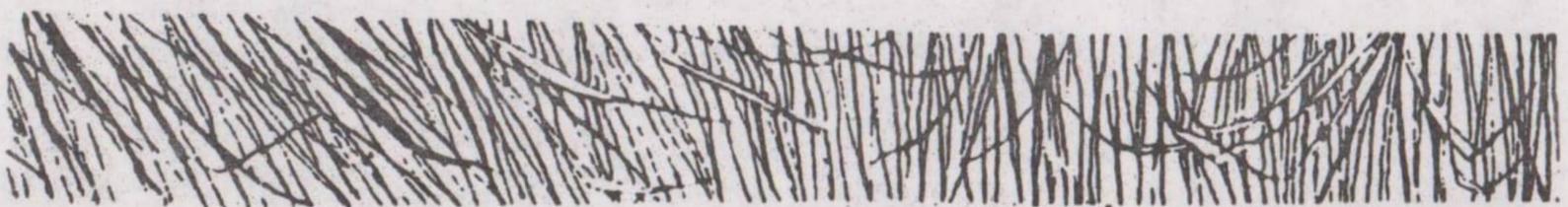
Iran, which - largely as a result of chemical weapon attacks - has a totally demoralized army, now wants peace quickly; having spurned peace overtures for the last few years, when it had been winning.

It has been a curious war, for the last half of it Iraq has, (openly or sub rosa,) had the aid of the USA & the USSR, of Saudi Arabia & her allies in the Arab League, and of Israel. When Iraq sank an American ship, that was taken by the US as reason to station a navy in the Gulf in order to harass Iran.

Whether Iraq made her own chemical weapons, or whether she imported them, has not yet been sufficiently established. It is well to remember that though (as Col. Richey keeps on saying) Britain is supposed to have unilaterally renounced chemical weapons at the end of the war, she has used them in Aden, Northern Ireland, Malaya & elsewhere since then and exported them to America for use in Vietnam.

The Baathist regime in Iraq has had in the past a pretty grisly record of persecuting its Kurdish, Shiite, & Marsh Arab minorities; (together these three form a majority;) while Iran, - both under the Shah, & subsequently under Khomeini, - has been equally tyrannical to its minorities. In consequence both sides have been able to form "governments in exile" to coordinate struggle inside the enemy country.

In such circumstances one feels that between the declaration of intent to make peace and the actual coming thereof, there may well be (as there was between Dives & Lazarus) a great gulf fixed.



## Prisoners of Peace

We publish 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.

### USA

#### Jim Albertini

began a 3-year sentence on 19 January 1988, for a swimming blockade of a nuclear-armed warship in Hawaii on 18 July 1984 together with **Jim Snyder** and **Warren Wineman**. The latter were fined, given 200 hours of community service each and 2-year prison sentences suspended for five years, though Jim S. had to serve 3 months in prison. At the Honolulu trial in July 1985, judge Williams, a 29-year navy veteran, accepted the US government's motion that nuclear weapons and Hawaii's nuclear-free ordinance were irrelevant. Jim lost an appeal to a circuit court, and the US Supreme Court has refused to hear the appeal (giving no reason).

Protests to: Spencer Williams, Federal District Court Judge, 450 Golden Gate Ave, Suite 17057, San Francisco, CA 94102;

public letters of support to: The Honolulu Advertiser, 605 Kapiolani Blvd, Honolulu, HI 96813;

copies to Jim's wife Anne: PO Box AB, Kurtistown, Hawaii 96760 (Jim is being moved).

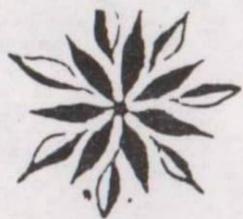
This could not have happened in San Francisco, where in October 1987 a court ruled that a security zone barring protesters during the navy's "Fleet Week" was unconstitutional.



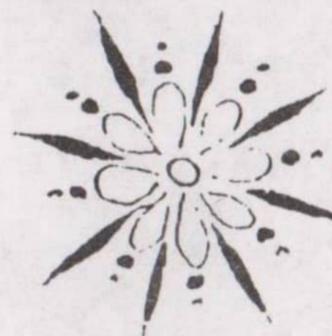
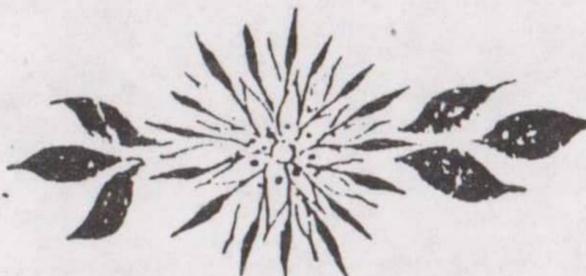
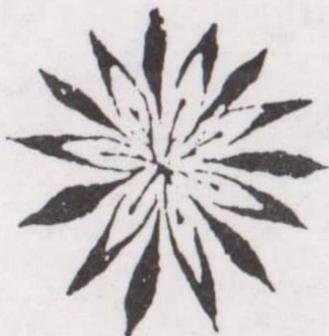
### VATICAN'S DILEMMA

In response to requests from a number of countries, the Vatican's doctrinal congregation is studying the moral aspects of non-payment of taxes by Catholics who object to the military use of this revenue. The congregation is not studying the economic or political aspects of the question. In the meantime, it has warned Italian bishops not to encourage positions that "could turn out to be without serious doctrinal foundation".

The Vatican has been confronted with this issue since over 2,500 north Italian clergy published the "Blessed are the Peacemakers" statement in 1985, which included a call to war tax resistance.



**BARBECUE**  
**SATURDAY 10th SEPTEMBER**  
**AT**  
**LIGHTMOOR NEW COMMUNITY**



**LIGHTMOOR NEW COMMUNITY**

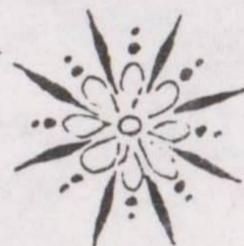
Lightmoor New Community is now becoming a reality. Thanks to the faith and persistence of some of the original members homes and workshops are now being built and occupied. The community have kindly agreed to host our annual barbeque, this will be held on the village green on Saturday September 10th. If you want to know more about Lightmoor this could be your chance to find out - and support TANG at the same time.

Place: Village Green, Lightmoor New Community.

Lightmoor is south of Little Dawley, carry on past Angelo's, past Graham Bufton's and the scrap yard. Turn right very shortly after the old railway line. Alternatively approach from the Ironbridge bypass (first turn on the right from Aqueduct end or close to the top of Cherry Tree Hill) , it is on the left just after Pioneer concrete.

Time : From 4 p.m. onwards.

Charge:	Children and Unwaged	£1.50
	Waged	£2.50
	Family	£5.00



## NIGHTMARE IN PARADISE

Following the slideshow 'Nightmare in Paradise' seen by T.A.N.G. members recently, we have borrowed from Oswestry Women Working for Peace, an exhibition about the plight of the Pacific islanders. It will be on display at Stirchley Library throughout July and Wellington Library in September.

As well as a map of the Pacific which indicates the horrifying extent to which it has been taken over and misused by the nuclear powers, particularly France and the U.S., there are photographs with captions which express movingly the fate suffered by the Pacific people. They have been subjected to radiation disease, deformed babies, and evacuation to other islands with slum conditions and insufficient food and clean water - all in the name of nuclear progress.

The people are fighting for their rights and trying to bring world attention to what is being done to them. We can support their struggle by letters to the press and governments, or by making donations to:

Rongelap Resettlement Fund,

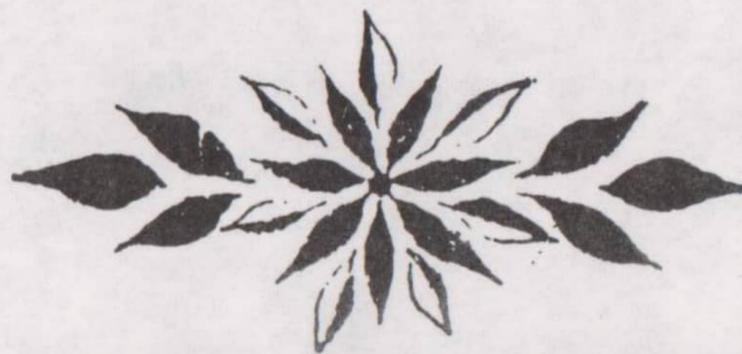
Account No. 11701244

Royal Bank of Scotland,

464 Wilbraham Rd,

Manchester,

M21 1AR



# *Peace with the Earth*

## CHRISTIAN CND CONFERENCE 1988

October 28th to 30th, The Steiner School,  
York.



**This year's annual conference** has for its theme '*Peace With the Earth*'. It will be focussing particularly on the consequences for the planet of the nuclear arms race, and fits in well with this year's One World Week theme of Making Peace with the Planet.

There will be speakers, workshops, worship, social events and an opportunity to take part in an Act of Witness at the base of Fylingdales. Book this date in your diary now – registration forms will be sent out with the next Ploughshare.



## Peace Preaching Course



**Registrations are now** coming in for the next session of the Peace Preaching Course, due to start in September. It is a two year course, students come together four times a year at weekends for classes on theology and for preaching practice. Tutors who are based locally help them with work in between these sessions.

The course intends to teach those active in the peace and justice movement to preach the Good News in our nuclear age. Current students gain opportunities for this preaching in local churches, schools and at peace movement services. If you are interested and would like more information contact:

*PEACE PREACHING COURSE, c/o  
Roger Ruston OP, Blackfriars, St Giles,  
Oxford.*

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