

A PINCH OF SALT

"A Pinch of Salt"- a magazine for "Christians interested in Anarchism" first appeared in 1985. Some of you may have come across it at previous Greenbelts. In March of this year it ceased production as its editor, Stephen took the words of the prophets Isaiah seriously and literally -hammering a nuclear sword into a ploughshare (see overleaf).

"A Pinch of Salt" has been a lively exploration of the Gospel that turns the world upside down - a gospel which celebrates the power of God's over all the powers and principalities, governments and armies, lies and deceits of this world. A gospel which celebrates the worth of every person in this wonderful and crazy human family of ours. "A Pinch of Salt is a mixture of rants and raves, cartoons and poems, letters and articles, news and views, orthodoxies and heresies, and, not forgetting, the unforgettable "Vegangelical Cookery Corner", Sometimes infuriating. Sometimes inspiring . Never dull.

Not just looking forward to the future Kingdom, but exploring ways of enfleshing that vision **now**.

"A Pinch of Salt" is dead (but you can order back issues)! Long live Christian Anarchy!

Back issues available

- No.2 Easter '85. Towards an anarchic church. Homophobia. Reclaiming the city.
 - No.7 Summer '87. Swords into Ploughshares. Spontaneous Order. Ammon Hennacy. Letter from prison. Jamie's book review.
 - No.8 Live justly, destroy capitalism. Food for all? Eller's "Christian Anarchy".
 - No.10 Summer '88. Catholic Worker. Nonviolence at Boggo Road Gaol. Anarchism and the New Testament. Loadsletters.
 - No.11 Kairos. The Catholic Worker. Interview with Dan Berrigan.
 - No.12 Power politics and the power of love. Tolstoy cartoons. The Kingdom of God.
 - No.13 Hope and Resistance. The strategy of Plowshares. Cleansing of the Temple.
 - No.14 Bumper issue - Christian anarchist survival pack.
- Pamphlet: 'Pacifism & Class War' by A J Muste.

Please enclose a financial donation if possible ("Pinch" needs money to pay off debts) - cheques and postal orders to "A Pinch of Salt"

Return to : "A Pinch of Salt", 155 Adnitt Road, NORTHAMPTON NN1



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SWORDS INTO PLOUGHSHARES



THE ACTION

On the 21st March 1990, in the first few hours of the first day of spring, Mike Hutchinson and Stephen Hancock cut through the perimeter fence of USAF Upper Heyford in Oxfordshire and made their way to the nearby hangers, and beyond onto the floodlit runway area. The base is home to about 100 F-111 nuclear bombers, some of which were used in the American strike against Libya.

They walked over to an F-111. Stephen entered the cockpit and disarmed some instruments linked to the weapons and delivery systems, while Mike hammered on an empty pylon which would carry the weapons. As security personnel arrived, Stephen emerged from the cockpit to hang a banner reading: SWORDS INTO PLOUGHSHARES - DISARMAMENT HAS BEGUN, and shouted to the guards "It's OK, we've disarmed it."

They left their hammers, a teddy bear, and a piece of the Berlin Wall, and a ripped up copy of the INF Treaty together with their own Grassroots Disarmament Treaty. They had disarmed the plane in a real way, causing just under £1/4million worth of disarmament.

"For a short time today we created a small breathing space - enough of a crevice for hope to lodge itself in. For a short time we disarmed a nuclear sword. A little symbol. Apparently, the whole air-force was grounded for checks. Something I had never even thought of. It seems a little crazy - two people, household courage and hammers, can enact disarmament. A little crazy - but also a source of great joy. To walk through, pass through, all that fear which has twisted inside me over the last year. To walk through that fear and feel the liberation of taking responsibility for this nuclear world of ours washing over and through my whole body." (Stephen)

They face up to twenty years in prison for their peace protest.

TRIAL DATE SET FOR SEPTEMBER 3RD

Stephen and Mike's main crown court hearing starts at 10am on Monday September 3rd, and may last a few days. We will need every support we can get, so please come along when you are able on that day, or better still, get in contact with us, the Swords into Ploughshares Oxford Support Group on 53212.

We need help in the office and with other campaign work, and money to pay for publicity and the court case itself.

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They shall beat their swords into ploughshares and spears into pruning hooks

ISAIAH 2:4