

NOTTINGHAM

C.N.D.

Bulletin

NOTTM. CAMPAIGN for NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

JULY/AUG. '87

20p

(free to NCND members)

HIROSHIMA/NAGASAKI

This year, with a real weapons-reduction agreement between the USA and the USSR in sight for the first time ever, it is more important than ever to remind people of the horror of the dropping of those first two nuclear bombs 42 years ago - bombs that were tiny by today's standards.

This year we shall again be creating HIROSHIMA SHADOWS in Nottingham in memory of those who vanished into the stratosphere in those terrible seconds leaving only their shadows on pavements and walls.

We shall make the shadows with chalk while the City Centre is busy with shoppers. Our activity will cause people to pause, so, as we work, we shall lay out a paper scroll on the pavement explaining what the shadows are and asking people to sign NCND's new petition calling on the Government to support the INF talks in Geneva.

We shall be there with the petition to talk to people.

PLEASE COME & HELP

We need as many volunteers as possible as we hope to have several groups operating at different places in the City Centre - and also at different times in the day. You do not need to be a pavement artist! Only a few people are needed to do the actual chalking.

MEET by St. Peter's Wall, Listergate

11 a.m. on HIROSHIMA DAY

THURS 6 AUGUST

HIROSHIMA/NAGASAKI will be the theme of the Listergate Stall on

SAT 8 AUGUST

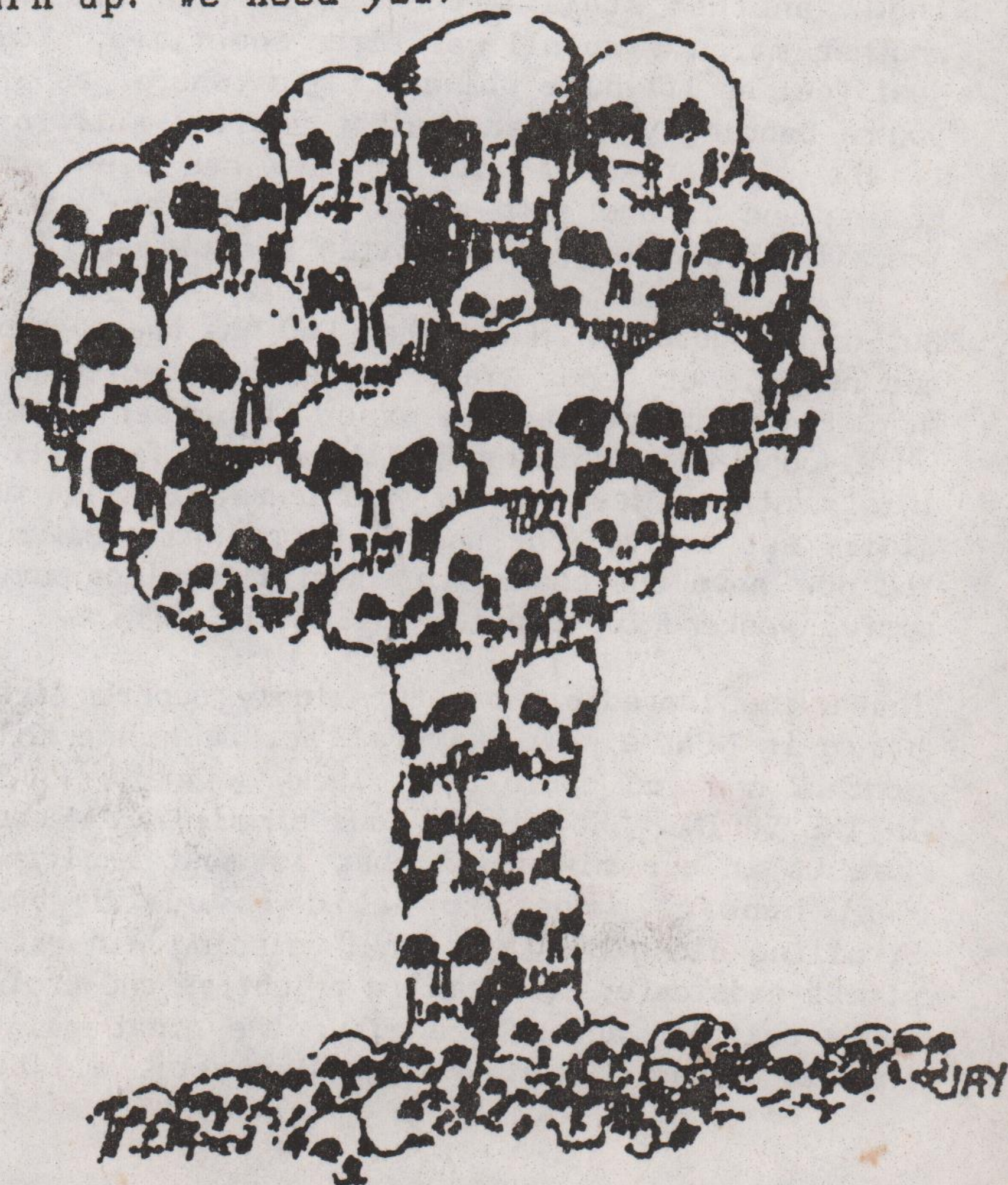
We shall be offering white paper roses for people to wear in memory of all nuclear victims including those of Chernobyl.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

TO HELP WITH THE STALL

(Any time between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.)

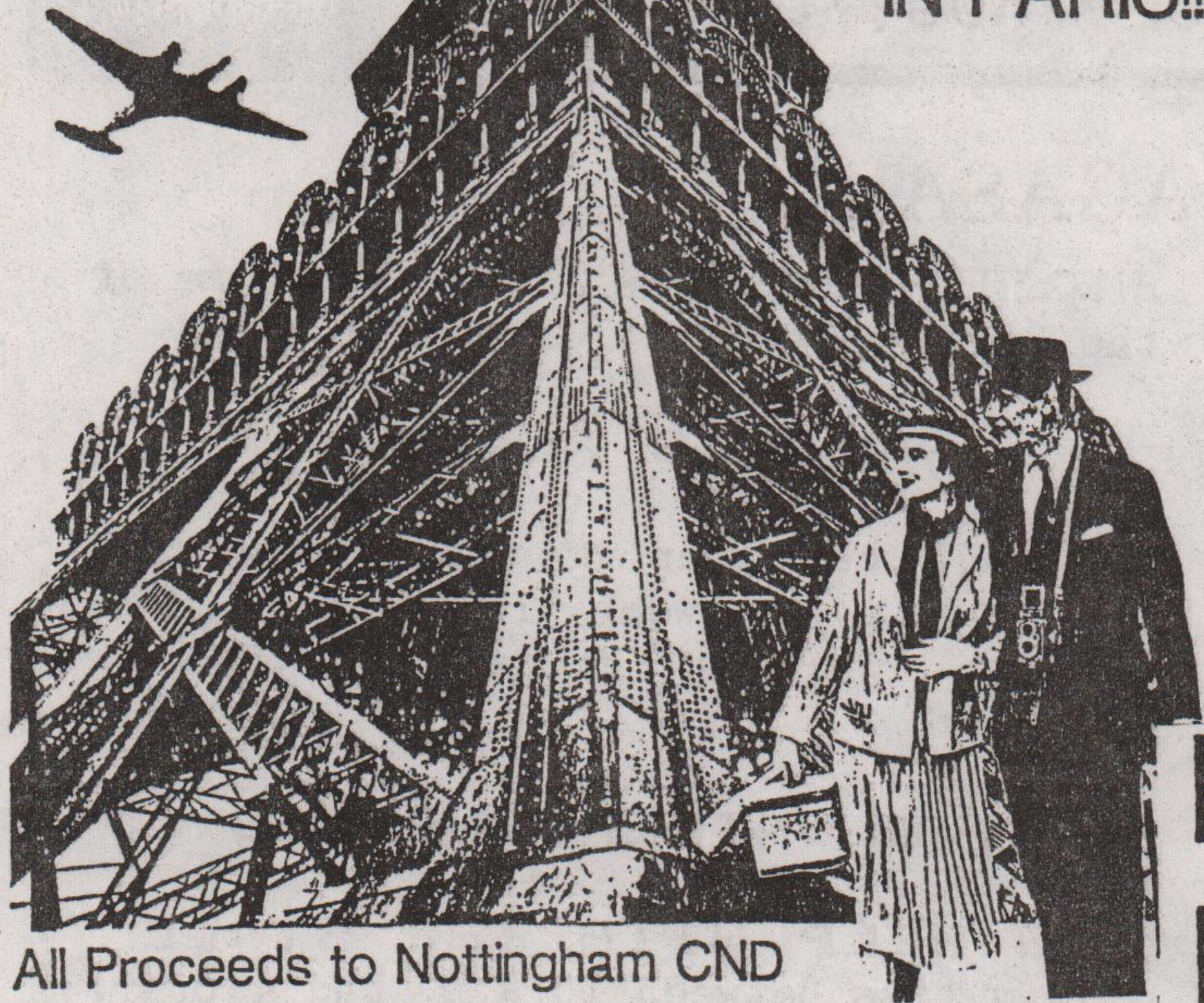
Please ring Jackie on 626659 or Jos on 333637 if you can help on either day, or if you want to make other arrangements. If it is not possible to ring, PLEASE just turn up. We need you!



PARIS IN THE SPRING

TWENTY PRIZE RAFFLE

1ST. PRIZE:
A WEEKEND
FOR TWO
IN PARIS!!!



All Proceeds to Nottingham CND

Sometimes it's hard to carry on! Week in, week out, day after day, creeping on our petty pace, struggling against all the odds to bring the military-industrial complex to its knees! Yes, it's true. We all get tired sometimes. Another meeting.... another stall.... another leaflet drop.... another march.... we all get tired sometimes. You just feel as if you're not getting anywhere, as if you're banging your head against a brick wall, as if the military-industrial complex has seen you coming and is one jump ahead of your every move. Yes, it's true. We all get tired sometimes.

But do not despair. Nottingham CND has the answer and help is at hand. Yes, ladies and gentlemen, NCND Productions Ltd. is proud to present just what you've been waiting for these last few terrible months. Mesdames et Messieurs, la jour de gloire est arrive (the day of glory has arrived). You now have the chance to spend a fabulous wonderful weekend for two in PARIS IN THE SPRING.

That's the incredible breathtakingly superb first prize in NCND's new star raffle, launched this month... and you could be a lucky winner. PARIS IN THE SPRING. How those four simple words conjure up in our minds all that is most exciting, most hopeful, most romantic in our dreams. Strolling along the Left Bank; sipping wine at a street-side cafe; the smells of coffee and croissants drifting across the city; the great paintings of Degas, Monet, Manet, Lautrec; all the

sights and sounds of this prince of European cities. What a break! What a chance of a lifetime! Isn't it just what you need to keep you going?

Or, if you prefer, take the £200 cash equivalent and treat yourself to just what you fancy. The soaraway first prize has been kindly donated by PROGRESSIVE TOURS of London, but that's not all, folks. This incredible raffle has a total of TWENTY (yes, TWENTY) star super prizes. There is simply not space to list them all here, but they include jewellery worth £20, a framed print of your choice worth £20, record vouchers, book tokens, food tokens, a meal at a top Nottingham restaurant, cinema tickets, wine and subscriptions to leading journals and periodicals. AMAZING.

Don't delay. Buy some of these raffle tickets today. At only 25p each (and £1.00 for four) they are such a bargain. Sell them to your friends, take them to work, offer them to your neighbours. They will be delighted and charmed that you have given them the opportunity to win these super prizes. Tickets are available from the NCND office, through neighbourhood groups and at all usual outlets in the city. All monies must be returned to: Rob Holland, 15 Robinson Road, Mapperley, by November 25th. If you can't do anything else for NCND... help us sell these raffle tickets! Merci!

PARIS IN THE SPRING

TWENTY PRIZE RAFFLE

1ST. PRIZE:
A WEEKEND
FOR TWO
IN PARIS!!!



All Proceeds to Nottingham CND

To build the earth



Shortly before the election, Mrs. Thatcher came out "in support" of the zero-zero option on intermediate and short-range nuclear missiles. A more cynical piece of electioneering is hard to imagine. In "supporting" the INF agreement, she added in new conditions which are bound to delay and/or scupper it. In addition, she wants to bring in new missiles to replace the ones that will be removed.

Her late and grudging response to the Soviet initiatives undermines the hopes of us all that the INF agreement could be the beginning of a process of mutual confidence-building East to West and of a real reduction in the nuclear arsenals of the world. Instead we are faced with Western leaders who, while they cannot afford openly to reject the agreement, are cynically planning to make sure either that it never happens or that it has no real effects.

Where does the peace movement stand in all this? We, together with our sister movements in Europe and the rest of the world, have created a climate which forces the Western leaders to give at least paper support to the prospect of an agreement. When, like Chancellor Kohl, they refuse this support, they risk their political careers and electoral support for their parties - as President Reagan and Mrs. Thatcher know very well. 77% of the West German people want the agreement to go through. 86% of the British people see no military danger from the Soviet Union and a majority would not support a British prime minister in pushing the nuclear button against a Soviet conventional attack (though Mrs. Thatcher has said that she would push the button!)

These changes in public perception and opinion are in part a direct result of the work of the peace movement over the last six years. Despite the election result, we must not lose sight of this slow but steady success in changing attitudes.

We now need a much greater focus and pressure on the question of British foreign policy. An INF agreement would be an important step in mutual security despite the fact there would still be many thousands of nuclear weapons in Europe and British nuclear disarmament would also make a positive contribution.

Adapted from "Sanity".

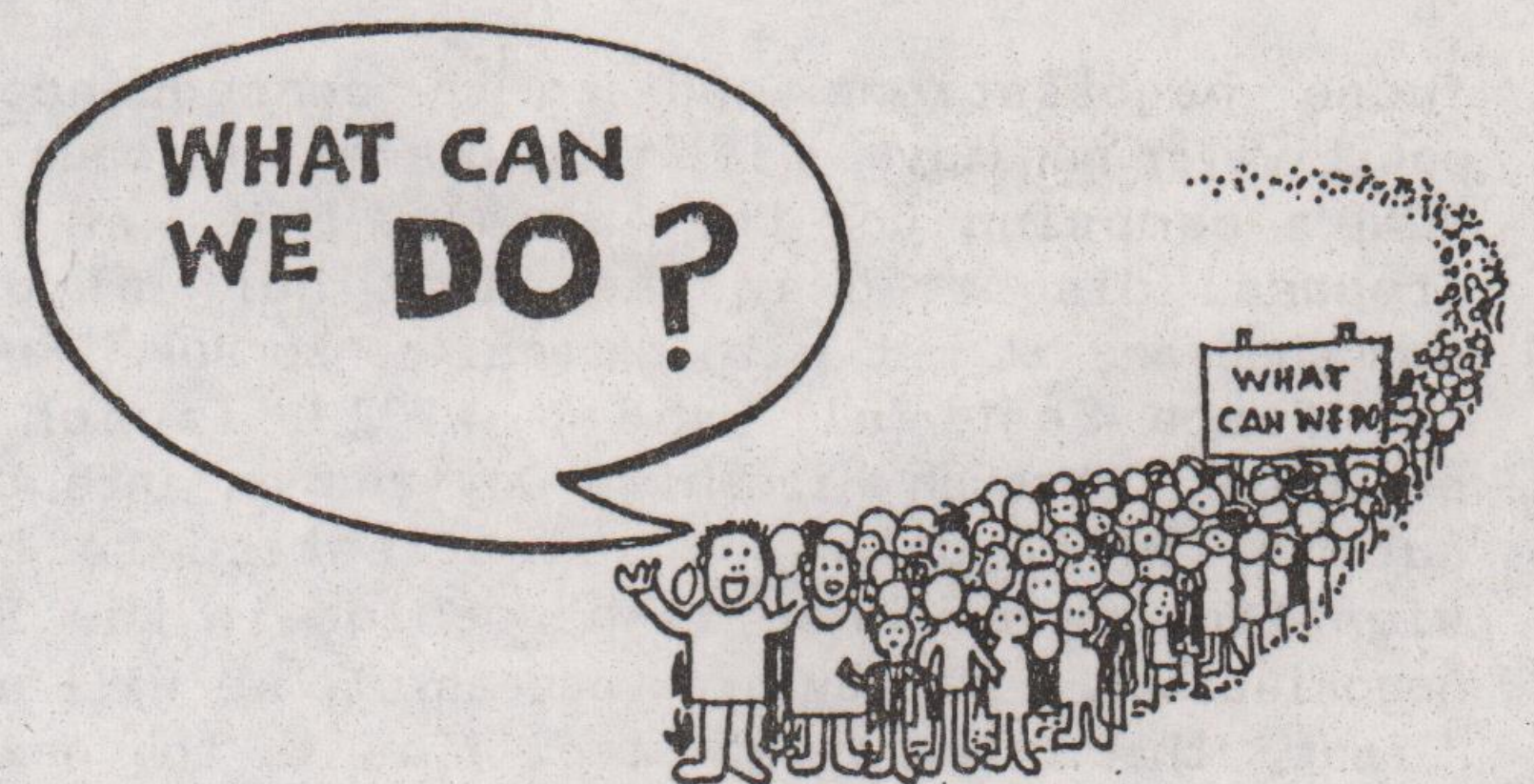
NEW PETITION

For the first time the United States and the Soviet Union have publicly agreed that the world can be made safer by dismantling nuclear weapons. The INF negotiations in Geneva represent an unprecedented opportunity to begin the process of nuclear disarmament and must not be allowed to fail.

We urge the British Government wholeheartedly to support an agreement, and to make this the first step towards the achievement of a nuclear-free Europe

This petition was launched at the Peace Festival where nearly 500 signatures were collected. We shall be campaigning with it on the Listergate stall and elsewhere including by HIROSHIMA SHADOWS. (See p.1.)

PETITION FORMS AVAILABLE FROM NCND OFFICE



GO OUT WITH THE PETITION
HELP
ON THE LISTERGATE STALL

We plan to make the Stall a focus for our campaigning during the coming months. The Stall is not just a useful source of income: it is an important political tool. It provides a means for us to draw people's attention to the progress of the INF talks and other developments and - perhaps most important of all - it is visible proof that CND is alive and active. It is significant that, on the first Saturday after the election, many people came up to the Stall to put something in the box. We are needed, now more than ever.

But - as with everything else - getting the Stall out depends on our members. To supplement the neighbourhood group rota, we are compiling a reserve list of individual volunteers who might be prepared to help occasionally when no group is available.

Ring Marguerite on 781376 or NCND office, if you can help.

THE WAY AHEAD WORKSHOP

A REPORT

It was very good to see so many people at our post-election strategy meeting on 2 July. At a time when we may understandably feel tired and depressed by a great opportunity lost, more than 50 NCND members had come along to express their on-going support and determination.

I remember a warning from Bruce Kent some years ago that the achievement of nuclear disarmament was going to be a long, hard slog. It's certainly proving to be true, but, in agreeing that, we also have to recognise that despite setbacks there has been a decided shift of opinion against things nuclear. Nuclear disarmament is undoubtedly becoming a more and more realistic and desirable alternative in more and more areas of society.

Would the INF negotiations be taking place now without the pressure, across Europe, of the peace movement and its various spin-offs in both political and military circles?

Those negotiations and their consequences, positive or negative, will form the major focus of NCND's campaign for the Autumn. This was the proposal discussed in the first half of our workshop and it met with general consensus. From the Peace Festival (where we'll launch a petition), through Hiroshima Day and on into the Autumn, we'll draw special attention to the significance of what is happening in the INF negotiations. If they are successful, we will say "Great, that's the first step, this is the next". If unsuccessful, we will energetically condemn those responsible for their failure.

This is also the theme of national CND's plans for the Autumn (decided at July's National Council meeting). When we know more of the concrete details, we'll dovetail our local plans into that broader campaign.

That first half of the workshop was a useful opportunity for us to talk through our reactions to the election results and to start thinking positively about how we go from here. The second part was less productive as people tried to tackle the gritty problem of the nature of the organisation needed to underpin the political action. There were a number of reservations about the proposal to merge Coordinating Committee with the Exec, the two strongest being the difficulty of finding more people willing to put in the necessary commitment of time, etc. and the danger of pulling those valuable resources away from their often key roles in active neighbourhood groups. However, the general feeling was that it was worth trying as Coordinating no longer works effectively. A resolution along those lines which involves a constitutional change will be put to the AGM on September 10.

That change, however, is only tinkering with the organisation, a necessary but not far-reaching attempt to tailor NCND to match changing circumstances. There were no radical proposals for change.

We approach another AGM and year of campaigning, therefore, with an agreed political focus for the Autumn and the knowledge as always that its success is pivotal upon the willingness of NCND activists to commit time and energy to back it. We need a number of those activists to give even more by becoming members of the Exec through election as individuals and through representing active N.G.s, if that change goes through. Several of last year's Exec, including both co-chairs, will not be standing again. So I would like to use this opportunity to appeal for other committed people to come forward. A look through the Exec. Minutes file in the office would give an idea of what's involved. Otherwise, I would be very happy to talk to anyone thinking about it.

ANN KESTENBAUM.

The PAN Column

NO PANACEA

No PAN is here, get it? There was no panacea for Peace Action Network on June 14th, when a PAN Meeting decided to wind the group up. The problem was the lack of energy for maintaining the body that has been the focus of NVDA from Nottingham for several years now. There is energy to undertake NVDA and the groups who have been part of PAN recently still exist. In future, they will make their own links, where necessary, and work within NCND.

PAN money is going to be distributed to the five main constituent groups. The archives will be kept for posterity, but the mailing list destroyed.

Pan's major asset is the beat-up old Transit mini-bus which has been used by local CND groups as well as by groups outside the peace movement. It has 12 months' tax and MoT, paid up AA membership and, with the charges that are made to users, it should break even over the summer. A small group has volunteered to keep the PAN-van going. To book it, phone John Mitchell on 787269.

PAN's demise doesn't mean that there will be no more NVDA happening around Nottingham. Having said that, everyone at the final PAN meeting agreed that we need to discuss the types and viability of direct action and fit them into a post-election strategy for the peace movement. Watch for information in the Bulletin.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THURS. 10 SEPTEMBER

7.30pm.

Adult Education Centre
Shakespeare St.

ELECTION

Nominations are invited for

2 Chairpersons (one must be female)
Treasurer
Committee Members*
Bulletin Co-ordinator

**6 under existing rules; 3 if resolution below is adopted*

Please send in nominations by August 17 in time for inclusion in the next Bulletin.

Nominees: please let the office have a written statement about yourself (max. 100 words) for circulation at the AGM.

Also to be elected

3 DELEGATES TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE
(London Nov.20-22)

RESOLUTION FOR AGM

The governing bodies of NCND shall be

- The Annual General Meeting;
- 3 other members' policy-making meetings to be held, approximately once a quarter;
- The Executive Co-ordinating Committee (ECC).

The ECC shall consist of

- The following officers to be elected at the AGM:
2 Chairpersons
3 Executive Officers
Treasurer
Bulletin Co-ordinator

2. Notts National Council Member/s

3. Representatives from Neighbourhood Groups.
Neighbourhood groups wishing to have a representative on the ECC shall elect this representative, who should serve for at least 6 months, at a meeting of their members and notify an NCND Chairperson of the result. In the event of this representative being unable to attend an ECC meeting, s/he may appoint a substitute.

4. Representatives from other NCND groups as approved by a members' policy-making meeting.

The ECC shall be empowered to co-opt up to 3 members. Co-options shall be endorsed by the following members' policy-making meeting.

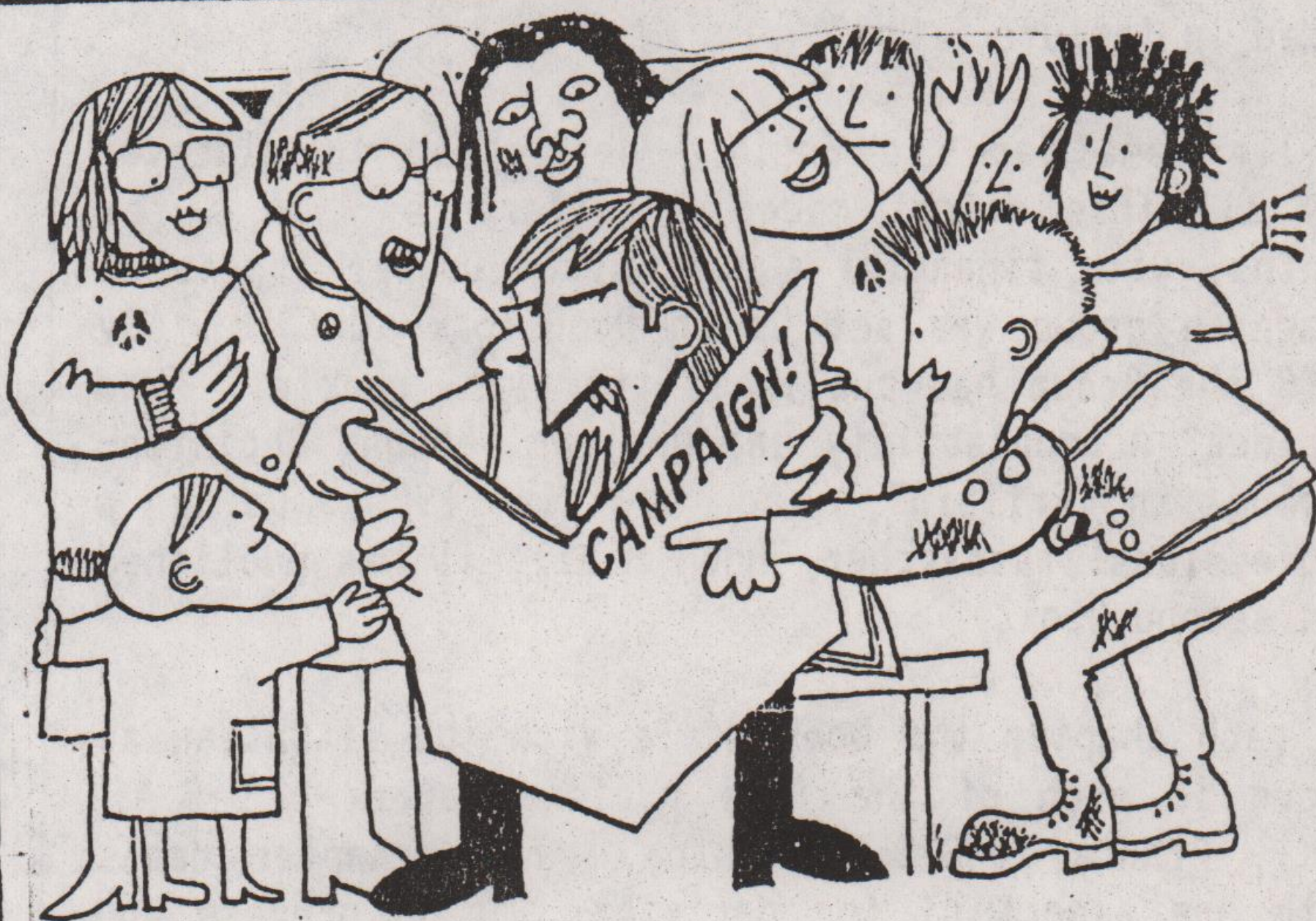
The ECC shall meet at least once a month and shall be responsible for putting into practice the policy decisions of the members' policy-making meetings and for carrying on the day-to-day business of the campaign.

The quorum for the ECC shall be 6 including 3 officers.

Emergency decisions between ECC meetings shall be taken by the officers.

Proposed by NCND Executive Committee.

There will be NO CO-ORDINATING MEETINGS in August and September.



We have to re-order Campaign! for the next 6 months. Campaign! is CND's monthly paper for activists and is well worth taking. The cover price is 30p, but NCND makes it available to groups and individuals at 20p a copy if it is ordered and paid for 6 months in advance. Please let the office have your order as soon as possible. (Each neighbourhood group gets one copy.)

200 CLUB WINNERS

June: £50 Helen & Ian McHugh
£10 Wendy Hannah
£5 Karen Winfield.

July: £50 Jane Draper
£10 Fred Asher
£5 Simon Chuda.

PLEASE KEEP THIS PAGE
AND BRING IT TO THE AGM

BOOK REVIEW

NUCLEAR WEAPONS:

Who's in Charge?

"Nuclear Weapons: Who's in Charge?"

by Hugh Miall. Published by Macmillan in association with The Oxford Research Group, 1987.

Paper £7.95, cloth £27.50, 160pp.

In June 1982 Scilla McLean went to New York to attend the Second Special Session on Disarmament of the United Nations. During the second week of the conference the largest peaceful demonstration in US history packed the streets of New York, nearly a million people. Five weeks later the conference ended in failure. Why?

Scilla came back to England determined to discover why all this effort made no difference. In a few months, with financial support from Quaker trusts, a research group was set up in Woodstock, Oxford. By 1986 the Group had published its first booklet "Who Decides? Accountability and Nuclear Weapons Decision-Making in Britain", and now in 1987, using a professional researcher, Hugh Miall, it has published its second book.

In each chapter the book deals with the situation as known in each of the five nuclear powers - U.S.A., U.K., France, U.S.S.R., China. Each chapter deals with one aspect of the decision-making process and the order of the chapters is interesting since it would seem to indicate the relative importance of the various aspects of decision-making. The chapter headings are:

The Weapons Laboratories; The Defence Contractors; The Armed Forces; The Defence Bureaucracies; Presidents, Prime Ministers and Politburos; Secrecy; Parliaments; Financial Control; Public Opinion; The Arms Controllers; Conclusion.

In the USA and Britain - though interestingly much less so in France - Anti-nuclear movements (such as CND) operate by influencing public opinion and criticising government policies. This activity is low down in the decision-making process but is not insignificant. Such movements seem to be most effective when they are resisting a direct and local danger, e.g. the deployment of an Anti-Missile system in the U.S.A. or nuclear dumping at Fulbeck in England. However, in times when public spending is increasingly limited to defence spending, and unemployment is growing, local councils or pressure groups may campaign for defence, even perhaps including nuclear, establishments to be set up in their area if they offer employment.

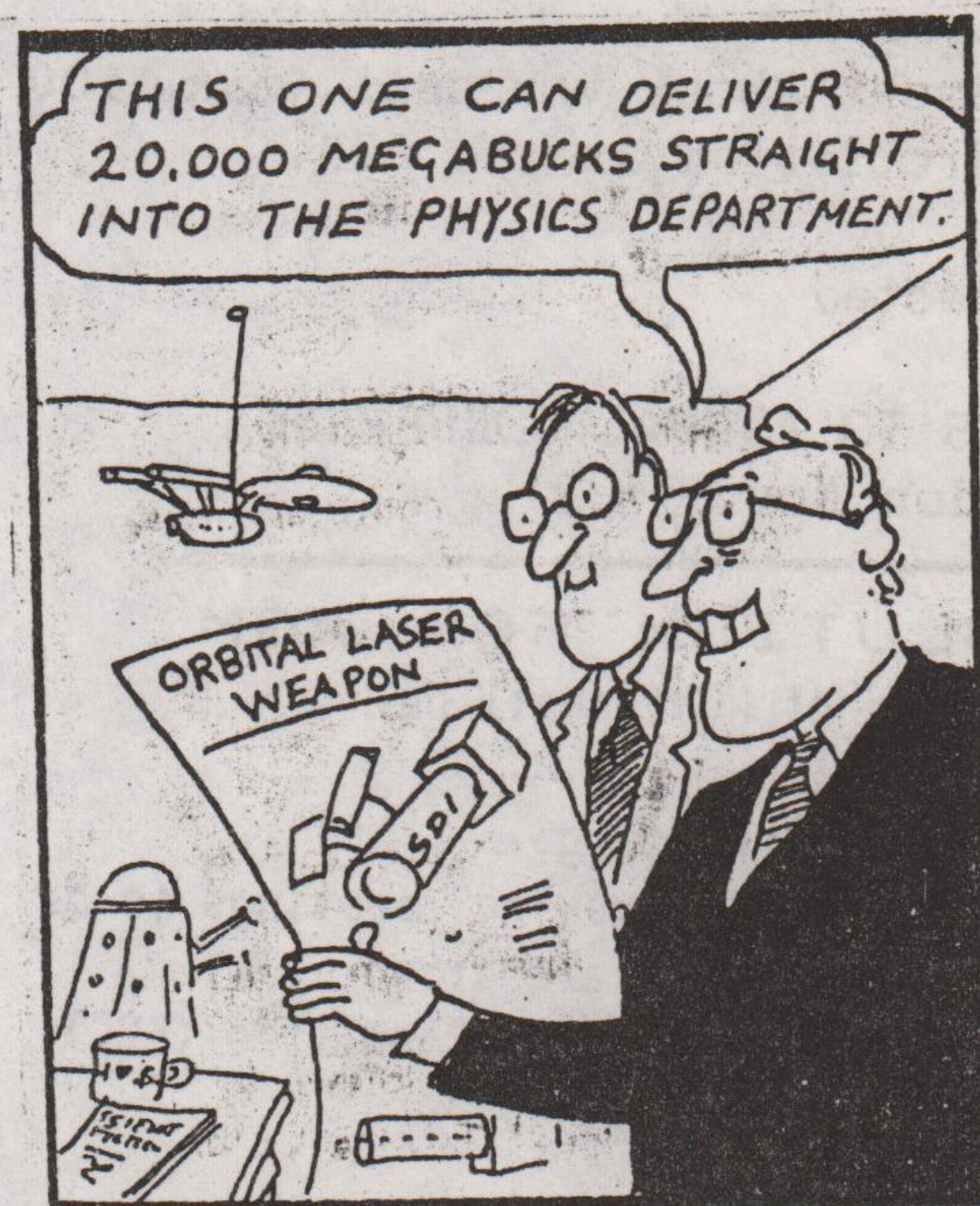
In the Soviet Union, and probably China, there is still a living and deep experience of the terrible losses of wars during this century. There may be little enthusiasm for military-patriotic education or conscription, but there is widespread loyalty to the State, and criticism, as distinct from grumbling or withdrawing, is limited to a fringe at the moment.

The crux of the argument is summed up in the following quotation:

In the West, the political leadership is accountable to the public, but the control of the political leadership over nuclear weapons is weak. In the East, the control of the political leadership over nuclear weapons is strong, but the leadership is not accountable. In none of the five societies are decisions about nuclear weapons accountable to the public. (p.155).

This book is important reading for peace activists. If we are to succeed, we must understand just what we are up against.

David Wood



SHERWOOD & CARRINGTON CND

D I S C O

SATURDAY 8 AUGUST 7.00 - 11.30
Federation House Social Club,
Claremont Rd.

£1.75 (£1.concession).

FOOD

CHILDREN WELCOME

Peace Festival

A REPORT

The best Peace Festival yet? It may not have been the biggest or the most ambitious, but it certainly seemed the friendliest and happiest with a greater diversity of organisations represented than ever before.

You could visit the Labour Party's national touring bus resplendent with red roses; have a free health check with MCNWA, or "write off Trident" in chalk; meditate with the Raja Yoga Centre; listen to CND national chairperson Paul Johns and speakers from SWAPO and the National Council for Civil Liberties; enjoy the performances on the small stage; or just relax in the sun with the six bands that provided continuous music on the far side of the site from 12 noon till long past the official closing of the festival at 6 p.m.

The Children's Festival was once again a major attraction occupying nearly one quarter of the site. Toddlers were particularly well catered for with a grand playground and truck track. There were inflatables, parachute games, Morris dancing and the Pinxton Puppets.

There were nearly 100 stalls, with many good things on offer: cool slices of water melon, home-made cakes, hand-painted T-shirts, and, of course, a huge variety of CND badges. The NCND stall was endlessly busy, as were the membership team.

"The Evening Post" estimated that 10,000 people attended the Peace Festival.

LETTER

Oh Boy, what memories come crowding in as I renew my membership of NCND!

Memories of 1926 and the General Strike.

Memories of the Spanish Civil War.

Memories of Sir Oswald Mosley and his blackshirts in Nottingham City Centre and in the Albert Hall. I was young then and joined in the struggle.

Memories of meeting my husband on the Hunger March and of being married "on the dole" in 1938

As for war, take the profit out of war - there will be no war..

Can you thank whoever delivers my Bulletin? I really do appreciate it.

Phyllis Velose-Summers.

A very big THANK YOU to all members of the Festival Group who put so much hard work into the detailed preparations that ensured success. And it was hard work. Publicity started months ago and culminated in the leafleting of the Meadows, Lenton and West Bridgford during the preceding week. Volunteers worked hard all Saturday preparing the site and some remained over night to guard valuables. In spite of this someone succeeded in stealing a cycle that was chained to a marquee pole as well as the volunteers' thermos of coffee. After the festival came the long job of clearing the site.

This year's festival has faced financial problems with costs rising and no grants from outside bodies. There will be a report on this later when accounts have been sorted out. Contributions from Neighbourhood Groups and £90 profit from the Spitz Alternative Cabaret on the Saturday night were very welcome.

NCND's Peace Festival is firmly established as an annual Nottingham event. It is even recorded for history in Alan Sillitoe's "Nottinghamshire". Besides starting to bring the message to a wider spectrum of people than would ever come to a meeting - or even call at the Listergate stall - it is a very important morale booster for the peace movement itself. May the 8th Festival be even better.

Jos Wood.

NO ARMS FOR IRAQ OR IRAN

Just before Bread not Bombs week in June, David Lane of West Bridgford discovered through an obscure news report that Britain has been supplying arms to both sides in the Gulf War, so he launched his own petition calling on the Government to cease this trade and make a real contribution to peace.

Wearing a sandwich board explaining the petition, he has collected over 850 signatures in Listergate and at the Peace Festival



NEW WORKER NEEDED AT MUSHROOM BOOKSHOP

*This is a full-time job,
involving all aspects of
the booktrade. The job is
open to women only.**

*(Women only to maintain the balance
of the collective)*

*Apply by Aug 10: full
details from*

MUSHROOM BOOKSHOP,
10 HEATHCOTE ST.,
NOTTINGHAM NG1 3AA.
Tel: (0602) 582506

*Applicants must be vegetarian

THE BULLETIN

Members' contributions and letters are always welcome. Please make them short, and give a phone no. (or address) in case we need to contact you. We cannot of course promise to print everything we receive.

SEPT. BULLETIN DEADLINE

Monday, 17 August,

As ever, The Bulletin needs more workers. We are particularly in need of people for collating - a dull, repetitive task certainly, but one where many hands make light work! We also need more printers. If you can help in any way, please ring Jos on 33 3637.

BULLETIN DELIVERY

As far as possible, Bulletins are delivered by neighbourhood groups. Many groups are in need of more deliverers. If you are able to deliver a few Bulletins in your area, please get in touch with your local contact or ncnd office.

This month's Bulletin team: Jos, Louise, Lawrence, Phyllis, Jackie, Jeremy.

Printed and published by Nottingham CND, 3 King St, Nottm. Tel. 472556.

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