

**FOREST
FIELDS
PEACE
GROUP**

VOLUME 5 NUMBER 3

MAY 1986

10p

THE BOMBING OF LIBYA



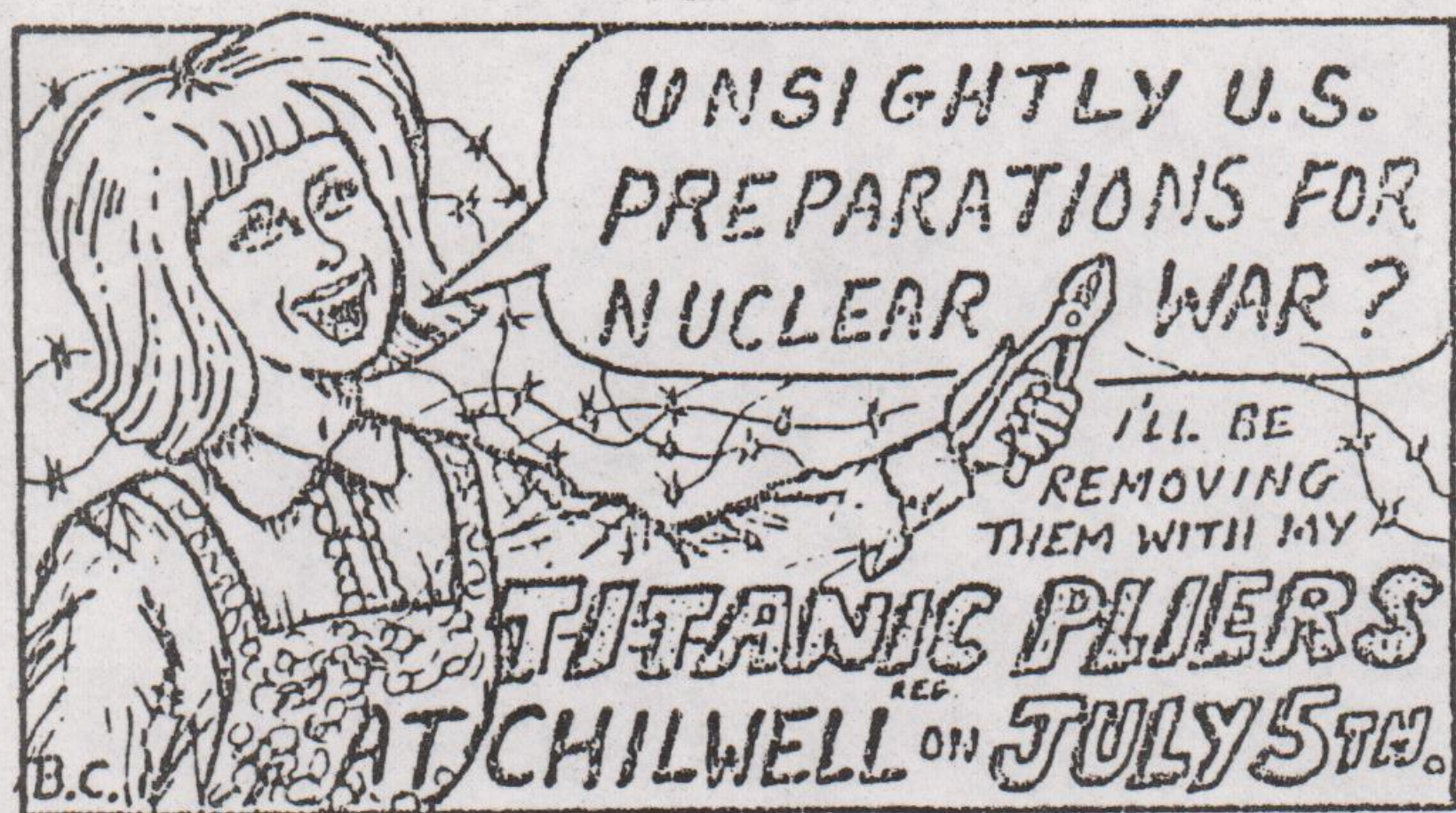
WHO ARE THE REAL TERRORISTS ?

DON'T SIT ON THE FENCE - CUT IT !

USAF Chilwell, 6 miles from Nottingham, is one of the 135 American bases in Britain. Although it was not used in the Libya bombings it is part of the American war machinery. USAF support vehicles are stored at Chilwell for use in a time of emergency - these are the back up for the larger USAF bases like Lakenheath and Upper Heyford which use nuclear-capable planes like the F1-11. Chilwell is also a 'Trident Codification Centre' which supplies spare parts for Trident nuclear missiles, planned to be housed at Coulport and Faslane in Scotland.

Chilwell Cut

Over the last 2 years there have been many demonstrations to highlight the role Chilwell plays in the American preparations for nuclear war. The next large scale protest will be the 'Chilwell Cut' on July 5th.



A declaration has been sent to President Reagan and his Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger, to Britain's Defence Secretary George Younger and to the base commander at Chilwell. The declaration accuses the American military and the British government of collaborating to use the American bases in Britain as part of the preparations for genocide. We have stated that if there are no positive steps taken to halt these preparations for nuclear war peace protestors will cut the fence at Chilwell. This will be an act of non-violent civil disobedience to show our opposition and as an act of resistance to the war plans.

We are asking for people to join the Chilwell Cut on July 5th and to help with the back up and support for the action. For people intending to take part in the action Forest Fields Peace Group will be holding a workshop to talk about the issues, the day itself, the preparations for it and of course the legal aspects of "breaking the law". This will be a day event at the Forest Fields Community Centre on Sturton Street on June 8th, 10.30am - 5.00pm (the day after the "Traditional Jazz & Ragtime Evening" at the same place).

For information and help for back up and support please contact Nottingham Peace Action Network, c/o Nottingham CND, Suite 17/18, Queens Chambers, 3 King St, Nottingham (above Finlays Newsagent in Market Square) phone 472556 or Barbara (FFPG) on 626721.

Nicaragua - El Salvador Benefit

MELI-ANTU

A Chilean folk group playing traditional Central and Latin American music

HOPE AUGUSTUS

LEGLESS

A mixture of African pop and jazz

Speaker - SHARON ATKINS

1985 National Chair of Black Sections
Parliamentary Labour Candidate
for Nottingham East

Friday 16th May

8 till midnight with late bar

Hyson Green Boys Club

Tickets in advance:

£2 waged, £1.50 students, £1 UB40
on door

£2.50, £2.00, £1.50

Tickets from Mushroom, Hiziki, Ouroboros,
Arts & Crafts Centre, 118 (582369)

LIBYAN TERRORISM OR THE TERRORISING OF LIBYA

A madman - immoral - inhuman - a man responsible for the wholesale slaughter of innocent people (women and children included), and, a man responsible for acts of state-sponsored terrorism, worldwide, without regard to human suffering, in pursuit of his own aims.

No, I am not referring to Colonel Gaddafi, but to President Reagan. Anyone watching their television sets and seeing the results of this man's warmongering activities in Tripoli and Benghazi, cannot now fail to ask themselves, who are the real terrorists in this world ?

Some politicians have pointed out, since the raid, that Gaddafi is well down the list (about 7th by one reckoning) of dangerous terrorists, though, we are not told what numbers Reagan and Thatcher are on the list of threats to world peace !

Western Provocation

The Palestinian Arabs, we know, have been thrown out of their homeland and abused ever since, being indiscriminately bombed, murdered, raped, tortured, etc. if not directly by the United States certainly indirectly, through the Israeli army.

It is not difficult to see why, in the light of such extreme provocation, and being the recipients of such brutality and discrimination, why some Arabs turn to acts of 'terrorism' in retaliation. However, whilst understanding their reasons, and motives, for such action, as a peace campaigner, I cannot condone murders, whoever is the perpetrator.

So we can conclude;

- ☐ 1) That the longer the violence continues, without agreement, it is proof, that, there can never be a solution reached through violence and,

- ☐ 2) The British people, having witnessed Reagan's violence in Grenada, Nicaragua, El Salvador and now, Libya, should make their voice heard, that, no longer are we prepared to support a country which uses military aggression to achieve its aims.

- ☐ 3) If, as Mrs Thatcher says, as members of NATO it is 'inconceivable' that we should not assist the United States in the murdering of innocent people - including women and children - in the interests of world peace, then the sooner we get out of this organisation the better.

Finally, the British public should have learned one thing from this episode, that CND have been 100% accurate in warning, that, in the final analysis, a war - nuclear or otherwise - can be started from U.S. bases in this country, without we, the public, having a say in it.

I wonder how many people, reading this, felt, as I did, the utter helplessness, as I watched on the TV these U.S. machines of destruction, returning from their murderous mission, to our soil, knowing that there wasn't a thing I could do about it after the event.

The Only Safe Solution

There is, then, only one logical answer, as Britain stands in isolation with the rest of Europe condemning this action, only one way in which we can restore our credibility with the rest of the world, and be seen as a nation genuinely interested in world peace, we must rid ourselves of all nuclear weapons and all U.S. bases NOW !

Bryan Shipley

This world isn't ruled by democracy,
You'd better get that in your head,
This world is ruled by violence,
But I guess that's better left unsaid.

Nottingham Protests At The U.S.-British Bombing Of Libya

Let us be clear and direct - the bombing of Libyan cities by F1-11 bombers was an act of State Terrorism. Like any terrorist the U.S. was prepared to murder innocent civilians for political ends. And Thatcher's government was prepared to support and allow U.S. bases in this country to be used for that outrageous and ruthless attack.

The peace movement must oppose **all** such terrorist acts. If it did not it would support the belief that the ends always justify the means. It is that belief that has made a slaughterhouse of our planet in this century, and led to the deaths of at least **130 million** people through armed conflict, most of them civilian men, women and children.

It was right therefore that the week following the Libyan bombings saw a concerted and powerful wave of condemnation and protest in Nottingham.

This protest included;

- 1) A march and rally around the city centre on the day of the bombings, drawing in hundreds of people.
- 2) A march from Slab Square to the U.S depot at Chilwell, involving about 400 people, and concluding with a rally outside the gates of the base, where speakers condemned the British government's complicity in the bombing, and demanded the withdrawal of all U.S. bases from this country.



- 3) A march from the Forest to Slab Square on the Saturday following the bombings, organised by the Pakistani Community, embracing other ethnic communities, and confirming the outrage of the U.S./British action was shared by all communities in Nottingham.

The week also saw many peaceful direct protests that received considerable local media coverage, including an occupation of a roof inside U.S. Chilwell and a blockade of the Mansfield Road, organised by Nottingham Women for Peace.

The protest in Nottingham was typical of what was happening throughout the country, and across Europe, particularly in countries like West Germany and Italy, whose people understood only too well the dangers created for them by the aggressive American action.

Nottingham Protests continued

In this country protest culminated in a National CND demonstration outside the American Embassy in Grosvenor Square, London. 10,000 people were involved in the protest, and thousands later joined a blockade of Oxford Street, conveying directly and powerfully that ordinary people were not prepared to remain passive in the face of British support of State Terror, and the dangers of terrorist retaliation it posed, as well as the everpresent danger of an escalation of conflict from such crude and belligerent and barbaric American actions.

Thatcher's government were exposed as hypocritical warmongers, quite prepared to support civilian murder when it suited them. But the British people, all our communities, no longer support such policies - polls showed that 70% of people were opposed to the U.S. action and the use of bases in this country for it.

Retaliation

Reagan says there may be more bombings. Britain and Europe are on alert, expecting terrorist retaliation. In such a volatile situation, it is impossible to predict the outcomes, or to dismiss the possibility of other countries becoming involved, and in particular Russia.

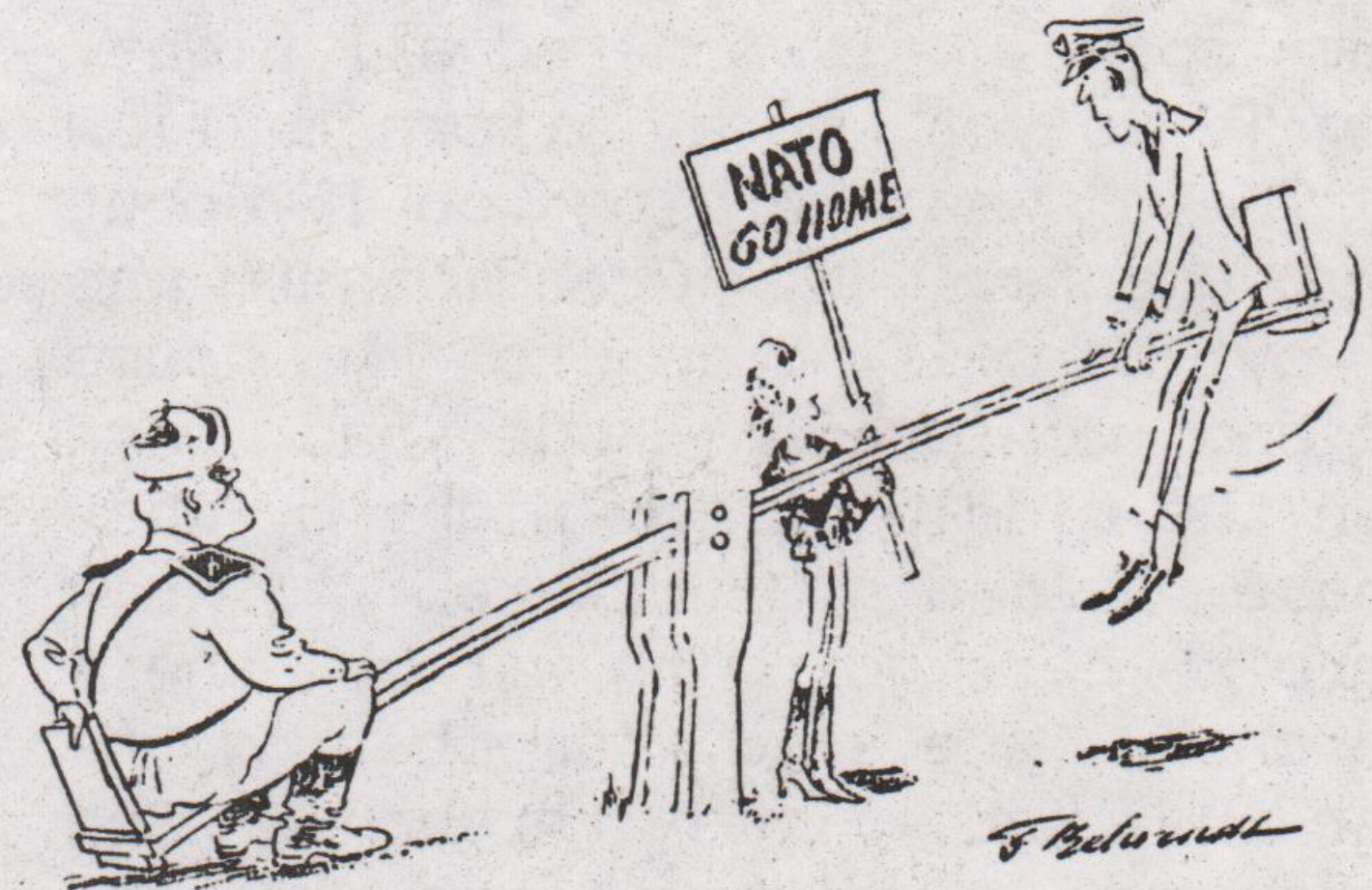
For Britain, our involvement in the Libyan bombings, and the increased threat it creates for us all, is a **direct** result of our aggressive foreign policy, and our total backing of the warmongering imperialism of the U.S.A. We must act now to change this situation, to make Britain a safer place, and a country committed to peace, and to ending the insane arms race that makes a hostage of every man, woman and child. We must;

1) Get rid of all nuclear missiles and bombs, British and American - they make this country a prime target in any international conflict.

- 2) Throw out **all** 135 American bases, as the bombing of Libya shows they are here not for defence or deterrence, but as the forward wing of aggressive U.S. foreign policy.
- 3) Withdraw from N.A.T.O. - an aggressive, U.S.-dominated nuclear alliance that, like the Russian-dominated Warsaw Pact, is a direct threat to world peace.

Those are the **only** sane policies for any country concerned to increase its own security, and play a positive role in reversing aggressive policies that cause death, destruction and starvation on a huge scale today, and could lead to a nuclear holocaust tomorrow.

LES PARSONS
Forest Fields Peace Group



Les Parsons will be appearing at Guildhall Magistrates' Court at 9.15am on Thursday May 29th for the non-payment of £237 in fines incurred from actions at USAF Molesworth last year. Les is prepared to go to prison and it seems likely that he will on this date so please spare an hour or two to give your support. The Forest Fields Peace Group banner will be outside the courts.

Under a government which imprisons any unjustly, the only true place for a just man or woman is in prison.

Thoreau

Witness To Murder

At home in Cornwall, at about 6.00am on Monday 14th April, I was drinking coffee when my quiet conversation was broken by the sound of aircraft flying overhead.

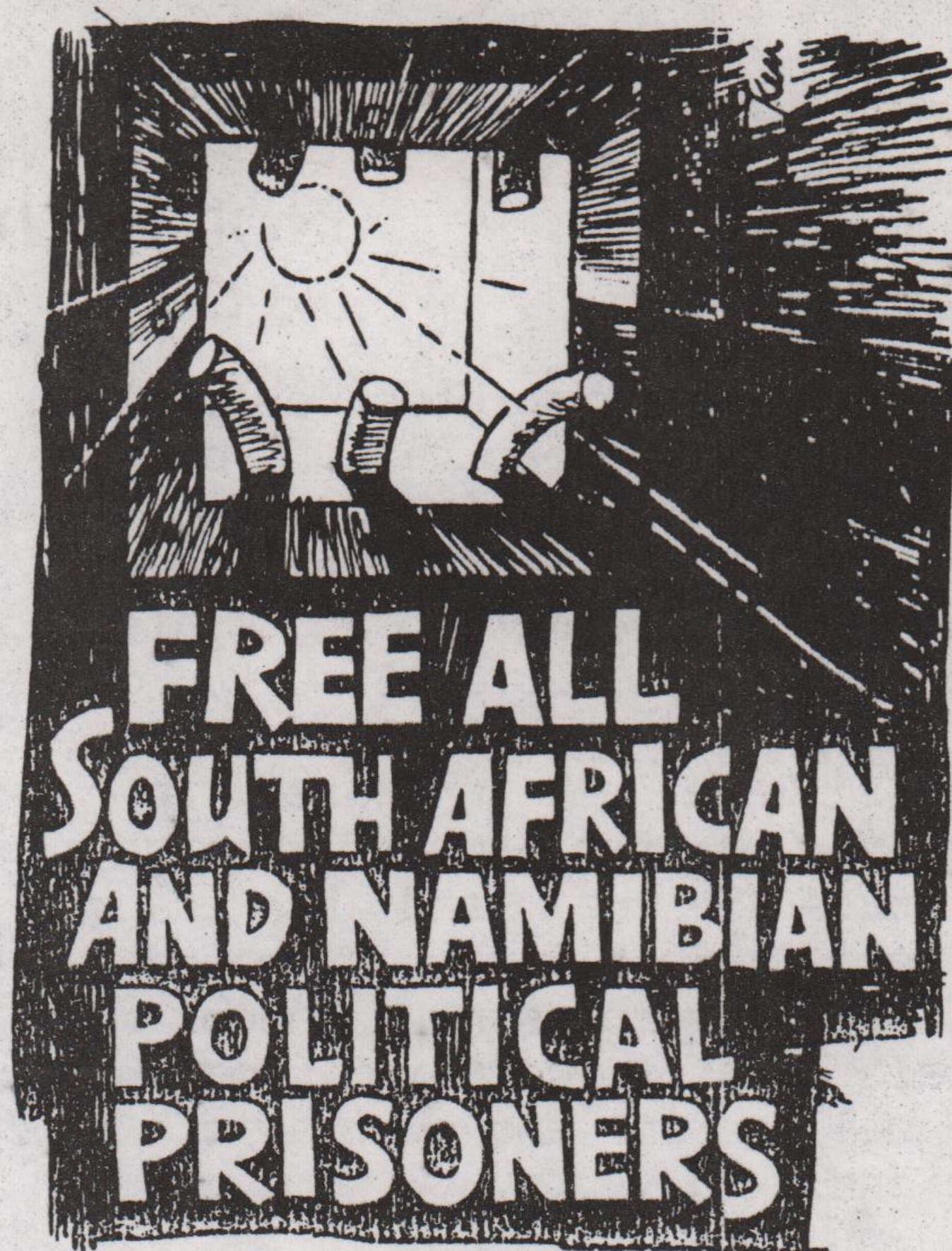
I went outside expecting to see a local Cornish Nimrod from the St. Mawgan Air Base polluting our clean air trying to catch foreign fishing vessels in local waters. But the sight was incomparably more frightening; two refuelling aircraft and a group of five American F1-11 aircraft flying towards the Atlantic using our coastline to navigate their deceptive rout around the bulk of Europe. Calling a friend outside only to see the aircraft disappearing behind the clouds, I realised instantly what was going on. The American Terrorist (President Reagan) had just launched a small part of his principle exportWAR.

The first question that came to my mind was what could we do ?

This brought a cold paralysing chill down my spine. I wondered all night, watching TV as yet more aircraft flew over. There was nothing on TV about these movements. My Grandmother who lives by herself came to my house worried and confused - she had been woken in the middle of the night by what must have seemed a nightmare. "I knew they were bombers going to war by their deep drone", she said, remembering the last war she had lived through. She broke the news to me that Libya had been bombed and innocent lives snatched.

The people of Cornwall witnessed a murder. The murder of innocent men, women and children like ourselves.

Tim



"On the weekend of 12-13 May 1984, we had our first 'contact' visit. Can you imagine ? We last touched his hand in 1962. When I arrived at Pollsmoor prison with Zeni and her youngest, Sergeant Gregory called me to the office. I got a terrible shock. I thought Nelson was sick, because that's very unusual. He said, "As from now you will be able to have different visits. I thought I should break the news gently to you."

We kissed Nelson and held him a long time. It is an experience one just cannot put into words. It was fantastic and hurting at the same time. He clung to the child right through the visit. Gregory, the warder, was so moved, he looked the other way. That the system could have been so cruel as to deny us that right for the past 22 years ! Why deny that right to a man who is jailed for life ?"

WINNIE MANDELA, 1985



GLASTONBURY
CND FESTIVAL 1986

20-21-22 June. Worthy Farm, Pilton, Shepton Mallet, Somerset.

MUSIC * THEATRE * GREENFIELD
CHILDRENS WORLD * FILMS
FILMS * LASERS * EVENTS

Tickets : £17 - Whole Weekend
including Parking and Camping
from

CND (Festival)
22-24 Underwood Street
London N1 7JG

20-21-22 JUNE 1986

Enquiries
01-251-0028

CND Goes Long Distance

On June 30th Bruce Kent will step out on a 450 mile stroll from the Polaris submarine base at Holy Loch in Scotland, down to the Burghfield Royal Ordnance factory in Berkshire. His aims are to raise money for CND and War On Want, and to publicise the route that Polaris nuclear missiles take on their regular journeys down the country to be overhauled.

Not to be outdone, Forest Fields Peace Group is also staging its Marathon Fundraising Event. In order to raise much needed funds, Brycchan will be travelling the 865 miles from Land's End to John O'Groats. Not quite so active as Bruce Kent he decided that hitchhiking would be a good form of travelling. Not only is it cheap and fun (when it doesn't rain), but it gives a good opportunity to meet people and to discuss the threat posed by nuclear weapons.

But there is also a symbolic reason for making this journey. In Cornwall, the Culdrose air base, 10 miles from Land's End is a nuclear weapons store and the Dounreay 'Fast Breeder' nuclear power station in Scotland is only 20 miles from John O'Groats. However far you travel in this country, it is impossible to escape from the nuclear chain and so rather than trying to do this we should work together to remove the nuclear threat forever. Both of these events emphasize this point.

Please give them your support.

Forest Fields Peace Group
invite you to a

TRADITIONAL JAZZ & RAGTIME EVENING

on
Saturday 7th June, 7.30pm

at the
Forest Fields Community Centre
Sturton Street, off Berridge Road,

Contact Melissa on 785637

MAY DAY Programme of Events

10.30am Assemble on Market Square
11.00am March to Queens Walk Community Centre
12.00pm May Day Address - Rally with speakers

Speakers

JABU SINDANE

Commercial, Catering & Allied Workers of South Africa - Independent African Trade Union affiliated to the Confederation of South African Trade Unions (C.O.S.A.T.U.)

MAIRE O'SHEA

National President, Irish in Britain Representation Group, A.S.T.M.S. member recently acquitted of conspiracy charges under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

N.U.P.E. Health Worker striking against supplies of South African Goods.

Social for the Irish in Britain
Representation Group

KELLY'S HEROES

Traditional Irish Folk

Speakers

MAIRE O'SHEA

TOM PAULIN

Leading Irish Poet

Bank Holiday Monday May 5th
7.30pm - late

The Yorker

Mansfield Road, Nottingham
£1.50 waged/75p unwaged

ALL WELCOME

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There was an important job to be done and everybody was sure somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but nobody did it.

Somebody got angry about that because it was everybody's job. Everybody thought anybody could do it, but nobody realised that everybody wouldn't do it.

It ended up that everybody blamed somebody when nobody did what anybody could have done.  
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FOREST FIELDS PEACE GROUP

AIMS and OBJECTIVES

Forest Fields Peace Group is a neighbour-hood group open to everybody in the Forest Fields and Hyson Green areas of Nottingham, and to all others who share the group's aims. They are :-

1. To oppose nuclear weapons, and all other weapons of mass destruction.
2. To work for unilateral nuclear disarmament in Britain.
3. To support CND and all other groups active in the struggle to achieve a nuclear weapons-free and peaceful world.
4. To reject the dangerous militarist policies of both America and Russia, and work for a non-nuclear British defence policy, outside NATO.
5. To support all non-violent protest, including civil disobedience, in the belief that the threat to use nuclear weapons is both immoral and illegal.

I would like to join the Forest Fields Peace Group.

I enclose my membership fee of £1.00
I enclose a donation of _____ *

NAME.....

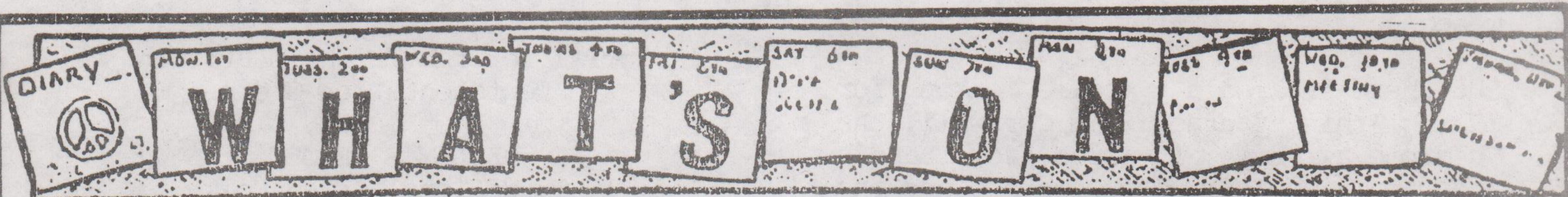
ADDRESS.....

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TELEPHONE.....

Please make all cheques/postal orders payable to Forest Fields Peace Group. Return this form to the address below.

*delete if not applicable



MONDAY MAY 5TH - MAY DAY MARCH & RALLY
March from Market Square to Queens Walk Community Centre and rally with speakers at Queens Walk. See inside for details.

MONDAY MAY 12TH - FOREST FIELDS PEACE GROUP MEETING, 7.30pm, FFNC, 69 Wiverton Road.

FRIDAY MAY 16TH - NICARAGUAN BENEFIT
with bands, speakers and veggieburgers. Details inside.

SUNDAY MAY 18TH - BASIC CASE LEAFLETING. Meet at the FFNC from 11am. Contact Cathy on 788655.

THURSDAY MAY 22ND - FOREST FIELDS PEACE GROUP MEETING with speaker and discussion. At the FFNC, 69 Wiverton Road, 7.30pm.

FRIDAY MAY 30TH - NOTTINGHAM DEFEND MOLESWORTH GROUP BENEFIT. At the ICC on Mansfield Road from 6pm to 10.30pm. Bands, disco, food, bar, video, raffle, and loads more. Contact Melissa on 785637.

SATURDAY JUNE 7TH - FOREST FIELDS PEACE GROUP'S "TRADITIONAL JAZZ & RAGTIME EVENING". See inside for details.

This newsletter was thrown together by-
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