

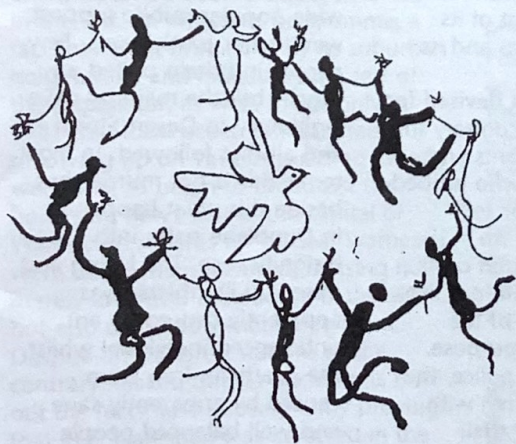
#eddwch

the magazine of CND Cymru



Spring 1997
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Happy Birthday Nuclear Free Wales!



Fifteen years ago this February, the last of all the Welsh counties, Clwyd, made the decision to declare itself a nuclear free zone, making Wales a nuclear free country. This brave step was a declaration of intent, and a message and example to the world. It followed intense campaigning by the 'ordinary' people of Wales, many of whom had been alerted by the announcement that the US was to base Cruise Missiles with nuclear warheads in Britain, the search by the nuclear industry for a nuclear waste dump in Wales, and the possibility of pressurised water reactor nuclear power stations being built in and around Wales. Greenpeace was also already alerting people to the huge radioactive discharges into the Irish Sea from Windscale (Sellafield).

Nuclear Wales

Wales, of course, already had nuclear facilities within its borders – Wylfa and Trawsfynydd nuclear power stations, and an Ordnance factory at Llanishen in Cardiff, which manufactured the casings for nuclear warheads. It was also threatened by pollution from nuclear establishments in England and, as Chernobyl proved in 1986, from far beyond.

Prevention is better than cure

Nuclear Free Wales was realistic and wise. Minimising, if not preventing the dangers of nuclear technology on behalf of Welsh communities was seen as vital. The Councils of Wales joined an organisation which had grown out of the Nuclear Free Movement – the Nuclear Free Local Authorities. This organisation fosters co-operation between affiliated authorities with similar nuclear free aspirations, seeks to increase accountability in the nuclear industry and protects the public from nuclear hazards. Far from 'picking up the pieces' left by nuclear technology, it believes that 'prevention is better than cure'. It has lobbied collectively on many issues – including a successful campaign to drop a Government proposal to use local landfill sites for nuclear waste and it was the first to call for parts of the decommissioning plans for Trawsfynydd to be subject to planning consent. It provided early information and expert advice to councils on nuclear issues which might affect Welsh communities. The detail of the nuclear issues may have changed in 15 years, but the dangers are still as ever present and potent as in 1982. Many would say that the urgency to protect our planet is now even greater.

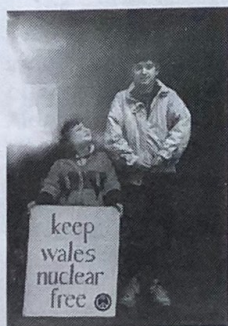
Babies and banners

Many of us deeply concerned that our council should decide to become nuclear free stood outside County Council meetings in 1981 and 1982, with our baby in one arm and a banner in the other. We have watched our children grow up in and alongside Nuclear Free Wales. As those babies, now teenagers, look forward to their lives, we hope dearly that they will carry with them the intense optimism of that decision in 1982, for a Nuclear Free World.

CND Cymru is proud of Nuclear Free Wales. We feel that at a time when attitudes towards nuclear weapons and power have reached a turning point in the world, it is our task as citizens of this nuclear free country, to offer new hopes and ideas to deal with the challenge, while protecting our grandchildren from the legacy left by this nuclear nightmare. Read the 1982 Clwyd Declaration again (inside this issue) and feel proud too!

Happy Birthday Nuclear Free Wales, and Many Happy Returns!

Jill Stallard



ACTION:
*Let your
Unitary
Authority
know just how
much you
appreciate
being part of
Nuclear Free
Wales!*

CND Cymru works for international peace and disarmament and a world in which the vast resources now devoted to militarism are redirected to the real needs of the human community

The Clwyd Declaration

February 23 1982

The decision made today by the Clwyd County Council to declare its county a nuclear free zone is of special significance to the whole of Wales. During the past years similar decisions have been made by one Welsh County after another, beginning with Dyfed and culminating this very day with Clwyd.

The consensus of opinion of the Welsh people in this matter has long been evident. Local anti-nuclear groups which sprang up voluntarily have been able to co-ordinate their activities so that Wales as an entity be made a nuclear free zone, and surveys and petitions have shown the overwhelming support for their campaign by a populace which is

deeply concerned by nuclear escalation and which wants the right to have its say in the future of humanity.

Because of today's decision we are now in a position to proclaim to the world that the whole of Wales, through its democratically elected representatives, has declared itself a nuclear free zone. By this action Wales has given a moral lead to the other countries of Europe and the World.

In passing on to them our message of hope and inspiration, we call upon the other nations of Europe to make known their deep concern for the future of civilisation. We call upon them to commit themselves to the cause of redeeming Europe from total destruction by taking the initial step of declaring their homelands nuclear free zones.

Signed (amongst others) by:

Gwynfor Evans
Henry Roberts (Chairman Gwynedd County Council)
Plaid Cymru representative
Ecology Party representative
R. S. Thomas
Dafydd Ellis Thomas
John Landon
Ennys Kelly
E. Griffiths (Chairman Gwent Council)
W. R. Phillips (Powys County Council)
R.G. Harris (Dyfed County Council)
Robert Morgan (Leader S. Glamorgan County Council)
Morgan Chambers (Mid Glamorgan County Council)
Martyn D. Jones (Clwyd County Council)
Owen Hardwicke (CND Cymru & Pax Christi)

Guns and cricket bats

Perhaps it's not altogether surprising that, with a wife who is Commander in Chief of the British Armed Forces whose nuclear missiles can, within minutes, wipe out several cities the size of London, Prince Philip has a rather dismissive view of guns – in comparison they are pretty small beer.

"...if a cricketer, suddenly decided to go into a school", said Prince Philip in a recent radio interview, "and battered a lot of people to death with a cricket bat which he could do very easily, I mean are you going to ban cricket bats?"

That's about as sophisticated as the "guns debate" had got. Supporters of gun control were outraged while the pro-shooting lobby congratulated the Duke for his 'courage' in speaking out.

Of course it's true that guns, like cricket bats, or the 'impossible'-to-define knives, are all inanimate objects and left lying about will cause little harm; to turn them into lethal 'weapons' requires a little human help. This, essentially, is the only, non-commercial, non-selfish argument which underpins the gun lobby – guns don't kill, people do. In some respects this is a more

accurate assessment of the situation than offered by some supporters of gun control, until, that is, we understand that we humans can kill, without ever touching the trigger.

You will not be surprised to know that I have not been able to find a single case of anyone anywhere in the world going on a murderous rampage in a school or anywhere else, with a cricket bat, while instances of murderous use guns, even if one leaves out wars, are legion. There is a good reason for this which seems to have escaped the good prince.

The significant difference between a cricket bat and a gun is that one was devised for playing a game, not smashing people's heads, while the other was devised and refined over the years for one purpose only – to kill. This is the meaning and significance that any gun, however it is used or whatever drawer or holster it is left in, carries with it and that is why it is a weapon of choice for any practical person wishing to kill. One may be able to garrotte people with a knife, smash heads with golf clubs and kill people with motor cars but these are incidental uses of

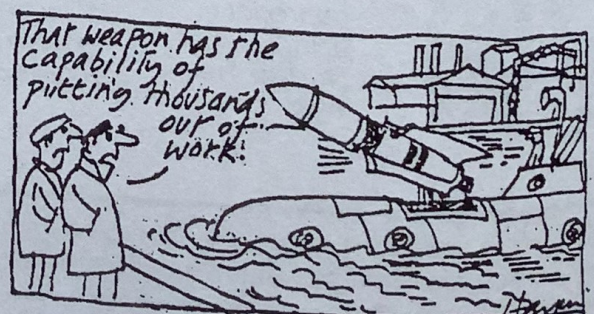
tools created for quite other reasonable purposes – such is life. But a gun or any representation of a gun, unlike a cricket bat, carries with it and passes on to the owner an element of its murderous origins and its bloody history.

Guns were not devised for defence, on the contrary they were tools of tyrants and megalomaniacs who robbed and murdered for self aggrandisement. An acceptance of a gun or its representation into our lives is an acceptance of the legitimacy of its purpose. Whether it's the police, the shooters or children with their toy guns or their fantastic and futuristic variants, the embodied message in the guns and toys is that killing to get one's way is acceptable. Though none of this appears to have turned us into a country of deranged murderers.

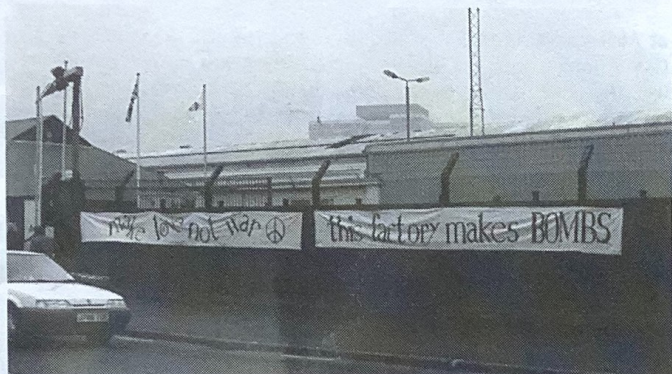
Half a million children, according to a recent World Health Organisation report, have died in Iraq as a result of the Gulf war in which British armed forces, with wide popular public support were major participants. Few people in Britain pulled any trigger but the majority gave legitimacy to Desert Storm and all that followed. In legal terms this is not murder but beside this what happened in Dunblane pales into insignificance. The killing and misery in Dunblane was apparently caused by an unbalanced individual whilst the deaths in Iraq were caused by apparently sane and well balanced people. No doubt the Duke has a sporting explanation.

Jan Melichar

This first appeared in Peace Matters, the magazine of the Peace Pledge Union, 41b, Brecknock Road, London N7 0BT.



AWE Llanishen Vigil (1982 – 1997)



Did we have anything to do with the fact that the Royal Ordnance Factory in Llanishen, a Cardiff suburb, eventually took on a less euphemistic, more honest title?

Founded at the onset of the Second World War in 1939, from 1963 onwards it had been crucially involved in the nuclear weapons programme, a fact that went unnoticed by its suburban neighbours, and indeed by the rest of the population as well. It was only in 1981 that local peace campaigners, following up on various puzzling events, were able to begin to broadcast the horrifying news that in the capital of Wales components for nuclear warheads were being manufactured, utilising not merely low-level radioactive materials but also the deadly metal beryllium. Despite official protestations to the contrary, leaked official documents bore out the facts, also subsequently proving that ROF Llanishen was involved in the Trident programme.

The veil of secrecy now seemed to be sufficiently tattered for the defence industry to drop the pretence and – prior to privatisation, in common with Aldermaston and Burghfield – call a spade a spade, or at least a nuclear bomb factory an Atomic Weapons Establishment

Publicising the existence of the ROF and making people aware of its function has taken many forms and demanded unceasing effort over many years. Perseverance has certainly been required of the small group of women who have maintained a weekly vigil from 7.00 until 8.00 a.m. every Friday morning (or almost every!) for the past fifteen years.

Here are the voices of just a few of the women who have been involved during those years:

* The first anti-nuclear protests I was involved with were in Cardiff back in my student days. The first march I ever went on was from Llanishen AWE to the city centre. I moved away from Wales for six years, and became involved in the Women's Peace

Movement. When I came back and found there was still a Women's Vigil at the AWE of course I had to be involved!

* Although not a natural early riser, and even in cold and wet weather, when I have made the effort, I have found my vigils at the AWE enjoyable and rewarding. They have been worthwhile in reminding passers-by on their way to work in town or at the Inland Revenue next door of the immoral nature of the work carried on inside the AWE.

* A women's initiative from Wales was what began Greenham Common Women's Peace Camp, where I lived and worked for seven years. When I moved to Cardiff in 1992 I found the same spirit which had initiated Greenham maintaining a regular women's witness against the Trident programme. I was, and still am, very proud to join these women whenever I can on Friday mornings. Just being there with perseverance and conviction is in my experience one of the strongest forms of non-violent direct action.

* A few months ago, a worker stopped for a brief conversation with me on his way into the factory, concluding with the remark: "I really admire what you have done". Those words will always stay with me, not so much because of the praise (though part of me does secretly quite enjoy that too!), but because of the implicit acknowledgment by us both that despite the gulf between us there can still be some overlap of shared values and mutual respect. It must have taken quite a lot for him to say it, and I admire that.

* When I am standing outside the AWE on a Friday morning, I feel I represent many who are unable to be there, and many who do not care to be there – but when I feel strongly about something, I have to act on my convictions – mostly!

* On a personal level, the vigil is a point of contact with like-minded women and a way of physically expressing my love of this land and my disgust at how we have treated her. I could not walk freely in our beautiful Welsh hills if it was not balanced by being involved with protest and work for change.

* I wasn't there at the beginning, and dark mornings and fumes defeated me, so that I shan't make the end. But I left my banners to represent me.

* Tying on banners with wet fingers. Great chats with friends. Waving to supporting toots. Feelings of achievement when we managed to raise a greeting from a worker.

* What on earth shall I do now on Friday mornings at 7.00?

This vigil will end, as will the factory itself, in the summer of 1997. But nuclear weapons production will still go on elsewhere

Alison Jackson



Nuclear Free Belau: sold out to the U.S. Military?

Isabella Sumang and Cita Morei from the Pacific Island chain of Belau, recently spoke in Cardiff as part of an international campaigning tour.

These women represent the struggle of Belauan women to keep and uphold their nuclear-free constitution. Like Wales, Belau declared itself a nuclear free zone in the 1980s. However, the Belauan Government was forced to sign a "Compact of Free Association" with the USA, in 1994. This Compact secured options to use Belau's land and seas for military purposes for 50 years and thereafter. In return, the United States granted Belau

about US\$450 million in economic assistance for the first 15 years with unspecified provisions for the remaining years. This agreement has caused grave anxiety amongst the population of Belau. There is a nuclear option in this Compact. The US are not known for their care of fragile environments and the health and rights of indigenous peoples.

While the US Military will be using Belau's limited land and water, part of the Island Chain is being used to incinerate U.S. chemical weapons.

During their speaking tour of Britain, and their visits to the Women's peace Camps

at Aldermaston and Greenham Common, the women told us that they gained strength from our anti-nuclear and peace campaigning. Many here were inspired by their

courage and energy. The two women are now back in Belau, writing new chapters of their nuclear free struggle.

Women for a Nuclear Free and Independent
Pacific



■ Isabella Sumang from Belau speaking at the Conference on Violence, Abuse and Women's Citizenship, Brighton.

Photo: Brenda Prince/Format

ACTION:

Like many people in Wales, the people of the Pacific wish to raise their children in a nuclear free environment, and do not wish to be coerced by any nuclear state into prostituting their land for immoral and environmentally damaging uses. It is our responsibility to support them:

Women for a Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific, who publish an excellent newsletter, can be contacted c/o: 89, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3PS ((0181) 809 2388).

British CND passed this Conference Resolution in November, supporting the peoples of Belau:

Nuclear Weapons threaten and harm the third world in many ways. The damage has already been immense, damage which is a daily reality for people all over the world. The nuclear cycle has already been imposed upon the people of the South – through mining and testing and military bases. The products of this nuclear cycle are then used for military economic strategies which ensure the dominance of western interests. It is vital that we in the peace movement enact solidarity with the people of the third world, and in opposing the economic domination of the Western powers. We extend special solidarity to the peoples of Belau, recognising the common ties of our two island peoples enmeshed in global nuclear strategies.

• Ask your M.P. to sign Early Day Motion 233 which urges the Government to put pressure on the US not to take up the military/nuclear option of the Compact as it would violate the Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and add to the genetic damage already perpetrated on Pacific peoples.

(An Early Day Motion can, in theory, be discussed in the House should the schedule for the day finish early: in practice, this doesn't happen – but the motion is used as a way of making MPs aware of an issue.)

For the text of the Early Day Motion contact Jill Stallard at CND Cymru.

Giz a job

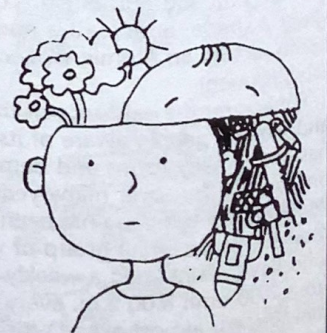
A few months ago Michael Portillo announced a £3.5 billion package for new military aircraft and missiles which he said would create 2,600 new jobs or £1.3 million per job.

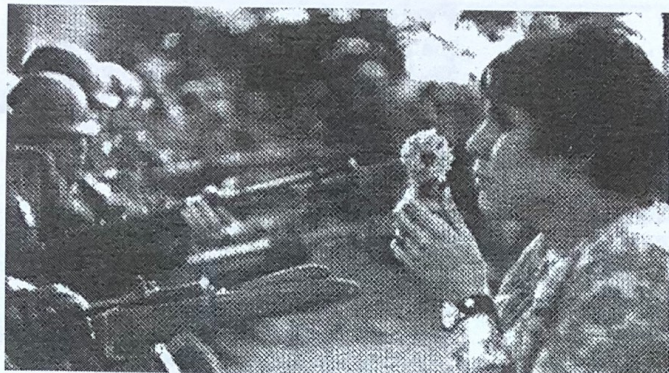
Some time later he announced that a further £15 billion will be found for Britain's contribution towards the "Eurofighter" which would result in 14,000 jobs in Britain – only £1 million per job, or £275 for every woman, man and child in Britain. The same day it was announced that a children's hospital in Derby (cost £17 million) may have to close due to spending cuts.

From Peace Matters

ACTION:

You may like to check with your MP how many jobs could have been created in health, education or indeed almost any other sector for the same amount of money.





Ordinary folk – changing the hearts and minds of the generals

In an interview in the New York Times on January 8th, General George Lee Butler, who was Chief of the US Nuclear Weapons Command until 3 years ago, talked about his change of heart regarding nuclear weapons. He said "we need to think more boldly in term of immediate initiatives...We need to move beyond the sort of lock-step, numbers driven, phase-down, years at a time, arms control reductions of the cold war".

He hopes that his comments on nuclear disarmament will put "bold" arms cuts onto the agenda of a scheduled summit conference between Clinton and Yeltsin, in March.

General Butler argues that "new times require new thinking", and credits world wide protests against France's testing of nuclear weapons in the South Pacific, in Autumn 1995, for his change of heart about nuclear weapons. He said of the anti-nuclear protests: "Governments lag behind the public in these questions...the underlying message (of the protests) was: 'look, the nuclear era is over. Don't bring it back.' "

Alexander Nikitin – Freed

The capital charges against Nikitin, jailed for revealing secrets about dangerously leaking nuclear submarines in Russia, have been lifted. He has been freed, but is unable to leave St. Petersburg.

Wylfa Nuclear Power Station – approved of by the Wales Tourist Board

There were more than 42,500 visitors to Wylfa last year – 8,000 of them were children on organised trips. The Wales Tourist Board radiated its delight in January, when it awarded the station 92% in its official seal of approval.

While the children mill around in the visitors' centre, safety levels in the magnox plant are being compromised by unrealistic and unsustainable financial targets set by Magnox Electric. Wylfa Nuclear Power Station has seen a huge number of accidents and mishaps. As a member of CND Cymru said: "It's bad enough getting reminders of Magnox's self advertising, but I fail to see why the Wales Tourist Board feels it has got to do a P.R. job, like a 'gwâs bach' to Magnox Electric!"

ACTION: *If you feel that the Wales Tourist Board has got it wrong, write to the Chairman, Brunel House, 2, Fitzalan Road, Cardiff CF2 1UY.*

Abolition 2000

Wales Alliance Against Nuclear Weapons co-ordinates this world-wide network of organisations and individuals in Wales. Over seven hundred organisations (including CND Cymru) from six continents have endorsed the Abolition Statement – an eleven point plan for the elimination of nuclear weapons making it truly a global citizens' movement. Abolition 2000 is now asking

local authorities to endorse the Statement.

At an Abolition 2000 conference held in Tahiti and Moorea this January, there was an opportunity for participants to assess the state of the nuclear world, co-ordinate strategies, and exchange information with people from around the globe.

ACTION: *An Abolition 2000 Citizen's Pledge was included in the previous edition of Heddwch. If you would like more copies, or information about Abolition 2000, please contact George Crabb, The Peace Shop, Mackintosh Place Cardiff CF2 4RQ. phone (01446) 774452.*

Chernobyl: leukaemia in Greece

Greece was one of the countries most heavily affected by fallout from the nuclear accident at Chernobyl in 1986. Now, scientists are discovering that despite official reports from a conference held last April by the International Atomic Energy Authority, European Union and World Health Organisation, children in Greece seem to be contracting leukaemia. The research conclusions are based on a clear correlation between levels of radiation exposure and rates of childhood leukaemia. It is expected that, over the next 85 years, there will be 6,600 fatal cancers in the contaminated regions of Greece, attributable to that accident.

Chernobyl – farms in Wales

The Welsh Office announced in January that restrictions imposed following the Chernobyl nuclear accident have been lifted from 28 sheep farms in North Wales. The restrictions originally covered 5,000 farms in the area. Since then restrictions have been lifted gradually. There are still restrictions on 380 farms in Wales with 2 million sheep still affected.

This does not mean that the radionuclides have 'gone away', but has simply moved into other parts of the un-monitored food chain, including humans, or washed down stream from the hill farms – into the flood plains and the estuaries, and on into the Irish Sea.

NIREX: "protecting" our planet

It has recently been revealed that NIREX – the nuclear waste disposal company – has known for a long time that the proposed 'Rock Characterisation Laboratory' at Sellafield is to be sited in an unstable geological formation! If their planning application for this 'laboratory' is rejected, then NIREX will be looking for another site for an underground waste storage dump.

We must be aware of any future proposals, and continue our campaign to close all nuclear establishments, and to store all radioactive waste on the site where it is produced, above ground, in a retrievable form, isolated from the biosphere.

Anglesey primary school adopts a killing machine

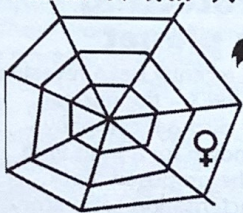
In January a North Wales news paper reported the visit of school children from Ysgol Gynradd Bodedern to RAF Valley. A chilling photograph showed the grinning children posed happily next to a Hawk aircraft with the name of their school embellishing the nose cone. When questioned, the headmaster said that they were doing a project on transport and so he felt it appropriate to take the children to study the Hawk fighter aircraft. The BBC interviewed local peace activists who pointed out that the primary role of a Hawk aircraft is for killing people on the ground and children just like those from Ysgol Gynradd Boderden.

► Continued on next page

ACTION:

it might be wise to point out the difference between methods of transport and methods of killing to the Headmaster, Ysgol Gynradd Bodedern, Church Street, Bodedern, Ynys Mon, or the Director of Education, Richard Ll. Parry Jones, Anglesey County Council, Llangefni LL77 7TW.

Faslane Women's Action
March 14-17th '97



Reweaving the web of life ...

Break the nuclear - military chain
Celebrate International Women's Week

Contact : phone/fax 01706 812663

JOIN US for a weekend of action and celebration, outside the Trident nuclear submarine base, 30 miles north of Glasgow.

Ban the bomb

The idea of getting rid of the Bomb is spreading. After the Stimson Report and the Canberra Commission, over sixty generals from around the world, many of them senior former US and Russian commanders, presented their point-by-point plan for the elimination of all nuclear weapons. Next came Fat Cats Against the Bomb (aka Business Leaders for Global Growth and Stability), backing the generals and pointing out that "acts of terrorism and war reduce profitability, slow trade...and drive away tourists." They're dead right, you know.

Then the Queen's Speech outlining Government legislation for this parliamentary session included a Bill ratifying the UK's signature of the CTBT. No sign of it yet but we'll be asking some pointed parliamentary questions if it doesn't surface soon. Other new CTBT signatories include the Vatican, stating that they see the treaty not just as a non-proliferation but as a nuclear disarmament measure.

ACTION

Letters to John Gummer and Anne Widdicombe asking for their comments.

Poisons

The US is proposing to get rid of up to fifty tonnes of plutonium by turning it into mixed oxide (MOX) fuel for nuclear power stations. Since the US has no MOX fabrication plant and BNFL has one coming on stream in a year or so, there is every possibility of tonnes of plutonium being flown into Carlisle Airport in containers designed to withstand a fall of 9m and an impact speed of 30mph. The US also plans to resume tritium production. Again, depending on local environmental objections, the easy-life option might be to give nuclear plant Chapelcross the contract.

Meanwhile leaked MoD documents confirm that the scandal of the navy's withdrawn nuclear submarines grows worse. Contrary to Portillo's statements, the MoD doesn't even know how much radioactive waste there will be, nor how to handle it. Even if the NIREX deep storage plant is built, let alone on time by 2012, the reactors and waste probably won't be accepted.

Recent Letters to Heddwch from friends in the New World**Seattle, Washington., USA**
December 21 1996

Dear CND Cymru

Thanks again for sending Heddwch. I really enjoyed the article about Greenham Common. Also, I'm going to send copies of the piece about radioactivity in the Irish Sea to the Welsh-American press. That sure sounds important news to me. I used to have an article about the high cancer rates in North Wales. I wonder if there's a credible cause - and - effect relationship here.

There was a brief mention on the mid-day news yesterday about the retirement of the A6 bombers at Oak Harbour Naval Air Station. They've been doing low-flying practice around here but I've never seen a low-flying bomber and neither has anyone else I know. Anyway, they're going to replace the A6s with radar jamming planes. This story was not repeated in the local evening news, even though they had footage taken by a photographer who was taken on a low-flying bombing run. It showed how the A6 approached at 500 feet, turned upside down to spot the target (works better that way), then turned right-side-up, dived, and pretended to release its bomb.

Peace,

Carol Woods

Paradise, South Australia.
1 January 1997

Dear Jill and Heddwch,

It was wonderful to read all the news in the Autumn issue, but even more exciting to learn once again how the important causes for peace and justice are supported all round the globe.

Each year the Graham Smith Trust (local South Aussie) offers a grant to projects in the arts. Last year, it was awarded to a young South Australian playwright, Paul Rees, to write a play based on the case of Mordechai Vannunu. He became interested and inspired by what he had learned in his initial research and the panel had no hesitation in supporting him. The play "Moordy" has had its first public reading which was well received, and we are hoping for the first full performance in the first part of this year. We could only provide \$2,000 but he is being given support by Praxis, a local theatre group, and we are hoping for the play to get on the Australian circuit. I will keep you informed of our progress.

I have written to Mordechai but have not had an acknowledgement as yet. We are trying to get other trustees to write also.

Thank you for Heddwch. I look forward to it each season and I did not miss your message on the cover. may you and all

the CNDers enjoy a successful and joyful 1997.

Love and peace,
David Trelulcock

Editor's note: Mordechai Vanunu receives Heddwch - and to him we in Wales send our warm wishes, love and passionate hopes for justice in 1997

The Nuclear Resister, Tucson, Arizona, USA
December 1997

Congratulations on Jill's nomination as Woman of Europe!!

Heddwch is full of such good news - like Greenham history and Faslane Camp continuing. Felice was in Israel in October for Vanunu Conference.

Happy Holidays,
Best Wishes in '97,
Jack and Felice (Cohan-Coppa)



Trawsfynydd decommissioning – what now?

The plan for (avoiding) decommissioning Trawsfynydd was outlined in September 1994. This involves building a 'reduced height safestore' over each reactor before the end of the decade, and postponing final site clearance until the year 2136.

"...the track record of the general order of society in our country is sufficient guarantee that there will not be major upheavals which would undermine the integrity of these structures or our ability to dismantle them completely at the end of the day."

(John Moares, then Trawsfynydd Station Manager, on BBC Wales 'Eye on Wales' Sept 18th 1994.)

The planning

In July 1995 it was conceded that the 'safestore' requires planning permission. Alun Ellis, the station manager, stated that the application would be submitted 'next year' (the liaison committee was given a diagram showing the stages of decommissioning, which indicated January 1st 1996). Such applications have to be accompanied by an 'Environmental Impact Statement' (EIS). Early in 1996 it was stated by Magnox Electric that the application would be delayed until the Autumn because of local government re-organisation, further work on 'external appearance' and because of the flotation of British Energy. A new pipeline into the less contaminated parts of the lake, planned to take the 'washings' from the decontamination of radioactive steel and concrete, was to be the subject of a parallel planning application, but to share the same EIS.

Artful dodgers

Then in December 1996, instead of submitting an application and EIS, Magnox Electric applied to Snowdonia National Park, the planning authority, for a 'certificate of lawful development'. This attempt to by-pass the usual planning procedures was said by Alun Ellis to be necessary to fulfil a pledge to the local community to reduce the visual impact of the reactors and minimise the short-term impact of closure on the local economy. "If we are delayed then we would not meet our commitment."

Delays!

Any delay is clearly the fault of Magnox Electric, and Snowdonia National Park are right to insist on a full planning

application. If the proper democratic procedures involve delay, then this should

be seen in the context of a decision on decommissioning, that concentrates over 170 years of radioactive waste management into one time and place. The implications are profound and unprecedented.

The 'safestore' plan may be 'called in' for decision by the Secretary of State for Wales. The challenge will be to ensure not just that there is a local input in the decision making but that consideration be given to environmental and societal factors over many generations. The concept of 'sustainable development' did not exist when Trawsfynydd was planned in 1956.

In a preview of the White Paper on nuclear waste management the Secretary of State for the Environment, John Gummer, acknowledged that the 'site by site' approach to decommissioning, takes precedence over the current 100 year 'reference strategy'. He told Parliament on May 9th 1995:

"...that it would be unwise at present for the operators of nuclear power stations to take steps which would foreclose technically or economically the option of completing the decommissioning process on an earlier timescale should that be required."

Trawsfynydd is to be the first test of the new policy.

We need a very thorough public examination of the EIS, the decommissioning plans and all the background documents and assumptions. The following matters should be considered:

- All the background papers which led to the development of its delayed decommissioning strategy.
- Environmental and social impact assessments of their plans covering the next 150 years.
- Comparative risk assessments of alternative decommissioning timetables.
- Proof that the technology exists to completely dismantle a full sized Magnox reactor.
- Proof that the future society that is being asked to undertake the task understands that technology, has full working knowledge of Magnox reactors, and is willing to take on the task.



- Proof that there will be guaranteed access to sufficient funds to undertake the task, so that a lack of funding does not prevent dismantlement.

Abandoning the problem

If Magnox Electric are unable to prove all of these points, the conclusion is that the Trawsfynydd reactors are to be abandoned for all time. If that is a possibility then the so called 'safestore' should be judged on a far more rigorous basis.

- Is this a suitable site for a nuclear waste dump?
- Is this a suitable design for a nuclear waste dump?
- Can the structural integrity of the reactor cores be guaranteed for all time?
- Can the structural integrity of the concrete reactor blocks, (the biological shields) be guaranteed for all time?



ACTION:

If you feel that Magnox Electric should submit a full planning application, together with an EIS, write to: The National Park Officer, Snowdonia National Park, National Park Offices, Penrhyndeudraeth, Gwynedd LL48 6LS. Ask to be kept informed about the Trawsfynydd planning process, and say why you are concerned. To take the campaign further, come to a meeting at Centre for Alternative Technology, near Machynlleth on Sunday March 2nd at 11.00am.

Hugh Richards for WANA,
(Tel: 01982 570362)

New warnings about nuclear shipping danger to Welsh coastline

Council delegates to a meeting of the Wales Nuclear Free Zones Forum (which includes all Unitary Authorities except Newport Borough and Pembrokeshire), at Brecon in January were warned of a new report with serious implications for the safety of planned vitrified high level waste (VHLW) shipments through the Irish Sea.

A Report prepared by the Washington based 'Nuclear Control Institute' warns that a serious leakage from a container of VHLW would cause "...levels of chronic exposure to the public far in excess of those permitted by international standards." If an accident occurred off the Welsh coast, doses of up to 46 times the permitted annual limit for members of the public are estimated in the worst circumstances.

Deals between the British Nuclear Waste Company, BNFL, and Japanese nuclear utilities will result in shipments of highly radioactive waste from Sellafield, through the port of Barrow and the Irish Sea. Barry Murray, Chair of the Wales Nuclear Free Councils' commented: "After the Sea Empress disaster, we are all highly aware of the potential for serious shipping accidents off our coastline. This latest study clearly demonstrates that an accident involving radioactive waste could gravely endanger public health and ruin local economies...We will seek the support of our MPs and MEPs and from Irish local and national government whom we know are equally as concerned."

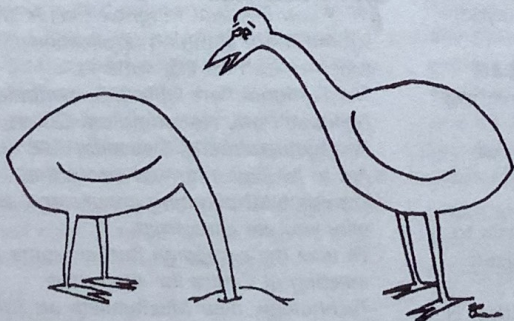
⚡ ACTION:

Contact your local councillor/council, MP and MEP asking for reassurances – what are they doing to stop the danger? For more information about this issue: contact CND Cymru (01550) 750 260.

BNFL: forty pieces of silver

The Woodland Trust has accepted BNFL as a corporate member. Their justification, after a CND member complained, is that BNFL is demonstrating its environmental goodwill by planting a screen of trees to hide their Springfield plant. Sadly the Salvation Army also seems to have accepted the BNFL shilling for an inner city project.

Since many CND members belong to other organisations, we would like your help in putting together and publishing a list of those with BNFL backing. Can you make a few inquiries? There is no doubt that BNFL is going on a PR charm offensive and whilst everyone must make their own minds up, CND members have a right to know who else is backing any charity or good cause before they subscribe.



"And what kind of a world would this be if everyone decided not to get involved?"

The radioactive threat to the Irish Sea

Teifi/Preseli CND Report

Chris Busby and Richard Bramhall from the Green Party's Low Level Radiation Campaign recently addressed the newly formed Teifi/Preseli CND on the dangers of a nuclear accident in the Irish Sea. The group learned that:

- Nuclear submarines exercise in the Irish Sea. Their nuclear reactors emit radiation into the sea. Each Trident submarine (US or British) carries up to 128 nuclear warheads. Even a non – nuclear explosion or fire on a nuclear submarine would scatter radionuclides – including the most toxic – plutonium. The Irish Sea is relatively shallow and extremely busy.
 - Nuclear fuel rods are carried regularly between Sellafield and Germany, Japan and Switzerland. Up to 6 flasks of rods are carried in each shipment. Such flasks are built to withstand a 30 minute fire at 800 degrees centigrade, yet ship fires are notoriously long lasting and reach much higher temperatures.
 - Each accident at sea is subject to idiosyncratic details of weather and the state of the ship and it is highly questionable whether a vessel carrying or fuelled by nuclear materials could be recovered in time to prevent a disastrous leak into the sea. Lloyds is allegedly uncomfortable about the situation, as other shipping is not informed about the travelling times and details of nuclear cargoes. When the Irish Ferry *Norrone* caught fire 25 miles from Pembroke in 1990, it took the emergency services 30 minutes to reach it. Since then the helicopter rescue service has been withdrawn from Brawdy.
 - The consequences of a serious nuclear accident off the coast of Wales could seriously contaminate the surrounding land and the sea, whether by on shore winds blowing smoke born radionuclides, or simply by the washing ashore of contaminating particles onto beaches, into estuaries, rivers and beyond. Chernobyl has shown the extent to which weather systems themselves move radionuclides thousands of miles.
 - Wales already has notably high cancer rates. Child leukaemia in Gwynedd is 6 times that in East Anglia. Two years after Chernobyl, child leukaemia rose by 50% amongst 0-4 year olds in Wales. The Low level Radiation Campaign believes that the effects of human made radiation have been underestimated, and may be causing heart disease, low birth weight babies, peri- and neo-natal mortality, bone and breast cancers and brain tumours. They fear that the current clusters of child leukaemia will be the norm if action is not taken.
- Chris Busby and Richard Bramhall suggested some actions that could be taken on these issues:
- raise the issues with prospective parliamentary candidates;
 - lobby regulators, research bodies and cancer charities;
 - support political and legal challenges to BNFL;
 - call on BNFL to cut discharges to zero;
 - call for a study of cancer cases along the Welsh coastline;
 - ask local authorities and Department of Health about emergency plans;
 - call for independent and regular surveys of radionuclides present on the Welsh coasts, rivers and inland environment;

⚡ ACTION:

For more information on the Low Level Radiation Campaign contact Richard Bramhall: (01982) 552 502.

For more information about Teifi/Preseli CND's campaigns contact Paul Hawkes: (01239) 614 856

Diary Dates

February 23 Happy 15th Birthday Nuclear Free Wales! Send a card to your local council congratulating them – tell them how proud you feel to live in a city or county, and a country with nuclear free aspirations – yes, go on, do it – everyone needs encouragement and thanks!

February 28 8 pm (viewing from 6pm) Talbot Hotel, Aberystwyth. Art Auction in Aid of Chernobyl Children's Project – Local artists have donated some of their pieces to help bring 10 children to Aberystwyth for a holiday in a relatively uncontaminated environment – £1 entry. Donations of works of art welcome! Contact: Olwen Davies (01970) 611994

March 4 10.30am – 4.30pm MOX – The Next Technical Fix For the Nuclear Industry? – One day Seminar The Old Town Hall, Carlisle, Cumbria. MOX (Mixed Oxide) fuel for conventional nuclear reactors is seen as a means of dealing with increased stockpiles of civil plutonium and excess military plutonium. What are the strategic, environmental, political and technical implications of such a Programme? Transportation of such fuel from Sellafield to the continent and possibly further afield will over-fly Wales. Everyone is welcome to this seminar and the evening public meeting. More information from Nigel Chamberlain Cumbria & N. Lancashire Peace Groups: (01768) 898641

March 14-17 Reweaving the Web of Life – Faslane Women's Action. A Weekend at Faslane Peace Camp of actions and activities to celebrate International Women's Week and stop Trident. Bring rags for weaving, workshops to offer, music & voices, boltcutters, paints and ideas for action. More information/messages of support/money to 'Faslane Women's Action', Peace House, 34, Byrom Street, Todmorden, West Yorkshire OL14 5HS

April 19 11.00am CND Cymru Cyngor (Council Meeting) Friends' Meeting House, Temple Street, Llandrindod, Powys – all members of CND Cymru and delegates of affiliated organisations very welcome – more information from the National Secretary

April 26 11th Anniversary of nuclear accident at Chernobyl. Those interested in direct action on this anniversary (a Saturday) please contact Rod Stallard (01550) 750 260

May 9 – 11 (Friday Evening to Sunday Noon) Aldermaston Women's Peace Camp Beltane Celebration of Life and Protest about Illegality and Immorality of Britain's Military Capability. Peace-Dance-Fire jumping-Workshops-Networking-Spontaneous Action-Singing! All Women welcome – men welcome to visit during the day. More information from Sian (01222) 396563

August Women on the Road for Peace Bike Ride – more information from Sian (01222) 396563.

Every Friday Morning 7.30am Llanishen AWE Women's Vigil Contact Marjorie (01222) 753961

Permanent Peace Camps:

Menwith Hill Women's Peace Camp, Yorkshire
Contact: (01943) 468 593
Faslane Peace Camp, Dunbartonshire Contact: (01436) 820901

Regular Women's Peace Camps:

Aldermaston: 2nd weekend of every month Contact (0117) 939 3746
Burghfield: Last weekend of each month Contact (01703) 554434
Sellafield: Last weekend of every other month Contact (01482) 463 768

New from CND Cymru Trading!



Martin Luther King's Speeches Audio Cassette.

Includes the "I have a Dream" speech and others

£4.95 postage and packing inclusive

— • —

Dark Navy Blue ties with white CND symbols (1cm diameter)

£3.85 postage and packing inclusive

Available from:

CND Cymru Trading, c/o Jan Henderson, 72, Heol Gwyn, Yr Alltwen, Pontardawe SA8 3AN (cheques payable to CND Cymru Trading)

WANTED – Volunteers for the 1997 Glastonbury Festival

Once again, CND Cymru will be helping to staff the property lock-ups at Glastonbury festival, which this year is on the weekend on 27/28/29 June.

Volunteering at the Festival can be quite hard work, but is also very enjoyable; contributes to the Festival's success, and helps to raise money for CND Cymru at the same time! It's only fair to point out that you will have to miss some of the concerts – but on the other hand, you get to see much of the event without having to buy a ticket.

For further information: please write to Brian Jones at 72, Heol Gwyn, Yr Alltwen, Pontardawe SA8 3AN

There are limited places – so it's strictly on a "first come, first served" basis.



Bryn Eltyd



A Holiday in North Wales

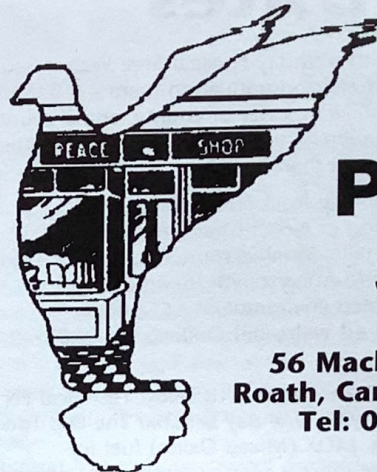
Bryn Eltyd – a traditional Welsh family house set in the midst of the Moelwyn Mountains between Ffestiniog and Porthmadog.

Explore the Moelwyn climbing crags or the Rhinog Mountain range. In easy reach of Snowdon, the Carneddau and Glyder Mountains. Canoe on local rivers, estuary, lake or sea. Local guides and instructors are available. Forests, beaches, castles, market towns and slate mines are only a short distance away.

The House has wonderful views and three bedrooms, bathroom, lounge, dining room and kitchen with all modern conveniences.

Bryn Eltyd is available all year round as a self catering let or on a B & B and evening meal basis.

For further details please contact:
Bob & Ann Cole, Bryn Eltyd, Tanygrisiau, Blaenau Ffestiniog, Gwynedd LL41 3TW. Telephone (01766) 831356.



Peace Shop

**56 Mackintosh Place,
Roath, Cardiff CF2 4RQ.
Tel: 01222 489260**

Goods from – Traidcraft, Amnesty International, Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth, CND, Earthcare, Unicef. We also stock many books, magazines, hand-made jewellery and crafts, T-shirts and stickers.

CONTACTS

CND CYMRU



THE PEACE SHOP
56 MACKINTOSH PLACE, ROATH, CARDIFF

NATIONAL SECRETARY

Jill Stallard. Nantgaredig,
Cynghordy, Llanyddyfri, Sir
Gaerfyrddin SA20 OLR Phone/
fax (01550) 750260

CHAIRPERSON

**David Morris MEP (01792)
643542**

NORTH WALES

Dave Andrews (01978) 310491

MID WALES

**Olwen Davies (01970) 611994
Rod Stallard (01550) 750260**

SOUTH WALES

Ray Davies (01222) 889514

MEMBERSHIP

c/o The Peace Shop

AFFILIATIONS

Rhoda Jones (01766) 762739

TRADING

Jan Henderson (01792) 830330

TREASURER

Jean Bryant
16 Ty'n y Cymer Close,
Y Porth, Rhondda CF39 9DF

More Information, Ideas or offers of help? Please get in touch with your nearest CND Cymru Vice-Chair.

What are you doing in August?

Help further our campaign for peace, justice and a nuclear free world!

This year, the National Eisteddfod will be held at Bala, Meirionydd, from the 2nd-9th August. If you are Welsh speaking or a Welsh learner – we need your help to raise the profile of our campaign in CND Cymru's tent.

Your entry ticket would be provided, you can have time off to explore the Maes – and you will find the Eisteddfod-goers very sympathetic!

If you can help, please contact Rod Stallard on (01550) 750 260.



I want to join the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone _____ I enclose a cheque/PO for £ _____

payable to CND Cymru. Couple £15; Adult £10; Unwaged, pensioners, youth £3. Return to CND Cymru, Membership, Peace Shop, 56 Mackintosh Place, Roath, Cardiff CF2 4RQ

Heddwch contributions

- The next issue of **Heddwch** will appear in May 1997.
- Phone Jill for the next issue's copy deadline
- Please send contributions to Jill Stallard (see Contacts for the address): contributions on computer disk or email are welcome. Please contact Jill, or Mike Southern (01222 488748 email 100533.241@compuserve.com) for details.
- All help with editorial gratefully received.