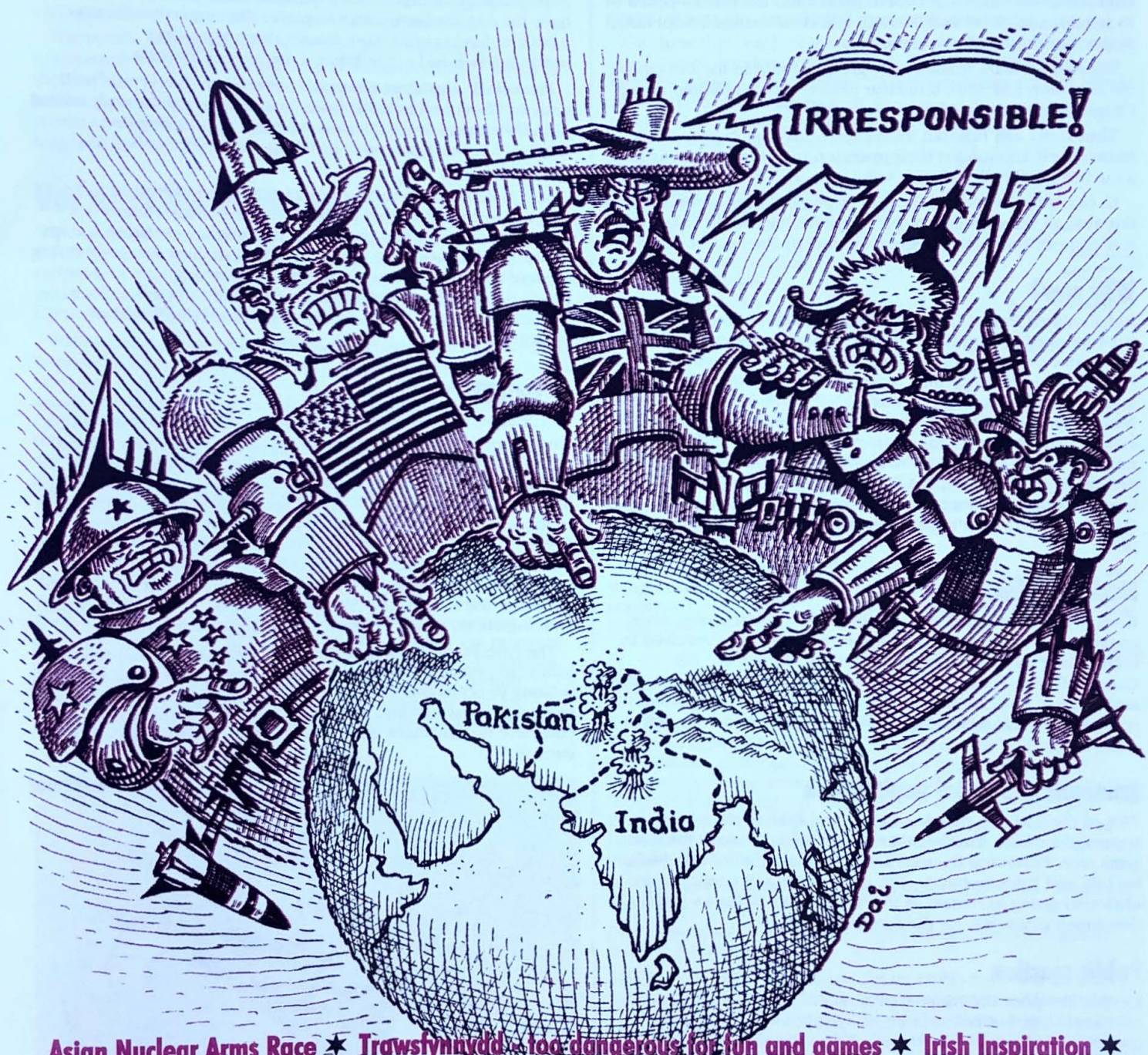


EDDWCH

Summer 1998
Issue 17
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the magazine of CND Cymru



**Asian Nuclear Arms Race ★ Trawsfynydd - too dangerous for fun and games ★ Irish Inspiration ★
Trident submarine number 4 ★ News updates, actions, and more ...**

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

India & Pakistan join the nuclear club

"This is the payoff for exploding a nuclear device: mutual insecurity, decreased prosperity, a harvest of fear at home, and condemnation abroad."

Madeline Albright. Secretary of State, US Government

On May 11th and 13th, India exploded 5 nuclear devices at Pokhran in the Rajasthan Desert. India cited the threats posed by its neighbours China and Pakistan and their mutual co-operation as the main reason for the tests.

Internal pressure immediately grew in Pakistan for a response. On May 28th and 30th, 6 nuclear devices were exploded in the Chagai Hills near the Afghanistan border.

Thus India and Pakistan joined the nuclear club and immediately announced their intention to 'weaponise', ensuring a nuclear arms race in South Asia.

In characteristic and 'Cold War' jargon both countries spoke of the tests as 'stabilising' and 'peace-enhancing', when in fact the real and obvious consequences are directly the opposite.

Why now?

India's stated fear of China is difficult to believe since relations between the two had been steadily improving in recent years. The hypocrisy of the already declared nuclear weapons states when it comes to disarming their own nuclear stockpiles was undoubtedly a factor. But it was the selection of the Ultra Nationalist BJP in India's election in March that provided the catalyst. The Party's election manifesto contained an open promise to 'induct nuclear weapons'. Once India tested the nationalistic clamour within Pakistan became irresistible. The tests in both countries could not have taken place so quickly if there had not been on-going nuclear weapons programmes in place.

Nuclear technology

Both countries claimed that the tests were 'all their own work', conveniently ignoring the substantial help that they received in establishing their nuclear infrastructures. Britain, the US, Canada, China, France, Germany and Russia all provided nuclear assistance to both countries. This is convincing evidence that the spread of nuclear technology abets the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Economic and social implications

75% of the 1 billion people of India and Pakistan lack basic sewerage facilities. Neither country can afford a costly nuclear arms race. Following the tests India increased its military budget by 14% and Pakistan by 8%. The poor of the sub continent are obviously going to remain in the 'club of the 10 least socially developed countries; for the foreseeable future.

Public reaction

Despite the poor economic repercussions, the tests received overwhelming, but not unanimous public support in both countries. Opposition meetings in both countries were violently disrupted. Nevertheless as initial euphoria faded, groups such as The Movement in India for Nuclear Disarmament (MIND) and The Action Committee against the Arms Race (ACAAR) in Pakistan, plus many eminent scientists and thinkers in both countries are gathering oppositional support.

Wider implications

The Indian and Pakistani nuclear tests have dealt a serious blow to the Comprehensive Test Ban treaty and have far reaching

proliferation implications. If both countries proceed to overtly deploy nuclear weapons they will face many problems as neither have the required structures in place. The countries share a 3,000km. land border, have fought three wars since independence and are in bitter dispute over Kashmir.

Meanwhile a nuclear arms race between the two could well draw in China and possibly other states. Iran was strongly critical of India's action but welcomed Pakistani tests saying that Muslims all over the World 'are happy that Pakistan has this capability'.

The policies of the declared nuclear powers will need to be adapted to recognise that proliferation has occurred and will probably continue. The only move that might now bring a stop to this process would be for the declared nuclear weapons states especially Britain, to renounce their nuclear weapons and to proceed urgently to implement Article VI of the nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and to work to rid the World of nuclear weapons.

#ACTION

CND Cymru sees this new and alarming Asian arms race as having been fuelled by the arrogance of the old nuclear weapons states. The British Government condemns India and Pakistan yet has failed to work seriously towards a nuclear free world, ignores its obligations under the NPT and thereby sets a wrong example to the rest of the World. Please write to your MP (House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA, the Prime Minister, 10, Downing Street, London SW1A 2AA and/or Robin Cook, Foreign & Commonwealth Office, King Charles Street, London SW1. In the advent of any more tests, there may be street actions in Cardiff and elsewhere, please contact CND Cymru for information.

The Non Proliferation Treaty puts an obligation on the nuclear states "to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict & effective international control."

Dave Andrews



What difference does it make to the dead, the orphans and the homeless, whether the mad destruction is wrought in the name of totalitarianism or the holy name of liberty? - Ghandi

Sanctions against Iraq - light at the end of the tunnel?

Richard Butler, director of UNSCOM, the UN special weapons commission, has announced that by August, verification should show that Iraq has scrapped its weapons of mass destruction, and that by October he could report the completion of Iraqi decommissioning obligations. Under the cease-fire resolutions that ended the 1991 Gulf War, UNSCOM must certify the completion of Iraq's disarmament process before the UN's embargo of Iraq can be lifted. A UN survey in 1996 backs up Iraq's claims that the sanctions have caused more than a million deaths, the malnutrition of a generation and the impoverishment of a once wealthy nation. The lifting of the oil embargo would not necessarily end wider trade sanctions.

Meanwhile, although the threat of a military strike has temporarily subsided, the build up of western military forces in the Gulf remains heavy. According to Ramsay Clark, former US Attorney General: "...the real possibility exists that the US will create a new fabrication or provocation designed to justify a huge, crippling, military bombardment of Iraq."

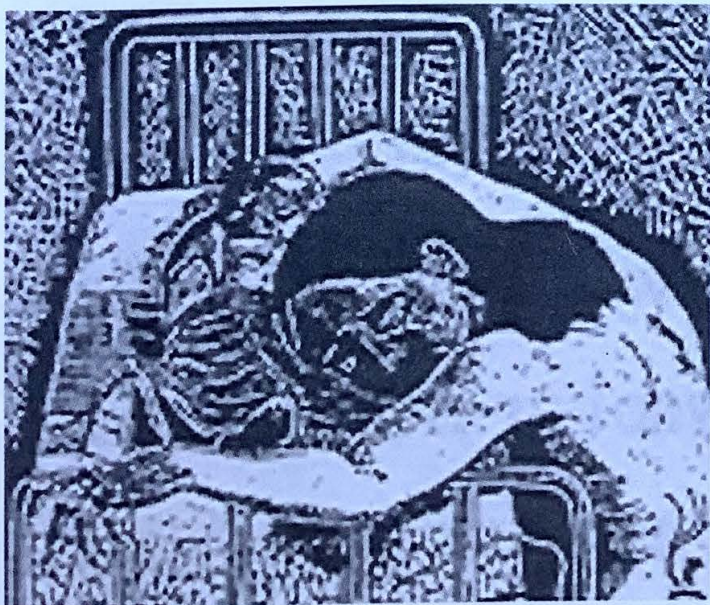
Voices in the Wilderness

"It is in many ways morally unbearable to take responsibility for deliberately provoking the suffering of thousands if not millions of innocent ...ordinary people who never chose to antagonise the international community." (Emma Bonino, EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Affairs. April 1998).

Following their arrest for breaking the sanctions by attempting to take children's medicine to Iraq, Milan Rai and Martin Thomas have heard that charges have been dropped. However, the £400 worth of children's medicine impounded is to be confiscated and destroyed.

George Galloway MP and the "Emergency Committee" have produced anti-sanctions postcards to send to the Prime Minister. The postcards are available from the Mariam Appeal, Room 501, 7, Millbank, London SW1A 0AA.

A new group aiming to continue delivering medicines to sick children in Iraq, break UN sanctions, to organise delegations to Iraq and to inform people about the effect of sanctions needs our support. For more information about Voices in the Wilderness or an anti-sanctions pack (contains UN resolutions, briefings and documentation and figures), contact the group at Stanhope House, 1 Hertford Road, London N2 9BX. Phone/fax: 0181 444 1605. email: cknigh@gn.apc.org. Make cheques payable to Voices in the Wilderness, proceeds help pay for medical supplies, legal defence costs and other project expenses.



WOODCUT: EMILY JOHNS

Carpe Diem!

Ireland seizes the day for nuclear disarmament

In a moral appeal directed at the world community, Irish Foreign Affairs Minister David Andrews has launched the New Agenda Coalition, a group of like-minded nations anxious to renew world interest in pursuing full nuclear disarmament.

On June 9th, each of the sponsor countries of this initiative, Brazil, Egypt, Mexico, New Zealand, Slovenia, South Africa and Sweden, released a declaration: "A Nuclear Weapons Free World: the need for a new agenda". It is significant that among this group are both threshold and former nuclear capable states. The group hope that the declaration will become a full UN resolution for discussion and debate at the General Assembly in September.

The actual inspiration for this declaration predated the Asian nuclear tests which have put an intolerable strain on the world's only international bulwark against the spread of nuclear weapons, the much abused nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Irish Foreign Minister, David Andrews commented:

"We must secure a firm political commitment on the part of nuclear weapons states to proceed with the rapid elimination of their weapons. Nothing less than a straight and unambiguous commitment will do."

"Damage has been caused by the complacency of the nuclear weapon states who had made pitiful efforts towards commitments originally made by them when signing the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty."

Jill Stallard

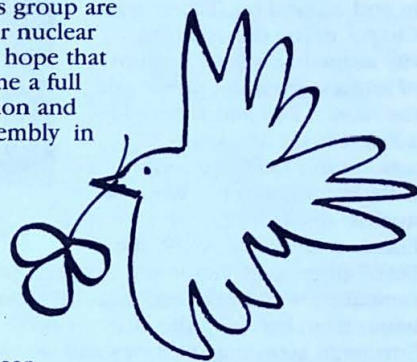
#ACTION

The full text of the Irish Declaration is available from CND Cymru (01550) 750 260. Please write to one or both of the ambassadors of the key countries listed below asking their Government to support and sign the Irish Declaration, A Nuclear Weapons Free World: the need for a new agenda, onto their Government. Protocol suggests that we address letters "Your Excellency" not "Dear Ambassador". Copies of a draft letter are available from Jill Stallard at CND Cymru.

Mr. Sadayuki Hayashi, Embassy of Japan, 101 - 104 Piccadilly, London W1V 9FN

Dato Kamarudin, Malaysian High Commission, 45 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8QT

The nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) itself was an Irish initiative launched in 1958 by then Foreign Affairs Minister Mr. Frank Aiken. The Treaty, signed by 181 nations, established two classes of nuclear players: those who at the time already had nuclear weapons (Britain, France, US, Russia (then the USSR) and China) and who agreed to work towards getting rid of them, and those who could only join if they rejected development or use of nuclear weapons and promised not to assist in their spread. This has resulted in the signatories being divided into a very small group of nations who continue to produce and develop and threaten to use nuclear weapons, a majority who have renounced their possession, and a third group, possessing civilian nuclear power, who have the capability and the will to produce nuclear weapons. India and Pakistan have achieved the goal of becoming nuclear powers outside the NPT.



A Week of finding a Common Ground for Peace, Justice & the Environment

CND Cymru is proud to have been part of an impressive programme of events designed to bring peace and justice issues out of the cordoned off conference rooms of the June European Summit held in Cardiff and into the every day lives and environment of real people.

Common Ground / *Cynefin y Werin* took place the week before the European Summit in and around the Tabernacle Chapel in the centre of the city attracting a huge amount of interest from the public and the media. Fed and watered by a Fair Trade Cafe, street actions and meetings took place throughout the week on nuclear disarmament, the Euratom Directive 96/29, the Eurofighter, East Timor and the arms trade. Other groups campaigned and held meetings on a extraordinary range of issues from breaking the chain of debt, globalisation, the European economy, refugees and asylum, the US blockade of Cuba, solidarity with the Palestinian people, associative democracy to creating an empowering vision for the 21st century. Amongst many street events was a Saharan Tea Ceremony and a display by Community Concern, a Cardiff group highlighting the dangers of radioactive emissions and waste storage at Amersham International and the resulting contamination of the food chain with Tritium and other radionuclides.

The week closed with a packed meeting eloquently addressed by Bishop Rowan Williams, Angharad Tomos, David Morris MEP and Bruce Kent. Bruce Kent told us that as far as nuclear disarmament goes, "all is not doom and gloom" that just as the North Canadian rivers melt in the Spring, if we listen we can hear "cracks in the ice" as those we had always considered "nuclear hard-liners" begin to melt.

For CND Cymru it was a delight to spend so much time and to work along side such a wonderful mixture of campaigners.

Keep listening for the cracks!



Trawsfynydd - a health hazard

"a shadowy radiance lies on the earth..."

A June demonstration at the decommissioning nuclear power station at Trawsfynydd, Gwynedd (owned by BNFL Magnox), was held to draw attention to the continuing dangers in the area. Anti-nuclear activists are deeply concerned that despite the dangers, the site and the radioactive lake, are being further developed as leisure amenities for tourists, school parties and local residents, despite the risks, particularly to children. As reported previously in *Heddwch*, a survey carried out by the Central Electricity Generating Board (then owners of the site) in 1988, revealed that the lake sediments contained deadly radionuclides such as Caesium 137, Plutonium, Strontium 90 and Americium. These radionuclides will remain in the lake for thousands of years.



Blinkie and the anti nuclear police

Blinkie, the radioactive fish from *The Simpsons* supported the event, and anti nuclear police raided the visitor centre, collecting the leaflets which encourage people to visit this dangerous place. The leaflets were removed and taken away in anti nuclear dustbin bags.

Human consequences

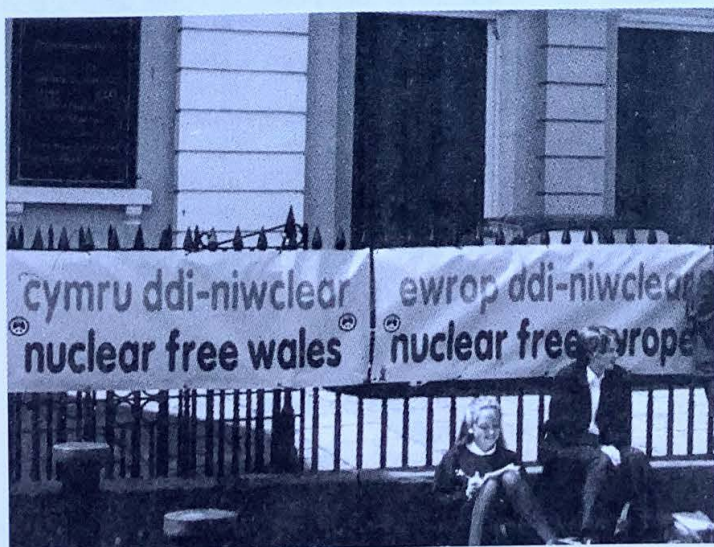
Contamination such as identified by the authorities at Trawsfynydd can result in terrible human consequences such as increased incidence of leukaemia, other cancers, neonatal and infant mortality, mental retardation, congenital malformations, genetic diseases and general health problems. The Welsh anti-nuclear movement calls for the site around the Lake, the nature trail and reactor site to be completely closed off and the public warned to keep away.

It has been announced that the feasibility survey, (which cost Gwynedd tax payers in excess of £92,000) has concluded that it is not considered a viable option to convert Trawsfynydd turbine hall into a film studio.

Jill Stallard

#ACTION

At the time of going to press the Trawsfynydd Safestore application has not yet been submitted to the planning authority. If you are at all concerned about the future of the site, write to: The National Park Officer, Snowdonia National Park, National Park Offices, Penrhyndeudraeth, Gwynedd LL48 6LS asking to be kept informed about the Trawsfynydd planning process, as you may wish to object to the safestore plans. For more detailed information contact Hugh Richards, Welsh Anti Nuclear Alliance, PO Box 1, Llandrindod, Powys LD1 5AA (01982) 570 362.



The joy of Helen

"peace was her world, peace was her life"

The Helen Thomas memorial celebration was held on the 16th of May 1998 in the Peace Garden of the Temple of Peace, Cardiff. Côr Cochion opened the ceremony with a South African peace song - "Senzenina - What have we done?"

Mary Millington and Sarah Hipperson, peace women from Greenham Common's Yellow Gate, spoke of Helen Thomas' great courage in the many direct actions for peace. They described Helen's strength of purpose as she defended her actions before police and magistrates, speaking in her mam iaith, Welsh.

She lived for peace and anti-racism. Her youthful enthusiasm and energy touched everyone who knew her and she left a gaping hole in their lives when she was tragically killed by a police vehicle whilst campaigning against weapons of mass destruction.

Menna Elfyn read a poem about Helen, and Dafydd Iwan sang his beautiful tribute: "Heddwch dy fywyd di, heddwch dy fyw, a diolch a wnaawn am ddangos i ni ystyr cariad Duw."

The Reverend Douglas Bale spoke of the many images of Helen Thomas held by her friends and enemies: of the naive girl, the media's vilification of the Greenham women, and finally as a symbol of how 'the little people' can rise and tower above the powers that oppress them. He mentioned the obscenity of the nuclear tests by India that week.

The first spade-full of earth was placed over the roots of a young oak tree by Deputy Lord Mayor, Harry Ernest. He abandoned his prepared text and spoke movingly of how listening to the tributes to Helen, he could see her struggle for peace in an entirely new context - one that included all the struggles which meant so much to him personally: Martin Luther King, Gandhi, Nehru - all espousing, non-violent direct action as Helen had.

Helen's family - her mother and father, brothers and sisters and nieces - covered the roots of the tree; and the choir ended the ceremony singing "Buddugoliaeth", an uplifting song to the tune of Cwm Rhondda, which speaks of the inevitable triumph of the common people.

Signatures were collected on a petition calling for India to stop their nuclear tests.

Helen would have approved of that.

Ray Davies

PHOTO: BEATTIE SMITH

DAFYDD IWAN AND TAD LEWIS PLANTING HELEN'S TREE IN THE PEACE GARDEN



PHOTO: WENDY LEWIS

COLLECTING SIGNATURES IN CARDIFF

Taking a message to India from Wales

"To: The Prime Minister of India, Atal Behari Vajpayee,

We the undersigned were appalled to learn that the peace loving country of India had conducted three (later five) nuclear tests to develop its nuclear weapons programme. We abhor all weapons of mass destruction and had admired the Indian Government for its support for our cause and their apparent commitment to nuclear disarmament.

We live in a country which squanders our money and our children's futures on its own nuclear weapons and we see that such weapons have brought only moral, human and environmental degradation to our communities.

We call on you and your government to stop developing these terrible weapons of mass destruction, and set an example to other nations of the World."

Over only a 3 day period following the first Indian nuclear weapons tests, Cardiff peace activists together with Côr Cochion Caerdydd members collected 1500 signatures on the above letter of protest against the Indian nuclear bomb tests. The response from the people of Cardiff was tremendous, only available time limited the number of signatures.

On Wednesday, May 19, CND Cymru Vice Chair Ray Davies, Wendy Lewis, Carwyn and Tad travelled to India House in London to present the letter to the Indian Prime Minister. On arrival, a meeting was quickly arranged with the Indian Political Minister, Mrs Sharme. Ray handed over the protest letters expressing the deep concerns of the Welsh people at the tests, and our worries over the inevitable escalation of the nuclear threat.

The Minister stated that India had had to fight three wars since 1950 against China and Pakistan, and the testing of a nuclear device was only self defence. Ray begged the Minister to convey CND Cymru's misgivings about the tests, and to set an example to the rest of the world by unilaterally stopping all future tests, and by signing the Non Proliferation Treaty.

He then quoted from a plaque in the lobby of India House, in which the Indian campaigner for social justice, Dr Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, is addressed below his statue:

...your message a beacon in the world's sight,

A dazzling torch of justice and light,

You taught us that might is not right"

Mrs. Sharme expressed genuine surprise at the 1500 letters from one city and promised to send them off urgently to the Indian Prime Minister's office.

On leaving the building they were questioned closely by a senior officer from the Metropolitan Police.

Wendy Lewis



PHOTO: WENDY LEWIS

RAY AND CARWYN DAVIES, AND A FRIEND, OUTSIDE INDIA HOUSE

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Dounreay

Following years of work by anti nuclear campaigners, the Scottish Nationalist Party, David Morris MEP, Llew Smith MP, local pressure groups and many others, Dounreay could no longer survive. Radionuclides had leaked again, the truth was out, and finally in June the announcement was made that it was to close. As described in the previous edition of *Heddwch* it was another nuclear plant which was expensive and never lived up to its promises; the management tried to cover up a series of leaks and an explosion in a shaft used as a nuclear dump. The last incident happened when all power was put out for 16 hours when a digger cut through cables, paralysing the plant after the emergency system also failed.

In the Spring the public had been told that Dounreay was a safe facility to process nuclear material from Georgia. SNP leader, Alex Salmond commented "Such a record is clearly incompatible with the Government's position that Dounreay is the safest place in the world to treat nuclear waste.". Earlier this year the Government admitted that 170kg of nuclear material from Dounreay was unaccounted for. The plant is expected to take at least 100 years to close down and even then the site will be contaminated forever.

and that Georgian uranium...

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament has called for measures to be taken to reduce the risks caused by nuclear materials. First and most importantly, all countries must stop producing these materials and organise effective provision for the safe and monitorable storage of those materials which already exist.

The steps suggested by CND include:

- An international agreement to control & contain fissile material.
- The setting up of an international disarmament fund to aid countries with ailing economies who do not have the resources to safely deal with their nuclear legacies.
- The global elimination of nuclear weapons
- A halt to nuclear processing and reprocessing.

While the media were shouting about the prospect of 15kg of nuclear material being taken to Dounreay, nobody seemed to be bothered about the hundreds of tonnes imported into Britain each year by BNFL!

Sellafield in trouble again

Problems for British Nuclear Fuels this year have led to renewed calls for the closure of the Thermal Oxide Reprocessing Plant (THORP). Leaks of contaminated coolant water from THORP's High Level Waste tanks were discovered when a damp patch on the outside of one of the tanks was detected. A report by Peter Taylor published in 1994 had warned about the inadequacy and terrible dangers of these tanks, and concerns have also been expressed by the Health & Safety Nuclear Installations Inspectorate and the Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland.

THORP, which reprocesses fuel from nuclear power stations from around the world was closed for three months from April. The anti-nuclear movement has again called for its permanent shutdown after a pipe in the plant was found to have "accelerated wear".

BNFL has also been embarrassed by the news that a large number of nuclear fuel flasks have been received from Europe with higher levels of contamination than previously admitted. Levels up to 25 times higher than the permitted levels of contamination were found in Barrow Docks and on flasks in

THE FINGER OF BLAME POINTS AT DOUNREAY



CREDIT: SOCIALIST WORKER

Dunkirk. Movements of nuclear flasks are presently banned by French Railway Company SNCF and the German and Swiss Governments.

Spent nuclear fuel from Europe is transported from Dunkirk to Barrow in Furness by the BNFL ship *European Shearwater* which would normally complete between 8-12 trips a year carrying around 6 flasks a trip. recently the number of flasks had been reduced following the withdrawal of the NTL 11 type flask after it failed the International Atomic Energy Authority's 9 metre drop test on three occasions. Flasks are normally transported from Barrow to Sellafield by BNFL's wholly-owned subsidiary railway company Direct Rail Services.

Nuclear Safety: Jottings from the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate (NII) Newsletter

Sellafield: concern has been expressed about the 'transport of radioactivity from the site by pigeons and other forms of wildlife'. The management must 'identify potential sources of radioactivity' and then either 'remove the radioactivity, fix it to prevent its removal or deny wildlife access'.



Sellafield: B80 waste treatment complex: the existing 200 litre mild steel drums containing plutonium-contaminated materials are to be compacted and packed in units of 6 in cement grouted, engineered 500 litre stainless steel product drums. This is to reduce the stockpile of old drums with 'long term storage difficulties', 'pending eventual long term disposal in a suitable long term repository'.

Millennium Bug: all computer systems are to be examined due to the 'unpredictable nature of any disruption of systems'. The NII and the nuclear industry must however take a 'prudent approach to any problems'. A few hundred items on every major site will need to be 'positively screened'.

Russia sells nuclear plant to India ...and nuclear weapons to Iran?

In a deal signed on 21st June, Russia agreed to sell India 2 nuclear reactors. On June 11th, Russia had been party to the G8 summit agreement not to export nuclear technology to India or Pakistan. The US and Canada built India's earliest nuclear reactors in the 1960s, but these links ended after India's nuclear test in 1974. Russia has already sold reactors to Iran and is known to be anxious to export nuclear technology. The Indian deal was originally agreed in 1988. Moscow was India's main arms supplier before the collapse of the Soviet Union. The Indian military is also probably about to purchase a range of defence equipment from Russia including fighter planes.

An Israeli newspaper, *The Jerusalem Post*, has claimed to have obtained documents which prove that Iran acquired several nuclear warheads from a former Soviet republic in the early 1990s.

Abolition 2000

Over 1000 organisations world-wide now support and are actively campaigning for the aims of the anti nuclear network Abolition 2000. In Britain about 100 groups from a very broad spectrum are involved. In Canada, all the churches have collectively urged their government to press for a nuclear weapons Abolition Treaty by the year 2000. In Japan, the Buddhist group Soka Gakkai International has gathered 13 million signatures in support. Christian CND in Britain is urging the Lambeth Anglican Conference to sign up as supporters during their Summer meeting.

The bad news is that at the UN General Assembly, an Abolition 2000 Resolution, urging



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Governments to begin negotiations to abolish nuclear weapons by the year 2000 was proposed and Britain voted against it. 25 other countries also opposed it and 24 abstained. Fortunately, 116 countries, including China supported the Resolution. Even if it is passed, it is unlikely that a completed treaty on nuclear weapons abolition will actually be signed as early as January 1st 2000. Substantial steps in that direction are possible and must be taken.

#ACTION

It is likely that the same resolution will come up again this year, therefore we must pressure our Government to support it. Please write to Prime Minister Tony Blair, 10, Downing Street, London SW1A 2AA.

Abolition 2000 is co-ordinated in Wales by Wales Alliance against Nuclear Weapons (01446) 774452 (George Crabb).

Faslane Peace Camp facing eviction

Anti-nuclear protesters at Faslane Peace Camp are now facing eviction following a hearing in Paisley Sheriff Court on July 1st. In April, Sheriff Simon Fraser at Dumbarton Court had ruled that moves to evict the Camp were "incompetent". However, Argyll and Bute Council appealed against this and the decision was reversed in Paisley Court by the Sheriff Principal.

Peace campers had already prepared extensive defences including tunnels and tree houses. They are now facing a forcible eviction.

Faslane Peace Camp has maintained a continual protest against the nuclear submarine base for 16 years and has been a major focus for the international peace movement. It has strong connections with environmental protest groups all over Britain.

John Ainslie, Administrator of Scottish CND commented: "Faslane Peace Camp is the symbol of the Scottish people's opposition to the bomb. Now that all British nuclear weapons are based on the Clyde, the Camp's presence is more important than ever. Evicting Faslane Peace camp would not only be an attack on the anti nuclear movement, but a blow to democracy and freedom of speech in Scotland."

#ACTION

For further information please contact: Faslane Peace camp 01436 820901. John Ainslie, Scottish CND 0141 423 1222. Brian Quail Joint Secretary Scottish CND 0141 339 1482

The stigma of Aldermaston AWE

The MoD has lost its appeal against a damages judgement for contaminating land around the Aldermaston Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) in Berkshire. The three judges ruled that there was a "wealth of evidence" that radioactive contamination by plutonium and uranium had "stigmatised" the whole of the industrial group Blue Circle's 137 acre estate in Berkshire. Waste ponds on the AWE's research site burst during a 1989 rainstorm and flooded marshes and a lake. One thousand cubic metres of soil was contaminated with plutonium 1000 times above "background levels" and had to be excavated from the site, but contamination continued and the sale of the estate, a listed manor house, hotel and conference centre was halted. The Judges raised the damages awarded to £5,216,930 - and the final amount will be even higher once additional interest due is worked out. The MoD was refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords. Another nuclear bill for the British people to pick up!

The Doomsday Clock- closer to midnight

The Asian nuclear tests brought the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists' Doomsday Clock five minutes closer to midnight. Leonard Rieser, physicist and chairman of the Bulletin's board said "In response to these tests by India and Pakistan and the failure of the nuclear powers to significantly reduce their huge

arsenals, we are going to move the clock to nine minutes to midnight, the Board feels these are perilous times". The clock has been printed on the cover of the Bulletin since 1947. The hands are now set at 9 minutes to midnight (the hour that signifies nuclear holocaust). In 1991 the hands were set at 17 minutes to midnight at the end of the US/Soviet arms race and reset in 1995 to 14 minutes to midnight following warnings of continued threats to peace in the post 'Cold War' era.



Chernobyl

As children from the contaminated regions of Belarus, the Ukraine and Western Russia move into small communities all over Wales for holidays to improve their health and make them new friends, the story from the affected regions continues to be grave. Further, the Ukrainian Government has restarted reactor 3 at the Chernobyl plant. Reactor 3 shares a wall with reactor 4 now encased in a crumbling concrete sarcophagus. The Ukraine is putting pressure on European authorities to give them more money before it will close down the reactors. About £3 billion has been earmarked to build a new sarcophagus at Chernobyl, but it is barely enough. The Ukraine needs help to develop alternative renewable forms of energy production.

#ACTION

The Chernobyl Children's Project in Wales can be contacted c/o Myrfa Eastland (01222) 864793 or Rob Murphy (01222) 777271

Warm wishes and love from CND Cymru to all the 'Chernobyl' children visiting Wales this summer.

Vanunu

After serving almost 12 years in solitary confinement in Israel's Ashkelon prison for the "crime" of revealing Israel's nuclear weapons programme to the world, Mordechai Vanunu is now allowed to mix freely with other prisoners. However, despite hopes that he might now be eligible for parole, having served two-thirds of his 18 year sentence, the parole board decided that there was still "a high probability of a real and tangible danger to the security of the state and its foreign relations if the prisoner were to be released". Curiously, the reason for his release from solitary confinement had been that he was no longer a security risk. Despite clear signs of mental stress, Mordechai Vanunu is reported to be in good spirits. In an unprecedented advertisement placed in the Israeli national newspaper Ha'aretz in April, 600 Israeli academics called on the authorities to release Vanunu. The same newspaper published an interview with Mordechai's younger brother, Danny.

#ACTION

Please send letters/cards of support to Mordechai Vanunu, Ashkelon Prison, Ashkelon, Israel. For further information contact: Campaign to Free Vanunu and for a Nuclear Free Middle East, 89 Borough High Street, London SE1 1NL (0171) 378 9324. www.nonviolence.org/vanunu

Dimona nuclear power plant

All over the World, managements of nuclear installations have constantly asserted that the rate of cancer amongst nuclear workers is not significantly different from that of the population as a whole. At Israel's highly secret Dimona nuclear power plant, things may be changing. \$985,000 compensation has been paid to the family of a worker who died of cancer. Professor Modan speaking in court for the family of Haim Itach stated "Haim Itach was regularly exposed to low level radiation for 20 years...there is a very high probability that Itach developed his illness as a result of exposure to radiation at his place of work." The family's lawyer concluded that "there was a clear closing of the eyes and

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a contempt for human life" and that the main problem was the extreme secrecy surrounding the Dimona reactor. Following the case, a proposal that the state should be compelled to release data concerning nuclear plants, and sick workers compensated, was blocked by the Foreign & Security Affairs Committee.

Twelve years after Mordechai Vanunu revealed to the world that Dimona was producing nuclear weapons, in the "interests of State Security", Israel still refuses to tell the truth.

The US in Britain

At Menwith Hill US Spy Station MoD policing cost nearly £2 million last year.

At Mildenhall 6 extra stratotankers for in-flight refuelling have recently been transferred from Washington. A red line on map marking peace campaigner Linds Percy's exclusion zone around the base has been physically marked on the ground by square metal plates inscribed with "MoD".

At Lakenheath (where 47 US B61 free fall nuclear bombs are stored in 33 vaults) approval has been given for an extra 500 homes for US military personnel.

Apart from weapons on submarines, the US is the only country with nuclear weapons deployed outside its borders.



Hanford, Washington USA - the price of nuclear security

The State of Washington has sued the US Department of Energy for failing to fulfil its commitment to clean up the nuclear weapons plant at Hanford, according to the 'Tri-Party Agreement'. For more than 50 years, the Hanford nuclear site in Washington State has been one of the US' principle facilities for producing nuclear weapons material. The activity has resulted in widespread contamination of the area and an accumulation of huge amounts of nuclear waste including two-thirds of the Department of Energy's high level radioactive waste and seventy five percent of its spent nuclear fuel. Seventy of Hanford's 149 radioactive waste storage tanks have failed, leaking one million gallons into the soil and groundwater. More than 2,000 tons of badly deteriorating nuclear fuel is stored in water filled basins within a quarter of a mile of the Columbia River. One basin has already leaked. Gary Locke, Governor of the State of Washington has written to President Clinton calling for progress to be made to protect the environment and health of the population.

At the same time, a breeder reactor to produce the radioactive gas, Tritium for the production of H bombs is about to be restarted at Hanford. A lawyer has submitted a brief to a local senator pointing out that using a civilian reactor for Tritium production for H bombs violates the spirit of the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Thanks to Carole Woods, Seattle, CND Cymru supporter.

Fallout from India's nuclear tests

Villagers in Khetloi living within 3 km of India's nuclear test range have been complaining of burning eyes, bleeding noses and respiratory problems since India's nuclear tests in May. The Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee has told reporters that there was no fall out from the tests. The villagers have demanded that a 'competent radiologist' be sent to their village to determine the truth of the Prime Minister's assertion. There is no news yet of the effects of Pakistan's nuclear tests.

Britain provides a service to the Indonesian Government

In a letter to Abercynon MP Ann Clwyd, the Defence Minister John Reid admitted that the RAF is teaching Indonesian pilots to

fly BAe Hawk fighters, (probably over Wales). These aircraft have been used against the East Timorese who have lost 200,000 of their population due to the occupation of their country by Indonesia. By July the RAF had trained 5 instructors and 24 student pilots. There are also Indonesian officers at the Royal College of Defence Studies, the Joint Services Command and Staff College at Bracknell, the security studies course at Hull University and the Royal Military College of Science in Shrivenham. Shrivenham is an elite training centre which aims to be the World leader in military "education". 'Promising foreign students are wanted for the fees they bring and the diplomatic leverage they give Britain.' (Observer 10/5/98). In May, a soldier 'arresting' Andi Arief, a student activist in South Sumatra, subjecting him to continuous interrogation for 10 days about his friends, mentioned that he had returned a few weeks earlier from a training course in Britain.

One wonders how the economically challenged Indonesia is ever going to pay Britain for all this education.

ACTION

The campaign continues. Contact Cardiff Stop the Hawks (01222) 706236 Gwynedd Stop the Hawks (01286) 882359 The British Coalition for East Timor (0181) 985 1127

NPT Prep Comm

The Preparatory Committee for the 2000 Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), held in Geneva in April and May, failed to reach agreement of substantive issues. The main reason for disagreement was over Article 6 which commits declared nuclear weapons states to nuclear disarmament. The nuclear weapons states are very reluctant to commit themselves to concrete disarmament measures. Peace and co-operation organisations present talked to delegates and the media and managed to encourage more than 100 member states of the non-aligned movement to jointly publicly criticise NATO nuclear sharing arrangements. The Ukraine welcomed NATO's declaration not to deploy nuclear weapons on new members' territories, pressing for a 'mandatory document on this issue'.

Germans are against nukes!

A recent opinion poll commissioned by the German section of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War reveals that more than 87% of those polled agree that the nuclear weapons powers should eliminate their arsenals without delay. An equally high percentage requests that the German Government take action to remove all nuclear weapons from their soil.



Depleted Uranium in Scotland, Iraq and Cardiff

Since 1981 more than 6,000 depleted uranium (DU) shells have been fired from the Dunredden Military Ranges near Kircudbright in Scotland. For the first time since then, the Government has admitted that the shells broke up during testing and may be a danger to health and the environment. Monitoring of the local area has not surprisingly revealed high concentrations of DU in soil and grass samples. Ken Gibbs, in charge of the "Defence Evaluation Research Agency" has not surprisingly said that "there is no significant hazard to the public or our employees".

Meanwhile, research into childhood cancers in Iraq has shown a link between the illnesses and the use of DU weapons in the 1991 Gulf War. Weapons manufactured with depleted uranium were used throughout Iraq. Towns, villages, mosques, churches, schools hospitals and kindergartens were bombed. According to a journalist, Felicity Arbuthnot, "children still collect pieces of missiles and take them home". The residual radioactive dust, produced on impact when the missile or bullet burns at high temperatures irradiates tissues when it is inhaled or ingested.

Depleted Uranium is used in casings of projectiles as it is an extremely dense material with good armour piercing qualities. DU was used in the manufacture of Trident warhead casings at Llanishen, Cardiff and may have substantially contaminated the site.

Trident - the 'boys - only' toy

Women sailors are to be banned from working on nuclear submarines. The Navy fears that women sailors may discover they are pregnant during a submarine's long patrol at sea, and has admitted that "even low levels of radiation would be a high risk to an unborn child". It is chilling to think that Trident submariners are lucidly aware of the possible effects of their actions on children at the receiving end of their weapons. Critics have asked why, if women are at risk, then why not men (and their genetic material) too? There is also a matter of finding enough accommodation for both men and women on the submarines. John Ainslie of Scottish CND commented to the Scottish newspaper The Daily Record that the Navy had given the game away by admitting the hazard: "and what about women who can't bear children? The navy say the problem is down to accommodation. If that is the case then the cynical answer is to have an all female crew."

Higher Doses of Radioactivity? It's a Stitch up!

More evidence is emerging that the nuclear industry has succeeded in getting a relaxation of levels of radioactivity defined as exempt from treatment as radioactive waste. While the Health & Safety Executive¹ held its consultation on the Euratom 29/96 Directive, it became clear at an NRPB seminar in June given by Dr Peter Buckley HSE that everyone was already in agreement 'behind the scenes'.

The exemptions are to be used in all situations - contaminated land, discharges, goods and hospitals. To underline just how pointless the consultation process is the NRPB issued their 'Revised Generalised Derived Limits for the radioisotopes of strontium, ruthenium, iodine, caesium, plutonium, americium and curium.' (NRPB Vol. 9 No.1 1998) without even waiting for the consultation period to end.

Their new Generalised Derived Limits (GDL) have been relaxed between 3 and 5 times for Plutonium. Adopting these limits on sites like Harwell, Aldermaston, Dounreay and Sellafield will save the Government and the UKAEA etc. billions of pounds in cleanup costs! The NRPB propose that these new relaxed limits will enable land to be released for private housing developments (such as the 300 houses proposed at Harwell).

Meanwhile a Welsh Office 'Consultation paper on Control and Remediation of Radioactively Contaminated Land' didn't even mention the lowering of standards that is about to hit us, but it did suggest that final decisions might be taken by the new Welsh Assembly. Don't wait - write to your MP!

Nowhere in this process is the attempt made to justify the lowering of standards through the presentation of new scientific evidence. It is clearly being driven by a nuclear industry seeking to avoid massive liabilities for cleaning up the mess that they have created.

Hugh Richards. Welsh Anti-Nuclear Alliance

ACTION

The Welsh Anti Nuclear Alliance hold regular meetings and produce on updates on nuclear issues. Contact Les Thomas to join and receive regular newsletters: (01443) 690419.

¹"Proposals for Revised Ionising radiations Regulations and Supporting Approved Code of Practice Consultative Document," HSE Radiation Protection Policy Unit (1998)

Abolition Days 98

These events aim to highlight the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice which, in July 1996, found that the threat of use or use of nuclear weapons would be illegal under almost all circumstances.

RESIST.

International Peace Camp, Belgium

The first of three Abolition events took place in Brussels in July. 5 young activists from Wales made up the largest part of the British delegation, who joined the international peace camp organised by "For Mother Earth", outside the NATO Headquarters in Brussels. A full report of this action will appear in the next edition of *Heddwch*.

RESIST.

International Peace Walk, Brussels to Faslane

Walkers left Brussels at the end of the International Peace Camp, visiting Aldermaston, Derby and Sellafield en route, arriving at the British Trident nuclear submarine base in Faslane, Scotland in time for the Trident Ploughshares 2000 actions.

RESIST.

Citizens' Inspections


On Saturday 3 October, inspection teams will present themselves at Trident sites all over Britain. "Official" identification and clipboards will be provided.

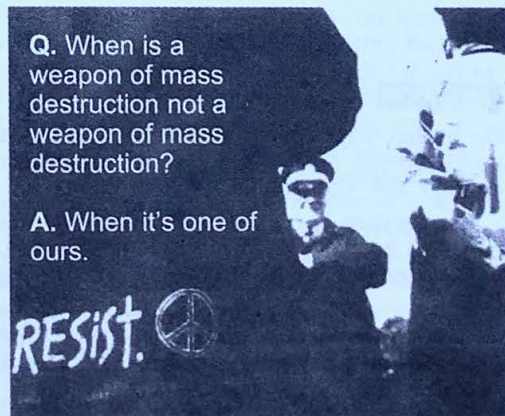
ACTION

To get involved or for more information contact British CND: (0171) 700 2393.

Q. When is a weapon of mass destruction not a weapon of mass destruction?

A. When it's one of ours.

RESIST. 



Free Leonard Peltier



An Autumn tour of Britain is proposed by Bobby Castillo of the Apache Nation and the International Spokesperson for the Leonard Peltier Defence Committee.

He was co-ordinator of the 1992 International Tribunal of Indigenous Peoples and has spent many years lobbying the US and European governments with regard to the case of Leonard Peltier. Leonard Peltier, a Chippewa/Lakota Native American activist, was sentenced to two terms of life imprisonment in 1976 for allegedly killing two FBI agents. This conviction was based on false and fabricated evidence presented by the FBI. Mr Peltier campaigned as one of the leaders of the American Indian Movement and became the target of the ill-famed FBI Cointelpro programme which "neutralises" people and organisations posing a threat to the status quo.

Despite the fact that a Court of Appeals decided that Mr Peltier's trial and appeals clearly testified to the total misconduct of the FBI and considered this misconduct as a "clear abuse of the investigative process", a new trial as refused on the grounds that they "were opposed to having to admit to more and new errors on the part of the FBI". Mr Peltier is now seeking executive clemency from President Clinton. He has supporters and support groups world wide lobbying on his behalf.

Background

Since 1951, massive amounts of waste has been produced from Uranium mining and milling operations in the Black Hills of Dakota. The land in the area had been guaranteed to the Lakota (Sioux) Native American peoples in the 1868 Fort Laramie Treaty. The US Government and corporate business have continually broken the terms of the treaty and encroached on Lakota land. In response, a grassroots movement emerged to challenge this injustice and to protect the land, whose leaders included Leonard Peltier.

On 26th June 1975, whilst negotiations were taking place in Washington DC for a further part of the area to be taken for mining, two FBI men and one Lakota man were killed on the Pine Ridge Reservation. Leonard Peltier was jailed in 1976 for the deaths of the FBI agents although there was no direct evidence to prove his guilt. The death of the Lakota man, Joseph Stuntz, was never investigated.

Parole refused

At a parole hearing in December 1995 the governor prosecutor Lynn Crooks reiterated that no direct evidence exists against Peltier and that the government does not have evidence to "re-convict" if the case were to be re-tried.

At a recent parole hearing on May 4th, Mr Peltier was told; "we spoke with one of the agents' wives and she wants you to die in here. You will not receive another parole hearing until 2008. Then we'll take it from there." He was also informed that "the government can't prove who was responsible for the agents' death, but someone has to pay."

Ann O'Connor

#ACTION

For further details of Mr. Castillo's speaking tour please contact: Lesley Worrall, LSPG, 140 Garmoye Rd, Liverpool L15 5AD, tel:0151 733 7691, Email: LPSGLIV@aol.com

You can help by requesting Executive Clemency from President Bill Clinton, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave, Washington DC, 20500, USA, Email: president@whitehouse.gov

Please send a copy of your letter and of any replies to Lesley at the above address. If you feel moved to offer financial help with the campaign, please write to the address above making cheques payable to LSPG Liverpool.

Denis Martin

Denis Martin of Llanbradach, Caerffili, a campaigner for peace with justice in Northern Ireland, an active member of CND Cymru, Palestinian Solidarity Group and Ex-Services CND quietly passed away at Velindre Hospital on 16th June after a long illness.

Denis was well known to every member who attended CND Cymru Cyngor Meetings at Llandrindod for his intelligence, enthusiasm, integrity, friendliness and his deep commitment to rid the world of nuclear weapons. Denis saw the ravages of the 2nd World War and made the campaign for peace with justice in many parts of the world his very own. My fond memories of Denis as we, travelled in the car together to Cyngor Meetings will stay with me for ever. He always went through the agenda meticulously and always made a valuable contribution in whatever subject was being debated. His commitment to CND Cymru was underlined by the fact that he attended his very last Cyngor Meeting in May of this year even though he was extremely ill at the time. The fact that Denis' many friends in the peace movement and in the widest struggle for justice throughout the world share thier loss in his sad passing will be of some small comfort to his two lovely daughters - Michelle and Carol.

Ray Davies



PHOTO: RAY DAVIES

DENIS MARTIN (REAR LEFT) AND CAERPHILLY CND AT THE WELSH OFFICE, SEPTEMBER 1994

Les Powell

In early June this year Les Powell of Abercrâf died while on holiday in the USA. Les was a seasoned campaigner prepared to take the consequences of non violent direct action to support his beliefs. He was an active member of CND Cymru and also of Cymdeithas yr Iaith. He took part in the Snowball campaign at Brawdy in 1986 alongside his wife Jessie. Les felt very strongly about peace issues and about supporting the Welsh language. He will be sadly missed by many of us and our thoughts and cydymdeimlad extend to dear Jessie and their three children.

Diflanna geiriau, ond crys gweithredoedd

Rod Stallard

...they are one with the light

Where through the expanse peace gathers.

Waldo Williams



The World Wide Nuclear Stockpile

Despite the fact that many people are of the view that nuclear weapons are no longer around, there are in fact over 36,000 nuclear weapons in the world. Russia has 22,500, the US has 12,070, China has 450, France 350 and Israel 150 - 200, Britain has 384. Numbers themselves are only a rough guide to destructive power as capacity, accuracy, readiness, delivery systems and political amorality all contribute to the deadliness of the weapons. What is certain is that just one nuclear weapon in the world is one too many and the task is too great and too important to be left to the politicians and militarists.

Source of figures: Arkin, Norris & Handler Taking Stock: World-wide Nuclear Deployments 1998 Natural Resources Defense Council inc. Washington D.C.



NAGASAKI AUGUST 10 1945

Former Lord Advocate in Scotland

Lord Murray supports July 1996 International Court Decision

In a brilliant speech delivered in June, Lord Murray unequivocally supported the view that the use of or threat of use Trident would be illegal under international law. In his address he underlined that International Humanitarian law is virtually identical with the moral dictates of humanity and conscience. The international decision on 8th July 1996 on the use or threatened use of nuclear arms declared:

- 1 The threat of or use of nuclear weapons would generally be contrary to international law;
- 2 it could not be determined definitely whether such threat or use would be lawful in extreme circumstances of self defence in which the very survival of the state would be at stake.

Lord Murray emphasised that the Court President also stated that the second point does not mean that there is a half open door for the recognition of the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons. Lord Murray saw that Trident was already illegal under the terms of the 1899 Hague Convention which was confirmed by the 1977 Geneva Convention. Since the effects of Trident nuclear weapons can not be contained in terms of space or time they are therefore illegal because of their indiscriminate destructive power. Trident could not be used in self defence. He also pointed out that an important declaration from the Court stated that "there is a legal obligation on the nuclear weapons states to negotiate and effect nuclear disarmament under strict and effective international control".

Lord Murray concluded that Britain's continued adherence to its first use of nuclear weapons policy obviously contravenes the Court's rulings and that the World Court Judgement gives us the opportunity to help shape the development of International law and promote the rule of International law.

In finishing he pointed out that "we all share in the public conscience of mankind."

Rod Stallard



CND Cymru AGM

September 5th 1998
11.00am - 4pm



All members of CND Cymru and delegates of affiliated groups are invited to the Annual Meeting. The guest speakers will include Angie Zelter from the Trident Ploughshares direct action initiative, and Larry Ross, peace campaigner and Nuclear Free Zone activist from New Zealand. The venue has yet to be confirmed, so for more information please see the enclosed flyer, and/or contact the National Secretary. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

British CND Conference Manchester Town Hall 18-20th September 1998



On Friday 18th the Conference begins with a one day event - 'The Hague Appeal for Peace' at which Bruce Kent, a member of the Irish Peace Movement and a Hibakusha (atom bomb survivor) representative from Japan will address a Young People's Forum. There will also be videos, panel discussions and workshops and an evening social event. On Saturday and Sunday the CND Conference itself will embrace all the usual debates, elections and workshops with a social event on Saturday night. For more information please contact CND at (0171) 700 2393. Deadline for Registration is 4 September (21st August with accommodation). Young people wishing to attend but requiring financial assistance, should contact Jill Stallard, CND Cymru (see contacts) as soon as possible.



Anti-nuclear campaigners at the Euro Summit

National Secretary Jill Stallard represented CND Cymru as part of a delegation serving a 15,000 signature petition to the Cardiff Euro Summit. The signatures were collected in Britain, France, Austria and Sweden and reflected concerns about the possible dangers of any relaxation of regulations governing the recycling of radioactive materials. The petitions were presented to Baroness Symons of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office by Richard Bramhall of the Low Level Radiation Campaign, Richard Livsey MP, Dr. Chris Busby, Per Hegelund of Sweden Friends of the Earth and Jill Stallard. Baroness Symons, listened with interest and promised to bring the issues raised by the petition to the attention of Environment Minister Michael Meacher. In the photograph left to right: Per Hegelund, Baroness Symons, Richard Livsey MP, Jill Stallard and Richard Bramhall of the Low Level Radiation Campaign.

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, 72 Heol Gwyn, yr Alltwn, Pontardawe SA8 3AN



CND CYMRU CONTACTS

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Ray Davies. (01222) 889514More information, ideas or offers of
help? Please get in touch with your
nearest CND Cymru Vice Chair.

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Pontardawe SA8 3AN

AFFILIATIONS

Rhoda Jones. (01766) 762739

TRADING

Jan Henderson. (01792) 830330

TREASURER

Jean Bryant, 16 Ty'n y Cymer Close,
Porth, Rhondda CF39 9DFWant to complain about low level
military jets?

Call the MOD 0171 218 6020

Heddwch contributions

The next issue of *Heddwch* will appear in **November 1998**. Phone Jill for the next issue's copy deadline. Please send contributions to Jill Stallard, Nantgaredig, Cynghordy, Llanymdyfri, Dyfed SA20 0LR (01550) 750260. Contributions on computer disk or email are welcome. Please contact Jill, or Mike Southern (0958 800614, email production@capricorn55.u-net.com) for details. All help with editorial gratefully received. Published by CND Cymru. Issue 17. Printed by Red Kite Printers. Heddwch is translated by Sian Edwards (email sian@derwen.demon.co.uk). Belated thanks to Cymru Lingua (01792) 896171 for translating the last edition of Heddwch.

Repeating mistake after mistake...

The launch of Vengeance - the fourth British Trident submarine

"I cannot believe we are about to start the 21st century by having the Indian subcontinent repeat the worst mistakes of the 20th century when we know it is not necessary to peace, to security, to prosperity, to national greatness or personal fulfilment." US President Clinton. May 1998

Despite the fact that Prime Minister Tony Blair told the World recently that nuclear weapons were "not the way to achieve international recognition", he failed to call a halt to the forthcoming commissioning of the final British Trident submarine.

All police leave in Barrow in Furness has been cancelled for 22 August in the expectation of thousands of protesters invading Barrow in Cumbria to protest at the launch of the Trident submarine which will complete the set of four. However, it is rumoured that the launch may now be delayed. Whatever the date, the launch will be marked by a noisy and disgusted demonstration on the bridge opposite the site of the glorification ceremony.

A presence with banners, drums and whistles will be an unavoidable distraction to the well dressed and misguided participants gathered in Barrow for the launch who will be asked "what message does this launch send to India and Pakistan and to all those who gathered at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva?"

ACTION

Your support in Barrow would be more than welcome to show that it isn't just India and Pakistan who are "nuclear crazy". If you are unable to attend, perhaps you could send messages of support. Overnight accommodation can be arranged. Please contact Cumbria and North Lancashire CND (01768) 898641 for accommodation details and ask to be kept informed of the actual date!

Sakue Shimohira at Faslane

When Sakue Shimohira was 12 years old she lived in the city of Nagasaki. She was in a bunker 400 metres from where the atom bomb fell on 9th August 1945. Visiting Faslane Trident nuclear base she told how she lost her mother, her brother, her sister and her friends because of the atom bomb. She described the scene:

"Mothers cried for their children and children for their mothers, but no matter how loud they cried or how far they stretched out their arms they could not be comforted."

It is such a weapon that we, as tax payers, have purchased. The British people have elected a Government which continues to justify the possession of, to threaten people with and are prepared to use such obscene weapons. It is as well to remember that despite their fine words about the global elimination of nuclear weapons, Britain has never been involved in any negotiations to unburden itself of any of its nuclear weapons.

Urgent action is needed. We must press our Government to:

- get rid of all British nuclear weapons;
- work immediately for the de-nuclearisation of NATO;
- take direct action to commence negotiations at the UN for a comprehensive and global treaty banning nuclear weapons.

ACTION

Remembering Hiroshima & Nagasaki. Events will be taking place at Swansea, Aberystwyth, Llandrindod, Ystradgynlais, Cardiff, Bridgend and around Wales on August 6 (Hiroshima day) and August 9th (Nagasaki Day). For information contact CND Cymru or you nearest Vice Chair (see Contacts list).

