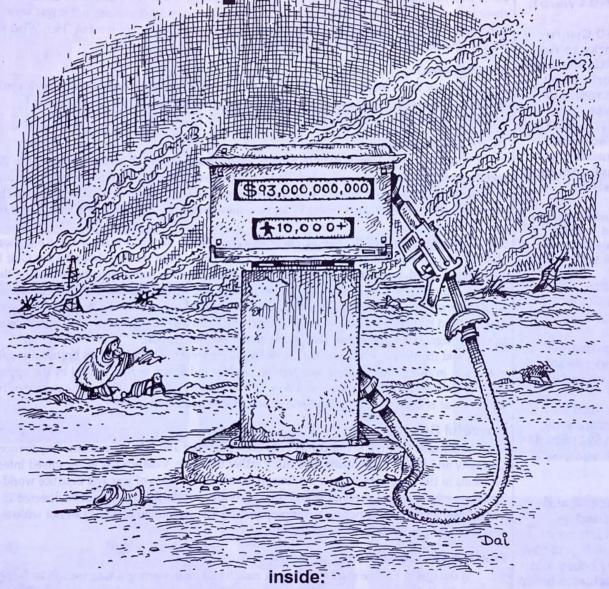
# heddwch



spring 2003 number 28 free (or donation)

the magazine of CND Cymru

stop war! stop wars!



Wales against war
trident ploughshares news
real life computer killing games - the welsh connection
national missile 'defense'

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

graphic: Dai Owen



# STOP WAR! STOP WARS!

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is the magazine of the Wales Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND Cymru).

CND Cymru
works to rid
Britain and the
World of all
weapons of
mass
destruction, for
peace and
human and
environmental
justice.

Comment, letters and articles for consideration are welcome

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Packed and mailed by volunteers in Cardiff - to join this happy and invaluable group for one afternoon every 2-3 months please contact Brian Jones (01792) 830 330.

I am writing this article the day after the momentous and historic anti war demonstrations in London and throughout the world. I really believe that on 15th February 2003 we made a difference. I received text messages from colleagues in other countries excited about the turnout there. But it didn't compare to ours - to the millions (literally) who travelled to London. As one of the speakers in Hyde Park, I was proud to say how many of us had come from Wales and how many others could not make the journey but felt just as strongly as we did. At the request of the organisers I held my Welsh flag as I spoke on the stage.

I consider myself a bit of a veteran of rallies by now, having been to every peace march in London since 1980 as well to as many others. London on Saturday was breathtaking. I stood before a sea of many thousands of people and when they applauded it was like a massive roar. Due to the sheer size of the rally, I didn't meet any of the people I had arranged to meet, but it was very exciting to bump into Ray Davies and the Côr Cochion and to take part in an impromptu "Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau" which drew a large crowd and larger applause.

#### So what now?

We have had a major success. People have never demonstrated as powerfully as this in Britain before. As Jesse Jackson said on Saturday, "this is only the first step". The pressure has to be increased.

#### **Death and destruction**

Hundreds of thousands of lives hang in the balance, many of them Iraqi children like those I met during my recent visit to Baghdad. These children are so poor and undernourished because of the sanctions. They attend schools which are so overcrowded that pupils must be taught in three shifts a day. When I explained where Wales was, they already knew - it is where Ryan Giggs comes from!

Over 40 per cent of the population of Iraq are children under 15 years of age: 9.6 million children would be under attack in the event of a war. I have been reading about the last Gulf War in 1991, the so-called 'war with no casualties'. Of course there were many casualties including the 400 women and children burned to death in a bombed air raid shelter and the thousands of retreating Iraqi soldiers slaughtered by American bombers on the road to Basra on the last day of the war. Last week I stood by that "Highway of Death" where the burnt out vehicles have been left as a reminder of the carnage. It is a graveyard. That is war: death and destruction.

I told the people who I met that in Wales people were out on the streets protesting against war every day, in every community. I saw terrible poverty and illness in Iraq, caused by the oppression by Saddam Hussein's government and now by our punitive sanctions. Killing the people of Iraq in another war is not only immoral but will never achieve peace and justice.

## **Peaceful Solution**

A possible solution to this conflict has been proposed and is being promoted by France, Germany and Belgium, involving diplomacy rather than war. Violence has never solved international problems in the long term. Now is the time to examine the causes of war and injustice world-wide. There are other ways of preventing and solving conflict, world resources must be directed to non-violent peace-building, rather than war preparations. The environment alone can not withstand the effects of war preparations and war fighting.

# **Horrific Consequences**

If the rest of Europe can't stop Britain and the US from starting a war, we will be facing catastrophe. If they go to war now they are tearing up the international rules forever. That will open wide the door to more terrorism, imperialism and dictatorship. It is a terrifying scenario. The world would never be safe again.

I am very proud of the work that CND Cymru is doing. It is wonderful to see so many old and new friends marching the streets for peace once again. Saturday 15th February showed us our own strength. We have to use it wisely and effectively, but together we can stop the war.

Jill Evans MEP Chair CND Cymru

# Wales against War

Volumes could be printed to record the amazing energy of peace activists in every part of Wales - from demonstrations and citizens' inspections at military bases and weapons factories, to street stalls, regular vigils and rallies. CND Cymru has tried hard to keep in touch with events and groups and to keep the press informed about all that is going on. Here is just a taste of the anti-war and peace and justice sentiments being taken to the streets of Wales.



Atlantic College Students

(and Richard Edwards A.M.)



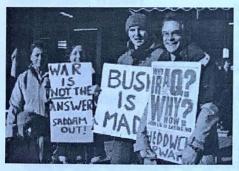
Protestors from Blackwood



Wrecsam



Swansea



Bangor



Swansea peace dog (just one of many)



Brecon



Abergavenny

# Wales' Growing Anti War Movement

As 'heddwch' goes to press, although it seems fairly certain that the US with British Government support will go ahead and attack the Iraqi people, there is still uncertainty. What is absolutely indisputable is that the anti-war movement, and the peace movement has experienced a significant burst of energy and a swelling of numbers over the last 4 or 5 months. What can be defined as a 'movement' simply because there is one uniting cause – to Stop the War on Iraq, is actually a great diverse and vibrant number of people of all ages who come from all walks of life and from many different directions. Some are pacifists, some have identified this conflict as being wrong 'in itself', others are making the indubitable connections between US hegemony and globalistaion, trade and the environment. In retrospect an understanding of how the issues fit together has been building over recent years with the formation of Cynefin y Werin in Wales, the campaigns of the World Development Movement, Jubilee 2000, Earth First!, Corporate Watch, Greenpeace, the Campaign Against the Arms trade, the Campaign Against Depleted Uranium, Abolition 2000, the Movement for the

Abolition of War... the list seems endless. For those of us who have campaigned over many years it is thrilling to be surrounded by enthusiasm for our cause.

# The Anti War Movement in Wales is:

- \* Individuals many thousands of 'ordinary' people many who have never before protested and many who have long continued to campaign and to support the peace movement.
- \* New and renewed groups over 40 groups are presently campaigning in Wales against war, based around communities, existing political groupings (such as Labour against War), religious & cultural groupings, workplaces (such as 'Books not Bombs' at the National Library of Wales), revived CND groups and existing Justice and Peace Groups.
- \* An All Wales Coalition Against the War which may eventually act as a network and resource.





Atlantic College students lead the way to inspect weapons at RAF St. Athan.

Nearly all groups include campaigning for justice for the Palestinian and Israeli people and understand how the issues are clearly connected. Some are looking at the bigger picture – linking war with globalisation, trade and poverty issues.

Working 'through London' would be far from adequate for campaigners in Wales. We have our own history, understanding, aspirations and our own voice, and we need to use this voice to speak clearly and identifiably to our National Assembly and to each other. Of course, as for all other organisations in this country there are communication, language and geographical issues which must always be taken into consideration.

CND Cymru is presently acting in a co-ordinating role by helping provide resources for networking while acting as a resource for the media, members, activists and elected representatives. We also act as a resource for those outside Wales and are identified internationally as 'The Peace Movement in Wales'. Everyone everywhere involved in this campaign is working to their limits, with little time for reflection, and we don't always get it right! There are several gaps in our campaign building such as the need for bilingual campaigning materials; leaflets posters badges and stickers. Offers of help and resources are always welcome! CND Cymru will continue to address the bigger problem, tackling issues around militarisation, nuclear technology and the roots of violence, but we hope to use the heightened sensitivity of the population of Wales to these issues to bring others in to the longer term campaign.

hetavich action To get involced with the long term campaign •join CND Cymru (see Contacts)
• affiliate your local group to CND Cymru • and come and join in the discussion!

# A School Trip With A Difference

A very special school visit took place recently when 3 staff members and 9 pupils made the 200-mile Journey from Tregaron in to Stoke Newington in north London. Their purpose? To visit the tomb of Henry Richard Liberal MP (1868-88) and Welsh peace campaigner. Over a century later what makes Henry Richard memorable? He was the very first MP to make campaigning on peace issues a priority and his tenacity made him a real influence in Parliament. In a striking parallel with contemporary debate he argued that Britain should not go to war without a vote and came close to gaining majority support. It is a happy thought that he is well remembered in Wales and staff and pupils at Tregaron Secondary School were eager to respond to a suggestion from, Bruce Kent, who has recently set up The Movement for the Abolition of War, that they should visit London to clean up Richard's tomb, neglected for several decades. So, in due course, Huw Roderick, Head of History, Linda Carlisle, Head of InformationTechnology, along with the Youth Community Officer and nine students journeyed to Stoke Newington to be welcomed by Bruce Kent, Pat Allen, of London CND, and the Rev. D.Gwylfa Evans, Minister of the London-Welsh Congregational Churches. At a time when there is so much violence, it was good to make a new link for peace.

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April 3<sup>rd</sup> Henry Richard Apostle of Peace (1812 – 1888) Commemorative Event in Cardiff. Contact Clare Sain Ley Berry (029) 20 821 055 claresainleyberry@wcia.org.uk

# **Real-Life Computer Killing Games**

In November 2002, in Yemen, a CIA 'unmanned' U.S. 'Predator' aeroplane destroyed a car and its occupants, all of whom were said to have been suspected Al Qaeda members. The remote 'pilot' sat safely miles away pressing keys in a portable command centre. Reflecting the same philosophy of 'remote killing' behind the use of any bombing with 'conventional' weapons or weapons of mass destruction, it has been said that the "Pentagon considers unmanned (sic.) planes like the Predator perfect for the "3Ds" missions that are so dull, dirty or dangerous that it's best to leave humans out of the equation." Apart from the human victims, that is.

## Responsibility

The latest US Unmanned Combat Air Vehicle (UCAV) to be unveiled updates the 'Predator'. This UCAV flies itself without constant human direction. It is intended that such planes will eventually "hunt in packs of four" on "dangerous 'first day of the war' missions". Ground based unmanned vehicles that fire weapons are also being developed and the U.S. navy plans an unmanned killer submarine. It is expected that eventually, once the unmanned military killing hardware is built, they could function together as a lethal computer guided system.

Colonel Michael Leahy of the US Air Force insists that "a human must always be in the loop somewhere", but John Hansman, an engineer from Massachusetts Institute of Technology has stated that it may be more practical to give planes "the authority to fire automatically" as 'calling home' for permission could take too much time. Hansman is concerned with the moral shift in warfare that this could imply: "The responsibility for deaths that occur is much harder to assign. Is it the operator's fault? Or the computer programmer's? Either way, the person responsible is very far removed from the situation."

#### **Tested in Wales**

Meanwhile, in Wales, the Welsh Development Agency is hoping to attract the huge U.S. company Boeing with public money, to lease out Llanbedr Airbase (between Harlech and Barmouth) to develop Unmanned Combat Vehicles. It was announced last year that the Llanbedr MoD base would close down for financial reasons. The site is run for the MoD by QinetiQ, the same company which operates the testing sites at Pendine (Carmarthenshire) and Aberporth (Ceredigion). Bunker-busting bombs are currently being tested at Pendine and residents around Pendine and Aberporth are deeply concerned about the effects of increased military activity in the area. The Llanbedr and Aberporth bases have recently been used to test two British unmanned aircraft but this testing is to be moved to Scotland. Elfyn Llwyd MP for Meirionydd Nant Conwy has curiously welcomed the testing of unmanned aircraft on the site, on the dubious grounds that it provides employment in the area.

With Military low level flying, army training in our lanes and streets, helicopters and machine guns on our mountains and in our forests it seems that the MoD would be happy to see all of Wales made into a Military Range. People in Wales think differently.

#### Sustainable Wales?

Real jobs are needed for these areas of rural Wales. It has long been known that the money and resources committed to building armaments could, if directed to almost any other end product, create more employment. Quite



apart from the moral question of whether it is right for people to prepare to kill others in a real-life computer game, the environmental implications of pollution and the waste of resources make weapons testing a no-go industry for Wales. Does the WDA not know that this is country with a National Assembly dedicated to environmental sustainability? Continued reliance on war making for social and economic vitality must be suicidal. War making and preparation drains our precious resources - spiritual, human and material. It is not what we want for the world and not what we want

Jill Stallard

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Your MP and AM should be made aware of your views on this. If you find out more about any of these sites please contact CND Cymru (see Contacts).

# Menwith Hill

Menwith Hill is a US Base which is the largest electronic monitoring station in the world, picking up communications from satellites. It is also a key base for the project of long-term military aggression - 'Star Wars'.

It is planned to be part of the US 'National Missile Defense' system. The Peace camp acts as a visible presence and a point from which non-violent direct actions take place.

Peace Campers have also been monitoring and 'contributing' to planning applications for the further expansion of Menwith Hill infrastructure. Felliscliffe Parish Council has stated: "The Councillors are concerned at the seemingly endless growth and development of this site ... "

Womenwith Hill Women's Peace hedawch action @Camp is located about 500 yards east of Menwith Hill base,

in the lay-by at Kettlesing Head, on the A59 about 7 miles west of Harrogate. Womenwith Hill Women's Peace (Camp)aign PO Box 105, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG3 2FE England (01943) 468 593 or 466 825

Saturday March 22nd 2003 Foil the Base! A day of peaceful creative direct action, music, speakers and a tour at US military base Menwith Hill, Yorkshire. For direct action training, for speakers on Star Wars and Menwith Hill, or to be a transport organiser for your area contact Neighbourhoods Opposing War (NOW) 07905 913

139 or mail@now-peace.org.uk Information: www.now-peace.org.uk or Yorkshire CND:

01274730795

# Lakenheath

Lakenheath Action Group has been formed to rid Britain of American nuclear weapons. This won't be an easy task, but it can be achieved by a determined people's campaign. There are around 30 US nuclear weapons deployed at U.S.A.F. Lakenheath in Suffolk; weapons capable only of mass and indiscriminate killing and of poisoning our environment. These weapons are illegal under international law. These weapons are regularly flown in and out of Britain on aircraft which fly over South West England and Wales.

Peace Campers at Lakenheath say: "We believe that nuclear weapons are wrong in all circumstances. But we feel an even greater injustice because the weapons deployed at Lakenheath are American, not British, so we have no possible democratic control over how or when they would be used. Furthermore, Lakenheath has been intimately involved in attacks on Iraq over the last 12 years." Planes from the 48th fighter wing of the U.S.A.F., based at Lakenheath, attacked Iraq in 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994 and 1999.

hetawch action ( A Vigil is held on the first Wednesday of every month. On Monday 14th April 2003 there will be a John Bugg Walk and Vigil in memory of bombing of Libya. A mass non-violent direct action is planned for October. Information: www.lakenheathaction.org/ Contact: Davida Higgin, Lakenheath Action Group on (01508) 550 446 until Sunday afternoon, and thereafter on (07765) 332 304

# **Faslane Peace Camp**

Faslane Peace Camp, the longest running peace camp in Britain has been in existence since 1982 to non-violently oppose the presence of nuclear weapons at Faslane Naval Base on the Clyde, 30 miles from Glasgow. The Current Nuclear weapons system

in Britain is Trident, which consists of 4 'V' class submarines (Vanguard, Victorious, Vigilant, and Vengeance). Each submarine can carry up to 14 Trident missiles, each with 8 warheads. One warhead has ten times the explosive capability of the bomb dropped on Hiroshima. Together these weapons have the capability to destroy half the world.

Faslane Peace Camp really needs visitors. The campers invite everyone to come to stay and help out whether it is for a day, a week, a month, or longer, or to pop in for a couple of hours for a cup of tea and a chat. Five years ago Argyll & Bute Council won a court case to evict Faslane Peace Camp from the site it had occupied for over 15 years. In response physical defences such as tunnels, tree houses, and walkways were improved, but most importantly there was a huge influx of new people bringing fresh energy and enthusiasm.

The Council backed off. They had been shown that the eviction would not be easy or cheap - it would have cost up to £300,000. Peace won.

In the last couple of years there have been more actions at the Faslane Trident submarine base by the peace campers and Trident Ploughshares resulting in over 800 arrests in the last year or so. Local Tory councillors want to stop the protests - they want to get rid of the protests by evicting the peace campers. The council is now talking about evictions again.

The Peace Camp acts as a base for disarmament actions at the Trident Base and as a visible and recognisable protest against

the abhorrence that is British nuclear weapons. Material and financial support is always very welcome.

> hedawch action @ Contact the camp: Faslane Peace Camp, Shandon, Helensburgh, G84 8NT Scotland Phone: (01436) 820 901 email: faslania@faslanepeacecamp.org or

faslanepeacecamp@hotmail.com Donations (yes please): cheques payable to: Faslane Peace Camp

# **Fairford Peace Camp**

On Monday 17th Feb 2003 Peace Activists added another dimension in the 'Don't Attack Iraq' campaign by setting up a peace camp at USAF Fairford airbase in Gloucestershire. Situated just south of Fairford airbase, other peace campaigners are urged to come and join the camp The camp will run for 28 days and seeks to draw attention to the B-2 Stealth Bomber base at Fairford and it's key role in the planned 'war' on Iraq. The camp will monitor aircraft during the build up to war & provide news for other peace campaigners on activity at the base.

The camp welcomes visitors & campers even if they can only stay for a short time. DIRECTIONS: The camp is located in Kempsford in a field near the Axe and Compass public house. Information: http://www.cynatech.co.uk/gwi//peace-camp.htm

# Shannon Airport

The Peace Camp set up outside Shannon Airport in County Limerick, Ireland in those cold days of January is a beautiful example of a successful protest! As Martina Devlin wrote in the newspaper Ireland on Sunday "No wonder the peaceniks packed up and pushed off; obviously there wasn't enough room in the camp for them and their enormous grins." The whole episode meant that the Irish Government and their adjustable interpretation of 'neutrality' was made to look rather ridiculous. The Peace Camp had been established in protest at the use of Shannon (civilian) airport as a stop-over point for Gulf bound US troops, particularly in a 'neutral country. Mary Kelly and Eoin Dubsky were both arrested for

their actions inside the airport which highlighted security breaches at the airport. The Irish government despatched one garda (policeperson) to protect the US aircraft after Mary Kelly had managed to inflict 50,000 euro worth of damage to one. Following the Government's action, five more peace campaigners (The Pit Stop Ploughshares Community) carried out further damage to another aircraft. The US company then pulled out on insecurity grounds and has diverted flights to Germany (cue for another peace camp?). At the time of going to press the Ploughshares group remain in Limerick Prison. Two of the hammers they used for their disarmament had been used in the 1991 'Anzus Ploughshares' disarmament of a B52 bomber at Griffins Air force Base in New York. One had been used in Chris Cole's British BAe Ploughshares action in 1993 and the Seeds of Hope Ploughshares in 1996 when 4 women disarmed a BAe Hawk aircraft bound for use by Indonesia in its war against the people of East Timor. The hammer was then passed on to Jubilee Ploughshares who, in 2000 disabled a Trident nuclear convoy travelling with warheads from Aldermaston to Faslane. Ciaron O'Reilly one of the Disarmers wrote from Limerick Prison: "The action itself was beautiful - after crawling through the sludge and muck of the airfield... we arrived at the hangar. The repairs from Mary Kelly" disarmament action the previous week had just been completed. We spray-painted the hangar with "Pit Stop for Death" and "The War Stops Here! Phil Berrigan RIP".

# headwich action & Forfurther

about Shannon Airport and the Refuelling Peace campaign, or to get updates about the ongoing Court Cases visit: http:// refuelingpeace.org/ Contact the campaigners: Mary Kelly, Tim Hourigan 061 317721, 086-3784780, 087-37437271085-7290674 shannonpeacecamp@hotmail.com

# Pendine

**Dust to Dust** 

When asked if Depleted Uranium (DU) was a component of the weapons being tested at Pendine military range in Carmarthenshire, campaigners were informed that "all depleted uranium weapons testing takes place in Scotland". As reported in previous issues of heddwch, it has now been admitted that, following tests of such weapons on the West Freugh and Kircudbright military ranges in Scotland the Atomic weapons establishment has found the levels of radioactivity in these areas to be 8 times above 'natural background' radiation levels.

The Irish Sea

New testing of DU weapons is now about to take place in South West Scotland, 'Charm 3' anti tank shells are to be exploded at the Kircudbright Range. There are already thousands of DU tipped shells in the Irish Sea from over two decades of military activity in the area. The campaigning group 'Celtic League' has called for the cessation of this pollution of the Irish Sea taking the view that: "the Irish Sea is a common resource for the benefit of all the communities around its coasts". The Celtic League has written to all the Governments around the Irish Sea calling on them to make clear to the British Government that military activities are inconsistent with maintaining the environmental integrity of the Irish Sea.

Legality

Gulf War 'veterans' from 1990-1 have issued a warning against the use of Depleted Uranium in weapons and many have joined the Stop the War Brigade an organisation of ex-military personnel. New research published by the Uranium Research Centre has revealed several hundred people in the Northern Afghanistan Province of Jalalabad suffering from illnesses and medical conditions displaying clinical conditions similar to those of Gulf War veterans. Every person tested in the area showed that they have internal Uranium contamination with concentrations of toxic and radioactive Uranium isotopes between 100 and 400 times greater than in tests on Gulf war veterans. This research is on going. Hot spots of DU Contamination in Bosnia and Herzegovina have been found as a legacy of NATO bombing. Approximately 400 tons of DU ammunition was used in Iraq in the 1990/91 war and 40 tons in Yugoslavia in 1999. The greatest danger from DU is when it burns following an explosion, and the microscopic particles of Uranium Oxide are inhaled or ingested. It has recently been argued that the battlefield use of DU munitions sets a dangerous legal precedent and a major step towards the legality of using nuclear weapons in combat.

hedawich action To find out more about the Campaign Against Depleted Uranium (CADU), which produces an excellent newsletter Contact: 0161 273 8293 email: info@cadu.org.uk http//: www.cadu.org.uk. The military veterans' organisation Stop the War Brigade can be contacted at: 0049 (0) 177 481 6128 stopthewarbrigade@yahoo.com

"We are in a war-situation, you have no choice, you must get out of your homes for up to three days"

This was a statement made in febraury by an MoD spokesperson to a young family who live near the bomb-testing establishment at Pendine Carmarthenshire. The company, QinetiQ who operate the site are testing a bunker-busting bomb for 'use in Iraq'. Because the previous test in France resulted in the destruction of the testing facility, the testing was transferred to Pendine. The people of Pendine were told that they had to move out with all their pets and farm animals for five hours but must be prepared to stay away for three days "if things went wrong". Why the enforced evacuation? Is it legal? Why the long period of banishment? What long term pollution is expected? It is hoped that this terrible incident will cause at least some people to question the morality of a site that perfects weapons which have already been used with impunity against innocent women, men and children. We must stop Wales being used as a test-bed for military machines. We need employment that is socially beneficial. We can not have jobs at any cost.

hetawch action 
Write to your elected representatives. Support direct action to prevent this abuse of human and animal rights. Contact CND Cymru (see contacts page) and/or Carmarthen Against War: Barry Wade (01559) 384 671

# Aldermaston Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) Update

The AWE 'Site Development Strategy Plan' describes its aims as being to "improve the appearance of AWE" and make it "a more attractive place to work". By page five, we read of the proposed hydrodynamics plant, high powered laser (Nuclear Ignition Facility) and materials laboratories for research and development. New-build at Aldermaston has been in the pipeline since 1999, when the MoD was considering a tender from the BNFL, Lockheed Martin & Serco consortium, for a ten-year contract to run the nuclear weapons production plant. Part of this as yet unsigned deal was to agree a further 25 year extension to the contract. Between July and December 2002, the Ministry of Defence was expected to start lodging planning notices with West

Berkshire District Council in Newbury, but

no notice has yet appeared.

#### **Testing new weapons**

The new facilities at AWE will enable research on nuclear weapons to continue without underground testing, banned under the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. It isn't a question of building new production facilities. The A90 warhead production complex can be used to build and service nuclear warheads for many years with appropriate re-tooling. The skills and equipment to build small nuclear weapons also exist. What is not available

is the means to test them – hence the long term alternative plans to offer methods of testing new warhead designs.

**AWE Management** 

In June 2002, AWE predicted "a potential gap between Company expenditure and available income" and consequently "devised a new model for running the business".

Speculation about the competence of AWE Management Ltd and its relationship with MoD revolves around finance and delay: Delay in agreeing the 25 year new-build contract, delay in submitting planning notices promised monthly since July and delay in publication of the AWE 2001 Annual Report and Accounts until December 2002. And now we have the following gobbledegook from December's in-house magazine, AWE Today: "Company-level plans will be finalised in January with the Directorate Business Area Accountability Plans up-dated in February. This will allow time for more detailed departmental, team, and individual work plans to be agreed before April 1st 2003 so that we can 'hit the ground running', knowing exactly what the plan is."

# The Minister can decide

This is not the first time that nuclear weapons have become the concern of West Berks. Council in Newbury. In the 1980s, it was the deployment of nuclear cruise missiles at USAF Greenham Common. Local councillors have two options now: either to accept the planning notices from MoD and risk being the focus for national nuclear disarmament protest again, or, to refer the matter up to the Environment Minister who has the power to establish a Public Inquiry.

Di Macdonald - Nuclear Information Service heddwch 8

# **Action for your MP!**

The United States Government has for some time been refusing access to suspected chemical weapons sites in the US for inspection by authorised international verification inspectors and has interfered with and obstructed biological weapons inspections. An Early Day Motion (EDM 651) has been launched in the Houses of Parliament to raise awareness of this and to request the British Government to put pressure on to the US Government. You can help!

Please write to your M.P., send them a copy of the following EDM and ask them to sign.

# United States Non-Compliance With The Chemical Weapons Convention (EDM 651)

Llew Smith

Those MPs who have already signed:

Harry Barnes, Harold Best, Richard Burden, Martin Caton, Tom Cox, Ann Cryer, John Cryer, Denzil Davies, Mr Terry Davis, Mr David Drew, Mr Bill Etherington, Ian Gibson, Mike Hancock, Paul Holmes, Kelvin Hopkins, Glenda Jackson, Lynne Jones, Terry Lewis, Alice Mahon, Robert Marshall-Andrews, Kevin McNamara, Alan Simpson, Dennis Skinner, David Taylor, Robert N Wareing

"That this House notes the United States of America signed the Chemical Weapons Convention on the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons on 13th January 1993; observes with

concern that since that time, the United States Government has prohibited access by verification inspectors from the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to several chemical industry sites in the US on the grounds of protecting 'business proprietary information of US companies,' according to the Under Secretary at the US Bureau of Industry and Security in statement on 10th October 2002; notes with disapproval that US escorts have also refused to allow inspectors to use approved inspection equipment (e.g., weighing equipment) during inspections of some military facilities used for chemical weapon manufacture or storage in the past; believes that the United States has imposed limits on inspections of its facilities that are contrary to the requirements of the treaty, including reserving the right for the President to block inspections and limiting what facilities may be inspected; records with disapproval that this stance has led to a less thorough inspection regime; observes the US has acted in a similar disruptive way in respect of the Biologial Weapons Convention, putting the interests of the secrecy of biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies before global security and anti-terrorist measures; points out that if Iraq were to be similarly unco-operative it would incur the deadly wrath of the US Administration; and thus calls upon Her Majesty's Government to put all possible pressure on the United States Administration to enforce American compliance with these treaties."

# Nuclear Bombs from Nuclear Power

The British Government's preparation for a hugely expensive and immoral war in Iraq has been based on the belief that Iraq may have weapons of mass destruction. The British Government is wringing its hands at North Korea's withdrawal from the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). The non-nuclear signatories to the NPT, such as North Korea, might have had more respect for the treaty, had the five declared nuclear states done more to honour their side of the bargain. While the non-nuclear states agreed not to develop nuclear



weapons, the nuclear states agreed "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". There is little sign from the nuclear weapons states of anything other than the dismantling of obsolete warheads and, particularly by the United States, a determination to press ahead with the development of new weapons.

#### **Plutonium Economy**

The British Government resolutely refuses to follow effective measures to reduce the availability of plutonium, the essential ingredient of a nuclear bomb. This would be infinitely more effective than threats of war in averting the spread of nuclear weapons. Instead of stopping the separation of plutonium, the British Government gave permission for the Sellafield MOX plant to use reprocessed plutonium in Mixed Oxide Fuel (MOX) produced for BNFL's overseas customers. As the plutonium is un-irradiated, it is relatively easy to extract it from the MOX fuel. What could be a better terrorist target than a shipload of MOX fuel sailing half way across the world? Japan was a major customer until the scandal of falsified records in September, 2000, which resulted in a shipment of MOX sent to Japan, being returned to Sellafield. When MOX fuel is burnt in a reactor, it produces almost the same amount of plutonium as is used up in its production, making BNFL's argument that MOX is a way of reducing plutonium stocks disingenuous at best.

#### Plutonium - a waste product

In a *Brass Tacks* television programme in 1987, Sir Kelvin Spencer, Chief Scientist at the Ministry of Power, 1954-6, admitted publicly what we in the antinuclear movement had always known - that the original reason for the promotion of nuclear power was to manufacture plutonium for the British nuclear weapons programme. Now the world is awash with plutonium, yet its separation continues. A House of Lords report in March, 1999 recommended that consideration should be given to classify plutonium as radioactive waste, a move which would have severe financial repercussions for British Nuclear Fuels' viability.

This is not the only way in which the nuclear industry appears to be in trouble. The White Paper on Energy favours renewable energy over nuclear, a welcome development which makes it unlikely (hopefully!) that a new generation of nuclear power stations will be built.

#### **Treaty Compliance**

In the shorter term, we must continue to press for adherence to Article 6 of the NPT provision calling for full nuclear disarmament, the safe storage of plutonium stocks and a stop to reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel .

Jenny Maxwell (Vice-Chair British CND)

# Nuclear Weapons Proliferation: have your say

The Preparatory Committee meeting (PrepComm) for the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference in 2005, takes place in Geneva at the end of April/ beginning of May this year. Under Article 6 of the NPT, which came into force in March 1970, the five declared nuclear states promised 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 and effective international control." At the Review Conference in 2002, the five nuclear weapons states agreed to thirteen steps towards their "unequivocal undertaking to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals".

Please write to The British Representative to the UN Conference on Disarmament making the following points:

- After the withdrawal of North Korea from the NPT, the Treaty is in grave danger of collapse;
- Non-nuclear countries
  would have more respect for
  the treaty if they saw
  evidence that the declared
  nuclear states were
  honouring their obligations
  under it;
- Britain must report on its progress to the 2003
   PrepComm, as required under step 12 of the 13 steps agreed in 2002.

Ambassador David Broucher,
Permanent Representative to the
Conference on Disarmament,
British Mission to the Conference
on Disarmament, 37-39, Rue de
Vermont, 1211, Geneva 20,
Switzerland. A stamp for a
single-sheet letter to Europe
costs 37pence. If possible send a
copy of your letter to your MP.

# **Trident Ploughshares Campaign**

2002 - Another sword-beating year

2002 was the year when Devonport joined Aldermaston and the Scottish nuclear bases centre-stage in the Trident Ploughshares campaign as the first Trident submarine, Vanguard, visited for an extended refit, further confirming that this government will continue to maintain Britain's weapons of mass destruction, if we allow it.

Well, we won't. Reflecting a strong measure of local opposition on the grounds of satty as well as the immorality of nuclear weapons, the Devonport Seven blockaded one of the dockyard gates on the 3rd of February and this action and the court appearances which followed helped to put the issue at the top of the public agenda in Plymouth. In September Margaret Jones and Ray Davies (CND Cymru Vice Chair) were arrested on their way to inflict serious damage to the Trident support submarine Tireless and in November a long weekend camp was set up in a comfortable squat in a former MOD building. The highlight of that weekend came on the Friday night as Petter Joelson and Elisa Silvenoenen not only got into the dockyard but onto and inside Vanguard and spent quite some time wandering about before they rang the ship's alarm to let the guards know they were there. This event had a huge and continuing impact locally. On the Monday we followed this up with a successful blockade of the Albert Gate to the yard, when a group of seven women, mainly from the Muriel Lester affinity group, were arrested after 'locking-on'. It was a most successful camp, well organised by the local group. On the streets of Plymouth there was a lot of sympathy for the stand we were taking.

#### Scotland

The Scottish nuclear bases and Aldermaston have not been ignored. In February we joined Scottish CND for a threeday blockade of Faslane. On the first day, the 11th, we achieved the longest shut-down so far of all vehicular access to the base - nothing came in or out for over three hours. Among the more spectacular arrests were that of a large green dragon and a baby in arms (who was soon dearrested to avoid constabulary embarrassment). Among Navy personnel inconvenienced was the husband of the Princess Royal whose name we have royally forgotten and who was clearly not amused to have to get out of his bus and walk pass the people, the banners and the songs, when Dave Rolstone impersonated a sleeping policeman under his vehicle. The August camp at Coulport brought people from far and wide, including a number from US Voices in the Wilderness for a moving die-in with a simple message: "Don't Fire Trident at Iraq". Dave Rolstone was as awkward as ever, swimming with Gillian Sloan onto a Trident submarine right inside the high security berths, painting "Vile" on both sides and ringing the ship's bell. At about 4.30 on the morning after their swim, when they were in the Faslane cells, I took dry clothes over to Faslane for them. It was a lovely rosy dawn and I said so to the security guard at the gate. "Aye, for you, " he replied " They're shitting themselves in there - all running about mad, scared of losing their jobs."

## Aldermaston

If there were ever any doubts that Aldermaston should continue to benefit from our attentions they were dispelled

pave the way for a new generation of British nuclear weapons. As they did later at Devonport, Margaret Jones and Ray Davies provided the overture to our camp when in early June they cut down swathes of the fencing at Aldermaston. When the camp itself came there were 9 arrests with Juliet McBride providing the most enterprising intrusion. At dusk on Sunday evening she interrupted a police briefing by scaling three fences and entering the MOD offices by the main front door completely undetected. She managed to duck under the arm of a guard and join the meeting, before a policeman wrapped her in a jacket and carried her out in front of the obviously shocked officers. Sad-eyed justice

with the announcement of the developments there that will

And, you guessed it, the authorities did not react to all this activity by patting us on the head. Campaign arrests now top 1800, fines etc. are well over £50,000 and there have been 386 trials. Ulla Roder had three spells in prison in 2002 and is still in Low Newton jail in Durham, making an impressive contribution to the 1700 days plus activists have been locked up (not including time in police cells). Most trials relate to Faslane events and take place in the little District Court in Helensburgh. When the High Court threw out the Crown's appeal against the acquittal of MSP Tommy Sheridan for an alleged breach of the peace at a Faslane blockade, we had high hopes that the harassment we suffer for protesting peacefully there might be abated. Unfortunately the Court has gone back to its bad old ways and more or less automatically convicts us. Still, people come out of that courtroom more determined than when they went in to continue the struggle.

#### Increased energy

It has also been a year in which many Trident Ploughshares activists have been engaged in peaceful intervention in Israel/Palestine and practically all engaged in the campaign against the Iraq war. These active connections have increased rather than diminished the energy going into the Trident campaign as the links between Trident and the rest of the mayhem become clearer by the day.

#### Small resistance

For me, one memory above the others stands out. During the August 2002 camp at dusk on Nagasaki Day we gathered on the shore of Loch Long and floated coloured lanterns onto the dark water. These represented the spirits of those who died in the inferno and afterwards. Our commitment to continue the struggle against nuclear weapons has again slaked their thirst and we are sending them back home.

To the spirit of this world Thirsty for peace Thirty for justice Thirsty for healing We bring the offering Of our small resistance

David Mackenzie Trident Ploughshares

# **Trident at Bangor**

5 people were arrested at the U.S. Bangor Trident submarine base on Dr. Martin Luther King Day in a non-violent direct action honouring Dr. King's life and work. The direct action was part of world-wide anti-war demonstrations held from Washington to Cardiff on January 18th, but was also taken in an attempt to stop the deployment of new D-5 nuclear missiles and Tomahawk cruise missiles on US Trident submarines and the use of Trident nuclear weapons in the 'war on terrorism'. The Trident submarine base at Bangor is located 15 miles west of Seattle and is the Pacific home of 9 Trident submarines and 1,760 nuclear warheads. Currently the base is refitting submarines for deployment of the Trident D-5 missile system and the deployment of Tomahawk cruise missiles on four older Trident submarines.

The five protestors were arrested for blocking the road leading to the Base entrance. Their banner quoted Martin Luther King: "Together we must learn to live as brothers and sisters or together we will be forced to perish as fools."

It is unlikely that any of those arrested will be charged or prosecuted for their arrest. Kitsap County prosecutors have been unable to get convictions against non-violent activists arrested at Bangor on the three previous occasions. Juries and judges have found that people arrested at Bangor protests have the legal

right to redress grievances under International and US law with non-violent direct action. Since February 2000, Kitsap County Prosecutors have chosen not to prosecute people for non-violent direct actions at Bangor, saying that such action "does not constitute a crime" in the eyes of the community.

Trident is not the 'deterrent' weapons system it is claimed to be. Trident is the original 'first strike' weapon, and with the USA newly established policy of pre-emptive strike it is much more likely to be used. The Bangor-based submarines can launch their weapons in secrecy and operate near Middle East and Asian targets. In January this year, the first Tomahawk missile and an experimental 10,000 pound unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) were launched from a Trident submarine.

**Court Injunction** 

In January the anti-nuclear and peace organisation 'The Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action', released information showing the U.S. Navy firing depleted uranium weapons off the Washington Coast. A coalition of environmental and peace organisations are considering filing a court injunction against further use of depleted uranium rounds by the U.S. Navy. The next planned direct action at Bangor will be on Mother's Day, May 11, 2003.

Support Ground Zero, a remarkable organisation which last year, celebrated 25 het trick action & years of non-violent witness. Contact them: 16159, Clear Creek Road NW, Poulsbo. WA 98370. USA www.gzcenter.org or info@gzcenter.org



Jack under arrest on 16th January 2003 after a "No War On Iraq" blockade of the federal building in Tucson, Arizona . Six arrested were cited for trespass & released, facing only a fine.

# Sanity in the USA

When I hear claims that my public opposition to war and the rejuvenated imperial direction of U.S. foreign policy is somehow anti-American or unpatriotic, I know that the critic is simply more ignorant than I about the history of this republic.

Many believe that the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution somehow grants the right of free speech and assembly to citizens. In fact, the notable feature of this historical document is that it recognizes and affirms freedom of speech as a human right, the natural state of things, and not the gift of government.

When I am told that war is waged in my name in distant lands and innocents are killed to preserve this right for me here at home, I recall the sacrifice and long struggle of American slavery abolitionists, labor union organizers, suffragettes, conscientious objectors and civil rights activists. I conclude that the persistent and vigorous practice of this sacred human right to free speech, particularly in the face of social and government opposition, has done more to preserve this right than any armed force ever could.

These are the Americans I proudly follow through history: those who recognize a common humanity and struggle to bring our nation and its governance into accord with that vision.

Jack Cohen-Joppa A prisoner advocate and peace campaigner, Jack Cohen-Joppa is co-editor (with partner Felice) and publisher since 1980 of the Nuclear Resister newsletter, a chronicle of nuclear and war resistance that is published to support imprisoned activists.

Some U.S. Weapons of Mass Destruction

Land-based ICBMs: 550 missiles carrying 1,700 warheads (502,000 kilotons)

Submarine-based ICBMs: 432 missiles carrying 3,120 warheads (456,000 kilotons)

Bombers: 115 jets carrying 1,660 warheads (209,000 kilotons)

Tactical nuclear weapons:

(on submarines and bombers) 1,120 warheads (184,000 kilotons)

Total warheads: 7,600 (with

382 "spares")

Total kilotons: 1,351,000 or 108,080 Hiroshima bombs

ICBMs = Inter Continental Ballistic Missiles Source: The Bulletin of Atomic Scientists May 2002

# **National Missile Defense** the blindness of 20:20 vision Embracing the Base

In a move described by Womenwith Hill Peace Camp veteran Helen John as effectively "handing down a summary death sentence to countless millions of innocent human beings", the British Government Defence Select Committee has announced that it has agreed to the use of Menwith Hill and Fylingdales in North Yorkshire as part of the US 'Ballistic Missile Defense' system. Despite the fact that a public consultation had been announced by the MoD, the Government was arrogant enough to proceed anyway. In its objection to plans for British sites to be used as part of the US 'National Missile Defense', CND Cymru told the Consultation that US 'National Missile Defense':

- Is an 'offensive', not only a 'defensive' system and would give the United States the ability to attack almost all other nation states, even in a 'first strike' without fear of reprisal.
- Will increase the likelihood of terrorism because less powerful groups of people will feel intimidated by the threat of the 'defense' system.
- Will make Britain a prime target for terrorism or for a 'preemptive strike' on the Menwith Hill and Fylingdales US bases.
- Will lead to an escalation of weapons of mass destruction because governments throughout the world will feel obliged to increase their weapons effectiveness to combat US domination.
- Is a'Missile Defense' step towards the establishment by the USA Government of weapons in space. The US Space Command 2020 Vision sees itself as "dominating the space dimension of military operations to protect US interests and investments integrating the space forces into war fighting capabilities across the full spectrum of conflict." (www.spacecom.af.mil/usspace)
- ~ Is a waste of money. A fraction of the expenditure spent of the 'Missile Defense Program' would help alleviate the poverty and injustice, which causes resentment of the United States and other nations in the 'West'.

As Helen John went on to point out: "Domination of the planet to gain oil, mineral wealth and water assets belonging to those who will have 'regime change' inflicted upon them by the whim of George W. Bush and his military industrial minders can not be seen to truthfully represent the people of Britain, the USA or indeed any sane, moral citizen anywhere in the world." Where is our so-called 'democracy' when decisions affecting the whole world are made without even consulting our democratically elected bodies?

hedawch action (This decision and the system is supports it a threat to the people of Wales, Britain and the World. Write to Tony Blair, Geoff Hoon and your AMs and MPs (see contacts page 16 for addresses). Let them know how you feel about the decision itself and the lack of real vision shown by the British (and US) Governments. For more information contact CND Cymru (see Contacts), Yorkshire CND tel: 01274 730795 or Menwith Hill Women's Peace Campaign (01943) 468 593 PO Box 105, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG3 2FE.

# **Greenham Common**

December 12th 1982 when thousands and thousands of women surrounded the American Cruise Missile Base at Greenham Common, was the last time I wore wellingtons. It had been mentioned that it could be muddy in places around the perimeter fence. It was comforting to find Harold Moore alongside us yet again. As an old war veteran he always new the insignia of all the military present, whether they were guarding the fence or perched on watch towers and they were always taken aback when he addressed them knowledgeably and sympathetically

Throughout the day we kept moving round to the left as others joined the throng. Two nearby ladies dressed in country tweeds, twin-sets and ropes of pearls, found a small hole in the fence and promptly began unweaving a large area, explaining to the soldiers on guard, that they were not intending to get in but were making a hole big enough for them to get out and escape from such a boring existence.

Accompanied by the banging of drums, a great cheer went up when the message reached us that we had completed the nine mile circle - we had embraced the base - a memorable and thrilling achievement.

Off we set in the direction of our parked coaches. They were nowhere to be seen! Police had carelessly or deliberately moved them somewhere, but where? By the time we had located them, some of us had walked eleven and a half miles that daynot very comfortable if one was wearing wellingtons.

On the 20th Anniversary of this amazing action, once again women came together at Greenham in celebration of the event. In Cardiff a commemorative gathering was organised for those unable to travel so far. At twelve noon on the same day women rallied in the garden of the Temple of Peace to affirm that the spirit of Greenham is still alive. Katrina Gass spoke of memories of the original encirclement and expressed the determination of women to sustain and increase their unique contribution to the campaign for World Peace. Very significantly, original Greenham campaigners were joined by a new generation of Peace Women.

Jeanne Crabb

headowch action @ Work on the beautiful Commemorative site at Greenham Common continues. Funds are still being raised. To contibute, please contact Sarah Hipperson, 15, Sydney Road, Wanstead, London E11 2JW (020) 8989 4819

# Public Inquiry into the Planning Application for Trawsfynydd Nuclear Power Station

The Inquiry was held during November and December 2002 in the Memorial Hall, Penrhyndeudraeth.

The Planning Application

1. Intermediate-level Waste Store

The intention is to use this Store to combine all the waste held in the small stores and the "design of the store will ensure the safety of the material until such time as the National Repository will have come into being."

The store will be 91 metres long, 34 metres wide and 91

metres high.

"The store will contain extra space to allow for any increase in the number of packages produced in Trawsfynydd."

2. The 'Safe Store'

It is intended to lower the height of the reactor buildings by 20 metres. The demolition of the buildings will produce 30,000 cubic metres of waste, which will be stored on-site. The shape of the roof will be changed to "reflect the undulating nature of the landscape". The walls will be clad with Ffestiniog slate and "panels of coloured stainless steel."

Unlike other Public Inquiries, there was no official record kept of the comments, questions or replies to the crossquestioning, and no information was supplied by post regarding timetabling. Everyone was expected to present written evidence by mid-October, but anyone could present

verbal comments during the inquiry.

The Hall was not ideal in terms of acoustic and convenience. Tables were placed in a large rectangle in the front half of the hall. There was a very small table set at an angle between the inspectors' table and that of BNFL Magnox, where individuals presented their evidence. Representatives of the organisations sat in the audience, i.e. four rows in the back of the hall, so every question required the use of a roving microphone. There was much to-ing and fro-ing on the wooden floor, which resounded underfoot. Many of the comments which passed between the tables were too quiet for the audience to hear them.

Brian Woollam, Keith Spooner (Site Manager), Sheila Twidle, Patrick Chorlton and Roger Cockle gave evidence on behalf of BNFL Magnox and the first three were cross-questioned

extensively.

Aled Sturkey, Chief Planning Officer, appeared on behalf of Snowdonia National Park and said that they did not oppose the Planning Application, but wished to see the inclusion of a condition that intermediate level waste would be removed in 25 years or sooner if the 'national' repository was ready. He said that the situation should be reviewed every five years.

Iwan Evans said that Cyngor Gwynedd gave reluctant support, but the Council would prefer an early solution and

complete removal of the waste from the Park.

On behalf of Trawsfynydd Community Council, Councillor Tom Ellis said that something had to be done to keep it safe, as there is nowhere for it to go.

During the last week, the HSE testified and underlined our opinion that this inquiry will set a precedent for proceedings

on every Magnox site in Britain.

Dr. Clive Williams and Colin Hardman appeared on behalf of the Environment Agency, and were questioned in detail about the polluted land on the site, the situation regarding the streams and the lake, and the responsibility for maintaining the dams.

Hugh Richards, on behalf of the Welsh Anti-nuclear Alliance, and Max Wallis, on behalf of Friends of the Earth, presented extensive and detailed reports, which obviously had been thoroughly researched, and were aggressively crossquestioned. Possibly it was the high standard of their work that caused counsel for BNFL to try to defame them in the closing statements.

Rod Stallard on behalf of CND Cymru and Nesta Wyn Jones and Deilwen M. Evans on behalf of CADNO (The local antinuclear group) presented more general reports. CADNO wanted the inspector to understand how little information of any significance is presented to the Local Liaison Committee.

The Inspector will consider the evidence and present his recommendations to the Planning Inspectorate in the National Assembly and to the Westminster Government's Department of Trade and in the near future.

**Deilwen Evans CADNO** 

# Philip Berrigan 1923-2002

Anti-War Activist Phil Berrigan died on December 6th 2002 at Jonah House in Baltimore USA, a community he co-founded in 1973, surrounded by family and friends. He died two months after

being diagnosed with liver and kidney cancer.

During his nearly 40 years of resistance to war and violence, Berrigan focused on living and working in a community as a way to model the non-violent, sustainable world he was working to create. Jonah House members live simply, pray together, share duties, and attempt to expose the violence of militarism and consumerism. The community was born out of resistance to the Vietnam War, including high-profile draft card burning actions; later the focus became ongoing resistance to U.S. nuclear policy, including Plowshares actions that aim to enact Isaiah's biblical prophecy of a disarmed world. It was as a result of these efforts that Berrigan spent about 11 years in prison. He wrote, lectured, and taught extensively, publishing six books, including an autobiography, 'Fighting the Lamb's War'.

Community members Ardeth Platte and Carol Gilbert, Dominican sisters, were unable to be physically present at Phil's bedside in Jonah House as they were in jail in Colorado awaiting trial for a disarmament action at a missile silo, the 79th international Plowshares action. Berrigan wrote a final statement in the days before his death. His final comments included this: "I die with the conviction, held since 1968 and Catonsville, that nuclear weapons are the scourge of the earth; to mine for them, manufacture them, deploy them, use them, is a curse against God, the human family, and the earth itself."



# Sustainable Wales:

# Consult, confer, ignore?

The National Assembly for Wales has a sustainable development commitment built into its constitution, through the requirement in the

Government of Wales Act. The National Assembly says that it is working to create a sustainable, inclusive and equal Wales through an eight

point range of actions, two of which are:

Develop sustainable energy generation and improve

energy efficiency.

Develop and implement sustainable policies for reducing and managing waste (although not mentioned, presumably including nuclear waste, which will present future generations with a mortally dangerous threat for thousands of years).

This responsibility has enabled the Assembly to help to fund a number of Conferences which have enabled interested organisations and individuals to discuss and promote sustainable development in Wales and to influence decision making at all levels of government.

Finding our Voices 1 (FOVI)

The first of these Conferences, 'Finding Our Voices I', in March 1999 attracted representatives from over 200 organisations. Nine Assembly members were there including Sue Essex the Minister for the Environment. Included in the section of the Conference Report on the environment and sustainability were the following

Dealing with the legacy of nuclear power is the biggest test of the Assembly's commitment to sustainable development.

The 'polluter pays principle' means our generation has to clear up the mess that our generation has

Wales should be declared nuclear free as a clear and honest statement of intent on environmental, moral, and humanitarian grounds.

This has always been the position of CND Cymru, the Wales Anti-Nuclear Alliance and many other green organisations.

# Finding our Voices II (FOVII)

In her Foreword to the report of Finding our Voices II which was held in November 2000, Sue Essex wrote - "As a politician, I am well aware that the 400 plus FOV delegates are keen monitors of how government at all levels seeks to promote democracy and sustainability.

#### Wales and the World

In preparation for the World Summit on Sustainable Development the Wales and the World Conference was held in Cardiff in April 2002. In her address Sue Essex made no mention of the Assembly Governments attitude towards, or plans for dealing with nuclear power or nuclear waste. Later in the morning at the seminar on 'Energy and Energy Efficiency,' the question of the dangers of nuclear power production, evidenced by Chernobyl and other disasters, the link with nuclear weapons, the dangerous legacy that we would be leaving to the future and the fundamental unsustainability of this doom laden project was raised.

The Chair Ron Davies' responsed by saying that the development of renewable sources of energy was proceedingso slowly, that we might have to fall back on nuclear power in order to

achieve the targets set for the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions. There was an immediate and vocal protest from participants. A vote was taken and the seminar

unanimously rejected nuclear power.

In the afternoon Rhodri Morgan spoke to the Conference but didn't dare utter the 'n' word. During the following question and answer session, the earlier question on the dangers of nuclear power was raised.(This was the one and only question to receive applause from Conference.) Rhodri Morgan responded by using the same argument as Ron Davies and almost the same words. (One wonders who is writing their hymn sheet.) In the introduction to the Conference Report that was subsequently published, Rhodri wrote, "With delegates' help, I will take to the Summit practical ideas on how to build a more sustainable world". This delegate seemed to have had a small success. Of the five main conclusions to go to Johannesburg, concerning Energy and Energy Efficiency, one was: Reject nuclear power and realise the significant potential for renewable energy in Wales.

The'national follow-up: 'Conference to the World Summit on Sustainable Development-Debate, Decisions, Direction'. Swansea 4th December 2002. set out the agenda on how progress on sustainable development will be made in Wales over the next five years. This Conference followed the same pattern as before: "Wales is leading the world in sustainable development - blah, blah" Nukes zilch!

At the Climate Change and Energy session, heavily facilitated by two Council Officials, neither they nor apparently any of the organisers of the event were aware of the Cardiff Conference and that it had published a report with recommendations not only for the world but equally for Wales. The discussion was starting from 'ground zero'. The issue of nuclear power was treated as 'controversial' and the session didn't appear to come to a clear decision. If a report is published, it will be interesting to read what advice goes to the Assembly.

We thought that we had 'Found Our Voices'. It seems that we shall have to shout even louder. Don't forget! - the Bush junta has the ambition to 'touch the face of God' with nuclear power and nuclear weapons in space- and Hoon has said yes!



# The Case Against New Nuclear Reactors

Ever since the last British General Election there have been confusing and contradictory signals being sent out about the Government's plans for new nuclear reactors. Leaked internal policy briefings indicate that the Department of Trade and Industry wants to make it easier for nuclear plants to receive planning permission, and to speed up procedures so that new designs can be licensed more quickly and cheaply. Ways to soften up public opposition to nuclear power are under discussion. Even before the Government's Energy Review had completed its work, the openly pro-nuclear chairman of the steering group, energy minister Brian Wilson had made it clear that in his opinion nuclear power stations would be necessary if Britain was to meet its Kyoto commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Following the British Energy fiasco he has modified his statements but is still suggesting that the energy white paper will 'keep the nuclear energy option open'.

The advocates of nuclear power face a dilemma. The Energy Review concluded that any move to advance nuclear power would need to carry widespread public acceptance. The problem is that you cannot have both rapid deployment of untried reactors that omit safety features and public acceptance of them. Any attempt to interfere with the independence of the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate, or to curtail public inquiries, will intensify public scepticism and apprehension.

New nuclear reactors will fail to meet the Government's stated objectives of competitiveness, affordability, sustainability and security of supply. Nuclear power is ludicrously expensive. Up to ten reactors are on the industry's wish-list, but series ordering of an unproven, untested, unbuilt Westinghouse design is commercial suicide.

The nuclear industry has wildly optimistic projections and a pitiful economic track record. The recent financial crisis at British Energy is a reminder that we cannot trust the figures put forward by the nuclear industry to represent current liabilities or future performance. BNFL and British Energy believe that the proposed AP1000 reactor design, based on the smaller AP600 that no-one bought in 17 years, can be built in three years and will be 'available' from its scheduled start-up for 90% of the time throughout a 60 year life. The reality is that Westinghouse reactors world-wide have achieved a 58% 'load factor' from their scheduled start up dates, none have operated beyond the age of 34, and 8 have been closed down.

The nuclear industry is unwilling to deal with radioactive waste or to dismantle old reactors. Radioactive waste is backing-up at sites all over Britain, much of it in a condition described as 'outrageous' [1]. The legacy of nuclear power is a vast and intractable clean-up problem, and an industry that wants to burden future generations with the task of dismantling reactors. The highly provocative suggestion has been made that more radioactive waste would not make much difference. Because reprocessing spentfuel is uneconomic and environmentally unacceptable, all the spent fuel from new PWR's would have to be stored on site, indefinitely.

All nuclear plants are vulnerable to accidents and terrorist attacks. The AP1000 reactor has many safety systems ripped out to save costs. It omits safety features regarded as essential for Sizewell B, introduces new and untested elements, and violates the basic principles of British licensing. The events of Sept 11th 2001 created the necessity to make all nuclear reactors and waste stores terrorist proof, perhaps by putting them underground. The AP600 design was rejected by Finland because it is not 'aircraft proof'. Secrecy about the 'extendibility' of emergency planning arrangements around Britain's nuclear sites is increasing public distrust about nuclear energy.

Energy and Renewables Support Conservation. If the aim of Energy Policy is to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, the most cost effective means should be adopted. Energy conservation expenditure is at least four times as cost effective as expenditure on new nuclear capacity, with the advantage that energy costs saved are liberated for use in other parts of the economy rather than locked up in plant destined to become a huge liability. Consistent application of the sustainable development principle requires us to use our intelligence to reduce greenhouse gas emissions without burdening future generations with even more radioactive waste and a proliferation of nuclear materials in circulation. It was in 1987 that the Brundtland Commission [2] stated that renewable energy: 'should form the foundation of the global energy structure during the 21st century'.

Greater security of supply, with a smaller planning margin, and hence greater economy, is more likely to be achieved through the introduction of many, small generating units, with short lead times, than few very large ones. Renewable energy sources do not make good targets for terrorist attack, and are ideally suited for a robust energy future.

Greenpeace evidence of strong public support for renewable energy and energy conservation with 72% of respondents preferring renewable energy to the nuclear option has been confirmed by the Department of Trade and Industry's own energy consultation.

Whether or not the government supports a new generation of reactors, they have clearly been flirting with the idea and may return to it. Campaigners in Wales will maintain their vigilance and an implacable opposition to nuclear power and to support local renewable energy projects.

**Hugh Richards** 

[1] Nuclear stores 'on verge of exploding' Mark Townsend, The Observer, Sunday June 30, 2002

[2] World Commission on Environment and Development, Our Common Future, Oxford University Press Oxford 1987

# headawch action @

To get involved in, or for more information about campaigning against nuclear power in Wales, contact Hugh Richards Welsh Anti-Nuclear Alliance Tel/Fax: 01982 570362 email: hughrichards@gn.apc.org or Rod Stallard, CND Cymru (see Contacts).

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Y Rhondda CF39 9DE' national secretary & heddwch editor:

Jill Stallard, Nantgaredig, Cynghordy, Llanymddyfri SA20 0LR (01550)750 260 heddwch@nantgaredig.freeuk.com

Heddwch

Peace

If you have any queries or ideas or want information please contact your nearest vice chair. For more information about CND Cymru, or how to receive heddwch regularly please contact the CND Cymru Membership Secretary (see above).

# lobbying contacts

**Tony Blair MP**, 10, Downing Street, Westminster, London SW1A 2AA fax: 0207 925 0918

email:remote-printer.Tony.Blair/
DowningSt@442079250918.iddd.tpc.int
Geoff Hoon M.P., Secretary of State

for 'Defence', MoD, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB

Jack Straw M.P., Secretary of State for Foreign & Commonwealth Affairs, F& C Office, Whitehall, London SW1A 2AH

Your M.P.: House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1A 0AA

Your A.M.: National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay, Cardiff CF99 1NA

Your M.E.P.: European Parliament, Wiertz-Straat, B-1047, Brussels (37p stamp)

Mission of United Kingdom of Great Britain to the U.N.: Sir Jeremy Greenstock, 885 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017 USA Fax: 745-9332 / 745-9316 uk@un.int The Doomsday Machine

Scientists do not fire the missiles.

Arms manufacturers do not use the weapons they make.

Politicians would not willingly kill children.

Soldiers do not give orders.

Military field commanders do not plan the strategy.

Strategic planners do not execute the plans.

Civil servants do not make the policy.

Taxpayers do not order the bombs. EITHER no one is responsible

OR everyone is.

SILENCE MEANS CONSENT

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Urdd Eisteddfod

C N D Cymru needs volunteer help at our stall at the Urdd Eisteddfod in Margam Park, Port Talbot, 26th - 31st May 2003 and at the Eisteddfod Genedlaethol in Meifod, near Welshpool, 2nd - 9th August 2003. We need people to talk to the public, asking them to sign petitions, and sellingbadges and other goods; in exchange you get a ticket to the Eisteddfod for the day, with some time off to wander around and enjoy the festival. If you are interested, please contact Jan Henderson or Brian Jones on (01792) 830 330

Glastonbury

C N D Cymru needs volunteers to help at the Glastonbury Festival 27th - 29th June 2003. We need people to help staff a 'property lock-up', where festival goers can leave their belongings safe in the knowledge that they stuff will still be there when they come back for it. Duties will involve some physical work, form filling, talking to the public, asking them to sign petitions, selling badges and so on. It's quite hard work, but lots of fun with a great team of workers, and when you're not working, you are free to enjoy the festival! We do ask you for the ticket price up-front as a deposit, which will be returned to you after the festival. If you are interested, please contact Jan Henderson or Brian Jones on (01792) 830 330 or email brian.jones@nptc.ac.uk

# **Diary Dates**

qui tacit consentit silence is consent

# March 22<sup>nd</sup> ABERYSTWYTH WALES ACTION FOR PEACE

Rally, Speakers and Workshops BE THERE!

Info:Olwen Davies (01970) 611 994 Laura Jones: 07833 531 711 or Medi James: (01970) 611 034

March 22nd. USAF FAIRFORD National Demonstration Called By Bristol-Stop-The-War-Coalition email james@venables.plus.com www.gwi.org.uk 07768 418 960

March 22nd MENWITH HILL Yorkshire FOIL THE BASE! Contact www.now-peace.org.uk

Contact www.now-peace.org.uk Yorkshire CND: (01274) 730 795

April 5th ABERYSTWYTH 11am CND Cymru Annual Meeting Capel y Morfa, Portland Street All members and delegates of affiliated groups welcome. Contact National Secretary: 01550 750 260

April 5th ABERYSTWYTH 2pm CND Cymru PUBLIC MEETING Everyone Welcome Contact CND Cymru: 01550 750 260

April 19th CARDIFF 11.30am Côr Cochion Easter Saturday Sing for CND Cymru. Leafletters and help needed please contact Ray Davies: (02920) 889 514

April 22<sup>nd</sup> FASLANE SCOTLAND The Really Big Blockade STOP TRIDENT

www.Tridentploughshares.gn.apc.org or 0845 45 88 366. Contact 02920 889 514 to share transport from Cardiff.

April 28th BRECON Mark Thomas at Theatr Brycheiniog CND/anti-war stall Contact CND Cymru (01550) 750 260

May 17th 11.00am NEWTOWN Methodist Hall, Back Lane CND Cymru Cyngor Contact CND Cymru National Secretary: 01550 750 260

May 24th WORLDWIDE International Women's day for Disarmament

July 12<sup>th</sup> 11.00am CND Cymru Cyngor NEWTOWN Methodist Hall, Back Lane Contact CND Cymru National Secretary: 01550 750 260

See attached anti war insert for local group contacts, regular actions and for 'emergency' plans.

# cnd cymru



# heddwch action information sheet spring 2003

# **NOT IN MY NAME!**

"We must act on our conscience and resist as if the future depends upon it – because it does. We must inspire, organise and expand political resistance throughout society – where we live and where we work, where we go to school and where we raise our children, where we play and where we pray..."

Despite the huge outpouring of protest in Wales and all around the World, the war makers refuse to listen to the people. We must build on all we have done to date and intensify our work to stop an attack on Iraq. The purpose of this sheet of paper is to provide access to some of the tools that might help and inspire individuals and groups in Wales to continue in our opposition to the war.

# Why we are against an attack on Iraq

War on Iraq would have a devastating impact on the lives and health of Iraqi civilians and people in the neighbouring countries, combatants, on the environment of Iraq and the rest of the world.

- \* Pre-emptive war will set a new, dangerous, international standard. The US and Britain are choosing to re-interpret the legal basis for waging war in 'self –defence' thus altering the 'laws of war', threatening a dangerous escalation in the threat or use of force, and jeopardising all international law and treaties.
- \* The possession of weapons of mass destruction does not sestablish a case for launching a pre-emptive strike upon Iraq. If so such a case could justify the launch of pre-emptive strikes on Israel, Pakistan, India, North Korea, Russia, France and China.

  And for other countries to launch such strikes on Britain and so the US.
- \* There is no actual connection between Iraq's weapons programme and the events of 11th September 2001.
- \* The victims of any U.S. led war with Iraq and of any resulting civil war, will be Iraqi children, women and men.
- \* An attack upon Iraq would destabilise many other countries in the Middle East and would result in horrific long term environmental and health effects in the Middle East and further afield.
- \* Such an attack would not be about weapons of mass destruction but about the control of oil reserves. Which country Iran, Syria or even Saudi Arabia, would be next? The U.S. and British Governments have expressed their preparedness to use weapons of mass destruction.
- \* All sides would pay heavily in arms expenditure, subsequent 'occupation', relief and reconstruction following economic collapse.
- \* It would fuel more terrorist acts. Without true justice there will be no true peace.
- \* Any such war backed by the British Government will be against the majority will of British people.
- \* War is not an environmentally sustainable way to solve conflict; war preparations are causing environmental degradation in those countries preparing to attack Iraq, the production and testing of weapons and the training of their users.
- \* Any 'agreement' by the UN Security Council to support the war would be obtained by threats and bribes.



# What we do want

CND Cymru does not support the Iraqi Regime or Saddam Hussein, and condemns terrorism. We believe that a long term peace can only be brought about by massive investment in real diplomacy, strengthening the Iraqi people and their communities by dropping non-military sanctions against Iraq. The world community needs to work together

through a reformed United Nations to address the roots of war and injustice.

Weapons inspections of suspected factories and installations should be carried out in <u>all</u> countries possessing or suspected of possessing weapons of mass destruction. Genuine measures leading to honest, complete and absolute disarmament should be taken all states which have weapons of mass destruction.

Wales Coalition Against the War/CND Cymru
ABERYSTWYTH
ALL WALES DAY OF ACTION FOR PEACE
March 22nd 200310.30am - 5pm
Old College
Protest March
Speakers
Workshops
BE THERE!
Contact: (01970) 611 304

Evening gig: 9pm - 1pm Aberystwyth Football Club

# Peace tools

# Campaigning Locally

For information about regular local events and those planned to take place in case of an attack on Iraq contact your local group or your nearest CND Cymru Vice Chair.. Alternatively organise your own! Events have been most successful when held in central, busy location with clear signs and banners. You can also subscribe to the just peace elist by sending a blank email to

# just-peace-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Assembly Elections May 1st

Contact all candidates in your constituency and tell them that you will vote for the candidates who are against the war. Ask them their position on the proposed attack on Iraq. Get together with others and organise hustings for candidates. For more information on candidates, contact CYTUN - The Churches National Assembly Centre:

http://www.nationalassembly.freeserve.co.uk/Election.htm or Wales Yearbook web site: www.wyb2003.co.uk/-4k-2 Mar 2003

#### Action ideas:

Demonstrations (local, national and international); showing anger and dissent by making NOISE (banging shouting etc.); silent vigils; non-violent direct action blockading, or 'stopping' cities; flying kites at Bases; demonstrations with speakers; postal, email/ and fax 'blockade' of Government ministers/departments/offices; picket or peace camp at the National Assembly; asking shops to close in sympathy; walk out by working people and students, sit ins, die-ins, sing-ins, teach-ins, pray-ins,; street theatre, pavement drawing, street stalls. Become a Weapons Inspector for a day - visit a military installation/ pharmaceutical factory/electronics factory/ chemical factory/government minister's palace... wear thick glasses and a white coat and carry a clip board. Leafleting, letter-writing - to decision-makers, elected representatives and the local & national papers. Taking part in phone - ins and radio discussions. Organising/ taking part in public meetings, making and 'exhibiting' banners. Making a giant card and hold a public 'signing'. Decorating fences. Use the methods you enjoy. Be positive and constructive!

Don't forget to invite the press and tell CND Cymru, to help spread the message further. If there is no group nearby or you are unable to get out, campaigning can be done from home. Contact the newspapers, television and radio, write letters and support others taking direct action.

# **Lobbying Contacts:**

Tony Blair MP, 10, Downing Street, Westminster, London SW1A 2AA fax: 0207 925 0918 email:

remote-printer.Tony.Blair/DowningSt@442079250918.iddd.tpc.int Geoff Hoon MP, Secretary of State for 'Defence', MoD, Main

Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB Jack Straw MP, Secretary of State for Foreign & Commonwealth

Affairs, F& C Office, Whitehall, London SW1A 2AH Your M.P.: House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1A 0AA Your A.M: National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay, Cardiff CF99 1NA Your M.E.P.: European Parliament, Wiertz-Straat, B-1047, Brussels Mission of United Kingdom of Great Britain to the UN: Sir Jeremy Greenstock, 885 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017 USA Fax: 745-9332/745-9316 uk@un.int

Join CND Cymru and keep in touch with and support the long-term campaign for peace and justice. Contact CND Cymru Membership Secretary: 72, Heol Gwyn, Yr Alltwen, Pontardawe SA8 3AN (01792) 830 330.

# **Groups & Contacts in Wales**

CND Cymru: (01550) 750 260 heddwch@nantgaredig.freeuk.com Chair: Jill Evans (01978) 311 564 David Bradley (North)): (01978) 311 564 Vice Chairs: Olwen Davies (Mid): (01970) 611 994 Rod Stallard (South West): (01550) 750 260 Ray

Davies (South East): (029 20) 889 514

#### **North Wales**

Arfon: Ben Gregory, (01286) 882 359 benica@gn.apc.org Bangor and Ynys Môn: Linda Rogers. (01248) 490 715 phil@tycerrig1.freeserve.co.uk Clwyd Anti-War Network: Ged Turner, gedi@turnero.freeserve.co.uk

Llangollen: Jenny Davis 07940 444 891 Mold: David Mcknight, 07775 784 063

moldstopwar@yahoo.com

Ruthin Peace Group: Jean Leith 01824 705 592

mail@cleithj.freeserve.co.uk

Wrecsam: Genny Bove, (0845) 330 4505 mail@7times7.freeserve.co.uk Wrecsam Students: David Mcknight, 07775 784 wrexhamsaw@yahoo.com

Aberystwyth Students: Lydia Bulmer, 0781 307 9583, ldbo@aber.ac.uk Aberystwyth CND: Olwen Davies, (01970) 611 994Aberystwyth Peace Network Against the War: Medi James (01970) 832 725 medi.james@wales.gov.uk Newcastle Emlyn: Louis Friedman, (01559) 370 211 LouisFried@aol.com Dyfi Valley: Helena Earnshaw, (01654) 702 166 helena.earnshaw@pobox.com Knighton: Ann Marie Davies, (01547) 528 833 amdskyborry@hotmail.com Llandrindod CND: Sian Meredudd, (01597) 823 547

Llanidloes Peace Group: Rachel Gaster (01686) 412 233

Newtown: Monica Bradley, (01686) 626 350 sevenbrookt@hotmail.com Oswestry (almost Wales!): George Miller, (01691) 658 330 george.miller@virgin.net

Welshpool: Gillian Blackburn (01938) 810 253 or Angus: angus.metal@telco4u.net

#### **South Wales**

Frances@ballin.fslife.co.uk

Abercynon CND: Michele Davies, (01685) 879 842 horusisborn@aol.com Ammanford: Pat Gill: (01269) 595 538

Atlantic College: Joel Kenrick, (01446) 799 237 joelkenrick@yahoo.co.uk Blackwood Stop the War: Ian Thomas, (01495) 225 326

Brecon: Mike Gatehouse, (01874) 658 564 mike@keen.clara.co.uk

Bridgend CND: George Crabb, (01446) 774 452

georgecrabb@ybontfaen.freeserve.co.uk Bridgend Coalition: Pete Thompson (01656) 648 817 jackie@shwt.freeserve.co.uk Caerffili CND: Ray Davies, (029 20) 889 514 wendy.lewis2@aladdinscave.net Cardiff Justice and Peace: Frances Ballin, (029 20) 765 077

Cardigan against the War: Des Llewellyn (01348) 874 366

Carmarthen: Barry Wade (01559) 384 671 ann pettitt@chantecler.fsnet.co.uk Gwent Peace and Justice: Katrina Gass, (01873) 855 760 katrinagass@yahoo.co.uk Lampeter Stop the War: Ron Whitehead (01239) 851 821 or Adam Stout (01570) 423 517 Llanelli: Greg Jones: (01554) 745 311

Llandysul:Sian ap Gwynfor: (01559) 362 649 GutoPrys@Annibynwyr.net Newport (Gwent) Stop the War: Richard Morse, (01633) 860 774

Newport (Trefdraeth, Pembs.): Maureen Bennett (01239) 821 056/ (01348) 811 146 Palestine Solidarity Cymru: Beaty Smith, 029 20 886 113 beatysmith@hotmail.com Penarth: Teresa Mitchell, (029 20) 705 458 Tree. Mitchell@btopenworld.com

Rhondda Cynon Tâf: Dominic MacAskill, 0777 9140 118 dominic.macaskill@ntlworld.com

South Wales Coalition: Teresa Goss (029 20) 499 579 teresagoss@roath47.freeserve.co.uk Swansea CND, Loppy Garrard: (01792) 234 031 loppy@loppys.freeserve.co.uk Swansea Coalition: Cath Larkins, (01792) 234 031 cath@cynefin.plus.com

Fellowship of Reconciliation: Awel Irene, (01766) 771 100 awel.irene@virgin.net

Joint Faiths against War: Ceridwen Owen (01656) 662 301 / 07866 141 046. Meeting of Friends in Wales):(01239) 612 213 cyfarchniad@onenet.co.uk Wales Labour Against the War: 029 20) 898 784 Darren. Williams@wales.gov.uk Stop the War Coalition: (British): 020 7053 2155 www.stopwar.org.uk

# **ATTACK IRAQ?**

To attack Iraq is immoral, illegal and would cause further suffering to the people of Iraq and devastation to the environment.



# SAY NO! TAKE ACTION!

Write to your AM, MP and/or MEP.

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- Talk to friends, neighbours and colleagues.
- Join with others to protest. (Contact us for local groups)

# Join the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament Cymru to help build a just world with no weapons of mass destruction!

# **Membership Form**

Name:	Y
Address:	Y
Addresspost code	
'phone:email:	
l'enclose a cheque/po for £ payable to <b>CND Cymru</b> waged couple: £16 □ adult: £12 □	
unwaged and pensioners: £4  youth and students: £4  Please return to:	

CND Cymru, 72, Heol Gwyn, Yr Alltwen, Pontardawe SA8 3AN phone: 01550 750 260

email: heddwch@nantgaredig.freeuk.com

02/2003. Printed by serencymru. Email: print@serencymru.org

# heddwchaction ATTACKIRAQ?...NO!

CND Cymru is calling on all members and friends to act urgently in the face of the growing threat of military action against Iraq. War on Iraq would have a devastating impact on the lives and health of Iraqi civilians people in the neighbouring countries, combatants and on the environment of Iraq and the rest of the world.

# Why we are against an attack on Iraq:

- Pre-emptive war will set a new, dangerous, international standard. The US and Britain are choosing to re-interpret the legal basis for waging war in 'self -defence' thus altering the 'laws of war' and threatening a dangerous escalation in the threat or use of force.
- Such an attack would violate international law.
- The possession of weapons of mass destruction does not establish a case for launching a pre-emptive strike upon Iraq. If so such a case could justify the launch of pre-emptive strikes on Israel, Pakistan, India, North Korea, Russia, France and China. And for other countries to launch such strikes on Britain and the US.
- There is no connection between Iraq's weapons programme and the events of 11<sup>th</sup> September 2001.
- The victims of any US led war with Iraq will be Iraqi children, women and men.
- The victims of resulting civil war will also be the ordinary people of Iraq.
- An attack upon Iraq would destabilise many other countries in the Middle East.
- There would be horrific long term environmental and health effects in the Middle East and further afield.
- Such an attack would not be about weapons of mass destruction but about the control of oil reserves. Which country – Iran Syria or even Saudi Arabia, would be next?
- Further damage to the sanction and war-weakened Iraqi infrastructure would lead to more suffering for the Iraqi people.
- All sides would pay heavily in arms expenditure, subsequent 'occupation' relief and reconstruction following economic collapse.
- It would fuel more terrorist acts.
- Any such war backed by the British Government will be against the majority will of British people.
- The arguments made by Governments for using conventional weapons and weapons of mass destruction are the same. Both the British and US Governments have expressed their preparedness to use weapons of mass destruction if they 'deem it necessary'.
- War is not an environmentally sustainable way to solve conflict.
- Environmental degradation is already occurring in those countries preparing to attack Iraq, caused by the production and testing of weapons and the training of their users.
- Without true justice there will be no true peace.

#### heddwch's back!

CND Cymru's magazine 'heddwch' will be returning to the doormats of Wales in early 2003

#### look out for it!

Let us know of your events, thoughts, ideas hopes and fears and send us your photographs or drawings of actions so hopefully we can include them! Please send them to the editor:

Jill Stallard, Nantgaredig, Cynghordy, Llanymddyfri SA20 OLR (01550) 750 260 heddwch@nantgaredig.freeuk.com
For details of how to be sure of your copy contact Brian Jones, CND Cymru Membership, 72, Heol Gwyn, Yr Alltwen, Pontardawe SA8 3AN (01792) 830 330.

# You can make a difference!

Get involved in - or organise:

Demonstrations (local, national and international)
Vigils – for an hour or for longer, with candles,
photographs of Iraqi children, message boards...
Sit ins,Die-ins,Sing-ins,Teach-ins,Pray-ins
Street Stalls and Street Theatre
Set up a 'soap-box' in a public place.
Pavement drawing (with chalks or powder paints?)
Lobbying, Visiting Government offices and MPs'/
AMs' surgeries

Become a Weapons Inspector for a day visit a military installation/pharmaceutical factory/ electronics factory/ chemical factory/government minister's 'palace'... wear thick glasses and a white coat and carry a clip board and tell the press and friends...

Leafleting

Letter-writing – to decision makers, elected representatives and the local & national papers. Hold a letter writing party for friends – provide paper stamps envelopes addresses, refreshments and ideas.

Phone – ins and radio discussions
Petition signing and collection of signatures
Organise/take part in Public Meetings
Make banners and 'exhibit' them.
Make a giant card and hold a public 'signing'.
Put up posters to spread the message.
Use the methods you enjoy. Be positive and
constructive! Don't forget to invite the press and tell
CND Cymru, to help spread the message.

# What we do want

CND Cymru does not support the Iraqi Regime or Saddam Hussein but believes that a massive investment in real diplomacy, strengthening the people and their communities by dropping all non-military sanctions against Iraq and working through a reformed United Nations for true international justice for all. There should be weapons inspections of suspected factories and installations in all countries possessing or suspected of possessing weapons of mass destruction. Genuine measures leading to honest, complete and absolute disarmament should be taken by all states possessing weapons of mass destruction.

# BADGES

from CND Cymru Trading

50p each. Postage: 20p for up to 5 badges.Cheques payable to CND Cymru Trading, 72, Heol Gwyn, Yr Alltwen, Pontardawe SA8 3AN

Bulk orders from

Y Faner Goch (10 for £4, 20 for £8, 30 for £12, 50 for £20 post free) PO Box 661, Wrecsam, LL11 1EH. yfanergoch@yahoo.co.uk. Cheques payable to Y Faner Goch.



# **GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS** IN WALES WORKING TO STOP THE WAR

TERRORISM

#### Mid Wales

**Gwent Peace & Justice Group:** 

Katrina Gass (01873) 855 760 or katrinagass@yahoo.co.uk

Llandrindod CND:

Sian Meredudd (01597) 823 547

Aberystwyth against the War:

Medi James (01970) 832 725 neu llanerch@globalnet.co.uk

Aberystwyth Students against the War:

asaw@aber.ac.uk

Abersytwyth CND:

Olwen Davies (01970) 611994

Brecon & Radnor Peace and Justice Group:

Mike Gatehouse (01874) 658 564 or mike@keen.clara.co.uk

Knighton:

Ann-Marie Davies (01547) 52833

Mid Wales Against the War:

Monica Bradley: 01547 528833

#### West Wales

Carmarthen/Llandysul:

Sian ap Gwynfor:(01559)362 649 or gutoprys@lineone.net

Aberteifi Against the War:

Paul Hawkes 0781 2711 501

#### South Wales

South Wales Coalition to Stop the War:

Teresa Goss (02920) 499 579 / 07815775819

or swcoalitionagainstthewar@hotmail.com

Caerffili CND:

Ray Davies: (02920) 889 514 **Cwm Cynon Valley CND:** 

Michele Davies: (01685) 879 842 or horusisborn@aol.com

Stop the War Rhondda Cynon Tâf:

Dominic MacAskill 0777 9140 118 or dominic.macaskill@ntlworld.com or

rct.branch@unisonfree.net

**Bridgend CND:** 

George Crabb (01446) 774452 or georgecrabb@ybontfaen.freeserve.co.uk

**Bridgend Coalition for Peace & Justice:** 

Pete Thompson (01656) 648 817 or jackie@shwt.freeserve.co.uk

Atlantic College Stop the War Group:

joelkenrick@yahoo.co.uk

**Newport Stop the War Coalition:** 

Richard Morse: (01633) 860774

Penarth:

Teresa Mitchell (02920) 705 458 or Tree.Mitchell@btopenworld.com

Cardiff Justice & Peace Group:

Frances Ballin (02920) 765 077 or Frances@ballin.fslife.co.uk

**Swansea Students:** 

swanseastudentsagainstwar@yahoo.com

Swansea Coalition Against the War:

Martin Chapman: swanseacoaltion@yahoo.co.uk

**Swansea CND:** 

Mike Hayes (01792) 367 807 or Brian Jones (01792) 830 330

#### **North Wales**

Dyfi Valley (Machynlleth and District):

Jessie Malone (01654) 703 823 or dyfipeacegroup@yahoo.co.uk

Arfon Valley Peace and Justice Group:

Ben Gregory (01286) 882 359 or benica@gn.apc.org

Bangor and Ynys Môn Peace and Justice group:

Linda Rogers (01248) 490 715 or phil@tycerrig1.freeserve.co.uk Clwyd Anti-War Network:

Gerard Turnkins: 07719432313 or gerard@turnkins.freeserve.co.uk

Wrexham Coalition to Stop the War:

Genny Bove: 0845 330 4505 (local rate), mobile:07775784 063

Wrexham Students Against the War:

David Mcknight: 07775784 063 or wrexhamsaw@yahoo.com

Wrexham Peace & Justice Cent: Owen Hardwicke (01978) 852 297

#### Others

CND Cymru:

Nantgaredig, Cynghordy, Llanymddyfri SA20 OLR (01550) 750 260 or heddwch@nantgaredig.freeuk.com

Labour Against the War: 029 8985 65 97 or latw@gn.apc.org

Palestine Solidarity Cymru:

Beatty Smith (02920) 886 113 or beatysmith@hotmail.com

Cymdeithas y Cymod:

Awel Irene: (01766) 771 100 or awel.irene@virgin.net

Forest of Dean: carl@shadyproductions.fsnet.co.uk

Oswestry: George Miller (01691) 658 330 or george.miller@virgin.net justpeace e-list: keep in touch with campaigning in Wales.

To subscribe, email just-peace-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or contact David Mcknight: david@milwr.freeserve.co.uk

# **Diary Dates**

December 16th 6.30pm BANGOR 'If war starts...' special planning meeting for the group. At Y Ffynnon, Prince's Rd, Upper Bangor

December 18th TULLA Co.Clare IRELAND trial of Eoin Dubsky - for alleged criminal damage to a US Air Force Hercules and climbing over perimeter fence at Shannon Airport (4th Sept) Shannon Airport is being used by US airforce. (Eoin needs moral & financial support. Contact: Eoin Dubsky +353 (0) 87 6941060 or slack@Redbrick.dcu.ie

December 19th 7.30pmPONTYPRIDD Public Meeting Historical Centre, Pontypridd. Chaired by Sharon Jones UNISON, Speakers: Geraint Davies AM, Ray Davies & a 'Stop the War Coalition' speaker.

December 19th 8pm WRECSAM Christmas social and anti-war benefit Wess Club, Regent St. Music, poems and pints with Red Poets and musicians. December 28th Holy Innocents' Day

January 6th 6.30pm BANGOR Group Meeting Y Ffynnon, Prince's Rd, January 6th 7.30pm CAERNARFON Group Meeting, Capel Salem, Arfon

Justice and Peace Group /grwp Cyfiawnder a Heddwch January 7<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm BRIDGEND Meeting Bridgend CND & Bridgend Coalition for Peace and Justice, Friends' Meeting House Park Street.

January 11th 10.00am till 5.00pm LONDON British Stop the War Coalition Conference contact: 020 7053 2155 office@stopwar.org.uk
January 18th Anti War Rally CARDIFF Let's make it an all Wales event! Contact

S.Wales Stop the War 02920 889 514 or 02920 499 579

January 18th/19th NORTHWOOD England Non-Violent Civil Disobedience at British Army Base contact: 0845 458 2564 or www.j-n-v.org

January 21st 2.00pm LONDON: LOBBY OF PARLIAMENT and RALLY. Tell your MP 'Don't attack Iraq'. Called jointly by CND, No War on Iraq Liaison and the Stop the War Coalition; hosted by Alice Mahon MP. CND to produce a Lobby Information Pack. Everyone asked to a book a meeting with their MP. If you can't attend, write to her/him at: House of Commons, London SW1A OAA or email her/him (www.parliament.uk/commons/lib/alms.htm). Contact: British CND 020 7700 2393 or No War on Iraq Liaison committee@nowar-on-iraq.org.uk

February 1st SWANSEA "All South and West Wales March against the War " Contact Swansea Coalition against the War

February 15th LONDON Anti War Rally Buses from Wales (contact your local group) Details t b a. Organisers: 020 7053 2155 office@stopwar.org.uk February 23rd 21st Anniversary of Nuclear Free Wales

February ABERYSTWTYH All Wales Against the War Day Event still to be announced

March 8th International Women's Day

March 10th -13th READINGRay Davies' and Margaret Jones on trial for alleged Aldermaston 'Trespass' and 'Criminal Damage'.

Contact Ray: (02920) 889 514

April 5th 11.00am ABERYSTWYTH CND Cymru Annual Meeting. Capel y Morfa, Portland Street, Aberystwyth. All paid-up CND Cymru members, delegates and affiliates welcome. Details to be announced Contact: CND Cymru

#### Regular Events

WRECSAM: Peace Stall various days in town centre, Queens Square or under the arch opposite Horse and Jockey pub. and every Thursday: Vigil for Peace Outside M & S in Town Centre.

SWANSEA: Weekly silent vigils take place in the Gardens of the Friends Meeting House, Page Street, Swansea, 10 - 10.30 am and in the City Centre 11-12.30am every Saturday.

CARDIFF: Vigil every Friday at 5 p.m. at Aneurin Bevan Statue, Queen Street. **Vigils** 

In the event of an escalation of violence, vigils are planned to take place soon after commencement, in many towns around Wales. Get in touch with your local contact to find out more, or organise your own.

CARDIFF: Nye Bevan Statue, Queen Street at 6 p.m. on the same day. WREXHAM: Rally, protest, speakers etc. at midday the following day, in Queens Square.SWANSEA: 12.30pm and early evening (5pm) - in Castle Gardens, Swansea City Centre.

This diary is not complete, but if you need information about any of these events or can add to this list, please contact: CND Cymru.

#### Armchair and rural campaigning

If there is no group nearby or you are unable to get out, there is important campaigning to be done from home. Get involved in radio programmes with 'phone -ins', write letters and support others taking direct action. Keep in touch with the campaign, you are not alone!

#### Contact details for letter writing:

Tony Blair M.P., Prime Minister, 10, Downing Street, London SW1A 2AA Jack Straw M.P., Secretary of State for Foreign & Commonwealth Affairs,

Foreign & Commonwealth Office, Whitehall, London SW1A2AH Geoff Hoon M.P. Secretary of State for Defence, MoD, Main Building, Whitehall,

London SW1A 2HB

House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1A 0AA Your M.P.: Your A.M.: National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay, Cardiff CF99 1NA

Your M.E.P.: European Parliament, Wiertz-Straat, B-1047 Brussels (37 p stamp)