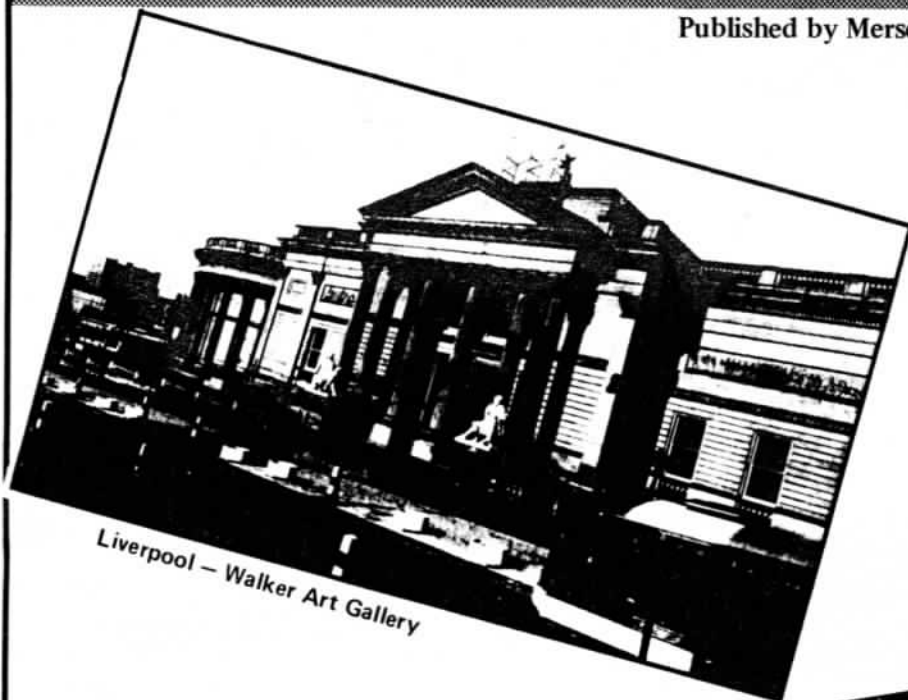


# MERSEYSIDE CND MAGAZINE

April-May '82

20p

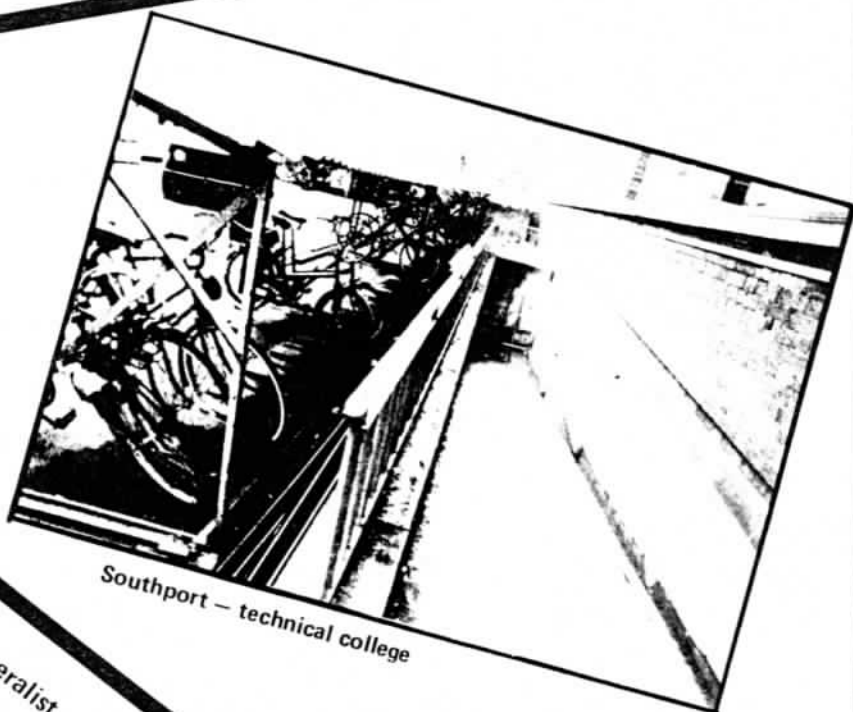
Published by Merseyside Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament



Liverpool — Walker Art Gallery

Behind the veil of secrecy surrounding Merseyside's wartime bunkers, we find there's not a lot to shout about. Or is there?

## BUNKERS EXPOSED



Southport — technical college

### Inside:

Archbishop Worlock says why he's a unilateralist  
More on Merseyside's "nuclear free zone", but —  
The "War Emergency Plan" stays secret  
Visit to a Home Defence college  
Interview with The Beat  
CID's on to CND  
& more!



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MESSAGE TO RONALD REAGAN:- It's not being blown up that bothers us; it's all this waiting. Is it worth starting to read Proust? Total war by April 1st 1982 or not at all.

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## LOCAL GROUPS

# Where to find us...

*There is no defence against nuclear weapons except nuclear disarmament. Our tiny island is crammed with nuclear bases all of which are acknowledged by the Government to be certain targets in the event of a nuclear war.*

*War is not inevitable. A great awakening of public opinion, both in Britain and throughout the world is needed and is beginning to take place.*

*So, why not add YOUR voice and join the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament?*

*For information about your local group see the list below*

### NORTH

#### Bootle

Wendy Dent, 922 7422.

#### Formby

Ian Humphries, 36 759 79.

#### Kirkby

A.W. Kelly, 12 Quermore Road, Northwood, Kirkby. 548 5968.

#### Maghull & Lydiate

Marjorie Hayward, 526 8746.

#### North Liverpool

Carol Hülligan, 19 Vale Road, Crosby L23. 924 6936.

#### Ormskirk

Joan Stephens, Aughton Green -423 879.

#### Southport

Deborah Yazgadani, 0704 815442.

### SOUTH

#### Aigburth

Sarah Betts, 427 4334

#### Arundel

Marge Bentovim, 2 Rutland Avenue, L17. 733 2100.

#### Halewood

Janet Smith, McColl House, Kenton Road, L26. 486 2172.

#### Lark Lane

Maeve or John Middleton, 18 Manner- ing Road, L17. 727 6751.

#### Liverpool 8.

Joseph Halligan, 79 Dombey Street L8 or Alan Bornat, 727 3586.

#### Liverpool South

Lark Lane Books, 82 Lark Lane, L17. 728 7225.

#### Wavertree

Mary Lee, 18 North Drive, L15. 737 1578.

#### Widnes

R. Gilligan, 63 Oakfield Drive, Hough Green, Widnes.

### Woolton

Roger Berman, 5 Rose Hill Court, Woolton Road, L25. 428 8323.

### EAST

#### Huyton

Chris Carter, 489 2677.

#### Knowsley Village

Michelle Morney, 39 Riding Hill Road, Knowsley. 546 5465.

#### Liverpool East

Dave Rainbird, 29 Douglas Road, Anfield L4. 263 6896.

#### St. Helens

Linda Howard, 56 Owen Street, St. Helens.

### WIRRAL

#### Heswall

Valerie Marshall, 160 Milner Road, Heswall. 342 3013.

#### Wirral

Beth Sareen, 12 Parkside, Wallasey. 638 5720.

#### Wirral Youth CND

John Gomez, 8 Southill Road, Birkenhead. 652 1635.

### OTHERS

#### Merseyside WONT (Women Oppose the Nuclear Threat)

Jeanette Gay, 727 1472 or 709 8591.

#### Merseyside Youth CND

Julie or Lynn Collins, 39 Tauton Street, Wavertree, or Helen 727 3586.

#### Pax Christi

(all Christians welcome)

Ann McCann, 46 Hattons Lane, L16. 722 2872.

#### Polytechnic

Sue Hornby, 929 6812.

#### University

Alison Pont, 47 Borrowdale Road, L15.

#### National CND

11 Goodwin Street, London N7.

Please fill in this form and send it to any of the contact addresses above.

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NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

Phone: .....

# EDITORIAL

## There's something in the air....

More than ever before, people in Britain are demanding the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Both nationally and locally, support for CND has grown enormously. Over the last two years, CND's national membership has grown tenfold. On Merseyside alone there are now 28 separate groups campaigning in their own locality.

Why are we against nuclear weapons? Why do we want to upset the "balance of terror", which, it is said, has preserved world peace for the last 35 years?

### MASS MURDER

For one thing, most of us are morally revolted by the idea that, to defend our nation, we are threatening mass murder to millions of unknown people. In a letter printed elsewhere in this magazine, Archbishop Worlock puts the moral arguments against nuclear weapons.

But aren't nuclear weapons meant as a "deterrent", i.e. to deter the enemy from ever starting a war? And doesn't this mean that, if the deterrent works, we will never have to use them? And doesn't history show that it has worked?

### THEORY

The idea of a "deterrent" weapon is not new. Throughout history weapons have been invented for defence and deterrence — the man who invented dynamite thought he had put a stop to war, so horrible was his invention.

"Deterrence" is still only a theory. It cannot be proved or disproved. And the stakes are high — if the theory is ever proved wrong, we won't be around to say "I told you so".

Without nuclear weapons, wouldn't we have had another war by now?

It can be argued that nuclear weapons, far from making the world safer, make war more likely. As the number of weapons around the world increases, so does the chance that a mere accident will start a nuclear war.

In 1980 we were only 25 seconds away from a nuclear war due to computer failure. The American military command has admitted that in the last few years, there have been 27 serious accidents involving nuclear weapons.

But why, after 20 years of not bothering much about it, have people suddenly started to worry about nuclear war?

Recent developments in nuclear weapons have made the "balance of terror" even more insecure. The new generation of weapons — like Cruise and Trident — are far more accurate than their predecessors. Their accuracy allows them to pinpoint enemy missiles with the aim of destroying them before they are launched. Because there is no point in attacking empty bases, the new weapons are useful only if fired first — hence their label "first strike" weapons.

The new weapons increase the risk of nuclear war. In a time of international tension both sides will be afraid of an enemy attack on their bases, and so may feel forced to 'get in first' before their own missiles are destroyed.

It is still likely that both sides will be badly damaged in the event of an all-out war. Doesn't this prevent either side from starting one?

Apparently not. American military leaders now talk about fighting a small-scale so-called "limited nuclear war" in Europe. They argue that such a war could leave America and large parts of Russia relatively unscathed. Weapons have been developed — the "neutron bomb" for instance — specially for use in such a war.

These developments are supposed to make the other side realise that NATO means business. Unfortunately, they also bring the threat of nuclear war in Europe much closer.

### GO IT ALONE?

Wouldn't it be best if all sides disarmed

at the same time, after negotiation — so-called "multilateral disarmament"?

Multilateral negotiations are never about the abolition of nuclear weapons, only about the "control" of the arms race. As long as each side demands equality with the other, the arms race will continue. One side develops a new weapon not covered by previous agreements, the other side feels it has to "catch up". Each side argues that the other is in the stronger position, geographically or numerically.

CND argues that there is only one way to break the spiral of the arms race. Britain should, of its own accord, take steps to reduce and ultimately abolish any nuclear weapons based in this country. As a first step we should refuse to accept Cruise missiles and we should cancel the Trident submarines.

We believe that this is the only way to stop this country being a prime target for nuclear attack or retaliation. And ultimately, it is the only way to make sure there is a future for the world.



If you want to get in touch with your local CND group, there is a list of contact addresses on the opposite page.

## .....stop press.....the C.I.D.'s on to C.N.D.....

One CND member had an unexpected visitor last week. A CID detective appeared on her doorstep saying he wanted to ask a few questions.

Lois, a member of Liverpool South CND and one of the contributors to this magazine, takes up the story:

"As it happened I was out when he called. I phoned the police to ask what was the matter.

The detective seemed a bit embarrassed. He told me "It's about your letter to Burtonwood — we wanted to make sure you weren't a Russian spy".

At the time this seemed like rather amusing plod-headedness on the part of the local police. A few weeks earlier I had written to the US Air Force base at Burtonwood asking, very politely, if they would say what was stored there. Just the sort of behaviour you might expect from a Russian spy.

Anyway the detective still wanted to see me so I arranged to meet him at my house. This meeting wasn't so amusing.

As well as my name, date and place of birth, and occupation, he wanted to know:

- (1) if I or any of my family or friends had any connection with a foreign government particularly Soviet bloc ones (I said I hadn't)
- (2) whether I was in or had any connections with any political organisation. He highlighted the Communist and Socialist Worker parties. (I said I wasn't)
- (3) If I was in a "cause" organisation like CND? (I said I was)

All I had done was write a letter requesting information that should be available to any member of the public worried about their own or their family's safety.

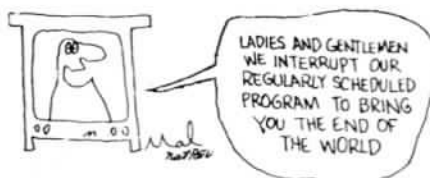
We should all write to the American Base at Burtonwood to test whether the police will continue to waste more time checking that we are not foreign spies or subversives.



# Didn't we have a lovely time...

What goes on behind the closed doors of the Home Office's Civil Defence colleges? John McCabe, Merseyside County Councillor for Birkenhead went there in February 1981 and here recalls his experience:

Hawthills, the Home Defence College, is in Easingwold, N. Yorkshire. Built in 1630, as a hunting reserve for the rich and powerful of that era, in 1936, it was taken over by the government for use as a gas training school and later as a police training college. In 1949, it became a Civil Defence college which it has remained to this day.



The courses run there are aimed at officers and members of local authorities, senior police and fire officers, the Area Health Authorities and various other bodies.

## SPY FILMS

My first glimpse of the college reminded me of those poor quality spy films of the 1950's and 60's. There was a security barrier reminiscent of an Eastern European border crossing and I half expected a machine-gun toting guard to appear from behind the trees!

At the beginning of the 3 day course, the 46 people on it were split into 6 groups, each with their own tutor, in which we remained for most of the time.

After the introductory briefing and a talk on the effects of a nuclear attack, we were then presented with an eye-opening view of the machinery of government in war.

First, the country would be divided into regions and sub-regions. It soon became apparent that, in the government's view, elected representatives of the people are nothing more than an unnecessary embarrassment, with the real role being played by the "War-time Controller" (in the case of County Councils, this is the Chief Executive). The role of elected representative, such as myself was to act in an advisory capacity to the controller

who would consult us if and when he considered it necessary.

Next, we were shown some of the films that would be shown on TV (e.g. "Protect & Survive" based on the government pamphlet of the same name), in the event of a nuclear attack. The college boasts its own studio specially for the production of TV films and broadcasts to be shown to the public should war become more likely.

## ROLE OF THE POLICE AND ARMY

One of the most interesting parts of the course was the section called "the Role of the Police and the Armed Forces in Home Defence". Apparently, their role would be to assist one another to prevent "sabotage" of strategic installations, places of government, sources of fuel and power etc. (and to combat internal dissent?)

I was assured that no force would be used to "encourage people to stay in the cities" (!) but one can imagine the reality of what would happen.



"In this week's improvisation class I want you to imagine that the Russians have invaded Europe and President Reagan has dropped the neutron bomb. Now - Paul and Cynthia you'll be people, John, Fiona and Julie will pretend to be buildings..."

## WAR GAMES

The main part of the course was an action game called "Empathy" about the hours leading up to the conflict from which a nuclear war might ensue.

It dealt with news bulletins, emergencies in the Middle East, Europe, Africa and the supposed death of President Sadat. (This was before he actually died) It also included a conventional war in Europe between NATO and Warsaw Pact countries.

NATO is outnumbered and retaliates with the Neutron bomb. Then, the horrors begin with, first, a conventional attack on British soil culminating in a full-scale nuclear attack. During this period, the TV has gone off the air and has been replaced (according to the game) by an Emergency Radio Broadcast which it is "hoped" would be able to continue after the attack has ended.

Three days after the attack, Britain was seen to be suffering from devastation over whole areas of the country with the consolation of having inflicted similar devastation on the East as well. (Hooray! one chorus of "Rule Britannia" later we'll all get down to picking up the pieces - with shovels and brushes mostly.)

In the open forum afterwards, we discussed what to do with looters. "Shoot them" was what one councillor recommended. Force them to do "community work" was another suggestion. ...Ah well, there's hope yet for the 3 million unemployed.

At the end of the course, I came away from Easingwold feeling that the whole thing was quite unreal. A question from a Shropshire Tory Councillor just about sums it all up "Who won?" she asked, as the radio-active dust was settling everywhere. As if it made any difference!

**news from nowhere**  
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- "The Politics of Nuclear Disarmament" M. Ryle £2.50
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(James Anderson, Chief Constable for Greater Manchester)

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(George Orwell, 1984)

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# Why I'm a Unilateralist

A Letter From The Most Rev. Derek Worlock  
Archbishop Of Liverpool (printed in full)

I was an "official spokesman" for the Catholic Church at Westminster when the Atom bombs were dropped in 1945. The question of the morality of "The Bomb" has been with us with varying intensity since that time: even as the types of weapon have developed.

This variation in scale of weapon has significance only in so far as it can or cannot be controlled to be directed solely at the legitimate target (if such exists). Yet the scale of devastation has been vastly increased. The only thing which is really the same is the question "Are you in favour of the bomb?"

In fact there are many distinctions to be made and subsidiary questions to be asked which are not just a play on language. Indeed the distinctions are of great importance if moral principles are to be clarified rather than for grounds of political expediency.

The three key questions to be faced are these:

- i. Is it possible to justify the morality of the indiscriminate use of weapons of mass-destruction?
- ii. Is it possible to justify the morality of possessing as a deterrent weapons of mass-destruction?
- iii. Is it possible to justify the morality of manufacturing weapons of mass-destruction?

The first of these questions is the easiest. The 2nd Vatican Council in its Pastoral Constitution on the Church in

Politicians claim that it is not nonsense to possess as a deterrent a weapon you do not intend to use.

"If you do not intend to use it", we say, "how can it deter?" That seems logical enough.

the World Today roundly condemned "every act of war directed to the indiscriminate destruction of whole cities or vast areas with their inhabitants". The use of such a weapon is morally indefensible.

It is easy also to uphold multi-lateral disarmament and to encourage negotiations between nations to produce agreement to bring about the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

But it is the problems embodied in our second question which are the real issue. Is it ever possible to use a weapon of mass-destruction, i.e. can such a weapon ever legitimately be directed at a legitimate target? Is it morally possible to threaten or intend to use such a

weapon, or even to possess it as a means of keeping the peace? These are the fundamental problems and other urgent questions arise.

Accepting the general desire to eliminate all nuclear weapons and their delivery systems, what steps are morally open to us to achieve this end? Is it right to urge unilateral disarmament?

**The problem of the deterrent you do not intend to use presents problems for the moral theologian.**



ent, seeing it as a stage to multi-lateral disarmament? Where do we stand regarding agreement for nuclear weapons from other countries to be based in this country?

The truth is that many dismiss these moral distinctions as hair-splitting or sitting on the fence. In fact they indicate the immense political complications which underly the problem of the deterrent.

Whether we like it or not, there is an inevitable international game of bluff and counter-bluff which enables politicians to claim that it is not nonsense to possess as a deterrent a weapon you do not intend to use. "If you do not intend to use it", we say, "how can it deter?". That seems logical enough. Yet the politicians and international strategists claim that they can, and that it works.

We may say that at best this is a highly dangerous game. Yet the problem of the deterrent you do not intend to use presents problems to the moral theologian. But it produces an arms-race and a situation for which the description "dynamite" is inadequate.

I know good and honourable men who will say that one is obliged to retain this membership of the nuclear club in order to ensure a place at the international negotiating table of disarmament and ultimate peace.

For me personally my third question settles the issue. I cannot feel that

**The use of such a weapon is morally indefensible.**

it is morally justifiable in the present state of the world (and especially the Third World) to embark on the expenditure needed to manufacture and maintain such weapons of destruction.

With my brother Roman Catholic bishops I ask whether we are justified in securing our own defence at the expense of neglecting or minimising our Christian and human responsibilities, and in particular the duty to assist the poor in this country and others throughout the world.

I have to say personally that, having seen the poor at home and especially abroad, I cannot feel that expenditure of this kind on nuclear weapons is morally defensible. I am then told that such a defence system, based on Trident

**I am a unilateralist because I do not believe I am justified in depriving others of the financial help which they need and which I would have to withhold to purchase and maintain the deterrent.**

and such, is a relatively cheap form of defence, cutting back the size of expensive military forces, etc.

Again, I have to say that expenditure on this scale for my defence is morally doubtful. The Government has a duty to try to provide for my adequate defence. But at such cost? I may be free to turn my own cheek in face of attack, but can I, to save myself, turn my brother's cheek depriving him of food and drink?

Strangely I find this argument more compelling than that governing the possession of the deterrent (which I may claim I do not intend to use). Political strategy can cloud the issue.

I am a unilateralist because I do not believe I am justified in depriving others of the financial help which they need, and which I would have to withhold to purchase and maintain the deterrent. Slowly I am reaching the conclusion that this applies to all highly expensive, sophisticated armaments. Their nuclear aspect is not of the essence.

# ON THE LOCAL FRONT....

In June, 1981, Merseyside County Council expressed its "Support of the Campaign for World Nuclear Disarmament and its opposition to the manufacture and positioning of any nuclear weapons within its boundaries."

On 12th January of this year, the Council endorsed proposals which came out of a "nuclear-free zones" seminar for the setting up of a Council Committee to consider "what actions should be taken by local authorities in Merseyside, acting together, and in conjunction with, nuclear disarmament groups, to further the aim of reducing the possibilities of nuclear conflict"

The committee will comprise of Council representatives plus reps. from the peace movement, including CND. At the same meeting in January, the Council voted (subject to the approval of the Policy, Planning and Resources Committee) to:-

*"(a) concentrate expenditure and the effort of the Emergency Planning Unit on civil emergencies and carry out no more than the minimum statutory obligation with regard to the Civil Defence Regulations 1974 as they relate to wartime Civil Defence planning;*

*(b) explore the possibility of using funds provided for Civil Defence to inform the public of -*

*(i) the effects of a nuclear attack on Merseyside; and*

*(ii) the usefulness of any protective measures to be taken in the event of such an attack; and*

*(iii) publish the War Emergency Plans, subject to the omission of names, addresses and telephone numbers of individuals in accordance with the Council's rules of confidentiality".*

## ONLY WORDS ON PAPER?

At the moment, these are all just words on paper. But it's our job to make sure they mean something in reality.

Already Liverpool Council has shown the War Game to over 1000

people - this began as words on a bit of paper.

Also, the County Council has refused to participate in 'Hard Rock '82' - the code name for the government's Civil Defence exercises planned to take place in October of this year.

There are many ideas in CND for activities that our local Councils could do - why not publish a leaflet explaining what would happen to the people of Merseyside in the event of a nuclear attack? Why can't courses on "Peace Studies" be set up in schools and colleges? What about road signs "You are now entering a nuclear-free zone" on the M62? Why don't Councils offer their premises to peace groups for meetings; exhibitions, film shows etc.?

These are just a few ideas - the list is endless. On Merseyside, we've made a start, but we've still got a long way to go...



On January 12th 1982 two resolutions were passed by Merseyside County Council to make its Nuclear Free Zone policy more effective. Part of one of these resolutions was to publish the War Emergency Plan. Always anxious to uphold democracy, one CND member tried to find a copy of the published plans. Her story follows:

"On the 17th floor of the Liverpool Echo buildings reside the County Council officials responsible for putting the Council's policies into practice. After locating this inner sanctum, I was greeted by a somewhat panicky Gladstonian figure.

"Emergency War Plans, eh? How do you know they exist? They won't be published anyway. Why do you want to know about such things?"

At this point someone who looked fairly important and introduced himself as an "Emergency something or other" ushered me into his office. The following conversation ensued:

"Yes, these plans do exist, but need re-vamping. In April new staff will be appointed for this project".

"Can I see the plans in their present form?"

"Er... no. They're only in note form, out of dat... um... they contain some private and confidential information".

"So a censored form will be published?" No answer.

"When will the War Emergency Plans be available for the public to see, censored or otherwise?"

"Oh, um, well, I shouldn't imagine many people will be that interested. It will go in the public libraries you know know?" "When?"

## forty-five balls in the air.....



"Well, you see I have to keep about forty-five balls in the air at once. So it's difficult to give any exact date"

"Two months? Six months? A year?"

"Certainly within five years...."

Visions of a Stalinesque 'Five Year Plan' float before me, but the locquacious tone brings me back to reality, his reality.

"What information will be published then?"

"Oh... um... Civil Defence. Localised into areas. I mean, where do you live for instance?" "Wavertree".

"Ah yes. Wavertree. Well we're looking for people, responsible people, to organise Civil Defence in each area.

Perhaps you might be interested... look for shelter space etc."

I couldn't exactly picture myself as a latter-day ARP warden, in radio-active tin hat, and with sonorous voice booming down Picton Road urging people to get out their gas masks and black outs. Somehow the whole scene seemed inappropriate....

"Of course I don't believe nuclear war will ever happen you know...."

Actually I didn't know and wasn't exactly reassured by his next statement.

"Yes there will be survivors. For instance if you live in Kirkby you'll have a good chance of surviving a nuclear device targeted on central Liverpool. Or the same for Southport of course... actually I live near Southport."

"How convenient for you", I mumble, thinking of the thousands living elsewhere.

After the interview I couldn't help feeling that there may be some discrepancy between what the members of the County Council voted for and what the department intend to do. Are they procrastinating about the resolution and is this deliberate? Will they carry out the directive to publish the War Emergency Plan as was outlined, or cushion the plan in a general document concerning all emergencies? Why should there be secrecy over plans which involve all people on Merseyside? Is it because the ideas outlined would be totally ineffective or are the consequences too horrifying to publish generally?



# Room at the bottom

Where will the "in place" be for top people when the bomb drops?  
In Merseyside, anyone who's anyone will end up in one of two "bunkers"  
— under the Walker Art Gallery in Liverpool or under Southport's technical college.

The Home Office has laid down that each local authority in Great Britain must have a headquarters from which emergency government will operate in the event of a nuclear war.

The Chief Executive of the County Council will become the Wartime Controller. Others with tickets to enter the bunker include representatives from government departments such as transport, employment, agriculture, trade and industry, health and social security, and representatives also, from the police, armed forces, and health and water authorities, plus scientific advisors.

Hoping to get tickets of their own, Naomi Cohen and Jane Tonner from CND paid a visit to these bunkers, along with members of the Council's Fire and Public Protection Committee. Naomi describes the visit below :-

11.30 a.m. Thursday 9th February  
The trip got off to a good start when we lost half the group who went through the doors of Southport's technical college and promptly disappeared out of sight.

On being asked "the way to the cellar please", a man working in the college replied, "Oh, you want the nuclear thing — it's this way". So much for top level security!

We were led out the back, past some old bicycle sheds, down a ramp and then into the standby Emergency HQ we'd heard so much about — what a let down!

## TOILETS

Two pokey rooms, some teleprinting machines, lots of wires, a telephone switchboard, what looked like an old biscuit tin with "First Aid" written on it, a tiny fire extinguisher and that's it! Oh — and an air vent (to let stale air out and radiation in, I suppose).

One of the Tory councillors with us was "disgusted" at how out of date all the machinery was — apparently it looked like "the stuff we used to use in the RAF years ago". Someone else was enraged at the small size of the fire extinguisher.

I asked where the toilets were. A councillor pointed to a manhole cover just outside the door, saying they could use that. "But it's outside the bunker there would be radiation everywhere" I said "They'd just have to hurry up, then", came the reply — and everyone laughed.

Bill Holland (Merseyside's Chief Emergency Planning Officer) tried to talk seriously, describing it as a "communications room inside a building with potential". But most people were staring round the room



*Inside the Southport "bunker", Bill Holland explains a point.*

in disbelief — did they really think this would protect them from a nuclear war? "If you ever get the chance," Mr. Holland was saying, "go and visit the one in Lancashire — Preston — it's marvellous ...."

## BENEATH THE PAINTINGS

After we'd left the Southport bunker we accepted the offer of a quick visit to the second wartime HQ underneath the Walker Art Gallery in Liverpool. This was a similar but smaller version of the one we'd just seen — two rooms a few feet underground (an extractor fan this time instead of an air vent). In one room the teleprinters were arranged facing one another along two opposite walls but there wasn't even enough space for two people to sit, back to back, to

operate them. As we walked out, I noticed a red bucket of sand with the word "FIRE" written on it ...

## CON-TRICK

So what does all this mean? Are our Emergency Planning Officers so naive as to think these so-called "bunkers" would protect them from a nuclear attack on Britain? Or are there other wartime headquarters they won't show us? Or, does the government really believe (as CND has been saying all along) that there can be no defence in the event of a nuclear war — that destruction will be so widespread that nothing could adequately protect people? In that case the bunkers are just for show and the whole civil defence effort is meant to con people into thinking they can survive a nuclear war.

# BEAT THE BOMB

## An interview with top band THE BEAT

A new LP has recently been released by 'No Nukes Music' called 'Life in the European Theatre', which features top bands such as The Jam, Madness, The Clash and The Beat. The royalties from this album will go to CND, the World Disarmament Campaign, ANC or Friends of the Earth.

On the 7th December The Beat played at Mountford Hall and a couple of us from the Youth CND went along to interview them.



**YCND :** *It is said in 'The Echo' that you believe in CND — Would you like to say anything about that?*

**The Beat (Dave) :** We believe in the things that CND stands for more than we believe in the CND. Organisations are very dangerous things. Everyone gets their cards and actually keeping the organisation going becomes more important than what the actual organisation was set up to do. We do agree with a lot that CND stands for.

**YCND :** *What do you think young people can do about the nuclear threat?*

**The Beat (Dave) :** I suppose all getting together and shouting 'No' is about as good a start as you can make. I don't think we have got very much power and young people ain't got no power at all.

**YCND :** *Do you think that YCND will get anywhere?*

**The Beat (Dave) :** Yeah, I think it stands more of a chance than CND at the moment because CND is 20 years old and a bit conservative.

We did a rally at Rugby and there were some quite important people speaking there but they thought they were speaking to young liberal students at the beginning of the 60s and they didn't get through. There was this big crowd of skinheads and punks and they didn't get through to them. They should have had people who could speak their language.

**The Beat (Blockhead) :** I think I've met a few people in CND who are really self congratulatory about how successful they think the campaign's been in the last 12 months because there's been one or two big demos in Europe. The USA seem to have taken a bit of notice but I think that the anti-war movements have a long way to go before they get anything like as strong as they were in the late 50's and early 60's.

England's still a long way behind Europe. We're starting to get anti-nuclear demo's but nothing like those in Germany and Holland.

**YCND :** *Have you played in Europe?*

**The Beat (Dave) :** We've played in Germany and Holland. Half the cars in Germany have got 'No Nukes' stickers on them — I think Citroen are making cars with them already painted on now!

**YCND :** *Do you think CND is trendy and a fashion?*

**The Beat :** I suppose it is but that's not always a bad thing. I mean, something that starts off as a fashion can have a lot of positive effects — like 'Two-Tone' which started as a fashion and ended up with black and white kids being more tolerant of each other.

Things like people wearing CND badges helps because other people will ask what it means and might be into finding out some more about it for themselves.

**YCND :** *Have you any plans for a song on the nuclear threat?*

**The Beat (Dave) :** I've specifically tried to avoid writing one tailor-made for it. I think everything we write has an ominous cloud of nuclear threat hanging over it.

**YCND :** *Do you get sick of people being apathetic?*

**The Beat (Dave) :** It's the British disease — apathy — people are apathetic about everything, apart from hating people from other countries, that's the only thing they have any enthusiasm for. I don't know why Britain is like that, it's a bit too institutionalised.

People believe the media 'cos they always have and they speak in a 'nice' voice, so it must be true. People don't seem very interested in finding out things for themselves. They're quite happy to have somebody else's version of it.

I mean it's apathy that makes you end up with someone like Margaret Thatcher in charge of the country.

**YCND :** *Last but not least — have you a message for the Youth CND of Merseyside?*

**The Beat (Blockhead) :** Keep trying and if it doesn't work put your head between your knees — No seriously — it's a long shot but if it's gonna work it's gonna take lots and lots of effort and lots and lots of people, but unless that happens it's not worth living.

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Young people in Britain are becoming increasingly aware of the perils of the nuclear arms race but too many of them are ignorant and accept a nuclear war as inevitable. The youth are not to blame, however – the fault lies in the education system. In 1982 the threat of nuclear war seems never to have been so great, the whole fabric of our society has never looked so fragile and it should be the job of the schools to help the pupils to get to grips with reality.

#### CADET FORCES

In my secondary school and, I am sure, in many Merseyside schools the subjects of the arms race, peace, violence and world tensions were never touched upon. On the other hand though, in some schools, cadet forces are given ample time and facilities.

What good does being able to march in a straight line do you when you leave school? Wouldn't it be better for a pupil leaving school to have a well taught knowledge of what is going on in the world and how it will affect their future?

UNESCO and other international agreements to promote peace education are ignored. The response of Finland and Holland to a clause in the 1975 Helsinki agreement on European co-operation was to set up national peace education programmes. The British government, as usual, has done nothing. Instead, initiatives are left to independent groups.

#### PEACE STUDIES

Surely it is time for a proper curriculum on peace to be set up and taught to children of all ages in all of our schools. Now that Merseyside is a nuclear free zone, the councils should be working with local CND groups to get peace studies incorporated into curriculum and peace courses taught at colleges and adult education centres.

There should be a peace studies shelf or shelves in all our local libraries and maybe exhibitions too. The pupils themselves must put pressure on their schools, they must push for proper

# A DOVE IN THE CLASSROOM



debate and above all they must question the present status quo which ignores reality.

An organisation has been formed called 'Schools against the Bomb' (SAB) which has groups all over the country and contacts in France, America and Australia. SAB works closely with 'Teachers for Peace' and YCND to promote the idea of peace studies in schools. However, in Liverpool, I know of only one such group. Obviously interested pupils must join together and form groups in their individual schools.

Young people can start by joining the Youth CND and getting help and information about starting an SAB group at school or a YCND group at college. For further information write to: SAB, Frensham Heights, Farnham, Surrey, GU10 4EA.

The Liverpool Youth CND holds fortnightly meetings and everyone is welcome to attend. For inform-

ation about the next meeting phone Helen on 727 3586 or 709 3616.

Youth CND also needs musicians, actors, and actresses for a forthcoming street theatre production, planned for Easter. If you can help in any way, phone Helen.



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# "It's Your Shout!"

"It's Your Shout!" — Radio City's Friday night show described as a 'chance for the regulars of pubs in the city to air their views about major issues' starts a new series this spring.

On January 21st, the fourth programme of the series was recorded at 'The Halfway House' pub in Woolton, the subject for debate being 'The Bomb — should we ban it?' I decided to go along and write an article about the debate on behalf of the YCND. Unfortunately, as I will explain later, a debate did not materialise and this article is more about bias in the media than the views of the public.

## DEBATING SOCIETY

Before the debate started, it was evident that the people present were not regulars but people who had come to argue against the regulars, most of whom are supporters of CND.

The programme, which was to be recorded over an hour and edited to a half hour show, opened with short speeches by two panelists — an author opposed to disarmament and Mrs Harding, wife of Mike Harding and member of Manchester Peace Group.

## —or is it?



The debate was then "opened to the audience". The first two speeches were in favour of nuclear weapons and were obviously together. As the "debate" went on it was apparent that a small group of people were being allowed to speak, while people who had waited patiently didn't get a chance at all.

After about 20 minutes of this farce, a CND member managed to speak. He took the opportunity to ask Radio City to announce publicly that they had brought these people from the University Debating Society in order to swing the argument. Radio City retorted with "If you don't like it — go!" and continued to record the programme in a way in which the common view was not made clear.

Another notable thing was the stereotyping by the programme presenter. When introducing one person in favour of nuclear weapons he referred to "the gentleman with the short hair and suit" while another person in favour of disarmament was introduced as "the lad in the afghan, with long hair and a head band"!

## BIAS

The views of CND were well expressed by one lady and a member of YCND who seemed to be the only people wearing CND badges given a chance to speak.

Unless the programme is edited by a different crew, the finished product will probably be as biased and distorted as the original recording. My advice to all CND members is — tune in to Merseyside in future!

Lynne Collins, YCND.



## Letters

Dear Editor,

Last October CND captured the news headlines with our massive London demonstration. Within a few weeks the people of Crosby found themselves at the centre of national attention as a result of the bye-election there. Clearly a number of issues were to be important in the election campaign, yet sadly disarmament was not one of them!

Certainly the Labour and Ecology party candidates did make unilateral disarmament a major theme in their campaigns, however, the SDP and Conservative candidates simply ignored the nuclear question in all their campaigning. Also, an opinion poll published during the campaign showed that the Crosby electorate did not consider disarmament to be an important issue.

This situation raises two important questions about the future of CND. Can we consider our campaign to be achieving real success if disarmament can simply be ignored as an electoral issue? How can we ensure that in all future elections the nuclear question is pushed to the forefront of debate?

There are bound to be many things that influence the way people vote, but perhaps readers of this magazine can suggest ways by which we can make sure that disarmament is always one of the main issues.

Yours in Peace,  
Dave Young (Bootle CND)

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# DEFENCE without DESTRUCTION



## IS THERE AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE BOMB?

Despite little discussion, there is an alternative system of defence to the bomb. Many successful countries don't rely on nuclear weapons for their security, and aren't continually threatened by foreign invasion (e.g. Sweden, Switzerland, Japan). The possession of nuclear weapons actually creates its own dangers.

This article will examine valid alternatives to Britain's nuclear strategy — (a) an increased reliance on conventional forces; (b) territorial defence; (c) civilian resistance.

## CONVENTIONAL FORCES

The first thing Britain must do, to give our population some chance of survival in the increasingly dangerous future, is to remove all nuclear weapons based on our soil. This couldn't occur overnight, but we could start by refusing to accept Trident and Cruise missiles (silos to contain these are currently being constructed at Greenham Common by non-union labour).

Unfortunately there are dangers in an increased reliance on conventional forces — there would be problems in making a clear break with nuclear strategy, it would be expensive (but far cheaper than nuclear forces), and the time that nuclear weapons would most likely be used would be in the course of a prolonged, destructive conventional battle.

## TERRITORIAL DEFENCE

Territorial defence would involve almost the whole population in some way, combined with regular forces. The development of highly mobile, accurate, precision-guided anti-tank and anti-aircraft missiles make territorial defence realistic. A major aim would be, by diverse and continuous harassment, to make the cost of invasion too high. Being purely defensive, territorial defence would not threaten adversaries — unless they attempted invasion.

Those who say that complacent, apathetic Britons would not engage in such a system should consider the wartime Home Guard which was not the bumbling Dad's Army of contemporary mythology but a spontaneous, radical, popular movement which could, if necessary, have effectively harassed and delayed an

invading Nazi army. The Home Guard began in response to news of German parachute landings in Holland in 1940, formed units often on a workplace basis, and recruited 25,000 men in 24 hours following a radio broadcast.

People *do* organise themselves effectively when something important is threatened (factory closures, unnecessary building of motorways etc.) — faced with enemy occupation, people would surely find undreamt-of resources of courage and strength.

## CIVILIAN RESISTANCE

To be effective civilian resistance would need the whole population's co-operation and would entail complete non-concurrence with enemy forces by strikes, sabotage, boycotts, go-slows, civil disobedience. Although long-term, these policies can be effective — e.g. during 1941 - 2's winter, the Belgian government in exile reported a drop of 36% in coal production during the Nazi occupation.

Important also would be the boosting of British morale, and demonstration to the opposition, by symbolic actions — marches, leafletting, vigils, symbol painting (e.g. the V for Victory which appeared throughout occupied Europe).

Non-violent resistance is based on the proposition that governments rely on the co-operation or at least compliance of populations: if occupation produces a growing rift with the local populace, loss of credibility abroad and disaffection within their

own armed forces, the point might be reached where the cost of continuing the invasion/war is out of all proportion to any possible gain. Essentially, this is what happened in Vietnam.

Throughout the history of individual and civil liberties non-violent resistance has worked — in women's suffrage, Ghandi's campaigns, American Civil Rights, etc.

## BLACKMAIL

Although a nuclear power could threaten nuclear blackmail against a non-nuclear state, it is unlikely. The super-powers haven't threatened nuclear strikes in war since the 1950's because of the anticipated domestic and international moral revulsion, and the damaging political consequences.

If nuclear weapons do have any 'deterrent' effect, it is increasingly likely to fail because of the continual proliferation of weapons and the dangerous 'First Strike' policy advocated by NATO. And even if an alternative defence policy failed, the consequence would not be the final holocaust as is the case if nuclear 'deterrence' fails.

## POTENTIAL

Many other alternatives could be researched if money wasn't wasted on weapons of mass genocide. Consider the potential ordinary people have when given choice and responsibility in their lives, and when fighting for something they believe in.

Society would benefit in many ways — would become more democratic, less centralised, more participatory, less authoritarian — under a system of alternative defence where individuals mattered and power wasn't concentrated in the hands of a few remote generals.

If we don't soon develop an alternative to nuclear weapons, we may have no society left to defend.

Barbara Marshall

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# the writing's on the wall

story by des cymne

Once upon a time in the far distant past, even before the invention of multilateral negotiations, nuclear free zones and so on, when people went about happily in the naive thought that "underkill" was a workable doctrine, there lived a small community, which appeared to any outside observer to be perfectly happy and peaceful.

And while modern-day illnesses like psychosomatic disorders hadn't arrived on the scene, they were, nevertheless, a little worried. I mean, here they were, an idyllic community surrounded by an idyllic landscape. Uninterrupted bliss you might say, except that on one side of this landscape there was an enormous wall that reached as high and as wide as they could see, a wall that appeared to have no end to either its height or width.

Not unnaturally, speculation was rife about what lay on the other side and while this became a dominant



feature in the life of the community, it did not greatly hinder its development.

Over the years it grew in numbers and with increasing sophistication, so control became more centralised, and resided in the hands of fewer individuals.

But always in the background was this wall, which became increasingly irritating to those in positions of power, symbolising a clear restriction

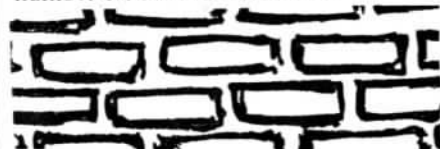
on their knowledge (and, therefore, power). And as time went on, so this wall became more and more of a threat, beyond which, it was feared, there could reside something which may, one day take away all the wealth they felt they had created.

Committee after committee, set up to try and solve this most unfortunate problem, came up with the conclusion that they must somehow find out what was on the other side. So everyone in the community was directed to concentrate their minds on how to achieve this aim.

They quickly discovered that trying to get over or around the wall was impossible, because its height and width was apparently infinite, so the conclusion was quickly reached that they would have to break through it.

Their tools available were unable to make even the smallest dent in the gigantic structure. So the task was set, at the expense of everything else, to develop bigger and better weapons. In fact, technology came to be defined in terms of the destructive ability of the latest weapon. Progress was quickly made from battering ram, to dynamite, and eventually someone thought of how to put the invention of a little chap called Einstein to practical use.

After a while the people became rather good at making lots of monstrous and ever increasing quantities of weapons, and, little by little, the structure began to crack under the weight of ballistic missiles, hydrogen bombs, multiple independently targetted re-entry vehicles, and a little number called the MX missile.



Then one day their impatience got the better of them and they decided to give it one big push. So they loaded the whole arsenal up, and fired them all at once. To their astonishment, the wall started to tumble. But in their efforts to build weapons, they hadn't bothered to work out such ?? details as the rate of fall, and trajectory of an infinitely high wall of indefinite thickness. So it collapsed crushing most of the people, and destroying all of the buildings with it.

When the devastation was complete, and the great billowing mushroom clouds cleared a little, the few individuals that managed to survive dragged themselves up out of the rubble, and there, lo and behold, behind the collapsed wall, they stood looking at their own reflection.

A mirror image of complete annihilation and destruction stood before them.

Patrons are advised that they  
might find World War III disturbing

This was the notice one of our quickthinking CND members placed next to the notice which had been put up at the Liverpool City Council's showing of the War Game at the Neptune Theatre. Their notice read "Patrons are advised that they might find the War Game disturbing".

The Council, as part of their nuclear-free zone policy, organised 3 free, evening showings of the War Game on February 3rd, 4th and 5th. Each night, over 300 people piled in from all over Merseyside to see Peter Watkin's film of what might happen to ordinary people in the event of a nuclear war. All performances were full and the Council had to lay on an extra showing on the Wednesday evening.

The BBC have refused to show the film on television but since it was made, in 1965, it has been shown up and down the country in cinemas, youth clubs, schools, colleges, church halls, workplaces etc.

Each night, CND had a stall and sold books, pamphlets, posters, and badges as well as discussing the film with people and getting them to join CND and become involved in the campaign to prevent nuclear war from ever breaking out.

Congratulations to Liverpool City Council for showing the film and we hope this will see the start of a series of activities by the Council to publicise their nuclear-free zone policy.

On the night I went, I saw 3 people from St. John's Ambulance on duty at the showing - presumably to deal with any filmgoers who might faint, feel sick, or need medical help on seeing the film. Is it pressing the point too much to ask how many people might faint, feel sick or need medical help if the film became a reality? Well, it's comforting to know that at least 15 million people won't be in need of St. John's Ambulance in a real nuclear war - they'll already be dead.

# the END is nigh

The 250,000 strong rally for nuclear disarmament in London on October 24th was not an isolated event. The same day also saw demonstrations in Helsinki, Oslo and Rome. On October 25th, there were further disarmament rallies in Brussels, Paris, and Potsdam in East Germany. By the time of the November march in Amsterdam, almost 2 million people were involved.

The separate disarmament movements of these European countries were together showing their objections to the whole nuclear arms race. That is, essentially, what European nuclear disarmament is all about.

## ORGANISATION

The campaign for nuclear disarmament is promoted on the continent by many different groups and organisations. In some places there are organisations rather similar to CND, like the Norwegians and Danish, "No to Nuclear Weapons" or the Dutch, "Stop the Neutron Bomb". But in the Netherlands and East Germany, the Church is also very important. In Belgium, the appeal of a prominent individual — veteran socialist minister, Albert de Smaele — seems to be a focal point for the campaign. Whereas in West Germany, it is the co-ordinated effort of a number of different organisations, known collectively as German CND, which has provided the impetus for the recent strengthening of the movement there.

## EMPHASIS

The emphasis of the campaign in the different countries varies according to the particular situations.

In Greece, Spain, and Ireland, membership of NATO is the main concern. The Netherlands, Belgium, West Germany, and Italy are more pre-occupied with the siting of Cruise and Pershing II missiles on their soil (the Netherlands and Belgium being already much more successful in campaigning against this than the other two countries.)

In France, the as yet fairly weak movement has to tackle the issue of that country's own nuclear deterrent, whereas the Nordic group (Norway, Sweden, Denmark with Iceland keen to be included) try to sustain the argument for a Nordic nuclear free zone.

## END

The Organisation known as END (European Nuclear Disarmament) is the result of the launching of an appeal for European Nuclear Disarmament by the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation and other bodies in Britain in April 1980.

The appeal was drafted in consultation with peace groups on the continent, and has won the support of many of the disarmament groups throughout Europe. Its purpose is to promote the campaign for nuclear disarmament throughout Europe, both East and West.

A nuclear free zone across Europe, from Poland to Portugal, is the goal.

## END AND LOCAL GROUPS

END functions as a kind of umbrella organisation for the separate national campaigns. It is concerned particularly to promote meetings and exchanges between those involved in the campaign in different countries — it was responsible for the organisation of a conference of peace movements from different parts of Europe in Frankfurt in March 1981, for instance; and there is talk of a further convention on Nuclear Disarmament in Europe.

END also publicises a quarterly Bulletin and Progress Reports in which more detailed information on the campaign in the various countries may be found.

But END does not stress the European dimension of the campaign at the expense of the local organisations. The Russell appeal has served in some countries as the nucleus of a local campaign. But it is the independent commitment of the local groups to nuclear disarmament in their own countries

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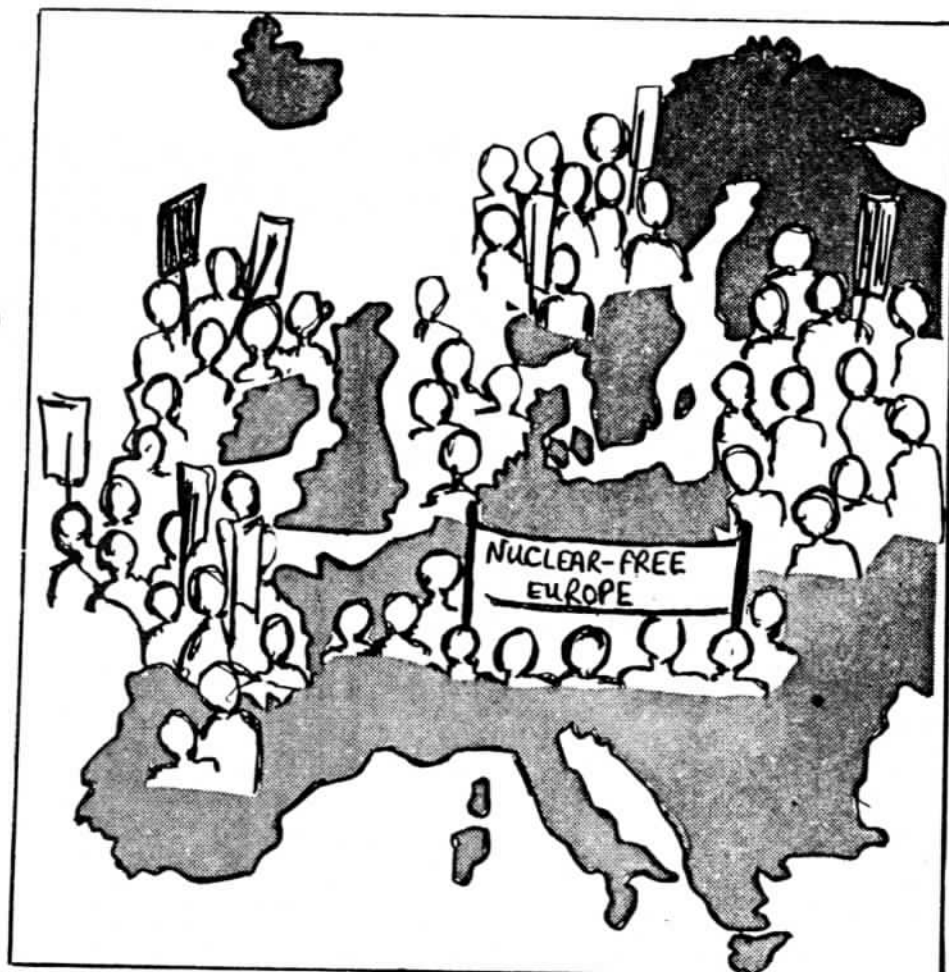
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that will eventually make European Nuclear Disarmament a reality.

The greatest contribution we can make to END, therefore, is surely to actively promote the campaign for nuclear disarmament in this country in full awareness of the broader implications for Europe and our fellow Europeans.



# at's on...what's on...what's on...what's c

- March 28th SOUTHPORT. CND march round Marine Lake. Assemble 11.00 a.m., the Golden Goose, on the Promenade. (To commemorate the Harrisburg Three Mile Island accident).
- April 4th - 9th PEACE WEEK. Contact local groups for information of activities. Liverpool CND petitioning and leafletting every lunchtime in Williamson Square and Church Street.
- April 17th WIRRAL CND. Anti civil defence demonstration, Birkenhead precinct.
- April 26th BIRKENHEAD. Showing of Jonathan Dibley's film "The Bomb", Charing Cross Methodist Church, Birkenhead.
- May 31st LIVERPOOL. Massive demonstration for peace led by famous personality. For details, phone the Vatican, Rome.
- June 5th LIVERPOOL. CND floats take part in the Lord Mayor's Parade.
- June 6th LONDON. National CND demonstration. Phone local CND groups for details of transport etc.
- June 11th MERSEYSIDE CND. Disco on board "Royal Iris" on River Mersey. Tickets £2 waged, £1 unwaged from Barbara Marshall 228 1000 or local CND groups.

## PEACE CAMPS AT BURTONWOOD, CHESHIRE

On Sunday, March 7th, two groups set up Peace Camps at Burtonwood, U.S. Air Force base, near Warrington. They need MORE PEOPLE to stay at camp or form support groups; MONEY; PUBLICITY; TINNED FOODS; MATERIALS - camping gear, rope, etc.

For more info, phone Les 85-67729 or contact: Peace Camp, Burtonwood USAF, Hood Lane, Burtonwood, Warrington.

## WHAT THE CRITICS SAID ABOUT MERSEYSIDE CND MAGAZINE:

"A bargain at 0.000000025% the cost of a Trident" (WHICH?).

H.M. GOVERNMENT HEALTH WARNING - This issue can seriously damage your peace of mind.

"I'm sure things like this should be covered by the next SALT negotiations" (LEONID BREZHNEV).

"I split my atoms over this issue" (EINSTEIN).

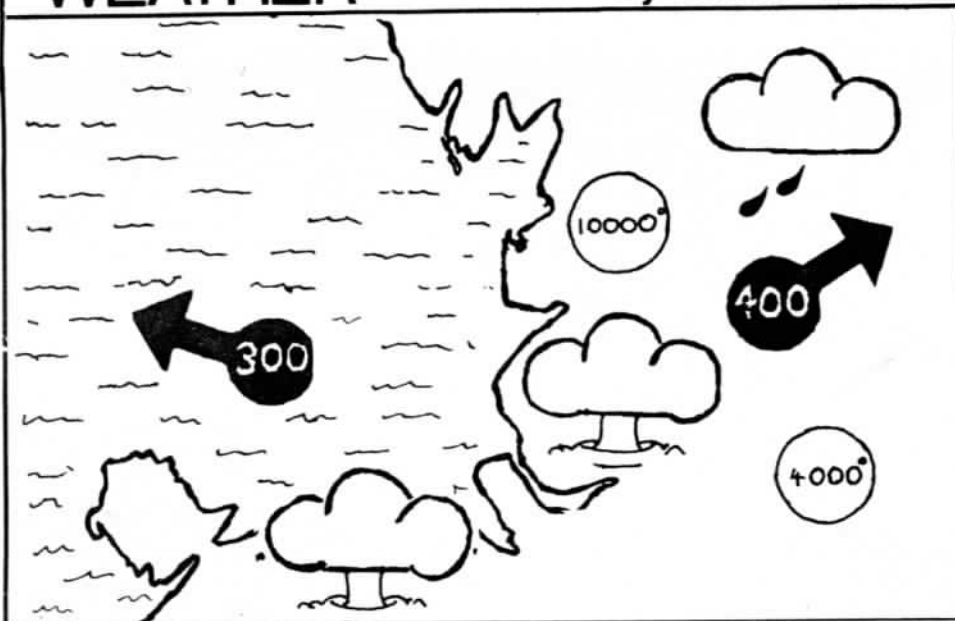
"This'll get you in the nuclear piles" (CASPAR WEINBERGER).

"Sellotape it to your chest and it's an amazingly efficient barrier to radiation". (PROTECT & SURVIVE MONTHLY).



## WEATHER

By Michael Fission



### FORECAST

Bright intervals in most areas at first. Dark cloud increasing. Winds high, locally strong. Gale force 210. Temperatures above normal: 2,000 - 1,000,000° C.

### OUTLOOK

A deep depression will cover all parts. Radioactive cloud will

clear slowly as wind from S.W. carries fallout to all areas. Generally cool, except in persistent firestorms.

### LONG RANGE FORECAST

Radioactive levels will remain high in areas within 200 miles of nuclear reactors. People are advised to stay indoors for at least the next 10 years.

This magazine was produced by: Paul, Naomi, Lois, Julie, Jan, Des, Dave, Bernadette and Alan.



# TRADE UNIONS AND CND

5p



## Britain – a floating weapons carrier

Britain is more densely packed with nuclear weapons than any other country in the world. This makes us a prime target for any country which feels we might use our missiles against their own cities. Of course if we threatened to use them we would be threatening to commit suicide – a less than convincing 'deterrent'.

Every year the number of warheads and their accuracy grows. Every year the risk increases that, in the middle of a 'conventional' battle, the nuclear threshold will be crossed. The particular danger of the neutron bomb, which is now being produced by the USA, is that it is likely to be deployed in Europe under the control of battle-field commanders, each of whom would have the power to start a nuclear exchange which would quickly bring about the complete annihilation of Europe. Each year we are all more at risk from the dangers of a war started by accident – perhaps a computer error like the one in 1979 which almost caused disaster. The leeway in which 'mistakes' can be discovered and corrected becomes shorter and shorter as the superpowers move towards a computerised 'launch on warning' system.

CND's aim is the worldwide abolition of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons leading to complete and general disarmament. We recognise that the threat of nuclear war can only be ultimately eliminated by agreed disarmament by all countries but we can see no hope of this occurring when there is no country prepared to take an initiative. The threat of a 'limited' nuclear war confined to Europe is so great that we cannot afford to trust the international negotiators and wait for them to see sense. We must act now to remove the weapons which make Britain a primary target.

There are alternative ways of defending a democracy than by threatening to massacre millions of people. There are more fruitful ways of using the skills and inventiveness of our people than to build machines which, if they are ever used, will lead to the destruction of the world. There are better ways of spending our money – on housing, on schools or hospitals – which would create more employment and less inflation by feeding the benefits back into the economy. The Government answer is *no* answer. We have the alternatives, the steps to survival and together we can make them work.

**CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT**  
**11 GOODWIN STREET LONDON N4 • TELEPHONE 01 263 4954**

# SWORDS INTO PLOUGHSHARES

Last year the Labour Party Conference passed not only resolutions calling for an end to defence policies based on nuclear arms but also called for proposals for alternative production which would use the existing skills and materials of the arms industry. A proper arms conversion programme would have two main advantages – firstly to make sure that the tremendous benefits that disarmament would bring for society as a whole are not achieved at the expense of the jobs of the workers in the arms industry, and secondly to change production of socially harmful products into production of socially useful ones.

The active support of trade unionists is vital if we are to move away from policies of destruction to policies of sanity and survival. There were thousands of trade unionists amongst the 250,000 who marched to Hyde Park on October 24, but protest marches alone will not be enough. As trade unionists we can use our united strength to help bring about these changes.

The peace movement has come to recognise that disarmament is not simply a matter of spending money on doctors rather than missiles and has become aware of the need to incorporate arms conversion into its strategy for nuclear disarmament. Obviously the pioneering work of the Lucas Aerospace Combine, the Vickers Shop Stewards Committee and CAITS forms a basis on which future policies must be built.

The arms industry generally is highly capital-intensive and technologically advanced. It creates far fewer jobs than other sectors of the economy but uses an extremely high proportion of the research and development skills of the country. These characteristics are even more pronounced in the nuclear arms industry. Production is concentrated in a very small number of firms, which should mean that the workforce is better organised and capable of making a major contribution to the planning of the changes. Studies indicate that most skills used could be used in non-military production. Workers who have participated in the call for arms conversion are, in effect, claiming the right to determine the social use of their skills and rejecting the industry's abuse of their knowledge in order to produce accurate, high-technology machines which would, if they were ever put to use, destroy millions of people and call down destruction on our own heads.

## THE REAL COST OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

- Each week each UK household pays over £16 on average towards the military budget. The equivalent contribution to overseas aid is about 80p.
- Each Trident submarine to be purchased by the government will cost the same as 40 general hospitals. A third of the cost of one of these submarines would pay for the programme for the eradication of malaria from the world.
- The amount of money spent by the World Health Organisation over the last 10 years to combat smallpox would not even have paid for a single strategic bomber.
- One US nuclear-powered aircraft carrier costs the equivalent of 100,000 secondary school teachers.
- We spend three times as much on so-called "defence" as on our housing needs.
- If only half the money spent on the arms race between 1970 and 1975 had been invested in industry then annual output would have been \$200 billion higher.
- High military spending in the capital intensive arms industry is inflationary and causes unemployment. American studies have shown that a billion dollars increase in military spending costs an average 24,000 jobs which would have been created by investment in other sectors. The costs are even higher if the money would have been spent in health (63,000) or education (111,000) since these are labour intensive.
- In real terms defence costs rise by an average 6% each year as armaments become more technologically complex. In the US for each \$10 billion spent on arms inflation increases by ½%.
- About 40% of all money spent on research in the world goes on finding more effective ways of killing people. This is about 6 times as much as we spend on medical research.
- Three million Asian school children could be educated for the cost of HALF the US military training budget.

**THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SUPER POWERS' NUCLEAR WEAPONS HAS COST \$500 BILLION.  
HOW MUCH LONGER CAN WE ALLOW THEM TO CARRY ON?**

# HOW TRADE UNION MEMBERS CAN HELP BUILD SUPPORT FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

- \* **PUBLICITY:** Make sure there is a CND contact point in your workplace; call meetings with CND speakers or a film; see if there is an interest in setting up a workplace CND group; display posters; set up a peace "library" of books and pamphlets; make sure that peace issues are prominent in your newsletters, branch meetings and elections; take a bulk order of "Sanity". CND has a wide variety of publications and campaigning materials – some of these are listed at the foot of the page.
- \* **LINKING UP WITH LOCAL CND GROUPS:** CND can provide the addresses of local groups which organise regular events and publicity drives and welcome TU support. They can also help with speakers and resources such as exhibitions, slide shows and literature. Local TU/CND campaigns can make the links between arms expenditure and the cuts; between the capital intensive arms industry and unemployment; and between production for war and production for social need. Groups will also often be able to help with arrangements for travel to national events.
- \* **PLAN A CAMPAIGN FOR YOUR AREA OF WORK:** Trade Union CND is developing policies in a number of areas. It will be particularly important to have the full involvement of local government unions in the nuclear-free zones campaign and campaign against nuclear war planning designed to convince people that "nuclear war wouldn't be so bad after all". TU CND is also hoping to develop the idea of an arms conversion bill to give a legal foundation for local conversion schemes.
- \* **DEVELOPING UNION POLICY:** Make sure your union adopts an unequivocal policy in favour of unilateral nuclear disarmament, in line with the policy passed at the 1981 TUC Congress. TU CND can provide model resolutions and also, in conjunction with the Labour/Trade Union Liaison Committee, circulates model resolutions for the Labour Party regional and national conferences. TU CND also tries to arrange leafletting, literature stalls etc at TU conferences (any offers of help welcome). If your union already supports CND policy, has it affiliated? Does it encourage its regions, districts, branches and individual members to join? Have sponsored MPs been informed of union policy? Are CND speakers invited to speak at Shop Stewards' Schools? Does the national newsletter cover disarmament regularly and encourage members to participate in CND events? Could it sponsor a series of talks or film shows at major workplaces? Does it regularly circulate CND material to branches? Could it make buildings, equipment and other facilities available for showings of films about the nuclear arms race?

## \* SOME CND RESOURCES (all available from CND Sales, 11 Goodwin Street, London N4).

The Arms Drain, Job Risk & Industrial Decline – A Trade Union Analysis .....	50p
CAITS Arms Conversion Pack .....	£1.40
War Game poster ..... 10p .....	Britain's Nuclear Threat (Thatcher) ..... 10p plus many others.
Questions and Answers (Frank Allaun) .....	40p
Civil Defence the Cruellest Confidence Trick – 2nd Edition (Phil Bolsover) .....	80p
The Neutron Bomb (Prof. Burhop) .....	35p
How to make up your mind about the Bomb (Robert Nield) .....	£2.95
Overkill (John Cox) .....	£1.75
As Lambs to the Slaughter (Paul Rogers etc.) .....	£1.75
Planning Map of Nuclear Britain .....	35p
Vinyl stickers (1 3/4") – No Cruise, Stop Trident, Nuclear-Free Zone etc. ....	all 20p
Leaflets at £1 per hundred: Stop Nuclear Suicide, No to Cruise Missiles, Jobs not Bombs, No to NATO, Stop Trident.	
Leaflets at £2 per hundred: Christian CND leaflet (4 pages).	
CND Badges: B/W CND Symbol (tin) ..... 10p ..... (enamel 50p) .....	Many others ..... 20p
Small stickers ... CND symbol 75p per 100 .....	Nuclear-Free Zone ..... £1.50 per 100
Also postcards, records, slides, jewellery and Sanity.	
Please add amount for postage to all orders.	

Useful address: Concord Films, 201 Felixstowe Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP3 9BJ (0473-76012)



## **TRADE UNION CND**

Trade Union CND is a specialist section of CND which works to encourage support for our policies and understanding of the disarmament issue in the trade unions. It has no separate membership and is open to members and supporters of CND who have special knowledge, experience and associations with the trade union movement. Unions affiliated to National CND are entitled to send delegates to the annual general meeting of TU CND and make nominations for the Executive.

TU CND tries to encourage TU organisations to affiliate to CND, helps to circulate CND material to the unions and prepares leaflets, pamphlets and posters designed for use in the workplace. It also provides speakers for union schools and meetings. Trade Union CND can be contacted at CND National Office, 11 Goodwin Street, London N4. (01-263-4954/8546).

## **TRADE UNION SUPPORT**

Almost 250 trade union organisations are now affiliated to National CND. Many more are affiliated to their local CND group or region. Sixteen national unions are affiliated – ACTT, ASLEF, ASTMS, AUEW-TASS\*, Bakers' Union, COHSE, FBU, FTAT, NALGO, NUPE, NUSMW, POEU, SLADE, SOGAT, TGWU, Tobacco Workers Union (\*formally associated).

A number of other unions also passed motions supporting unilateral nuclear disarmament at their 1981 annual conferences – NUM, ISTC, USDAW and the Tailors and Garment Workers. NATSOPA and the NUJ decided to ballot their members.

TU CND is interested to hear from members of trade unions which are not yet affiliated who would like to work to build support for CND within their union. There have been special working groups set up by the members of certain unions.

Some ideas about ways in which trade union members can help build support for nuclear disarmament are set out overleaf.

## **AFFILIATION**

Trade unions and trade councils affiliated to National CND receive free copies of "Sanity" and "Campaign", with discount rates on bulk orders of all CND literature. They also have the right to send delegates to TU CND AGM and CND National Conference. Affiliation fees are:-

Trade Councils and local Trade Unions – Up to 300 members £4; 300-1,000 members £6; 1,000-5,000 members £8; over 5,000 members £15.

National Unions – Up to 100,000 members £25; 100,000-800,000 members £35; over 800,000 members £50.

Additional donations welcome!

## **INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP**

Individual membership rates are:

Adult £6; Joint membership £9; Student £3; Youth and Unwaged £2.

# What chance for health care

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In the wake of the Hiroshima atomic bomb, the body count takes place.

## after the bomb?

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This paper, drawn up by members of the Medical Practitioners' Union Section of ASTMS, has been produced for two reasons.

Firstly, many of our community physician members have responsibilities for planning health services in preparation for the aftermath of a nuclear war. We believe that it is unethical for doctors to involve themselves in such planning without first ensuring that their health authority and their local community are properly advised as to the

nature of the event for which plans are being made. We are therefore advising our community physician members that they should present detailed reports to their health authority of the health consequences of nuclear war, and we hope that they may find this paper helpful in preparing such reports.

Secondly, the MPU has always seen one of its roles as being to provide medical advice to the trade union movement.

We suggest that trade unions may care

to draw it to the attention of their members, and that Labour councillors and trade union members of health authorities may care to table it for discussion in their authority.

**astms**

## THE IMMEDIATE CONSEQUENCES OF A NUCLEAR EXPLOSION

Upon the detonation of a modern nuclear weapon, an area around the point of detonation will be totally destroyed. The extent of that area would depend upon the size of the weapon. However official Government contingency plans envisage entire Health Districts in which there would be no survivors. (1)

The population of a Health District is between 150,000 and 500,000.

Government advice continues by noting that in these Districts there would presumably be no remaining health care facilities either. This is one of the few instances where, after a nuclear holocaust, the need for health care facilities and the demand will be equal.

It is reasonable to suppose that the Government is correct in projecting entire Health Districts totally destroyed. The bomb which fell on Hiroshima was 0.02 megatons whilst modern weapons range from 0.4 to 20 megatons i.e. 20 to 1,000 times as destructive. Yet even the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs achieved the following casualties:

	Hiroshima	Nagasaki
Estimated population	300,000	87,000
Victims killed	78,000	27,000
Victims missing	14,000	2,000
Seriously injured	84,000	41,000

Modern bombs are far more powerful. Consider for example a 1 megaton bomb exploded 1,500 metres above the ground. Its destructive effect would derive from heat, blast and radiation.

The heat effect would be such that 2 miles from the explosion metals would vaporise, 4 miles from the explosion metals would melt, 6 miles from the explosion rubber or plastics would melt or ignite, whilst even 10 miles from the explosion human beings would suffer full thickness burns.

The blast effect would knock down most UK houses 5 miles from the point of explosion and would still be causing 50 miles per hour winds 10 miles from the explosion.

Beyond the area of total immediate

devastation there will be an area where the explosion is likely to cause widespread fires affecting most buildings. Experiences of Dresden tell us that in these areas a firestorm will be created with high velocity winds blowing through the streets between the burning buildings and with the production of large quantities of carbon monoxide.

Those who are not burned to death within the buildings are likely to die of carbon monoxide poisoning in the streets. Firestorms could affect towns several miles from the point of detonation (2).

Thus, either by the immediate effect of the explosion or by the firestorm there will be total devastation over an area of several miles radius around the point of impact. Further afield still there will be areas where there will be large numbers of casualties from burns.

If any form of medical relief can be provided to those casualties at all it will need to be based upon the triage principle by which casualties are divided into those whose injuries do not justify attention, those whose injuries require medical attention, and those whose injuries are so severe that there is no

prospect of survival.

Only the second group would receive attention. Even this level of medical relief may be impossible. The levels of radioactivity from fall out may preclude any kind of rescue operation for three weeks. Millions of severely burned individuals would die in pain without any kind of medical attention — not even pain relief.

One third of the British population or even more could die in such an attack. Those who died instantly would be the lucky ones. Several millions would not be so lucky.

## THE EFFECTS OF FALL OUT (OPTIMISTIC ASSUMPTION)

The effects of fall out depend on whether or not a nuclear power station has been targeted. We will discuss first of all the most optimistic assumption, that no nuclear power station has been a target.

In that case large areas of the country, probably most of the country, will be

blanketed by radioactive dust.

The Government has given advice on the building of make shift fall out shelters (3).

However large numbers of people are likely to be outside such shelters. Materials for building such shelters may not be adequately available (2). Many, especially the elderly and the disabled, would be unable to build them. Many people would be away from home at the time of the explosion, especially if there had been little warning. Many people who had constructed such shelters in their homes would need to leave their homes as a result of damage caused by the explosion or because of their failure to stock adequate supplies of food and water.

It must be recognised therefore that large sections of the surviving population would not have been adequately sheltered from fall out, and would suffer the consequences of radiation sickness.

It is probably worth asking whether more than a small proportion of the population will in fact be protected. Quite apart from the elderly, the disabled, children at school, workers away at work and children out at play, how many of those who are at home and do have makeshift shelters will stay in them? How many women will go into shelters when their husbands are away at work or their children at school? How many people will stay in them whilst their neighbours are dying in the streets?

And will we have shelters at all — one very likely scenario is that a nuclear attack would have come without warning, as a pre-emptive, purely defensive, strike against Cruise missile sites.

Another horrifying possibility is that it may occur in error. A recent issue of 'New Internationalist' covered two pages with lists of such errors that have occurred in recent years, some of which would have caused nuclear war if they had happened today.

Moreover the idea of sheltering is based upon the prospect of being able to emerge when the bombing is over. But what if successive waves of bombs, days or weeks apart, turns out to be the reality.

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Photos from  
'Hiroshima-Nagasaki',  
published by the Hiroshima-Nagasaki  
Publishing Committee, Tokyo.



And will people have the presence of mind to follow advice. Two thirds of the population of Hiroshima experienced fear and terror after the bomb had fallen.

The death reserved for those who fail to shelter is not a pleasant one. Symptoms of radiation sickness include vomiting diarrhoea, fever, blood changes, hair loss and (in severe cases) convulsions, and death can occur in hours, days, or weeks depending on dose.

Wound healing and resistance to infection are both affected, even in those whose dose was not fatal, and both of these consequences are serious for the injured, and for those exposed to infection in the post-holocaust community.

### **THE EFFECTS OF FALL OUT (PESSIMISTIC ASSUMPTION)**

The preceding section was based on the optimistic assumption that no nuclear power station had been targeted. In fact nuclear power stations could be targeted deliberately to cause maximum damage, or because they were seen as strategic targets, or unintentionally because they were close to cities which were targeted, or accidentally, by a stray missile.

Nuclear power stations are assumed to be safe on the basis that safety measures prevent the wholesale release of radiation from them. Such safety measures however are not proof against a nuclear bomb exploding on the power station.

If such an event occurred the fall out of the bomb would be supplemented by fall out from the power station. Initially this would add very little to the total fall out. But as Lindop (4) has pointed out the rate of decay of this fall out is much slower so that the fall out from the power station would be much more long lasting than that from the bomb. The areas affected by such fall out could be uninhabitable, not for the 3 weeks that is assured by Government plans (1) but for about a year.

None of the make shift shelters recommended by the Government could accommodate their occupants for anything like that length of time, so the only survivors in the affected areas would be the handful of politicians and civil servants in the deep shelters of the Regional Centres of Government.

The areas affected would depend on the nuclear power stations which had been the target and the direction of the wind. For example, Lindop (4) has demonstrated that if Windscale were



This photograph, also taken following the Hiroshima bomb, needs no caption, either for a medical person or any other human being.

targeted with a North West wind there would be hardly any survivors in Lancashire, Yorkshire, and East and West Midlands, London or Kent. If Hinckley Point were targeted with a West wind there would be hardly any survivors in Bristol, Oxford, London, Kent or the South Coast.

### **THE HEALTH OF THE POST-HOLOCAUST COMMUNITY**

Before discussing the state of health of the survivors of the holocaust, we must consider what health care facilities will be available to them. Government advice is that each Health District must see itself as self-sufficient.

Transport facilities, the pharmaceutical industry, the teaching hospitals and centralised Regional facilities will have been destroyed. Health Districts will need to function with no prospect of replenishing medical supplies or of obtaining help from elsewhere. We have no direct experience of the capacity of

health care facilities to cope with this kind of situation.

At Hiroshima and Nagasaki medical help was rushed in from outside. At major natural disasters medical aid is usually made available from outside. This reflects the knowledge that the local community could not cope alone. After a nuclear holocaust there will be no 'outside' to provide help.

Whatever health care facilities remain will need to cope with the following health problems:

#### **1) The usual health problems of the community**

The community will have its usual health problems. Many of these will take on a new significance in a situation where medical supplies are not readily to hand. Without antibiotics, people will die of minor infections, as they used to do before the discovery of these drugs. Pneumonia, puerperal fever, and septicaemia from minor cuts will again become major killers. Without insulin,

diabetics (1 per cent of the population) will die. As anaesthetic supplies run out, surgery will become either impossible or agonising. Society will not have the resources to care for the disabled and the handicapped.

## 2) Injuries from the explosion

In those Health Districts around the periphery of the area of devastation — those that are, say, 5 to 10 miles from the point of an explosion — a large proportion of the surviving population will be injured or badly burned. Some injuries will have been caused even further afield. For example, the flash of a nuclear explosion would be bright enough to cause retinal burns in those looking directly at it as far as 40 miles away (2).

## 3) Effects of fall out

In all Health Districts a proportion of the population will be suffering the effects of fall out. In those Health Districts on the periphery of the devastated area this will include most of the population, the make shift fall out shelters will have been destroyed. It will include quite large proportions of the population in all Districts.

## 4) Psychological disturbances

The events of the holocaust will lead to serious psychological disturbances amongst those who have experienced it. Many will be in a state of acute anxiety, trembling constantly and unable to look after themselves. Others will be shocked, depressed, apathetic and inert. Others will be driven mad.

It is difficult to predict what proportion of the surviving population will be suffering from injuries, burns, fall out, or psychological disturbances but in many Districts it is likely to be somewhere between 20 per cent and 40 per cent.

## 5) Epidemics

Water supplies and sanitary facilities will have been disrupted. A further sanitary hazard will be caused by the decomposing corpses of human beings and wild life. Epidemics are the usual accompaniments of such devastation.

Typhus, typhoid, cholera, and other infectious disease are likely to occur. Vaccines will not be available to prevent them. Drugs will not be available to treat them.

## 6) Starvation

This country is not self-sufficient in food. Moreover the destruction of transport facilities will make it difficult to distribute what food there is. Malnutrition, vitamin deficiency and simple starvation will affect many Health Districts.

## 7) Civil disorder

The most rational policy to apply to the distribution of food would be to confine it to those who have some prospect of survival, withholding it from the injured, the mad, the disabled, and those who are dying of radiation sickness. However, it is likely to be impossible to institute such measures. Civil disorder is likely to occur as survivors fight for the limited food and medical supplies available (2). Such disorder will disrupt health care provision, and the victims of violence will be an added health problem.

## 8) Pregnancy

Because of the conditions in which people have been living during the fall out period, it is likely that the proportion of the female population who will be pregnant will be larger than usual. Even if it is no greater than usual, there will still be large numbers of pregnant women whose pregnancy will have been subjected to radiation followed by malnutrition. This is likely to produce an appalling toll of congenital abnormalities in the babies born in the year after the holocaust. Society will not have the resources to care for such babies and must decide whether it will allow them to live.

## PLANNING HEALTH SERVICES

Even our present health care facilities would not be able to cope with the combination of ordinary health problems, injuries, fall out, psychological disturbances, epidemics, starvation, civil disorders and congenital abnormalities which will face the post-holocaust health care systems.

This system itself however will be severely disrupted. Many hospitals and large parts of the industry that supplies medical equipment, drugs and other supplies will have been destroyed. Health workers will be casualties in the same proportion as the general population. Those health care facilities that exist will be isolated from each other and from sources of supply.

This system will not be capable even of coping with ordinary health problems let alone the consequences of war.

There is a duty upon health authorities to make the best job they can of providing health care after the holocaust. But the facilities will be totally inadequate, and the health care system will be overwhelmed.

It would be unrealistic to pretend that medical facilities will be available for more than a small fraction of those who

need them. It will be necessary to decide which categories of patient should receive priority, and which should be left untreated.

One question which must be considered is the question of euthanasia.

There are already those who do not wish to survive a nuclear war, who view the phrase 'preparation for survival' as implying something rather different from its usual meaning. They see it as a contingency to be guarded against, and they will not spend the last few weeks of peace building fall out shelters, but rather ensuring that they are provided with an adequate means of suicide.

These are at present a small (but not insignificant) minority. However after the holocaust their numbers are likely to be swelled by large numbers who find that the kind of existence which remains possible is not one which they relish. So long as there are high cliffs and fast flowing rivers no able bodied person need live who does not want to.

However for the moment we are concerned with those who will have even better reason for not wishing to live and may lack the means of suicide — those who will be dying slowly and painfully from injuries or the consequences of fall out, and for whom the overwhelmed health care system will be unable to offer even alleviation of their symptoms.

Society must decide whether it will provide a service of euthanasia to those individuals, or whether it will exact from them the full measure of possible suffering.

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