



NOTTINGHAM CND NEWS for July - September 2010

Trident Policy – the big buck-pass

Cabinet dispute shock! Policy on UK's Trident nuclear missile system in state of flux! Is replacement on the cards? If so, is it to be paid for by the Ministry of Defence, as urged by the Treasury? Or is the cost to be borne by the Treasury, as defence ministers have argued, on the grounds that it's a matter of national security? The annual defence budget is less than £40 billion. The MoD is said to be 'braced' for cuts of 10 to 20%. If it funds Trident replacement, its other responsibilities would be 'very difficult' to maintain, says Defence Secretary Liam Fox. 10 Downing Street's 18 July assurance that Trident will be replaced looks less than solid. And the Tories and LibDems are well known to have opposite policies on Trident.

An unnamed 'source' quoted in Guardian of 19 July, said 'It may be these new leaders are more open to shelving Trident when faced with its cost.' As well as inside the Treasury, there is widespread skepticism within the MoD and Army over the relevance of replacing the existing Trident ballistic missiles.

Then there's the little matter of the strategic defence review. Lib Dem Sir Menzies Campbell said 'Maybe it's the shape of the missiles but every time Trident is mentioned there is an outbreak of priapism on the Tory backbenches. It makes no sense whatsoever to exclude Trident, the strategic deterrent, from a proper strategic review.'

Nick Harvey MP said in April 'Omitting the single largest procurement project from the review makes a complete mockery of the whole exercise.' Mr Harvey, a LibDem, is now Armed Forces Minister. We live in interesting times.

Hiroshima Day Events – Friday August 6th

Remember Hiroshima Cycle Ride from Market Square 9.30 –12.15pm

As a way of highlighting the devastation caused by the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and calling for the government to scrap Trident Nuclear Weapons, members of Nottingham CND will be taking the message out further afield. We will be cycling to different places and giving out Hiroshima Day leaflets. We hope to get as many people as possible to participate and make a real impact, so please, if you have a bicycle, or can borrow one, join us. We will be providing messages to wear but if you have your own message which is relevant please bring it along. We want to be as visible as possible. We will be assembling outside the Council House at 9.30am to cycle along the roads to West Bridgford, Beeston and Hyson Green where we will be giving out Hiroshima Day Leaflets. We hope to return to the Council House for around 12.15.

Remember Hiroshima 1945 Outside Council House 12.30 – 1pm

On August 6th Nottingham CND will be commemorating Hiroshima Day outside the Council House at 12.30. Each year we have highlighted the effects of Nuclear Weapons and the devastation caused when the atomic bombs were dropped in 1945. Do try to turn up. Placards will be provided, but please bring any displays with you that you think are appropriate.

Raynesway Vigil at Derby from 3 – 5pm

At 3pm Nottingham CND together with peace activists throughout Derby and the East Midlands are gathering outside Raynesway, Derby to remind the workers there of the devastation that can be caused by Nuclear Weapons. Raynesway is where the nuclear reactors and fuel rods are made which power Trident. We will be catching the bus around 2pm. Please contact me for exact details.

**Hiroshima/Nagasaki Day Commemorative Social Evening on Friday 6th August:
7.00pm onwards at the Sumac Centre, Gladstone Street, Forest Fields.**

A social evening to include a session from the Dave Mann and friends playing jazz/swing followed by readings, poetry and singing from Pauline and Yvonne, and Bronwyn Westacott and friends. The evening will finish with classical music played by Dale on his guitar. Please do try your best to come down. If you feel you would like to participate in the event with a reading, poem or a song, let us know. The bar will be open for drinks etc. We also thought it would be nice if people bring food along to share but this is not essential.

For more details of any of the above events please contact Diane on 0115 981 2034

Other Events Happening in August/September

East Midlands CND AGM

Please note this is taking place in September and there will be further details as soon as I know the exact date and place. It will be more than likely taking place in Nottingham on a weekday.

Demonstration outside Chetwynd Barracks, Chilwell on Saturday 14th August at 13.00 pm

A demonstration has been called to get the troops out of Afghanistan - and to highlight the fact that we shouldn't have gone in there in the first place. Chetwynd Barracks is one of the sites where the soldiers are trained and where they leave to go to Afghanistan. Please try your best to attend.

Stall Dates for the Rest of 2010

Saturday 7th August Nottingham

Saturday 4th September Nottingham

Saturday 30th October Nottingham

Saturday 6th November Sherwood

Saturday 11th December Nottingham

In order for any of the above events to go ahead I do need volunteers. Please do try and help out if you can - even if it is only for a short time. I do know that some of our members are not physically able to now but I do know you still support us,
Please contact me either by phone on 0115 9812034 or email me at d.h.lunz@btopenworld.com

To receive more information regarding what CND and other sympathetic organisations are doing on a more regular basis it would be really good if you could forward your Email details onto us at enquires@nottinghamcnd.org.uk Thank you.

I really look forward to seeing you at one of the above events at least, so don't forget your support is necessary to promote the cause. Thank you to everyone who helped out at the May Day and Green Festival - we were really lucky this year and the weather was good.

Enclosed is a postcard to be sent to your MP. If you would like some more, please contact me. It is also important to tell Liam Fox to reverse his decision on excluding Trident replacement from the Strategic Defense Review. You can do this by visiting www.cnduk.org to email him or write to him at: **MOD Ministerial Correspondence Unit 5th Floor, Zone A, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB.**

If you have received our newsletter with the address hand-written, Margaret apologises but her computer has run out of blue ink and won't print!!

Yours in peace

Diane Lunzer (Secretary)