

# MAKE ST VALENTINES DAY A MASSACRE



On ]4th February St.Valentines Day Maggie Thatcher And a few friends , namely Jim, Keith ,Francis And Mr. Carringtonand last but not least Willy, are coming to Eastbourne to address the Young Conservative Conference.

Students,workers and unemployed will be there to give them their love and fair greetings on St.Valentines Day. On campus CND and the students union are organising people to go down to Eastbourne to join the picket.

We will be asking the Tories why they need to spend .5000 million on re-equipping the the Polaris submerines with Trident missiles just to protect us- while most of us face unemployment when we leave University, cuts in our living standardsand the present attacks on our student union.

The Tories pretend that they are concerned for our livelihood, why then are they closing our hospitals,sacking thousands of workers, Thousands of elderly people die each year because the cant affordheating.Yet the Tories spend millions of pounds on nuclear weoponswhich could lead to the distruction of the human race.

As students we should be at Eastbourne on the ]4th to tell Maggiethat we wont die for her. and to make sure that her and her budding young tory war mongers get that message. Help us make it a St.Valentines Day she wont forget.

Coaches will leave campus from Falmer Hse 9.30am  
St Peters ]0.am



School Meals 1981



Called by Eastbourne Labour Party  
Supported by London Region CND, London Student C.N.D.

Produced By Sussex CND.

12 FEB 1981  
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DOCUMENTS



# CBW COLUMN

CND is always portrayed as an anti-nuclear action group, but as the "unilateral disarmament" clause in the general manifesto states, CND opposes the development, production and use of all weapons of mass destruction - chemical, biological and nuclear.

Chemical and biological (CB) weapons is not currently an accepted element of the East - West arms race, nor has it appeared as a widespread threat in event of war since the Great War of 1914-18. However, America's willingness to disturb the current (nuclear) arms balance by developing more (and nastier) chemical weapons suggests that CBW is rapidly attaining "deterrent" status. CBW may be the poor man's nuclear weapon, but this should never justify CBW's adoption as a happy alternative to nukes. Death may be quicker with bugs or gas but it's equally nasty and the unprotected civilian will be harder hit than the fully protected combatants.

Over the past 10 years, neither the US nor USSR have produced any chemical weapons (openly that is). But not content with their 30 year old stockpile of conventional nerve gas (plus more hydrogen cyanide and mustard gas) the US are considering breaking this moratorium and restarting development of the newer binary nerve gases. The justification for this is Russia's supposed violation of the 1925 Geneva Protocol banning deadly chemical munitions. The US State Department consider that CW was used against tribesmen in Afghanistan and possible Kampuchea too. The anthrax epidemic in Siberia in 1979 (which killed 1000) is also seen as "the great Russian germ war fiasco" (see "Now" of October 26, 1979) - as an accident in a bacteriological weapons factory.

Both these factors have been used in the US Army's request for a \$1.2M nerve gas plant in Arkansas (near any nuke silo?) plus \$19M for more research.

Those 30 years of safe storage of conventional nerve gas may be reassuring, but the suggested redevelopment is frightening:

1. a gas-for-gas, buy-for-buy CBW arms race is as undesirable as a nuke-for- nuke one.

2. Britain is likely to get involved as a research assistant (viz. Porton Down).

3. just as with Cruise, the UK will act as a CBW arms dump for NATO.

Britain's involvement (now being propounded by the Thatcher government) with CBW rests on the US's decision, and would probably take the form of:

1. A research consultant. Porton Down and the (now closed) Wancuke lab. in Cornwall assisted in the development of the US's current nerve gases.

2. As an intelligence centre between NATO, the UK and the US.

So if the US entered the CBW arms race, this would therefore commit Britain to do so also, and since both the Defence Secretary and the PM have publicly stressed the "need" for a Western deterrent to Soviet CBW, it suggests that Britain could be spending on research and buying bombs. With Cruise at \$5000M, can we afford gas and germs too? ■

## ADVANCE WARNING

October 8 - Societies Fair, Mandela Hall, Time to join CND.

October 9 - "Morgue", on common-room TV monitors at 11am and 3pm.

October 14 - "Morgue" again, same place, same time. For those wishing to see it for a second time.

October 20-24 WEEK OF ACTION. Your big chance to die for the cause.

October 24 - United Nations Day of Disarmament.

October 26 - Anti-nuclear March, Hyde Park, London. ....see you there.

ALSO keep a lookout on the CND noticeboard for further details and more events.



## Joining CND

Sussex University CND group, reformed after its demise in the complacent '70's, holds the same aims as its parental CND, the European NO and most other anti-war action groups - the banning of all weapons of mass destruction and the eventual state of complete and general disarmament.

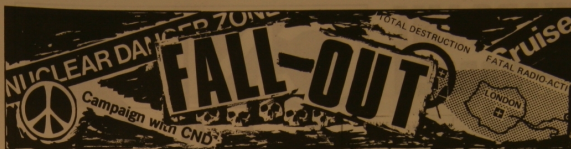
CND believes that Britain should scrap its nuclear weapons force and refuse to act as NATO western arms cache. While nuclear, chemical and biological weapons are seen as deterrents in time of peace, in war they act as huge liabilities and a primary target for offensives.

CND is a force of conscientious objectors against warfare in general, and membership means a personal and collective stance against Britain's war machine.

A rejection of CND's aims implicitly means a degree of trust in Polaris, Cruise, nerve gas, anthrax weapons, .... Hiroshima...are you prepared war action groups - the banning of all weapons of mass destruction and the eventual state of complete and general disarmament.

If you can't get worried about the bomb, want to know what you can do about it, write, talk, in time of peace, in war they act as huge liabilities and a primary target for offensives.

us at Societies Fair to join CND, and watch the posters for our first meeting, or contact: Judy Lowe SOC/SCI Dave Hellens SHOM Martin Haswell POSTGRAD BLOKS or CND/c/o Union Reception, Palmer House.



UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX CND GROUP BROADSHEET

## When the bomb goes off

A Layman's Guide to Survival, or 'A Moral Tale'.

An intense white flash. Throw yourself into the gutter or under a table if you're inside. Don't stop to think. You may have 2 seconds before the heat and up to 30 seconds before the blast.

10 seconds later, .... if nothing has happened, get up looking a right idiot, and join the nearest CND group.

But if you have been caught in a nuclear strike, and if you are still alive -- start thinking fast. You've got a post-nuclear future, and it's happening all around you.

SCENARIO: 1 megaton nuclear strike on central London; aircraft at 32000' mid-morning with visibility good to excellent, gentle SW wind.

REPORT: based on "Nuclear Weapons", BMGO, 1973, using currently accepted predictions of damage and fatality. An interpretation of what might happen to SE England and Brighton after a single nuclear attack on London.

To set the scene: both the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs were 20KT (=20 000 tons of conventional explosive, TNT). Both one tenth of the size of a Polaris warhead and one fifteenth of a 1 MT device.

Both Japanese bombs exploded far above their target cities "airburst". While this increased ground damage and raised the death toll, there was much less fallout than if the explosions had occurred on the ground. Offensively (it's more destructive) and defensively (no fallout) an airburst is preferable - here it is London's fate.

A nuclear device goes off with an intense radiation of light, neutrons and gamma rays; this is followed by a blast

wave through the air and a shock wave travelling through the ground. In a few seconds almost all of the damage has been done, and the initial gamma radiation drops quickly seen afterwards. Residual radiation sources (small particles in the air, ground dust) produce  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  rays for weeks to years afterwards but if the bomb is "clean" and/or if it explodes in the air, this activity soon falls to background levels.

London, 30 minutes after the bomb's detonation. 0-2 miles from ground zero (the explosion's centre) Total destruction, no buildings left standing, most are on fire also, virtually 100% death toll.

2-3 miles from GZ. Damage very severe, few bridges intact, most streets clearable; casualties about 50% (dead, trapped or severely injured).

3-6 miles from GZ. Most domestic dwellings demolished, limit of main fire zone, injured either trapped or caught in open.

6-12 miles from GZ. Houses damaged but repairable (loss of glass and tiles), sporadic fires.

12 miles outwards. More sporadic damage, casualties are cut, burned or in state of shock.

Most of central London and the inner suburbs are therefore destroyed, while the outer areas are damaged and scarcely habitable. Probably over 300 000 persons are killed, injured or needing medical attention. Communication channels and services (both automatic and manned - like the Fire and Ambulance services) are inactive.

Immediate injuries will be severe near GZ but debilitating

rather than lethal outside the city area itself. Three quarters of the Blitz injuries were caused by flying fragments (esp. glass) as would be the case here out to a radius of 12-15 miles (south of Croydon). People caught in the open as far as 7 miles from GZ would be burnt severely, and scorched out to 13 miles. Permanent or temporary blindness could result for anyone facing the initial flash, even miles away from the damage zone and certainly as far south as Brighton and the coast.

These will be the immediate effects. Remember that the injured in the inner areas, exposed to sublethal doses of the initial radiation, will die through complications and infections of their cuts and burns. The more vulnerable (the very old and the very young) will probably succumb too over a wider area.

Brighton has been relatively untouched. However all communication networks will have shut down or been marshalled into civil defence use - Britain now being under Emergency Committee control. Railways, telephones, radio, TV, the newspapers - in short all our contact with each other and the rest of Britain will have been severed or curtailed. Life as we know it will be no more even though Brighton is yet unscathed.

In the worst case, Brighton and the SE would be devastated (not just cut off) just like London.

This is how our nuclear future looks. It's neither short nor sweet, nor bodes very well for our children's children's children. Cambridge County Council's estimate of a 30 year post-nuclear recovery period takes us well into next century, ....and this generation into middle-age. How much of our brave new world will be left by then? ■



# WARGAME — Banned

On November 24, 1965, the decision was taken by the BBC to ban Peter Watkin's film "Wargame", stating that it was "too horrifying for the medium of broadcasting". It remains unshown but thankfully neither unseen nor unavailable.

The reasons which lay behind this decision were investigated in an article in the Guardian (Monday, Sept. 1, 1980) by Michael Tracey.

He was motivated by the resurgence of interest in the nuclear arms race, instanced by the dialogue between E.P. Thompson, author of "Protest and Survive", and Peter Jenkins of the Guardian, and a memory of numbed horror which the film had left him with since his student days, twelve years previously.

Tracey's article describes the pressures which led to the BBC's decision to withhold Watkin's film. The Government's desire to suppress the film met with little opposition from the BBC, whose internal governing structure proved to be irrelevant in the face of pressure from its financial arbiter.

Before the film was made the Home Office expressed the hope that "the supervision of the programme would rest at the highest levels", thus focussing full responsibility on Lord Normanbrook, Chairman of the BBC Governors, and a known supporter of the Governmental policy of deterrence.

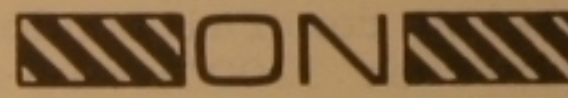

After seeing the completed film the Government officials simply expressed their disquiet "as to whether it would be expedient in the public interest, that any film of this kind be shown on television". No further pressure was necessary since Normanbrook, sympathetic with the Government's position and aware of the possibility of financial reprisals, inevitably decided to withhold the film.

Normanbrook therefore informed Sir Burke Trend, Secretary of the Cabinet that the film would not be shown. There was no record of the matter having been discussed by the BBC'S Board of Governors, debate even at that level having been forestalled.

# CND

# WAR GAME

WITHHELD BY THE BBC

COMMON ROOM    
T.V. MONITORS THURS 9  
11 AM & 3 PM TUES 14

Normanbrook had been placed in a position where only one decision was possible - hardly a display of democracy at its best.

The initial backing for Peter Watkins had come from Grace Wyndam Goldie, Watkins' boss in the BBC'S Talks Division, and from Huw Wheldon, then of the Division's documentary section.

Both wished to retain Watkins services as a director, with Wheldon thinking that he "must certainly get this film out of his system", a rather myopic, self-serving reason, but nevertheless enabling the film's continued production.

Goldie's reason 's were more idealistic. Wheldon noted, in recommending the film to the Director of Television, Kenneth Adam, that " (Goldie) thinks that the film should be made on the grounds that as long as there is no security

risk and the facts are authentic the people should be trusted with the truth".

Wheldon goes on more tellingly:

"There are views at experienced levels that since nothing can be done to save Britain from annihilation, it is better not to portray such probable occurrences or to give such frightening facts. (Goldie) does not agree with this attitude, but notes that the film is bound to be horrifying and unpopular - but surely necessary".

Our hope is that, on seeing "Wargame", your reaction will endorse that latter view. All the more when you consider the manifold increase in destructive power which has taken place in the intervening years.

However, to be fatalistic as a result only serves to reinforce the apathy upon which Government defence policy is formulated. ■

# WHY CND!

Why CND?

CND stands for "Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament". The movement was founded during the Cold War hysteria of the Fifties in Britain as a reaction to the Government's decision to equip Britain with Polaris missiles. Now, despite the setbacks of the past the movement is growing rapidly as more and more people realise the seriousness of the nuclear threat.

Why now?

Today the world is closer to nuclear conflict than ever before. It has taken us a mere Thirty years to become blasé about "THE BOMB", to produce a generation which has lived with it yet has no first hand experience of its effects.

In the Fifties, nuclear war was a major concern to a world sickened by Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Now we are both distanced from its horrors and encouraged to regard it as inevitable.

The issues at stake arise from the Governmental policies of:

1. Allowing American controlled Cruise missiles to be based in this country without a referendum.

2. Discarding the outmoded POLARIS in favour of the new and hideously expensive Trident missile system.

3. Presenting the idea of nuclear war to the public in such a way that it seems inevitable (which it is not), and acceptable (which it is only if you have a place in a Governmental shelter and don't mind living in an irradiated ruin).

The Government is currently pushing "Protect and Survive" to feign concern for your family's future and to ensure that they remain in control.

But We Can't Do Anything Surely?

This time we have to try even harder and there are reasons for hope:

1. Mobilising people is becoming easier, the survey carried out for the recent Panorama debate showed that people are aware that we are in deep trouble and this must be built upon.

2. For the first time it seems possible for the Labour Party to declare an anti-nuclear stance. The TUC officially oppose nuclear arms, as they declared at their Brighton conference. The time is right for the formation of a broad based movement.

Getting rid of Cruise is the important first step. Again, this is not as impractical as it appears:

1. Belgium and Holland both rejected Cruise largely due to the actions of their popular movements. If we can succeed, so can we.

2. Cruise is not part of Britain's air defence and is not under British control. Acting as a buffer state for the US is not likely to win popular support.

3. The renewed Carter - Brezhnev talks offer a chance for Cruise to be curtailed. Public demonstrations can only enhance this possibility.

The question is, are you content to sit and wait or are YOU prepared to ACT? ■

The Anti-Nuclear March to Hyde Park on October 26 offers you a chance to begin to take a hand in your own future - USE IT.

Sussex University's Mantell Building houses the Armament and Disarmament Information Unit (ADIU). It acts to inform on : defense policy, arms production and trade, disarmament and arms control negotiation, and the impact on social and economic development of arms restrictions.

ADIU does not advise on policy, instead it concentrates on the provision of information to academics, journalists, politicians, interest groups, trade unionists and anyone else interested in armament and disarmament.

New Scientist (27 March, 1980) can tell you how to make a nuclear bomb in a standard, though slightly modified, terrace house. In theory, that is.

# Cruising.

House of Commons, Defence Committee, April 15-17.

Francis Pym: "...in time war, 40% of NATO's European air strength could be based here". "...the UK is a base for NATO's long range theatre nuclear weapons (bombers now and Cruise missiles in the future)...the UK is and will remain a prime target for Soviet air attack".

HOC. White paper on Defence. April 28-29.

Francis Pym: said that he did not think that a document published before the Government's decision on the replacement of the Polaris submarines would be "sensible or appropriate". Instead, he felt that the Government should make their decision then "explain it and defend it before Parliament".

Pym also explained that the Government were prepared to put "defence at the top of our priorities" and at a time of reduced public expenditure "other programmes would have to be reduced to allow more room for extra defence spending".

INFO: Allocation of Cruise missiles in Europe should be:- UK - 160, W. Germany - 96, Italy - 112, Belgium - 48.

INFO: The Defence Committee in the House of Commons oversees the operations of a department employing 250 000 civil servants, more than 300 000 military personnel and with a budget of over £8000M.

"My people and I have a wonderful arrangement. I let them say exactly what they like, and they let me do exactly as I like".

Frederick the Great, presumably paraphrasing the present Government's stance in general.

Mid Sussex District Council Plans Sub-committee have passed an application by a John Emin, builder of London, to build a two storey re-inforced concrete fall-out shelter in Balcombe Forest. There will be room for 200 people plus medical and first-aid (?) facilities. The cost? A snip at a probable £1500 and an annual rent of £500. There would be no permission granted for an underground night-club if the shelter became redundant though.