



LANCASTER DISTRICT CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

NEWSLETTER

May 2008

Secretaries:
J & D Allwright: 33991

ALDERMASTON - "THE BOMBS STOP HERE" CAMPAIGN

On Easter Monday a coach organized by Lancaster District CND made the long journey to Aldermaston Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) in Berkshire. The demonstration celebrated the 50th anniversary of a similar protest held at Aldermaston over Easter in 1958.

Aldermaston AWE is the government's nuclear bomb-making factory, so the protest surrounding the facility was symbolic of CND's opposition to Trident replacement and desire for nuclear disarmament.

Dick Allwright, one of the LD CND organizers said, "For those of us who were Aldermaston marchers in the early days, it's too easy to think only us old ones still care, so it was great to see all the young people there to give us hope for the future."

The event passed peacefully and proved a great success in expressing public opposition to Britain's possession of nuclear weapons.

DATES FOR DIARIES

NEXT LD CND MEETING

Thursday May 15th, 7.30 pm

Greenbank, The Shore
Bolton Le Sands
All members welcome

MENWITH HILL

BREAKING THE LINKS PROTEST

Saturday 17th May, 1-4pm

**Front Gates of Menwith Hill, A59,
Harrogate—Skipton Road**

www.yorkshirecnd.org.uk

HIROSHIMA DAY STALL

Saturday August 9th, 12-3pm

Market Square, Lancaster

For more information, please phone
01524 33991.

SMILE!

Forty-five passengers joined 5,000 other protesters to surround the base and express their disapproval of the Labour Government's policy of Trident missile replacement.

Quakers from the Friends Meeting House made up a strong contingent from Lancaster.

Many thanks to Paul Andrews and Audrey Harland for tremendous ticket sales!



BREAKING THE LINKS

RAF Menwith Hill in Yorkshire is the largest spy station in the world. It is a NATO base run by the US military, famed for its “golf balls” - the dome shaped radomes each contain a satellite dish which intercept signals from communications satellites.

In 2007 the Defence Secretary Des Browne announced that it will play a crucial role in US Missile Defence. CND is now focussing its efforts campaigning against this base because the missile defence program is destabilizing diplomatic relations with Russia, and threatens to escalate into an arms race and maybe even a new Cold War.

Members of Yorkshire CND are organizing the protest and we hope to offer them our support.

WOMEN AND WAR

A study entitled “Women and War” was published in February 2008 by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). The report aimed to provide insight into the problems of women during war, and the ICRC made a commitment to improve its programmes to ensure the needs of women are met more effectively.

Although women are typically not on the frontline, they bear the burden of conflict in other ways, such as displacement from their homes as refugees, loss of loved ones, and greater responsibilities from economic hardship.

The report stressed that men and women are exposed to different risks during war, and women experience their own distinct troubles which are no less dangerous than those of the battlefield. It highlighted the strength and resourcefulness of women in facing the daily challenge of survival of themselves and their children.

The welfare of women is a top priority for the Red Cross, and the organization aims to support the protection of women by implementing policies that maintain International Humanitarian Law. In the future they hope to be able to better manage the impact of war on women by providing them with specialized assistance which prevents their problems spiralling and ensures their independence.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY STALL

On Saturday March 8th, LD CND members braved the spring showers, and set up a stall in Market Square in celebration of International Women's Day.

Despite the foul weather we distributed many flyers and talked to locals about nuclear disarmament and the idea of “Peace as a Women's issue”. We all hoped our efforts had raised awareness of this international holiday.

Many thanks to everybody who volunteered and Karen Heath for organizing the literature.

