



# Heddwch

## ACTION NEWS

the magazine of CND Cymru



Spring 1995

25p

## Launch of the Chernobyl Children's Project Cymru

**A**t a meeting addressed by Adi Roche who initiated the Project in Ireland, Councillor Frank Evans of the Wales Nuclear Free Zones Forum and Luther Lodwig, Vice Chair of Mid Glamorgan County Council, an appeal for the victims of Chernobyl was launched on January 19th. The meeting was given the full support of the Chairman of Mid Glamorgan County Council. Adi told us of the plight of the victims, and introduced a video. She emphasised that it is our responsibility, for the sakes of those children and all children to come, to make sure that another Chernobyl does not happen again – anywhere.

Thanks to Côr Cochion Caerdydd, Councillors Ray Davies and Sue Lent, and many others at the meeting, there will be another meeting to raise money and awareness and to show the video "Black Wind, White Land – the legacy of Chernobyl" made by the Project. This will take place on March 31st at 7.15pm at South Glamorgan County Hall, Atlantic Wharf, Cardiff.

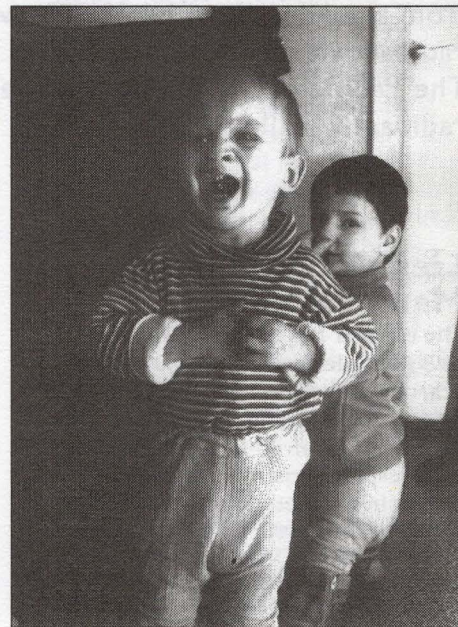
- For more information, contact Ray Davies, Vice Chair CND Cymru (see Contacts List).

We are told that such an accident could not happen here. Do not believe it!

We have the makings of another Chernobyl on our doorsteps – at Sellafield, Wylfa, Sizewell, Hinkley or Faslane, anywhere in the world is in our neighbourhood when a nuclear installation explodes or leaks.

### What can you do ?

- Help us to ensure that it does not happen again, anywhere in the world.
- Campaign against nuclear power and weapons at every opportunity.
- Help us take an ambulance to give to the Belarussians in September. We need a Ford Transit diesel ambulance, minibus or van £1,000 to take it 3,000 miles to Belarus and money/free labour and parts to bring it up to first class condition.
- See the Chernobyl Children's Project Video "Black Wind White Land" and show it to anyone who will watch (available on loan from Jill Stallard).
- Talk about the facts of the accident with your friends. We must be the voice for the parents and children of Chernobyl – the nuclear industry would rather you didn't know the truth about the effects of radiation and the real risks of nuclear technology.



### The Chernobyl Children's Project

The Project was originally set up by Irish CND to give humanitarian aid to the Chernobyl affected areas of Belarus, to take children to Ireland for respite holidays, and to tell the truth about the effects of radiation and the dangers of nuclear power with the aim of ensuring that another accident does not happen again. The Project has already sent over £1,000,000 of aid from Ireland alone, and brought 500 children from Belarus for holidays in Ireland. Last December, four critically ill children from Belarus were treated in a Cork hospital.

The Project has invited CND Cymru to become involved, by taking an ambulance to a Minsk hospital in September, along with 4 other ambulances from Ireland. The ambulance will be going as a gift from the people of Wales, driven 3,000 miles by two members of CND Cymru. We are also collecting medical supplies.

### # STOP PRESS!

As we go to press, we have not been able to find an ambulance, van or minibus. Ireland has found 9 ambulances and a minibus. PLEASE try extra hard to think of who might donate one to us, or sell one for a very low price.

It is such a small gift, but could relieve suffering immediately, and we can raise public awareness to try and stop another Chernobyl happening again.

- Offers of help, donations and ideas – please contact Jill Stallard, "Nantgaredig", Cyngbordy, Llanyddyfri, Dyfed SA20 OLR (05505) 260.

Please make Cheques payable to "Chernobyl Children's Project"

CND Cymru works for international peace and disarmament and a world in which the vast resources now devoted to militarism are redirected to the real needs of the human community

# Chernobyl – the silent catastrophe

The world's worst nuclear accident happened on 26th April 1986 at the Chernobyl nuclear power station on the northern borders of the Ukraine and the Republic of Belarus. The people of Chernobyl were exposed to radiation 90 times greater than that from the Hiroshima bomb. The whole world received a dusting of radioactivity from Chernobyl, as we in Wales are only too aware. The People of the Republic of Belarus were exposed to 70% of the radioactive fallout.

## Lies, Secrecy and Manipulation

The disaster has been surrounded, as always in the case of nuclear power, by lies, cover-ups and misinformation. The International Atomic Agency seem to have been involved in the deception, and, despite Perestroika, President Gorbachev signed directives which added to the secrecy.

## The Economic Situation in Belarus

Since the accident, Belarus, once the bread basket of the Soviet union, is unable to sell its agricultural produce. Only 1% of land remains uncontaminated. It is a very poor country.

The medical system, along with the rest of the infrastructure of Belarus, is seriously under resourced. Even the most basic equipment and medicines are unavailable.

Children with thyroid cancer have their thyroid glands removed. They then live only 60 days as the thyroxine they require to live, which costs only 50 pence for 100 days supply, is not available. This is only one simple example of the plight of those suffering, their doctors and nursing staff.

UNESCO applied for £323 million in aid for the areas affected by Chernobyl in 1991, when the effects were even less fully appreciated. It received only £500,000.

## The Effects – The Diseases and the Children

- Children and babies in the womb are the most vulnerable to the effects of radiation. This is the same at Sellafield, Hiroshima, Hanford, Wylfa or Nevada.
- 90% of children in Belarus have been contaminated by radioactive fallout.
- There are birth deformities, thyroid, heart and vascular diseases, leukemias



■ *Minsk orphanage baby born with a deformed body*

- and cancers.
- 800,000 children already born are expected to contract cancer and leukemia. 170,000 children under 7 are likely to contract thyroid cancer – and these children were not even born in 1986!
- A breakdown of the body's immune system is a disease for which there is no cure. Common diseases are not responding to normal treatment.
- Fear has reduced pregnancies by 50%. Pregnant women often have spontaneous abortions or premature births.
- There is a general psychological depression amongst those contaminated and evacuated and there is a great strain on those caring for

them. Complex threads link the disaster – alcoholism, sexual abuse, adolescent problems and bullying, and there is widespread post traumatic stress disorder. All these tragedies directly affect the individual, the family and the community.

- The gene pool of all people and all living things, especially in Belarus, the Ukraine and Russia, has now been permanently damaged by the disaster. Radiation both increases the proportion of damaged people in the population and makes their survival more difficult. This will affect many future generations.

## Radioactive Contamination

- There are 2.2 million people in Belarus and over 2 million people in the Ukraine living in contaminated zones.
- 100,000 people near Chernobyl live in areas where levels of radioactivity are dangerous for human life.
- Only 1% of Belarus remains uncontaminated. 2,000 towns and 2,000 villages are uninhabitable forever. 200,000 people have become refugees in their own country. Rural people are now forced to live in towns where they feel they have no role.
- There is no access to uncontaminated food. There is a constant problem of recontamination through the food and water chain. Recontamination happens constantly by wind, rain, fires and through the water table.
- Over 1,000 square metres of holes in the concrete "sarcophagus" – the covering the damaged reactor at Chernobyl, leak radioactivity on a daily basis. It is only a matter of time before it collapses.

■ *The cover photo shows a Minsk orphanage child with congenital damage. Both the children in the photographs are dead.*

# The Non-Proliferation Treaty

## Introduction

The nuclear non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) has been in force for 25 years and is currently signed by 170 countries. This year the signatories have to decide whether to extend the Treaty "indefinitely" or "for an additional fixed period or periods." The decision will be made at a conference in New York from April 17 – May 12.

## Historical Background

The need to halt the spread of nuclear weapons was recognised from the start of the nuclear age – as early as November 1945 the US, Britain and Canada proposed a UN Commission to "entirely eliminate the use of atomic energy for destructive purposes." This attempt, and others, failed as first USSR (1949) then Britain (1952), France (1960), and China (1962) became nuclear weapons states.

The danger of nuclear weapons was still understood however – in particular the desire was to prevent states such as Germany and Japan from developing the bomb. A 1961 Irish resolution on the issue was accepted unanimously by the UN General Assembly and this formed the basis for the NPT.

The Treaty was signed in July 1968 by the US, Britain and USSR as nuclear weapons states (NWS) and by 59 other non nuclear weapons states (NNWS). It came into force with the deposit of the US ratification on March 5th 1970. Today, with 170 signatories, it is the largest arms control treaty.

## What the Treaty Says

Articles I and II oblige the NWS and NNWS who are party to the Treaty not to transfer or accept nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices nor assist in their manufacture.

Article III obliges each NNWS to accept International Atomic Energy Authority (IAEA) safeguards over their peaceful nuclear energy programmes.

Article IV allows the "inalienable right" of all parties to develop and use peaceful nuclear energy "without discrimination."

Article V allows for the benefits of "peaceful nuclear explosions" (!) to be made available to the NNWS.

Article VI calls on the NWS to "pursue negotiations in good faith" towards ending the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament.

## Flaws In the Treaty

The NPT has had some successes in controlling the rate of proliferation of nuclear weapons, but it is also seriously

flawed:

- The Treaty encourages the spread of nuclear technology whilst at the same time purporting to stop that technology being used to support weapons programmes.
- The Treaty is discriminatory, allowing the NWS to produce fissile material for military purposes without inspection, whilst all the nuclear facilities of the NNWS must be subject to "full-scope safeguards."
- The safeguards regime is overstretched, having to cover some 900 facilities in over 60 countries. The IAEA budget has been frozen for many years and inspection schedules are often missed.
- The Treaty does not define a nuclear weapon, and there is no mechanism for determining whether party states are researching, designing, developing, fabricating or even testing components for nuclear weapons.
- Furthermore, states are allowed to accumulate weapons usable material such as plutonium. A state could produce the components, withdraw from the Treaty at 3 months notice and then assemble nuclear weapons, all legally.
- Whilst the 5 acknowledged NWS have now signed the Treaty (France and China finally joining in 1992), other states with considerable nuclear capability remain outside. Most notably the three de facto nuclear powers – Israel, India and Pakistan – have not signed it.
- It should also be noted that many NNWS are vociferous in their support of Article VI and their "inalienable right" to develop nuclear energy, despite the fact that such energy programmes are often inappropriate for most developing countries.

Despite these flaws it is undoubtedly true that should the Treaty collapse at the April review, the situation regarding proliferation would seriously deteriorate.

## Contention

The main area of contention between the NWS and NNWS is the feeling of the latter, particularly from the developing world, that the NWS have not lived up to their obligations under Article VI, to end the nuclear arms race and eliminate nuclear weapons. True, the US and Russia have concluded important nuclear disarmament negotiations recently, but China, France and Britain, with Trident, are all expanding their nuclear arsenals and have never been involved in any nuclear disarmament negotiations. The NNWS are therefore calling for more convincing evidence that the NWS are serious about nuclear disarmament in the form of a

Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and a prohibition on the production of fissile materials for military purposes. The Arab States, led by Egypt are also calling for the US to put pressure on Israel to sign the NPT.

## 1995 Review

At the April conference the NWS, including Britain, are pushing for an indefinite extension of the Treaty thus perpetuating the nuclear status-quo. The European Union and Japan also support this position. Most NNWS from the developing world favour extension for a limited fixed period in the hope that this will put further pressure on the NWS for nuclear disarmament. Currently each side has around 60-65 supporters, with the remaining states still undecided. Although a decision could be taken on a simple majority, the Treaty is seen as consensual and general agreement as to the outcome is desirable.

## CND Cymru's View

CND Cymru believes the NPT should be extended for a limited period only (maximum 10 years) whilst a treaty on general and complete nuclear disarmament is negotiated. In the meantime the non-proliferation regime should be strengthened by:-

- Negotiation of a CTBT at the earliest possible date.
- A strengthened safeguards regime, extending to all nuclear sites in all countries.
- Cessation of the production of fissile materials, both civil and military.
- A global inventory and international storage of fissile materials.
- Exclusion from the role of the IAEA of support for the spread of nuclear technology.

## What Can I Do?

Included in this issue of Heddwch is a copy of CND's "Petition for A Nuclear Free World" Please collect as many signatures as you can and return to CND by April 7.



## Help Needed at the Urdd Eisteddfod

**B**ro'r Preseli is the location for this year's Urdd Eisteddfod, from 29th May until 3rd June. CND Cymru will have it's usual stall there, both to campaign and to raise money through CND Cymru Trading, and the more helpers we have, the more we can spread the word! If you're Welsh speaking and can help for half a day or so, please contact Jan Henderson on 01792 830330.

Jan and Brian are also looking for somewhere within 10 miles of the site where they can stay for a week. Camping space would be good, indoor floor space lovely, and beds absolute luxury!

- If you live in the area and can offer accommodation, please contact Jan or Brian on 01792 830330.

## The Labour Party and the Bomb

**I**n January CND Cymru and Peter Hain MP wrote to all Constituency Labour Party Secretaries asking them to support CND in our work for a nuclear free world.

We hope that the Labour Party will call for a limited renewal of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, since an indefinite renewal will simply prolong the present unsatisfactory situation.

We hope they will inform Robin Cook, as coordinator of the Labour Party Policy Forum, of their support.

The Welsh Anti Nuclear Alliance have written to the same Secretaries to try to ensure that Labour re-affirms its anti-nuclear power stance.

### #ACTION:

If you are a Labour Party member, please could ensure that CND Cymru's letter has received attention in your constituency.

## THE 20th Century Janus, or How-to-look-two-ways-at once-and- hope-that-nobody-notices

*Lib Rowland Hughes*

There was a time when Nuclear Waste  
Was not to Mr Wakenham's taste,  
But being Maggie's Right Hand Lad,  
He thought it might look rather bad  
To make a really stirring fuss  
If he was to stay "ONE OF US".  
So to a friend he did apply  
In a Constituency nearby,  
To say to NIREX: "GO AWAY!  
AND FIND ANOTHER PLACE TO PLAY!"

Now Sizewell's open, I've a hunch  
Lord Wakenham is as pleased as PUNCH!

'Twill be producing lots more waste....  
Will this be to Lord Wakenham's taste?  
... And are there claypits Maldon way?  
If so, what will Lord Wakenham say?

Some minds can work from "A" to "B"  
But can't go on from "B" to "C",  
And certainly not "C" to "D"....  
AND THAT'S THE LESSON OF SIZEWELL B.

## Glastonbury Festival 1995

**Y**es, once again it's time to think of Glastonbury Festival, when an encampment the size of Bangor is created to enjoy a feast of entertainment in aid of Oxfam, Greenpeace and various other "good causes", including the peace movement here in Wales. CND Cymru volunteers will be helping staff the property lock-ups, enabling people to enjoy their days without worrying about their gear. The work is hard but enjoyable, the volunteers get their ticket price refunded (tickets this year are likely to cost more than £60) and CND Cymru gets a sizeable donation! This year's festival is the weekend of 23rd, 24th and 25th June, but you will need to be available to work for some time during the week beforehand as well.

- If you're interested in both enjoying the festival and helping make it work, please write to Brian Jones, 72 Heol Guyn, Yr Alltwen, Pontardawe, SA8 3AN

## CONTACTS CND CYMRU



THE PEACE SHOP  
56 MACKINTOSH PLACE, ROATH,

### GENERAL SECRETARY

**Jill Stallard.** Nantgaredig,  
Cyngordy, Llanymddyfri,  
Dyfed SA20 OLR (015505) 260

**More Information, Ideas or offers of help? Please get in touch with your nearest CND Cymru Vice-Chair:**

### NORTH WALES

**Dave Andrews** (01978) 310491

### SOUTH WALES

**Ray Davies** (01222) 889514

### MID WALES

**Olwen Davies** (01970) 611994  
**Ian Campbell** (01970) 871360  
**Rod Stallard** (015505) 260

### PEACE EDUCATION

**Mary Jones** (01792) 774687

### MEMBERSHIP

**Carol Handcock** (01633) 881741

### AFFILIATIONS

**Rhoda Jones** (01766) 762739

### TRADING

**Jan Henderson** (01792) 830330

### TREASURER

**Jean Bryant**  
16 Ty'n y Cymer Close,  
Y Porth, Rhondda CF39 9DF

## Heddwch

- The next issue of Heddwch Action News will appear in May 1995.
- Please send contributions to Mary Jones, 9 Idris Terrace, Swansea SA6 8LT. Tel: 0792 774687.
- Contributions on computer disc are welcome. Please contact Mary, or Mike Southern (01222 222782) for details.
- All help with editorial gratefully received.

### I want to join the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ I enclose a cheque/PO for £ \_\_\_\_\_

payable to CND Cymru. Couple £15; Adult £10; Unwaged, pensioners, youth £3.

Return to CND Cymru, Membership, 3 Millbrook Court, Magor, Gwent NP6 3JN

# CAMPAIGN UPDATES

## Trident – what do they think they're doing?

Blowing a raspberry at the world, HMS Vanguard, the first Trident submarine went "operational" in November. We now live in a country with a Trident nuclear weapons system. Not easily did CND, Faslane Peace Camp, Sea Action and Greenpeace let it happen. *The Independent* told us that only the coordinates of the targets would be given to the crew who would then insert them into the missile firing system – not even the commander would know at what he was firing. Blind mass killing – the more remote the easier. Vanguard has 16 nuclear missiles each the equivalent of 62 Hiroshima bombs.

### # ACTION:

• Copy the enclosed petition get it filled in by as many people as possible and return it. We need at least 100,000 signatures from Britain.

• Write to the Clerk of the Commons Foreign Affairs Select Committee, Christopher Ward, Committee Office, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA. Point out that Trident is a provocation and completely undermines Britain's commitments to disarm under Article VI of the current nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty and will provide the perfect excuse for those "threshold" states to press on with their weapons programmes. Request that the Clerk passes on your views to Committee members.

Well done to those of you who wrote excellent letters to the local press!

## Nuclear testing

China is probably to test another nuclear weapon in early and late 1995 to avoid the Hiroshima anniversary. The French Prime Minister has said that France might need (sic) to resume testing. The equivalent of one nuclear test a week has been carried out since the 2nd World War. The US is reported to be calling for a treaty to ban nuclear tests to be signed by September.

Aborigines have been given £6 million compensation for displacement by nuclear tests in the 1950s on top of the £50 million paid by the British in 1993 and the £50 million clean-up programme. What will they do with the radioactive sand and soil? Some areas at Maralinga will still be fenced off forever.

## THORP

As we go to press THORP is still not on stream! When Greenpeace took their High Court action last year, BNFL quoted



■ 1985 ...

## Llanishen

On January 20, it was announced that Llanishen AWE, where casings for Trident warheads are made in Cardiff, will close in 1997. Rhodri Morgan MP asked questions in Parliament on 31st January about the closure, and the decommissioning. It seems, by the reply he received from Roger Freeman MP, that the site itself is not regarded by the MOD to be contaminated, only the substances upon the site.

### # ACTION:

Especially if you live in Cardiff – please ask your councillor/MP/MEP about the safety of the site. The site is contaminated with depleted uranium and beryllium and other toxic chemicals which will leave a deadly legacy for Cardiff. For more information contact Jill Stallard.

■ ... 1995



losses of £2 million a day for each day they were not allowed to use THORP. It's getting fairly pricey! Two German nuclear power stations have decided not to renew their contracts with THORP for the second term of 10 years.

### # ACTION:

It is still not too late to close it down. Tell your MP, and/or Michael Heseltine President of the Board of Trade (address below), pointing out the dangers of transporting nuclear materials, the dangers to all living things inherent in processing any nuclear materials, and the threat to peace and non proliferation by increasing the amount of plutonium available. It is also a very expensive means of job creation.

## Atomic bombs at Pembrey?

The Wales on Sunday newspaper has revealed that Heather Sidrak, daughter of Harry Southall who worked at the Llanelli Royal Ordnance factory, claims that he confessed to her on his death bed that two atomic bombs are buried in a concrete lined "coffin" in the sand dunes at Pembrey, Dyfed. The MOD denies that nuclear bombs had ever been disposed of at Pembrey, or that the old Ordnance Factory had any nuclear connections. Some local people believe that Pembrey was a Welsh link with the Manhattan Project which culminated in the explosion of the world's first atomic bomb in 1945. Pembrey is now a local beauty spot and "Country Park".

# CAMPAIGN UPDATES

## Sizewell B PWR

On 31st January Sizewell B in Suffolk, was commissioned. It now poses another grave threat to our children, future generations and the environment. The commissioning went ahead despite the fact that there are still unknown faults in the computer software which will only be ascertained in the event of an emergency. Sizewell A represents 20,000 tons of nuclear waste. Since January 31st, there is now 40,000 tons of permanently contaminated radioactive waste in Suffolk. Nuclear Electric would like to double that by building another double PWR next door – Sizewell C. The local council has set up a consortium to oppose the building of Sizewell C.

### # ACTION:

Write and ask the following why Sizewell has been commissioned when there are known faults in the computer system, and when no-one knows what to do with the radioactive waste:

- 1. John Major, 10, Downing Street, London SW1A 2AA
- 2. Robert Hawley, Chief Executive, Nuclear Electric, Barnett Way, Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RS
- 3. DDBH Munns, Anglian Mngr, HMIP, Howard Hse, 40-64, St. John's St, Bedford MK42 0DL
- 4. John Gummer, Environment Minister, Dept. of E, 43, Marsham St, London SW1P 3PY
- 5. Michael Heseltine, President, Dept. Trade & Industry, Palace St., London SW1E 5HE.

## World Court project success

In December the United Nations General Assembly voted by 78 votes to 43 with 38 abstentions to ask the International Court of Justice to "render its advisory opinion" on the following question: "Is the threat or use of nuclear weapons in any circumstance permitted under international law?"

For the first time, the nuclear weapon states will have to convince the 15 World Court Judges, in public hearings, that nuclear deterrence takes precedence over the law – while arguing illegality for all but themselves.

The implications of a Court judgement outlawing nuclear weapon use and threat are far reaching. Such a judgement would force nuclear weapon states to drastically review their defence policies and the legal position of their armed forces.

### # ACTION:

- 1. Keep collecting those WCP

*Declarations. Send for more from WCP, 67 Summerbeath Road, Hailsham, Sussex BN27 3DR*

- 2. *Inform your MP of the vote and request their agreement that Britain abide by whatever the World Court decides.*
- 3. *Publicise the triumph in your local press.*

## Radioactive waste – at a landfill site near you

A NIREX estimate tells us that by the year 2030 nearly 1.5 billion cubic metres of low and intermediate level waste will have accumulated in Britain. The government has decided that it would be a good idea if "low level" nuclear waste could be disposed of in council land fill sites. At present, only one landfill site in Wales (Cilgwyn Quarry near Caernarfon) is named as a dumping ground for nuclear waste. The government, however, now considers that in future, any suitable local authority landfill site will do. On top of it all, there are now plans to deregulate landfill sites, change the definition of what is "low level" radioactive waste, and make it impossible for local councils to object.

Dumped depleted uranium was found on such a tip in Northants in January this year. Children from a US base nearby used the spot as "an adventure playground". During investigations it seems that the waste had some links with "Hunting" the firm who manage Llanishen and Aldermaston AWE. HMIP are paying for the clean up of the Northants site, they say that the waste "could cause breathing problems".

### # ACTION:

District Councillors are responsible for land fill sites. Please make them aware of these new plans to pollute the environment of their districts. CND Cymru can provide contacts and more information. Greenpeace, WANA and the Nuclear Free Zones Forum also have information on this issue.

## Radioactive waste at sea – half life on the ocean waves

30 shipments of high level nuclear waste is to be shipped between Cherbourg and Rokkasho-Mura Japan over the next 10-15 years. It is then to be stored "until its final disposal is arranged" (something of a mystery).

Many regions have voiced objections, including the Caribbean, Philippines and Micronesia, and politicians in Jersey and Guernsey are extremely concerned.

Jersey and Guernsey politicians are supported by MEPs and a coalition of

environmental and non-proliferation groups who have asked the EU transport commissioner Neil Kinnock to invoke Community Rules on transboundary movements of nuclear waste, to block the shipments.

Research by a US academic for Greenpeace, has also shown that the canisters containing the waste and the seals are of faulty design. Each waste shipment will contain many times the quantity of caesium and long lived radioactive poisons estimated to have been released from Chernobyl.

### # ACTION:

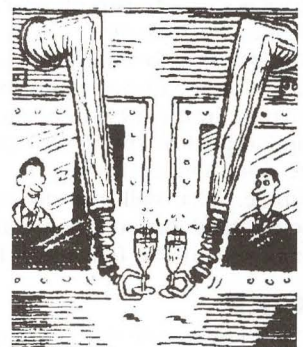
Write to your MEP, and to Commissioner Neil Kinnock, European Commission, Rue de la Loire 200, 1049, Bruxelles, Belgium

## Chechnya

On 24 December 1994, in a press statement released by CND Cymru, David Morris, our Chairperson, said: "If the Russian Government can afford to spend money and resources on weapons and armies to invade and put down a genuine move for freedom, it is quite clear that there are enough resources for the needs of the people. We must not allow British and European taxpayers to subsidise this war." It was also pointed out that initially, unarmed people halted the advance of tanks by non-violent means. We support those individuals in the Russian military who have refused to participate in these acts.

### # ACTION:

The International Peace Bureau has asked us to encourage our Government to put pressure on the Russian Authorities to give immediate access to international observers and humanitarian organisations to Chechnya; to withdraw its troops and planes from the area and to open negotiations without preconditions with the Chechen leadership. Please write to Douglas Hurd, Foreign Office, London SW1, let him know how you feel.



■ Sizewell B opening ...

# CAMPAIGN UPDATES

## Hanford East Washington USA – Nuclear Facility

8 years ago the US government admitted that Hanford had emitted large amounts of radioactivity into the local environment. What they will not admit is that the abnormally high incidence of genetic diseases, still births, cancers and leukemia, thyroid problems amongst those who lived “downwind” from the plant have been the result of this dosage of radioactivity. Many of those suffering now are between 35 and 45 years old. The “Hanford Downwinders’ Coalition” are a campaign group set up by sufferers and their families to get the US government to own up to its past sins. Dr. Richard Belsey, the Professor of pathology at Oregon Health Sciences University points out “We may be grossly underestimating the effect of low dose radiation exposure, the impact on the immune system and the long-time genetic, pathologic burden.”

### # ACTION:

*Cancer incidence is higher in Wales than England. This may be due to the higher rainfall bringing increased doses of radiation (especially Strontium 90) to the land. Read “The Sandman – Official Attitudes to Evidence of the Health Effects of Low Level Radiation in the Environment.” A Report by the Green Party Low Level Radiation Campaign (£1.00) – for more information contact Richard Bramball (0982) 552502.*

## Campaigning for nuclear non proliferation

On February 8th, a bus full of CND supporters from Swansea, Cardiff and Caerphilly drove to London to Lobby their MPs on Britain’s Role in stopping nuclear proliferation. The Lobby was organised by Christian CND who produced an excellent pack to accompany the event.

### # ACTION:

*These packs will be useful and interesting long after the MPs have settled back onto those big green benches. They are available from: CCND, St. Mary’s Church, Bramall Lane, Sheffield S2 4QZ. Tel/fax: 0114 273 9047.*

## Freedom of the Skies appeal

Representatives of the Innu tribe in Nitassinan want to come over in April to try to persuade our government to change its mind over an agreement with the Canadian government to continue to fly RAF jets at low level over their land. They have no funding – *Freedom of the Skies* is trying to raise £500 to help bring them over. All contributions to *Freedom of the Skies* c/o Gillian Metcalfe, Ty Yfory, Llanfair SA48 8JZ.



A Trident submarine had to return to its base “because it was raining” – a bit of a wet excuse. A new book “Radioactivity – a Cumbrian Tale in Five Emissions” by John Murray is available from Sunk Islands Press, PO Box 74, Lincoln LN1 1QG (£7.99). Dave the anti nuclear network tells us that the book is definitely worth buying. It takes place the year after Chernobyl, in a pub just down the road from Sellafield where they hold the annual world famous Biggest Liar in the World Competition.

At a Shut Sellafield! demonstration in November, 12 protesters who had leapt through a hole in the fence were rounded up and taken to the police station. They were not arrested, but warned by an irate policeman who shouted “Don’t you know that Sellafield is dangerous?”. The protesters pointed out politely that it was exactly the reason they were there. BNFL are unwilling to take protesters to court – to keep their operations secret and avoid publicity. Lord Wakenham – who opened Sizewell on January 31st (which apparently closed down again moments after being switched on), said on the television that Sizewell was “pretty safe”. . . not extremely, not absolutely, only “to a degree”.

Planning your Easter break? There are women’s Peace Camps at Menwith Hill, Aldermaston and Burghfield. The mixed Peace Camp at Faslane welcomes everyone at all times. CND Cymru has details.

Part of the Health and Safety Commission’s submission to the Radioactive Waste Management Review pointed out that “a revision of waste classification could reduce the need to store waste on power stations and thus lower the risks to workers”!

To prove just how very easy it would be to plant limpet mines on a BNFL ship, CORE (Cumbrians Opposed to a Radioactive Environment), slipped past the security guards at Ramsden Dock, Barrow-in-Furness one Sunday night in February. They plunged into the dock and placed industrial magnets onto the hull of a ship that carries radioactive material. Previously BNFL had announced: “All BNFL ships undergo a security check before departure”. It took BNFL divers two days to recover CORE’s magnets.

For the first time in many years BNFL are not advertising their fantasy/theme park/disney wonderland spectacle (visitors’ centre) in the Lake District Tourist Board Spring brochure. It’s closed. . . but don’t celebrate. The centre attracted 1 million candescent visitors last year (refugees from the Cumbrian rain). The centre is worn out and in need of a 7 million refurbishment (did someone mumble” public sector pay rises, leaking school roofs and Welsh hospital casualty departments?”. The new displays are based around the idea that the nuclear complex is like “a mother hen looking after tired and troublesome atoms. She’s a bit of a sheepdog too, making sure that none of her flock escape”. THORP is likened to a health farm” where atoms can relax before being put back to work with the help of the warm pond, Decanner and Nitrick”. The wicked atoms are sorted out by “Vic the Invisible with her coat of black glass. In no time at all the atoms are trapped never again (sic) to cause trouble”. It’s a very heavily subsidised method of farming.

## BOOK REVIEW: Unlawful Killing: The Murder of Hilda Murrell

by Judith Cook, Bloomsbury, £16.99

Ten years ago, Hilda Murrell was murdered. Anyone active in CND at that time will remember this much of the story.

A 79 year old rose grower, her body was found half naked, with superficial injuries, in a copse 6 miles from Shrewsbury. Passionately anti-nuclear, she was due to present evidence at the Sizewell public inquiry. Her nephew, Commander Robert Green, was a naval intelligence officer during the Falklands war. No one has ever been accused of Hilda Murrell's murder; the police said it was a burglary that went badly wrong, whilst many others pointed at the security services.

I remember reading newspaper reports at the time, and even a book written a year or two later, but with time it all recedes into the background. Thankfully a few dedicated individuals have pursued the mystery over the years, and this book gathers all that information together in a very readable form.

Unlike the very bland John Stalker "investigation" into the Hilda Murrell case shown on TV, the book is full of real investigative journalism, and the murderers are almost identified: you get the distinct impression that only fear of a court case prevented their actual names from being printed.

I would highly recommend everyone to read this book: it is expensive but you could always order it at your local library.

I'm sure you'll learn a lot and you won't be able to put it down.

Brian Jones. CND Cymru

## BOOK REVIEW: Beyond The Famished Road. New Policies for Common Security

Alan Simpson MP

I am sure that CND members will want to read this excellent booklet. It puts our work for nuclear disarmament in a framework of new, progressive and possible visions for common security. These visions are badly needed, filling the terrible gap left by the Labour Party leadership's marginalisation of disarmament issues. Alan Simpson is inspiring, rekindling my belief that CND's aims can be achieved in my lifetime, that we can be part of a strong labour movement which will create an alternative defence and foreign policy for Britain, diversify military installments to peaceful, productive ones and support progressive global policies for the good of all. As Tony Benn says in the introduction, "All of this is the most obvious common sense but in spelling it out Alan has consciously taken on the most powerful lobby in the world - a lobby with a vested interest in keeping things exactly as they are. The establishment will ignore or attack the ideas put forward here but most people will find them eminently sensible."

Anna-Zobra Tikly (British CND)

Available from CND Cymru Trading for £2.80 inc p&p.

# DIARY DATES

## SPRING 1995

Any Contributions for these listings from other sympathetic organisations working for peace and environmental justice, in Wales will be gladly included.

**March 8** International Women's Day As part of their focus on "Women & Militarism", The National Peace Council is encouraging women around Britain to send messages via fax and e-mail to women's groups around the world. The messages sent will be gathered together and presented to the UN World Conference in Beijing, September 1995. *The contacts are in an information pack available from the National Peace Council Phone: (0171) 354 5200 for details.*

**March 11** Llandrindod CND Annual Meeting. Friends' Meeting House, Llandrindod in the afternoon. The Chernobyl Video will be shown "Black Wind, White Land". *Details from Vera Jones: (01597) 824367*

**March 13** Fiftieth Anniversary of Pax Christi, the international Catholic peace movement. Happy Birthday Pax Christi! *More information from Wrexham Peace & Justice Centre (01978) 356969.*

**March 25 11.00am** Welsh Anti Nuclear Alliance Meeting. S. Glamorgan County Hall Atlantic Wharf, Cardiff. (Always an interesting and stimulating meeting). All campaigners welcome. *Phone Hugh Richards (0982) 570362.*

**March 31 7.15pm** Chernobyl Children's Project Public Meeting at South Glamorgan County Hall, Atlantic Wharf, Cardiff. Featuring the Irish video: "Black Wind, White Land - The Legacy of Chernobyl" and Cor Cochion. Everyone very welcome. *Details: Ray Davies (01222) 889514, or Sue Lent (01222) 493980.*

**March/April** Radioactive Waste in Landfill Sites - Campaigning meeting in North Wales. *For More information contact Hugh Richards (01982) 570362.*

**April 1 11.00am** CND Cymru Cyngor - Our bi-monthly meeting. Friends' Meeting House, Temple Street, Llandrindod. All members and delegates very welcome - in fact, the more the merrier! See you there. *For ideas of transport, lift sharing or just information, contact Jill Stallard.*

**April 17 - 22** Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Conference, New York

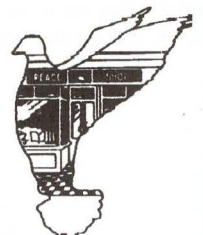
**April 28 - May 1** SHUT SELLAFIELD. From destruction to Hope to Action. Vigil, decorate, demonstrate - NVD action packed weekend at Sellafield, based at the Peace Camp. Come one come all, for one day or the whole weekend. *More info: (01706) 371387 or Dept 11, 1 Newton Street, Manchester M1 1HW*

**May 6th** Great Hall, Aberystwyth Arts Centre - Benefit Children's Concert for the Children of Chernobyl Project. *Contact Olwen Davies (see Contacts)*

**June** CND Cymru Annual Meeting in Llandrindod. *More info Jill Stallard.*

## Peace Shop

56 Mackintosh Place, Roath,  
Cardiff CF2 4RQ.  
Tel: 01222 489260



We have the largest stock in Wales of goods from -

Traidcraft, Amnesty International, Anti-Apartheid, Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth, CND, Earthcare, Unicef.

We also stock many books, magazines, hand-made jewellery and crafts, T-shirts and stickers.



# Petition for a Nuclear Weapon-Free World

We, the undersigned, demand the right to live in a world free from the threats posed by nuclear weapons.

We therefore call upon the British government to comply with its obligations under Article VI of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) \* by:

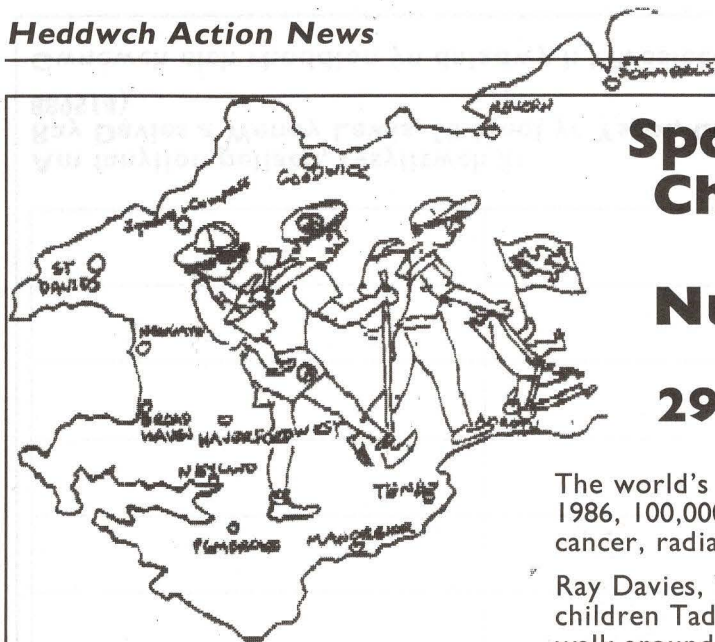
- cancelling the Trident nuclear weapons programme and
- seeking to have the NPT extended for 10 years during which time a Global Convention to Ban All Nuclear Weapons should be negotiated.

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**\* Article VI of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)**  
*"to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control."*

In January 1995, the first British Trident submarine is scheduled to enter service. At an estimated cost to the taxpayer of £33 billion, Trident will be capable of threatening six times as many targets as its predecessor.

Please return completed forms by April 7 1995 to the **Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, 162 Holloway Road, London N7 8DQ**



## Sponsored Walk for the Children of Chernobyl and for a Nuclear Free Irish Sea

**29th June - 9th July 1995**

The world's worst nuclear accident happened in Chernobyl in 1986, 100,000s of children are still suffering its devastating effects: cancer, radiation sickness and leukemia.

Ray Davies, Vice Chair of CND Cymru, his wife Wendy and children Tad and Newt will do a 100 mile sponsored pushchair walk around the Pembrokeshire Coast to raise funds for the Chernobyl Children's Project, and to highlight the danger posed by Sellafield Reprocessing Plant to the most radioactive sea in the world, the Irish Sea.

Please support this project to take ambulances and medical aid to the children of Chernobyl, and to bring them to Wales for a life giving holiday.

### Sponsorship Form

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For further details contact:  
 Ray Davies and Wendy Lewis, 58 School Street, Llanbradach, Mid Glam. CF8 3LE (01222 889514)  
 Please make donations payable to: "The Chernobyl Children's Project."