



International Conference in Leeds: A Huge Success

Around 200 people from 20 countries came to Leeds in May to the 'No Star Wars' Conference hosted by Yorkshire CND, to debate, learn and share ideas and thoughts on how we can Keep Space for Peace. Massive thanks to all those who supported the Conference in so many ways. The delegates took a coach trip to Menwith Hill and came back to join a city centre demonstration on Friday 4th May. On Saturday there was an intense day of speakers, stalls, workshops, discussions, film watching, networking and having some fun. The Sunday was filled with the packed out annual meeting of the Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space, and the annual meeting of Scientists for Global Responsibility.

The weekend was supported by a website so that those unable to get to Leeds could participate, and this is still going so you can get copies of the papers that were presented, see video clips or listen to the speeches that were made and see photos of the events.

www.peacevision.org.uk

The website content will also be available on a CD-Rom as part of the report of the Conference. please ask if you would like a copy.

"People were inspired, encouraged and supported to act in their own ways, own communities and own organisations with hope that we can stop the mad 'son of star wars'."



Alla Yaroshinskaya from Russia

What is going on at Menwith Hill?

In the European Parliament the issue of 'Echelon' has been investigated, establishing that the US and UK governments are working to illegally intercept communications using Echelon at Menwith Hill. There has been an interim report published and a delegation from the 'Temporary committee on the Echelon interception system' is investigating. The delegation are coming to Yorkshire on 29th June and the group plan to visit the base and will meet local people and press in Otley.

There have been an increasing number of question raised locally, some from Harrogate Council wanting to know more about plans for the base. There is due to be another public meeting organised by the Menwith Hill Forum, in October with investigative journalist Duncan Campbell as a speaker.

Yorkshire CND has printed a booklet, compiled by Dave Webb, about Menwith Hill. 'What goes on at Menwith Hill' costs £1.20 from Yorkshire CND.

In addition Bad Aibling, an NSA spy base in Germany, is going to close and the personnel are coming to Menwith Hill in 2002. Look out for this issue and the impact it will have on the base and the local area.



Prof. Karl Grossman from USA

stopping star wars

Note: Events are still subject to Foot and Mouth restrictions. Please telephone to check they are still happening.

✿ Ongoing

Menwith Hill - Tuesday evening vigils 7-9pm Contact CAAB 01943 466405
- Permanent Women's Peace Camp to be set up. Contact 01943 468593 for details.

Sheffield - peace vigil every Friday, Sheffield Town Hall Steps 4.30-5.30pm. Sheffield Peace Forum and Sheffield CND. Tel: 0114 296 7596

✿ The next test of the 'missile defence' system is likely to take place by the end of July. A dummy warhead will be launched from California and an interceptor from Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands. **CND** will protest outside the **US Embassy in Grosvenor Square, London** on the same evening as the test **and at 12noon on the Saturday following the test.** Tel: 020 7700 2393

✿ July 4th - Independence from America Day

The CAAB demonstration at Menwith Hill has been cancelled due to Foot and Mouth, but there will be a cavalcade of vehicles meeting at 10am by the Black Bull on A59. Contact CAAB 01943 466405. The cavalcade will circle round the base and then drive on over to Whitby to join Fylingdales Action Network (Tel Jackie 01947 896481) and read the Declaration of Independence. At Whitby the Fylingdales Action Network will have a stall with a model of Fylingdales in the town from 1pm, and then will have a beach picnic at around 6pm on the beach. Transport from Leeds at 9am Tel: Yorkshire CND 01274 730795

✿ **Bush is due to visit the UK July 19th**, just before the G8. He will probably just go to Chequers to meet Tony Blair. CND are organising a protest there. For full details contact CND 020 7700 2393. There is probably transport from Leeds, contact 01274 730795 as soon as possible if you want to go.

✿ **Walk for the world. July 16th - August 4th.** Dave Knight and Bruce Kent are going to 'Walk for the World' from Faslane to Fylingdales. Sponsor forms are available from Yorkshire CND and you can join and support them on Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th August in Whitby. On Friday 3rd August there will be a meeting and social to welcome them to Whitby and on Saturday they'll finish the walk to Fylingdales, but Foot and Mouth restrictions will probably mean that supporters will be taking part in activities in Whitby. If you can come there will be stalls, speakers and other activities, finishing about 4pm. Please call Yorkshire CND for more details and to check the events.

✿ **October 13th** - International Day of Action Against 'Missile Defense' organised by the Global Network. Last year 63 actions in 16 countries took place on the same day, and after the wide representation at the Conference in Leeds we hope that more people than ever across the world will join in.

Demonstrations are planned for Menwith Hill and Fylingdales and we hope that there will also be something in Sheffield to target Boeing's involvement there. (See page 3)

✿ Other activities you can try....

1. Write to your MP to encourage them to oppose the use of Yorkshire bases for 'star wars'. Please lobby your MP, you can make an appointment to see them at a local surgery. If you do not know who your MP is, then call the House of Commons Public Information line 020 7219 4272 or ask your council.
2. Organise a coffee morning/barbecue etc. and show Karl Grossman's excellent new video "Star Wars Returns". Copies available for loan, £5 from Yorkshire CND.
3. Set up a stall in your local town or village, or at a festival, over the summer. We can supply you with packs to help you.
4. Write to your local press describing your opposition to 'son of star wars'. Get information from Yorkshire CND.
5. Send an email to the White House against 'son of star wars' president@whitehouse.gov



Banners and people in Leeds. May 2001



Aurel singing in Leeds

Check the Yorkshire CND website for news, information and ideas of actions to take

www.yorkshirecnd.org.uk

Move for Nuclear Warhead Convoys

The huge green Foden lorries that take the nuclear warheads along the A1 through Yorkshire, to Scotland, have started stopping overnight at RAF Leeming, near Northallerton and using the A66.

Nukewatch, the network that tracks the convoy movements, really need people to help track the convoy though Yorkshire. The regional contact for Nukewatch is Yorkshire CND and when we are told that the convoy is heading for Yorkshire we telephone and ask the people to help track it's progress.

We particularly need people near RAF Leeming who could monitor the convoy going in at night and leaving the following morning.

If you can help, please tell us. The convoys only pass through Yorkshire every few months. This is a activity that needs people for a short time every few months, but is invaluable for campaigning and for everyone else in the network.

The A66 is a very dangerous road and we're alarmed that the warhead convoy has started using it.

In prison and in the election

Helen John and Anne Lee have both been in prison for cutting the fence erected to protect 'Star Wars' construction at Menwith Hill. The cost of the 'damage' was £960 - Helen was sentenced to 3 months and Anne to 2 months. The third defendant, Angie Zelter, has not been sentenced yet.

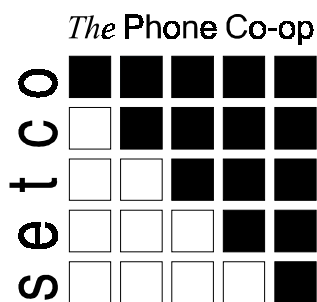
Just before going to prison, Helen John announced her decision to stand against Tony Blair in the General Election on a 'No Star Wars' ticket. She was denied materials to run her campaign from prison and denied permission to go to the count on June 7th, but other women canvassed on her behalf and on election night read out a statement from her that Tony Blair heard. A copy of her election statement is available from Womenwith Hill Women's Peace Camp, PO Box 105, Harrogate, HG3 2FE.

Helen John was released from prison only to be immediately arrested on a warrant from Scotland and is on remand at Cornton Vale prison, Scotland until end of July. (address: HMP Cornton Vale, Cornton Road, Stirling, FK9 5NY)

Sheffield University and Boeing Corporation plan to build a Research Centre near Sheffield Airport in Rotherham. Boeing Corporation is the biggest contractor in the US\$60 billion space weapons programme. Sheffield MP's and Sheffield Council welcome Boeing to the city, but no one in Sheffield has been asked if they want their city tied up with a US space weapons programme. Weapons In space will mean more war on earth. Is this what you want?

(text from Sheffield CND leaflet)

Support or join **Sheffield Against Boeing**
contact sheffieldcnd@hotmail.com



Lots of Yorkshire CND supporters already get *cheaper phone calls and help raise money for Yorkshire CND*. When you join the Phone Co-op Yorkshire CND will receive 6% of your call charges.

If your calls are over £25 a quarter and you would like to join this affinity scheme, contact Yorkshire CND for an application form.

You do not need to pay to join or change your phone company or phone number

Trident Ploughshares 2000 Camps

Faslane and Coulport, Scotland.

4th Annual Summer Disarmament Camp

27th July-11th August

More information and a briefing pack available.

Tel: 01324 880744 email: davidmc@enterprise.net

The Big Blockade

Monday October 22nd

Travel up on Sunday October 21st for an evening briefing in Glasgow, ready for the blockade at 7am on Monday morning. Minibus transport from Yorkshire.

You can borrow the 'big blockade video' from February's very successful blockade to inspire your friends to go! More details from Yorkshire CND or TP2000.

www.tridentploughshares.org

"Faslane is where UK's four Trident nuclear weapons submarines are based and Coulport is the armaments depot where Trident warheads are stored and loaded onto the subs. Recently the anti-Trident movement has begun to make an impact, especially in Scotland, and we need to intensify the pressure."

CND Annual Conference, London 15th-16th September.

There will be discussion, debate, stalls and information and topical workshops as well as voting for next year's Officer Team and Council members, and meeting many old and new friends.

Registration details and forms are available from: Tony Myers, CND, 162 Holloway Road, London, N7 8DQ.

The latest newsletter produced by the **Campaign for the Accountability of American**

Bases (CAAB) has been published. It is full of news of US bases in the UK, parliamentary questions and answers, and details of the many arrests, charges and court cases that Anni Rainbow and Lindis Percy are involved with.

In this issue there are court cases involving the use of the US flag in protests, arrests and charges under the byelaws and the distressing case when Lindis, a nonviolent and peaceful campaigner was charged and found guilty of an alleged 'assault' of a MoD police officer. Lindis is appealing this conviction.

To get a copy of the CAAB newsletter write to CAAB, 8 Park Row, Otley, LS21 1HQ

Huddersfield There will be a meeting to get a local network set up. It'll be held in August. Contact Anna Coombes (01484 515572) for details and to join in.

Defend Education not Defence in Education

The company that is going to run 'Bradford Education' is Serco. Serco are also involved in running AWE Aldermaston and 'operate and maintain' the radar at Fylingdales. They are a defence based company that have branched out into 'facilities management'. If you live in Bradford, or have more information, or want to follow up this issue please get in touch with Yorkshire CND.

Diary

Monday 2nd July Meeting in York, showing new 'Star Wars Revisited' video.

Wednesday 4th July Independence from America Day. See Page 2 for details of Yorkshire activities.

Saturday 7th July Quaker Meeting for Worship at Fylingdales 12noon-1pm Contact: John Beardmore 01482 327574

Saturday July 14th Yorkshire CND Co-ord meeting. Leeds Civic Hall 1pm-4pm

Wednesday 18th July. Sheffield CND meeting. Victoria Hall 7-9pm

Friday 20th July Sydney Solidarity Choir and other left choirs, Victoria Hall, Saltaire. 7.30pm. Benefit for Yorkshire CND Tickets £5 (£3.50 concessions)

July 16th - August 4th CND Walk for the World

July 27th - August 11th Trident Ploughshares Summer Disarmament Camp Contact: 01324 880744

Friday 3rd August Meeting and social in Whitby Contact: FAN 01947 896481

Saturday 4th August Walk for the world final day. Activities and protest in Whitby. (See page 2).

Saturday 4th August Quaker Meeting for worship at Menwith Hill 2-3pm Main Entrance. 01943 466405

August 6th Hiroshima Day

Wednesday 15th August. Sheffield CND meeting. Victoria Hall 7-9pm

Saturday 1st September Quaker meeting for worship at Fylingdales (see 7th July)

Saturday 8th September Yorkshire CND Co-ord meeting 1-4pm. Phone for the venue.

September 15-16th CND Annual Conference, London.

Saturday 13th October International Day of Action Against 'Star Wars'. Actions in Yorkshire at Menwith Hill, Fylingdales and Sheffield.

Saturday 20th October Day of Dance. Victoria Hall, Saltaire. 40 dance workshops from 9am.

October 20-22nd Trident Ploughshares Camp and Blockade. (See page 3)

Saturday 27th October Yorkshire CND Co-ord meeting. 1-4pm Phone for the venue.

November 16/17/18 Raise Your Banners. Festival of Political Song, Sheffield. More information from Raise Your Banners, PO Box 44, Sheffield, S4 7RN.

Yorkshire CND Co-ord meetings are open to all. At the meetings we look at forthcoming activities and plan what to do. Contact us in advance for agendas and papers.

You can get regular copies of Action for Peace by joining Yorkshire CND. Annual membership fees are £6 individual, £9 household, £3 unwaged, student, or pensioner. Cheques payable to 'Yorkshire CND'

Many thanks to all the volunteers who help us mailout Action for Peace, come to Co-ord meetings, monitor local press and volunteer in the office. We couldn't manage without you all!

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