

# INDIVIDUAL MEMBER'S NEWSLETTER August 1986



## What is CND Cymru?

C.N.D. in Wales is very much alive and kicking — and more important still, it is growing!

National status was achieved in 1983, although we remain an integrated part of British C.N.D.

C.N.D. Cymru has approximately 120 groups throughout Wales with over 130 affiliations (i.e. Trade Unions, Political Parties, Councils).

Our chief source of income is from individual membership, which at the moment is approximately 4,000.

We have an open and decentralised structure. Our Cyngor (Council) meets four times a year in Rhayader, Mid Wales, and is open to all groups and affiliates to send representations. They all receive minutes and agendas. The Cyngor is where our policy is discussed and more importantly plans made to implement it.

The Pwyllgor Gwaith (Executive) which meets every month has the responsibility for overseeing the day to day running of C.N.D. Cymru. The P.G. is made up of the following elected positions: Chair, four Vice-Chairs (one must be from North/South/Mid-Wales), Treasurer, plus certain appointed positions, i.e. General Secretary, Membership Secretary, Press

Officer, Trading, etc. (The General Secretary does not have a vote.) Also we have 5 representatives who sit on the British Council of C.N.D. (once again elected by Cyngor on a geographical basis) plus others co-opted on for specialist knowledge and specific roles (Civil Defence projects, etc.)

In operating a broad movement, we must constantly seek political, geographical and sex balance. The majority of officers of C.N.D. Cymru are women which reflects the activity of women in the Peace Movement in Wales. Similarly with the language: we are a bilingual organisation which means that the newsletter as well as leaflets, etc. are written in the two languages of Wales.

Above all we have the annual conference which can make policy, elect officers and map the future of C.N.D. Cymru.

Our primary resource is in our groups: if they are weak then we are weak, but as was shown during the Libyan affair the response in Wales was terrific, with groups responding in a multitude of ways, followed by the demonstrations in Bangor,

Aberystwyth and Cardiff.

Financially, our budget continues to expand growing from just over £13,000 in 1984 to over £20,000 today. As we don't have an office or paid officials the majority of our budget is spent on campaigning.

During 1986 individual membership has been rising steadily, but apart from Y.C.N.D. Cymru, where several new groups have recently been started, we are not seeing so many new C.N.D. groups this year. If you think you could get a small group going in your locality an official of C.N.D. Cymru would be more than happy to come and discuss this and give any help that you might ask for and perhaps you will be surprised by the local response — perhaps everyone is waiting for someone to take the initiative! Also, if you are a member of a peace group, trades union, chapel, church, political party or any other community group, why not suggest that it affiliates to C.N.D. Cymru for £10?

All information on these matters available from Bob Cole (General Secretary), Bryn Ellyd, Tanygrisiau, Blaenau Ffestiniog, Gwynedd (0766 831833).



## Autumn Campaigning

A general election next summer? It seems exceedingly likely. Remember the last one? The 'Nuclear Election', where the voice of C.N.D. was hardly heard at all. Remember the depression that followed? We must plan now for next year, and do our groundwork thoroughly in the press, media and with the public. Now is the time for lobbying M.P.s and prospective candidates, not during the six weeks before the election, and all members of C.N.D. have a rôle to play here, particularly in marginal constituencies. After the events of the past few months the tide is running in our favour; we must keep up the pressure.

Demonstrations and protests at all nuclear sites will continue through the autumn and winter, but to reach a new audience of people who need to be

convinced of C.N.D.'s case the Public Information Campaign will support and explain the protests, by putting the arguments over in as many different ways as possible. We must continue to challenge the belief that the world is safer with nuclear weapons. We need to bring this new audience over to our side if we are to reverse the arms race.

One of the frequently heard myths about Britain's nuclear weapons is that without them we would be defenceless, and that we need them in the last resort to defend our independence and freedom. The potential for a real reduction in world tension when Britain renounces nuclear weaponry is rarely discussed; and the lead that Britain could give by adopting a foreign policy that isn't based on the threat of mass genocide and environmental destruction has not been fully explored. Britain's nuclear policy is killing people now; vast amounts of money are being wasted and fear of accidents and international crises is reducing our quality of life.

In short, Britain is now part of the problem, and we could be part of the solution. During the autumn, C.N.D. Cymru will be showing its opposition to "the British Bomb" in a multi-media Public Information Campaign which includes a national demonstration at Llanishen Bomb Factory in Cardiff and ending by marking the routes and bases, spotlighting the locations where nuclear weapons are transported and manufactured. Professionally designed materials produced to high standards will be widely distributed to carry our message. Local C.N.D. groups in towns and villages throughout Wales will be leafletting, canvassing, protesting, lobbying and raising money for advertising and publicity. For this they need the help of every supporter in their area — please get in touch with your local group (or C.N.D. Cymru at the address below) if you can offer anything, however small.

Bob Cole, Bryn Ellyd, Tanygrisiau, Blaenau Ffestiniog, Gwynedd (0766 831833), or Morgan Parry (0286 870892).

## Autumn Dates for your Diary

SEPTEMBER 13th	Anti-nuclear Power Demonstration in Cardiff (organised by S.W.A.N.A. and supported by C.N.D. Cymru)
SEPTEMBER 27th	Cyngor C.N.D. Cymru, 11 a.m. at Bryn Afon, Rhayader, Powys.
OCTOBER 4th	All Wales Demonstration at Llanishen (see article). Launch of public information campaign on British bomb. Next Snowball at Brawdy
OCTOBER 25th	Capenhurst Demonstration and Snowball. Connah's Quay:
NOVEMBER 1st	11 a.m. Rally at Capenhurst: 1.30 p.m. Contact: Vic Button, Deeside 819088



# DON'T SIT ON THE FENCE — CUT IT!

The SNOWBALL CAMPAIGN, which is a peaceful direct action protest, continues to grow in Wales. Originally aimed at U.S. military bases it is now spreading to other military establishments. Brawdy, in Dyfed, Capenhurst, just across the border in Cheshire, have been the two targets, but these will be joined in November by Caerwent, in Gwent.

The Government is being asked to accede to ONE of 3 reasonable requests. What are they?

1. That Britain starts voting in the United Nations in favour of multi-lateral nuclear disarmament proposals, regardless of how the United States votes.

2. That Britain publicly calls for a comprehensive test-ban treaty.

3. That Britain takes some independent (unilateral) step towards a freeze, or reduction in armaments by abandoning Trident, returning Cruise, OR publicly rejecting the forthcoming U.S.A. chemical weapons storage.

On September 22nd, 1985 three people cut a single strand of wire at U.S. Naval Facility at Brawdy, the 'reasonable requests' were handed in to the police and letters written to the Prime Minister and other ministers. There was no positive response. The action resulted in one "cutter" going to Swansea Jail for 14 days and one having an 'attachment of earnings' order.

On January 18th, 1986 it SNOWBALLED — a group of 9 attempting to cut the Brawdy fence. On the same day a group of 3 peace protesters started a SNOWBALL at the Uranium Enrichment Plant at Capenhurst in Cheshire.

Since the first SNOWBALL at Brawdy, which was dealt with by civil police at Haverfordwest, the M.O.D. Police have moved in to the U.S. Naval Facility.

On April 5th, the third leg of the Brawdy SNOWBALL, with 27 "cutters" and their supporters came together on Newgale beach. They drove the short distance to Brawdy U.S. Naval Facility and cut a single strand of wire from the perimeter fence.

The "cutters" included C.N.D. Cymru's chairperson, general secretary and two vice-chairs. They were all duly arrested and taken inside the gates to wait on the steps of an M.O.D. hut for processing. This took about three hours. The impression of the day was that "they" were playing it very low key — all the 27 arrested that day have since been charged. They have been appearing in Haverfordwest Magistrates Court during July and early August. Most have been found guilty and fined £40. However, due to the failure of the prosecution to provide witnesses, four "cutters", including the chair of C.N.D. Cymru, had their cases dismissed.

The July 12th cut resulted in 50 being arrested and among them was Dave Morris, Euro-M.P. for West Wales.

By November the SNOWBALL will have snowballed even further, more will be attempting to cut the fences at Brawdy, Capenhurst and Caerwent.

If you feel like joining us contact: Bruce Watkins, Bwyth y Nant, Trap, Llandeilo; or Bob Cole, 0766 831356.

If you can't cut but agree with us, why not send us a donation or support us with your presence on the day?

## October 4th Wales against Trident — C.N.D. Cymru National Demonstration

### The British Bomb — Made in Wales

Cardiff is a vital link in Britain's Nuclear Chain and on October 4th attention will focus on Wales' very own Bomb Factory at R.O.F. Llanishen. Work on nuclear warheads has been carried out on this site since 1963. Previously involved in the 'secret' Chevaline programme the factory is now manufacturing components for Trident.

October 4th has been specifically chosen as the launch for the second public information campaign in Wales.

#### PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE FOR THE DAY

11.00 a.m.	Assemble at R.O.F. Llanishen
12.00 NOON	March leaves R.O.F.
1.00 APPROX.	March proceeds through North Cardiff to second assembly point at South Glamorgan County Headquarters, Newport Road.
1.30 APPROX.	'Die-in' Queen Street
2.00 - 5.00 p.m.	Rally/Festival in Sophia Gardens.

We must make Nuclear Free Wales a reality. Wherever you are in Wales come and 'die' in Cardiff on October 4th.

P.S. Don't be left out. Send your ideas for a successful day to: 4/10 Working Group, 56 Mackintosh Place, Cardiff.

Short of ideas? Send your money instead — same address!

## Nuclear Power is Nuclear Weapons — the deadly connection

It is beyond doubt that the civil nuclear power programme and military nuclear weapons programme are a joint venture. The U.K., U.S. and Canada co-operated during World War II on the Manhattan Project to develop the atom bomb. After the war the U.K. decided to build its own nuclear weapons and built a nuclear-fuel fabrication plant at Springfields near Preston, a Uranium Enrichment Plant at Capenhurst and a reprocessing plant at Windscale, Cumbria. With the development of a long-range nuclear bomber force the requirement for plutonium grew and the government agreed to build 8 Magnox reactors. Four were opened at Calder Hall at Windscale in 1956 and four at Chapelcross in Dumfries in 1959. In 1955 four more Magnox stations were planned, but with a new feature, — they could be refuelled while still running, a process which makes plutonium production much easier. Calder Hall and Chapelcross, having passed their first 2 or 3 years, when plutonium production is at its optimum, went over to electricity production, but are still used for weapons grade plutonium when the defence system requires it. Indeed, Chapelcross is the U.K.'s only indigenous source of tritium — a vital ingredient of H-bombs.

The U.S. and U.K. have co-operated since the 1950s under various official agreements, such as "The Agreement for

the Cooperation on the Uses of Plutonium for Mutual Defence Purposes". We send plutonium to the U.S. from Chapelcross, Calder Hall and very likely from Electricity Board reactors as well. In return, the U.S. allows us to test nuclear weapons in Nevada and sends highly enriched uranium and tritium to the U.K. for use in submarines and warheads.

The C.E.G.B. and Government sources, by denying the bond between the civil and military programmes are hoodwinking the public. One needs to look no further than Lord Hinton, the former C.E.G.B. chairman, who was known as the 'father of nuclear energy'. He referred (in a taped interview) to the C.E.G.B.'s claim that no power station plutonium had gone into the weapons' programme, as "bloody lies".

"I am absolutely certain that the C.E.G.B. statement is incorrect... I don't know whether they should get permission for a P.W.R. at Sizewell or not, but what is important is that they shouldn't tell bloody lies in their evidence." — Lord Hinton, 1983

This surely finally blows the whistle on the civil/military programme linkage. It exposes the dictum "Atoms for Peace", which was used by Eisenhower in 1953 and by the nuclear industry ever since, as one of the most cynical public lies of all time.