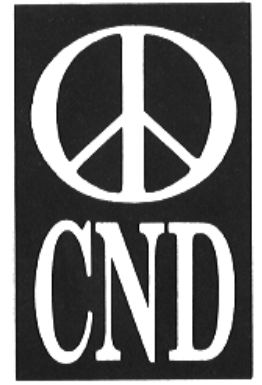


Merseyside CND Newsletter



Oct, Nov, Dec 2015

151 Dale St. Liverpool L2 2AH 0151 229 5282 mcmd@care4free.net www.mcmd.org.uk



"I would no more teach children military training than teach them arson, robbery or assassination"

Eugene Victor Debs - five times the candidate of the Socialist Party of America for President of the United States 1855-1926

CND congratulates new Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament congratulates Jeremy on being elected the new Labour leader. Corbyn is vice-chair of CND and made scrapping Trident a central part of his leadership bid.

Kate Hudson, CND general secretary, said:

"This is an historic moment; a turning point for all those working towards a fairer and more peaceful world. Jeremy's flagship policies include scrapping Trident and opposing austerity. His success proves that these policies are popular, and have now entered mainstream politics".

"Labour was obliterated in the General Election by an anti-Trident party in Scotland, and polls indicate a majority of the UK population firmly oppose Trident. We are delighted that a Labour leader will now stand up and represent that majority".

Remembrance Day

10.45 for 11.0am Wednesday 11th November

St. John's Garden in the peace Garden area behind St. George's Hall, Liverpool

There will be the usual wreath laying, poetry, speeches and music.

Following the event you are welcome to join us for coffee and tea in the CND office at 151, Dale St.

White poppies (50p) available from the office or from News from Nowhere, Bold St

John Hamilton Lecture

7.30pm 9th October
Friends' Meeting House, School Lane



This year's John Hamilton lecture will be delivered by **Joanna Bourke**. Currently Professor of History at Birbeck, University of London, she is a prolific writer and thinker on military and feminist issues. Her lecture at FMH will be based around militarism and education.

Booking is via Eventbrite - those of you who have attended before will know that there will be a delicious (though fairly light) meal before the talk giving a chance to talk, share concerns, successes, hopes etc. So numbers for catering are needed - maximum is about 120 and the room is usually pretty full so please do book. <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/militarism-in-schools-joanna-bourke-tickets-18288785249?aff=es2> or phone Lisa Hoyle on 709 6957 option 3 Lisa.

Keep Space for Peace Week

October 3-10, 2015
International Week of Protest to
Stop the Militarization of Space

Following the leafleting of the U.K. Space Conference at BT Convention Centre, Liverpool in July we'll be holding a further stall and leafleting session as part of the 'Keep Space for Peace' week:

Wednesday 7th October
12-2pm - University Square by
Liverpool University, Brownlow Hill

Scrap Trident

Tory Party Conference, Manchester
Sunday Oct 4th

Meet at All Saints Park at 11.30 am

The Trade Union Congress has called a National Demonstration to mark the opening of the Conservative Party Conference on the 4th October in Manchester. Greater Manchester & District CND is organising a 'Scrap Trident' bloc on the day. Please invite as many people as possible to join us in saying 'Scrap Trident, No to Replacement!' If you can volunteer for CND on the day, please email gmdcnd@gm.apc.org NB Merseyside CND are not running transport but may be able to put you in touch with other members going. Contact our Office: 0151 229 5282 mcmd@care4free.net

Drone Against Drones

Stall and leafletting
12-2pm Thursday 15th Oct
University Square, in Liverpool University



As the use of military drones increases, killing countless civilians, the Drone Campaign Network has called for a week of action running from 3rd to 10th October. Pax Christi will hold a stall at the University of Liverpool which continues to be involved in drone research and development. All welcome
Contact: Jan: 0151 263 5623

Former Tory Energy Minister calls for Hinkley C to be abandoned

The Stop Hinkley Campaign has welcomed a speech by the former Conservative Secretary of State for Energy (1979-81), Lord Howell of Guildford, who in July described the proposed Hinkley Point C nuclear power station as **"by far the biggest future burden on consumers and households"**.

Although he is "very pro-nuclear" Lord Howell said he "would shed no tears at all if the elephantine Hinkley C Project was abandoned".

His remarks come just one day after the current Secretary of State for Energy, Amber Rudd, said there is a "very good prospect" of a decision to build Britain's first new nuclear plant finally being taken later this year. Ms Rudd told MPs on the Energy and Climate Change Committee

that Hinkley "...is going to be the first new nuclear plant in over 20 years so it is essential to me that we succeed in it".

The Government announced moves to curb subsidies to small-scale solar farms in July. This follows similar moves to cut subsidies for onshore wind announced in June, and an end to subsidies for larger solar farms announced in May last year.

Rudd's motivation is that she wants to prevent an overspend of the government's clean energy support budget, known as the Levy Control Framework (LCF), which is designed to limit the impact of subsidies on household energy bills. Solar at all scales is expected to add only around £10 to consumers' bills this year. Yet the Treasury is offering

subsidies - paid for by consumers - of up to £17.6bn to EDF Energy over 35 years.

Stop Hinkley spokesperson Roy Pumfrey said:

"The Minister appears to be delusional in thinking that Hinkley Point C will get built any time soon; deceitful by pretending that she is helping UK consumers and disingenuous for saying that Hinkley C is a good deal. The list of problems which EDF needs to overcome gets longer every week. Cutting subsidies to sustainable energy, whilst carrying on regardless with a scheme unlikely ever to come to fruition, is just plain daft. Lord Howell reminded us that no reactor of the Hinkley C variety has ever been completed successfully and those that are being built are years behind."

'Don't Nuke the Climate'

campaign update!

At this moment more than 340 organisations have signed. Together we represent millions of people, saying that nuclear power is a false solution.

In this newsletter we'd like to tell you something about the sponsors behind the climate negotiations and ask you to join us in taking action!

Who sponsors the climate negotiations?

The COP 21 is sponsored by a wide

range of companies. But did you know that among these sponsors you can also find EDF, world's biggest electricity generator? And did you know that EDF runs many nuclear and coal plants all over the world and all French nuclear power plants?

EDF is shamelessly using the context of these negotiations to promote its nuclear electricity as climate-friendly and carbon-free, which we all know not to be true.

Even a French panel on advertisement ethics declared in June of this year that this argument is misleading: the nuclear industry does emit greenhouse gas, particularly during uranium mining!

Nuclear power manifests a wide range of human rights violations, from the rights to life and health, to disproportionate impacts on indigenous peoples, women, children, and future generations.

No matter what else EDF claims. We cannot sit by and do nothing while the nuclear industry is lobbying for their dangerous and polluting technology to be seen as a climate-friendly option. This would obstruct real progress in protecting the climate.

National Security Strategy 2015

The current Conservative government is now working on the 2015 National Security Strategy (NSS) and Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR) and they want your input. MCND encourages you to remind the government that nuclear weapons do not keep us safe and that in fact, the opposite is true. We need to tell them that: Nuclear weapons don't meet our security needs. Money should be spent

on addressing significant threats, such as terrorism and cyber warfare. 1/3 of the MoD's procurement budget shouldn't be spent on a useless weapon when other government departments face severe budget cuts.

Possessing nuclear weapons means we live with the possibility of detonation, accidental or otherwise, risking the lives of millions.

Our insistence on possession increases the danger of proliferation as well as escalating international disputes. Ending our nuclear weapons possession will contribute to our security by:
Deterring nuclear proliferation and

de-escalating current global and regional tensions;
Releasing billions of pounds to meet public spending priorities, including meeting new security threats;
Strengthening the international disarmament and non-proliferation regime.

Please go to <https://surveys.mod.uk/index.php/424914?lang=en> to take part in the review.

The deadline for submissions is 23rd October

Arab Bid to Monitor Israel's Nuclear Sites Rejected at UN Atomic Agency

In a big win for Israel, 61 countries voted against a resolution led by Egypt, which also called on Israel to sign the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The International Atomic Energy Agency's General Conference on Thursday voted down a resolution proposed by the Arab nations, headed by Egypt, which called for international supervision over Israel's nuclear facilities.

61 member countries opposed the proposed resolution, 43 voted for it and 33 abstained.

The vote's results were a great victory for Israel, which ran an international campaign over the last two months against the resolution and a defeat for Egypt, which once again failed to advance an international maneuver against Israel's nuclear program.

Among those voting against the resolution were the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, all European Union members, Ukraine, Moldova, Albania, as well as south American countries such as Uruguay and Panama. Kenya and other countries in Africa and the Pacific also opposed the resolution. Many others abstained, including Brazil and India. Russia, China, Turkey and South Africa joined the Arab countries in backing the resolution. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that in recent weeks there has been a joint effort led by the National Security Council at the Prime Minister's Office, the Foreign Ministry and the Atomic Energy Commission to thwart the resolution.

"I personally talked with more than 30 presidents, prime ministers and foreign ministers," Netanyahu said. "In our conversations I explained that there's no place for a discussion of this sort while the main problem in the Middle East remains Iran's attempts to obtain nuclear weapons and its clear declarations of its intent to destroy the State of Israel."

Netanyahu noted that the gap in Israel's favor has been significantly larger compared with similar votes in recent years, and thanked the countries that voted against the resolution, noting in particular the U.S., Australia and Canada, as well as the EU states, which opposed the resolution as a bloc.

Israel's envoy to the IAEA, Merav Zafary-Odiz, said that Israel congratulates the results which make it clear the world has rejected the attempt to deflect the IAEA general conference from the main issues it should deal with.

The vote sends a message to the resolution's authors that security in the region can only be achieved through direct dialogue between all the countries in the Middle East, she said, adding that Israel is willing to engage in such talks with its Arab neighbors.

The Qatari envoy, whose country heads the Arab group at the IAEA, presented the resolution proposal titled "Israel's nuclear capabilities," calling on Israel to join the Non-Proliferation Treaty and to place its nuclear facilities under UN supervision. He noted that these facilities are the only ones in the Middle East not under international supervision, and thus pose a danger. The Iranian envoy said that Israel's nuclear capabilities, which he claimed include atomic weapons, were always a cause for concern in the region. "This regime is continuing to advance and develop its nuclear program contrary to all international norms", he said, adding that Iran was "worried about the negative ramifications" Israel's nuclear program has on the security of the region. The Iranian envoy also noted that while nuclear scientists from Israel were given access to nuclear sites in countries that possess nuclear arms, Iranian scientists were assassinated.

Envoy David Danieli of the Israel Atomic Energy Commission presented Israel's stance at the meeting. He criticised the proposal, saying that a similar one was rejected by IAEA general conference last year and calling on all the nations to vote against it again. Danieli said the resolution politicises the IAEA and deflects the discussion from the important issues. He said the resolution isolates Israel, harms trust in the region and contradicts any sort of dialogue. He accused the Arab nations of continuously choosing the path of condemning Israel instead of pursuing a dialogue.

The Syrian envoy said his country is concerned that the international community has done nothing against Israel's nuclear capabilities, which are expanding daily, Israel cannot be left outside the Non-Proliferation Treaty, and that it must be pressured into

acquiescing to the international community's demand to "dismantle all of its nuclear arsenal".

Talks in Cairo

Earlier this month it was reported that Israel has asked Egypt to stop its efforts to advance a resolution to subject Israel's nuclear facilities to international inspection, senior officials in Jerusalem said.

The Israeli message to Egypt was conveyed during a visit to Cairo in August by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's special envoy, Isaac Molho, and National Security Adviser Yossi Cohen, the officials said. Molho and Cohen met with Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry and other Egyptian government officials to discuss the matter. Shoukry and his ministry are leading the anti-Israel move in the IAEA as part of a long-time Egyptian policy to lobby internationally against Israel's nuclear program.

The Egyptian moves have been a source of tension between Jerusalem and Cairo in recent months. A senior Israeli official noted that Jerusalem had hoped that the close bilateral intelligence and security cooperation since President Abdel-Fattah al-Sissi took office would lead to Egyptian restraint on the issue of Israel's nuclear capabilities.

Senior Israeli officials said Molho and Cohen made this clear to Shoukry, and the other Egyptian officials they met, saying such actions did not reflect the current state of bilateral relations. The two also made it clear that the Egyptian efforts would not succeed, because Israel would block such a resolution, as it had done several times in the past.

The officials added that Israel is very frustrated that even the extensive aid it is giving Egypt in its battle against jihadist groups in the Sinai, including agreeing to allow more Egyptian troops into the peninsula than permitted under the countries' peace agreement, has not changed Cairo's attitude toward the Israeli nuclear issue. "Despite everything that's been going on in the region in recent years, Egypt is continuing as if nothing has changed and is acting against Israel in international forums," a senior Israeli official said.

Barak Ravid
Rica Bird, via email

National C.N.D. Conference + AGM

17th + 18th October | Arlington Convention Centre, Camden, London

With Parliament set to vote on the replacement of Trident in 2016, this year's National Conference will have a strong focus on that decision.



C.N.D General Secretary, Kate Hudson, has proposed a resolution calling for meetings to be held across the country with MPs of all parties holding discussions with C.N.D. members.

Scottish C.N.D. has further proposed that links be made with S.N.P. MPs and other Members who responded favourably to

the anti-Trident survey.

On 18th October a full day, entitled 'No Trident Replacement: Strategising for Success', will be dedicated to assessing our success so far and will provide a chance to discuss and exchange ideas for future events and protests. The deadline for the registration is 9th October. Anyone registering after that date will only be able to go as an observer. To book your place please contact National C.N.D. via cnduk.org Tel: 020 7700 2393 E: enquires@cnduk.org. Merseyside, Birkenhead and Wallasey CND are sending delegates.

Birkenhead CND

Next meetings : Tues 13th Oct, 10th Nov, 8th Dec 8.00pm at Shirley's, Flat 2, 14 Beresford Rd.

Stall 27th Nov. at the Festival of Light at Prenton High School, Hesketh Drive, Bebington
New Year party Tuesday 5th January at Shirley's
Contact: Shirley 652-3768

Merseyside CND 50 Club

Recent winners: June draw: Maghull & Lydiat CND; July: Tom and Ivy Griffin, August: Brenda Lowndes. Thanks to all members of the 50 Club for your continuing financial support. For £5 per month you too could be a winner of £50 per month or £250/£100/£50 in the annual draw. Ask Janet for a membership form - 229 5282

Breakfast for Palestine

Liverpool Friends of Palestine are holding our annual Breakfast for Palestine event on Sunday 15 November. As last year, we will be at the St Anthony of Padua church hall on Queens Drive. We invite people for 2pm to join us for food, conversation and some update on the current situation in Palestine. We do not class this as a public meeting, it is more a chance to catch up with our friends and supporters informally.

We hope to welcome as guest speaker Dr Mona El-Farra, who is a doctor practising in Gaza and is Gaza Projects Director of the Middle East Children's Alliance.

You may also wish to stock up on gifts as we will have stalls selling Palestinian goods: olive oil, excellent ceramics and the like.

Entrance and food is free though we ask for donations.

Jeremy Hawthorn
for Liverpool Friends of Palestine

Prisoners for Peace Day

We'll be holding a stall and leafleting session outside Friends' Meeting House with Liverpool Quakers and Liverpool Pax Christi on 1st December. Details will be announced soon on merseysidepeacenet.com

Wallasey CND

Planning Meetings: Mon Oct. 5th 2pm at Eileen's, 56 Egerton St. New Brighton, Nov 9th. And Dec. 7th 2pm either @ Eileen's or Barbara's, 4 Taunton Rd.

We have had a very hectic few months and will be concentrating on supporting Merseyside CND activities until after Conference when we will restart anti-Trident campaigning with renewed vigour. You are welcome to come along to planning meetings to help plan the campaign and other fund/fun raising events
Contacts Barbara 638 3967, Janet 677 1133

MERSEYSIDE CND MEMBERSHIP FORM

To receive regular newsletters please complete form and return to address below.

Name..... Phone.....

email.....

Address.....

I/we wish to *join/ rejoin Merseyside CND.

Subscription rates: *waged-£4/ family-£6/ unwaged or youth (under 22) £1.

I/we *would/ would not also like a new member's pack at a cost of £1.

I/we understand that Merseyside CND needs funds for its campaigns and donate £_____

Total Enclosed £..... (Please make cheques payable to Merseyside CND)

Signed..... Date.....

(* Delete as appropriate)

Merseyside CND, 151 Dale St, Liverpool L2 2AH

MCND Co-ord: next meeting: Wednesday October 7th, 14:30 – CND Office 151 Dale St. L2 2AH 0151 229 5282

If you receive a separate renewal form with this newsletter it means your subs are due – Thankyou.

This edition of the newsletter run up by Cathy Page, Andy Morton and Janet Laycock.
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