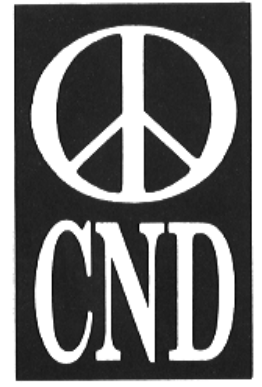


# Merseyside CND Newsletter



Oct, Nov, Dec 2016

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



**"Why? Why this enslavement and destruction of a people?"**

The same old motives which from the beginning have been responsible for all the great world tragedies: human ambition, greed, and selfishness."

*E.D. Morel 'Red Rubber'*



**October 1-8, 2016  
International Week of Protest to  
Stop the Militarisation of Space**

**No Missile Defence  
Stop Drones Surveillance & Killing  
Stop the Endless Wars  
No to NATO**

**End Corporate Domination of Foreign/Military Policy  
Convert the Military Industrial Complex  
Deal with climate change and global poverty**

**USAF Croughton, Oxfordshire (Oct 1)** March & Rally at U. S. satellite communication and intelligence base. (Space communications, drones, bomber guidance, missile defence and command & control functions.) 12-3 pm. Oxfordshire Peace Campaign, [oxonpeace@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:oxonpeace@yahoo.co.uk)

**RAF Fylingdales, North Yorkshire, (Oct 1)** Demonstrate against US Missile Defence and space-based warfare, 12-3 pm, Yorkshire CND [info@yorkshirecnd.org.uk](mailto:info@yorkshirecnd.org.uk)

**Menwith Hill North Yorkshire (Oct 4th)**  
The role US operations at Menwith Hill, North Yorkshire play in targeted killings was highlighted in a shocking exposé by investigative journalist Ryan Gallagher earlier this month. A demonstration will take place at the NSA controlled site on the 4 October at 6pm. Contact [info@yorkshirecnd.org.uk](mailto:info@yorkshirecnd.org.uk) for more info.

## CND Conference 2016

Mechanics Institute, Manchester

AGM & Policy conference  
Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October

Open Conference  
New political times,  
new campaigning methods?  
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October



## National C.N.D. Policy Conference + AGM

22nd + 23rd October

The Mechanics Institute, 103 Princess St,  
Manchester M1 6DD

Day 1—AGM and Policy conference

To attend you must be CND member and have registered via CNDUK.org website by 14th Oct.

Day 2—New Political times

New Campaigning methods

Day 2 includes workshops etc

It is open to anyone but register through the website: [www.CNDUK.org](http://www.CNDUK.org)

E: [enquires@cnduk.org](mailto:enquires@cnduk.org). Tel: 020 7700 2393

Merseyside, Birkenhead and Wallasey CND are sending delegates. If you wish to join them contact MCND office

## Remembrance Day

10.45 for 11.0am Friday 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

# Nukes of Hazard

## The Nuclear Bomb Convoys on our roads

Convoys carrying nuclear bombs are often on Britain's roads, thundering through cities and towns. Comprising up to 20 vehicles, they take Trident warheads between the south of England and central Scotland two to six times a year.

Although they are meant to be secret, they are tracked on social media and photographed en route. Yet most of the millions of people in the communities they pass by are unaware of what's happening - and of the risks they could be facing. An opinion poll by YouGov found that nearly two thirds of adults did not know that nuclear bomb convoys travelled via cities and towns.

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) says the convoys are safe. But there are good reasons to be concerned about the dangers.

Emergency exercises run by the MoD imagine disaster scenarios in which horrific multiple crashes lead to fires, explosions and the spread of radioactive contamination over cities. Post-mortems of seven exercises reveal that the MoD and the emergency services would have serious difficulties dealing with such disasters.

The MoD has confessed to eight real accidents involving nuclear weapons convoys between 1960 and 1991. In response to requests under freedom of information law, it has given outline details of a further 180 safety incidents that have plagued the convoy between 2000 and 2016.

The convoy has crashed, broken down and got lost. Its brakes have failed, it has leaked fuel and suffered a range of other mechanical failures. Bad luck, poor weather, human error and computer software glitches have all been to blame.

Bomb convoys are dogged by pressures

that could increase accident risk. According to the MoD's internal safety watchdog, the UK's nuclear weapons programme is suffering from a chronic shortage of skilled nuclear engineers that could threaten safety. It has been under pressure from government spending cutbacks.

The demands of secrecy and security could compromise safety. Local authorities and fire services are not forewarned about convoy movements, and are unforthcoming about their emergency plans. In an accident the MoD may initially be more concerned to ensure the security of its bombs than to protect the public.

There are a series of credible accident scenarios that could trigger fires, explosions and the breach of bomb containment. Plutonium and other radioactive materials could leak from the warheads and contaminate communities, increasing cancer risks. Evidence from an MoD report suggests that in extreme circumstances an accident could trigger a nuclear reaction, known as "inadvertent yield", which would deliver lethal radiation doses. A terrorist attack on a nuclear convoy, according to the MoD, could cause "considerable loss of life and severe disruption both to the British people's way of life and to the UK's ability to function effectively as a sovereign state".

Convoy accidents could spread radioactive contamination over at least 10 kilometres, depending on the direction of the wind. Hundreds of thousands of people could find their lives seriously disrupted, as communities are evacuated, essential infrastructure disabled and emergency services overwhelmed. Contamination, and worries about cancer, would linger for decades.

Within 10 kilometres of five imagined accident sites in Birmingham, Preston, Wetherby, Newcastle and Glasgow

there are a total of 2.8 million people who could be at risk. There are also 1,181 schools, 131 railway stations, 56 hospitals, 47 major roads, 12 universities and three airports. They are all potentially vulnerable to the after-effects of a major convoy accident.

Up and down the country, hundreds more communities and millions more people along the convoy routes are also at risk, should there be a crash. Yet they get no warnings, and have never agreed to accept the dangers.

A serious accident resulting in radioactive contamination from the nuclear bomb convoy is credible. The MoD should be more open, and communities along convoy routes need to be more aware of the dangers.

The MoD says the risks are "tolerable when balanced against the strategic imperative to move nuclear weapons". But many may disagree. Accidents happen, and sooner or later there will be a serious crash.

Internationally, important moves are being made to ban nuclear bombs, and their movement. The majority of states in the United Nations have recommended that multilateral negotiations commence in 2017 on a nuclear ban treaty that will prohibit the use, deployment, transporting and manufacture of nuclear weapons.

If the UK chooses to keep deploying Trident - and to keep driving its warheads up and down the country - the risk of a catastrophic accident or attack will persist.

Whether the risk is tolerable is not a judgement that should be left to the MoD alone. It is one for the millions of people through whose towns and cities the convoys pass. They have the right to decide what's tolerable - and what's not.

*Rob Edwards*

### Close Capenhurst Campaign

It has been decided that waste from old nuclear submarines will be stored at Capenhurst. The Close Capenhurst campaign has the following question:- 'How much Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride is stored at the URENCO Capenhurst site?' The best answer we have received is 'A vast Quantity', which is also the only way we have been able to describe it.

We asked as a Freedom of Information request

1. How many containers of Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride are stored at the Capenhurst site ?
2. What is the total mass of Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride which each of the containers at Capenhurst can hold ?
3. What is the total mass of Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride which is stored at the Capenhurst site ?
4. How much of the Depleted Uranium

Hexafluoride will the new tailing plant at Capenhurst be able to process each hour ?

The response was if we give them £900 they might be able to give us the info.

We will keep asking these questions. An increase in the Hex will mean more transport of nuclear materials on the roads and in our environment.

<http://close-capenhurst.org.uk/>



# The Congo—E.D. Morel—West Kirby Library—Uranium

## Making Connections The Congo and Uranium

**E.D. Morel—1873-1924** was born of French Father and English Quaker mother in France. He became a clerk working for a shipping company who transported guns, and repressive equipment from Belgium to the Congo.

The White rule in the Congo was despotic with the local African population being enslaved to produce rubber and ivory for the Belgian King Leopold II. From this experience E.D. Morel, along with others of similar compassion, became a leading light in the Congo Reform Association.

He directed the first humanitarian campaign of the 20th century which brought King Leopold II's brutal regime in the Congo to an end. He went on to become the dominant figure in the Union for Democratic Control during the First World War. He revealed the 'state treaties and lies' leading up to the conflict and campaigned for a just and lasting peace.

Reviled by Lloyd George's ruling coalition government, Morel was sent to prison for 6 months in 1917. On his release he became a major figure in the Labour Party, directing most of his energies against the terms and conditions of the Treaty of Versailles. In the election of 1922 he won a seat for Dundee, defeating the incumbent Winston Churchill. Shortly before his death he was nominated for the Nobel Prize.

West Kirby Library have honoured his life (he lived in West Kirby 1897-1902) with memorial windows.

**Wirral Trade justice are going to have a brief celebration of his life between 5 and 6pm on Friday October 7th at the library.**

There is a biography of him called 'The Politics of Dissent' by Donald Mitchell. Published by Silverwood Books.

Susan Williams—investigative journalist who wrote 'Who killed Hammarskjöld? - has written another book 'Spies in the Congo: the race for the ore that built the atomic Bomb'

'Using newly opened archives and personal interviews, she describes how the American Office of Strategic Services (OSS) - forerunner of the CIA—recruited a motley band to ensure the uranium reached the US and did not fall into the hands of Nazi Germany. Again she describes the appalling treatment of the African population compared with the white rulers.'

'She opens her book with a letter Albert Einstein wrote to President Roosevelt on 2nd August 1939, alerting him to the possibility of constructing a powerful bomb turning uranium into a new and important source of energy. "The most important source of uranium is Belgian Congo" Einstein wrote.

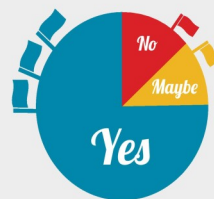
There is another terrible legacy, aside from the bombs dropped on Japan, at the source of that Uranium. Workers at the Shinkolobwe mine were not protected at all from radiation. Radioactive waste at Shinkolobwe has led to birth defects and cancers. After the collapse of a mineshaft, the UN asked the International Atomic Agency to investigate conditions there. Its study found that 6,000 small-scale miners had been digging for coltan and cobalt; everyone working there was at risk of developing health problems because of high levels of radiation.'

*Extracts from Richard Norton-Taylor's review of 'Spies in the Congo, the race for the ore that built the atomic bomb' by Susan Williams.*

*Guardian 17th September 2016.*

## 146 GOVERNMENTS

support a treaty banning nuclear weapons



### THE RED CROSS

believes that a ban on nuclear weapons is a humanitarian necessity



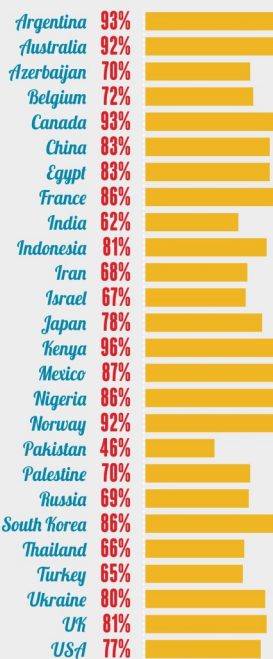
### THE UNITED NATIONS

Secretary-General has adopted it as one of his top priorities

This includes all countries in  
**LATIN AMERICA & AFRICA**



## THE PUBLIC SUPPORTS A BAN



**78%**  
OF PEOPLE

polled in **26 NATIONS**  
support a treaty to ban  
nuclear weapons



This includes  
a majority of people  
in all nuclear-armed  
nations except  
Pakistan

SOURCES: VARIOUS



**Stop Trident Street Stall  
Crosby Village  
By The George Liverpool Rd.  
Friday Oct. 14th 12.00-14.00**

**Please come and help Merseyside  
CND leaflet and collect signatures  
on the new Stop Trident Petition.  
No. 53 bus from Queen Square stops in  
Islington, walk back a few yards.  
Contact: Merseyside CND 0151 229 5282  
mcnd@care4free.net www.mcnd.org.uk**

## Birkenhead CND

Next meetings : Tues 11th Oct, 8th Nov, 13th Dec  
8.00pm at Shirley's, Flat 2, 14 Beresford Rd.  
Stall 25th Nov. The Festival of Light at Prenton High  
School, Hesketh Drive, Bebington (to be confirmed)  
New Year party: Tuesday 10th Jan. 8pm at Shirley's  
(to be confirmed) Contact: Shirley 652-3768

## Liverpool Quakers host:

### Transition Liverpool Symposium Radical Shift: Building Sustainable Futures for a devolved Liverpool City Region Oct. 15th 9.30am 16.30pm

#### Friends Meeting House School Lane L1 3BT

Free event with speakers Anna Watson, Friends of the  
Earth and Larch Maxey, Network of Wellbeing, Creative  
Actions, Discussions, Alternatives. It is shaping up to be  
a really good event so hope you can make it.  
Book via Eventbrite. Facebook page Transition  
Liverpool details.

[https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/radical-shift-  
building-sustainable-futures-for-a-devolved-liverpool-  
region-tickets-27245423796](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/radical-shift-building-sustainable-futures-for-a-devolved-liverpool-region-tickets-27245423796)

<http://liverpoolquakers.org.uk/> "Let your life speak"

## Pax Christi Liverpool

Meetings monthly on the first Tuesday at Sacred Heart,  
Hall Lane Next meeting Tues. Oct. 4th  
Contact Jan Harper: 0151 263 5623  
janharper1@yahoo.co.uk

## Merseyside CND 50 Club

Recent winners: June draw: Barbara Hardcastle;  
July: Janet Laycock; August: Gordon Nash; Annual  
Draw: 1st prize £250: Doreen Dixon, 2nd £100:  
Liz Heydon, 3rd £50: John Middleton 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 6th  
November at the St Anthony of Padua church hall  
on Queens Drive. We invite people for 1pm to join us  
for food, conversation and update on the current  
situation in Palestine.

We have a Palestinian invited speaker Salma Karmi  
-Ayyoub, a British Palestinian lawyer. She is an  
impressive advocate for Palestine.

We will also have the usual wonderful food and  
stalls selling Palestinian crafts, food and  
information sheets, books and DVDs about  
Palestine.

Entrance and food is free though we ask for  
donations.

Helen Marks  
for Liverpool Friends of Palestine  
Helen Marks <helencmarks@yahoo.co.uk>

## Prisoners for Peace Day

Thurs. Dec. 1st 12 noon

We'll be holding stalls for card signing for  
Prisoners of Conscience worldwide at Friends'  
Meeting House with Liverpool Quakers and  
Liverpool Pax Christi and at Merseyside CND  
151 Dale St. 0151 229 5282 www.mcnd.org.uk  
More info: www.wri-irg.org

## Merseyside Peace Network

Next meeting: Tues. Nov. 8th 17.30-19.00  
Quaker Meeting House, School Lane, L1 3BT  
On agenda: CO Exhibition for Liverpool  
Museum; Prisoners of Conscience Day; World  
War 1 local events; event sharing. Contact:  
mcnd@care4free.net 0151 229 5282

## Wallasey CND

Planning Meetings: Mon Oct. 3rd, Nov.  
7th, Dec. 5th 2pm at Eileen's, 56 Egerton  
St. New Brighton, and Mon. Oct. 17th 6pm  
at the Lazy Landlord, Mill Lane, to discuss  
Conference Resolutions. We are sending 3  
delegates to CND Conference  
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-£5/ family-£6/ unwaged or youth (under 22) £2.

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 5th, 14:00  
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 and Janet Laycock.  
Printed in the MCND  
Office