

MERSEYSIDE C.N.D.

DECEMBER 2019 UPDATE

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The only sure way to eliminate the threat posed by nuclear weapons is to eliminate the weapons themselves.

— Antonio Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General



@CND_Merseyside



@MerseysideCND



/Merseyside.CND

YOUTH CLIMATE STRIKE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH, 2019

12:00

ST. GEORGE'S HALL

The march to Derby Square will begin at 13:00. There'll be speeches, chants, music and what promises to be a great atmosphere!



In partnership with



REMEMBRANCE DAY

Honouring all victims of war



On 11th November we gathered in St. John's Gardens with our friends and allies, including Liverpool Pax Christi, to honour the memory of all victims of war, regardless of nationality, race or religion. We'd like to thank everyone who came and to see more images from the day go to:

<https://www.mcnd.org.uk/2019/11/14/remembrance-day-2019/>

GENERAL ELECTION

Please do all you can to put Trident on the agenda

Trident and nuclear weapons must not be swept under the carpet in this General Election Campaign.

This is a key moment for CND groups, members and supporters to raise the question of nuclear disarmament with their potential MPs. We need to make sure all candidates know that their views on nuclear disarmament can and will affect voter choices, and that stopping Trident is a vote winner!

We'll let candidates know that it's time for the UK to play a positive role in the international community. Instead of clinging onto our weapons of mass destruction we should join the global majority that chooses not to have nuclear weapons. We need to sign up to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and end successive government policies that put us all at risk.

Use CND's lobby tool to find out your candidates' opinion on Trident at <https://cnd.eaction.org.uk/lobbycandidates>

Please forward any responses you receive to:

parliamenry@cnduk.org

KINGS BAY PLOWSHARES 7

"They face 25 years in prison for exposing illegal and immoral nuclear weapons that threaten all life on Earth"

By Roger Stephenson



Kings Bay Trident Submarine Base in Georgia is home to six US Trident submarines and periodically services Britain's four Vanguard-class Trident submarines.

On the night of 4 April 2018 seven Catholic peace activists – Mark Colville, Clare Grady, Martha Hennessy, Father Steven Kelly, Liz McAlister, Patrick O'Neill and Carmen Trotta, now known as The Kings Bay Plowshares 7 – entered the base to draw attention to the crime of nuclear weapons. They used bolt cutters to remove the padlocks at the entrance and cut through a razor-wire fence. They spray-painted messages ("Love One Another"), hung banners ("The Ultimate Logic of TRIDENT – OMNICIDE: Plowshares Now"), removed lighted signs, poured blood (their own blood, which they carried in bottles) on military emblems and the ground, and hammered on base property. After approximately two hours in the base they were arrested and taken to prison to await trial.

The trial took place 18 months later: the week starting 21 October 2019. After four days they were all found guilty on all counts – conspiracy, trespass, and destruction and depredation of government property. The judge said she would take between sixty and ninety days to decide on their sentences. Each of the 7 could face a term of 25 years in jail.

In the trial Clare Grady told the court "We believe that Trident is the biggest crime we know of. It is like a cocked gun pointing at the head of the planet."

"While awaiting the verdict defence lawyer, Bill Quigley, [who represented Ms McAlister], said the defendants wanted the chance to appear in court and have a discussion about the horror of nuclear weapons and why they went to the base to protest against them.

He said his only regret was that, due to restrictions ordered by the judge before the trial, they had been unable to talk more about the Trident missiles and their terrible destructive power." (Linda Pentz Gunter, Morning Star, October 26-27 2019)

"The activists said they were following the prophet Isaiah's command to beat swords into plowshares. They were barred from citing their religious motivation or from mounting a "necessity defense" saying that their law breaking was necessary to prevent the far greater crime of nuclear war." (democracynow.org; Kings Bay Plowshares 7)

Bill Quigley said the jury was not allowed to hear that the submarines in Kings Bay have 3,800 times as much destructive power as the weapon that was used on Hiroshima, enough power to destroy life on Earth as we know it.

This article is based on reports from the Morning Star and democracynow.org:

<https://morningstaronline.co.uk/article/seven-peace-activists-who-entered-us-trident-submarine-base-found-guilty>

https://www.democracynow.org/2019/10/25/kings_bay_plowshares_7_found_found

For more information about the Plowshares 7 go to:
<https://kingsbayplowshares7.org/>

GROUPS' EVENTS

Christmas Fairs

Birkenhead CND, 11:00–15:00, Sat. 7th December, Sales table at Westbourne Hall, West Kirby

Wallasey CND, 11:00–15:00, Fri 13th December, Earlston Library

Wallasey CND, 11:00–14:00, Sat 14th December, Wallaseyans, Grove Road, Wallasey

Meetings

Wallasey CND, Mon., 2nd December, 4 Taunton Road, Wallasey, CH45 3JN

Liverpool Pax Christi, Tues, 3rd December, St. Michael's Irish Centre, Boundary Lane, L6

Merseyside CND, Wed. 4th December, 151 Dale Street, L2 2AH (members only)

Birkenhead CND, Tues, 10th Dec, 18 Southdale Road

Wallasey CND A, G.M./Party, 11th January, AGM–14:00, Party– 15:30, 4 Taunton Road

Birkenhead CND, New Year Party, 19:30, 14th January, Quaile Park, Bidston Road,

