



SPACE WEAPONS LOOMING

Within weeks President Bush is expected to issue a directive giving the US air force a green light for the development of space weapons. Following heavy lobbying from the military, he plans to review and replace President Clinton's space directive of 1996 with one that aims for "space control" (anti-satellite warfare) and "space force application" (attacking the ground from orbit).

The directive could pave the way for the development and deployment of space weapons for the first time in the US's history and has caused outrage in other states.

Russia immediately reacted, stating that it would consider using force to respond if necessary, if the US put a weapon into space. China too reacted with speed to the news, stating that "Space is our shared treasure and we have consistently maintained the need for the peaceful use of space so as to benefit all of mankind."

Experts, military officials and campaign groups like CND from across the world have repeatedly pointed to two dangerous outcomes from the deployment of space weapons.

Firstly, it will lead to others deploying space weapons, and so a space weapons race. Russia, for example, has stated that it will not be the FIRST to deploy space weapons but equally, if it feels pressured to do so by US deployment, it will.

Secondly, it will provoke nuclear proliferation on Earth. Some countries may feel threatened by the existence of US space weapons flying over every ten minutes that can destroy space assets and fire down through the atmosphere on to their towns and cities. If they don't have the money or technology to join the space race they may choose to create or increase a nuclear arsenal to fight back.

One thing that's certain is that other countries won't simply lay back and let this happen. And neither should we.



Hundreds demonstrate against Star Wars at Fylingdales - Autumn last year

Inside are details of some upcoming events which you can support to keep the pressure up on our Government to take action on this increasingly important issue. Our campaign will focus very much on space weapons over the coming year and our website has ways to take action right now - www.yorkshirecnd.org.uk

LINDIS PERCY TAGGED

Lindis Percy - co-co-ordinator of the Campaign for Accountability - has had an electronic tag attached to her for an eight week period following court cases relating to the regular CAAB demonstrations at Menwith Hill.

The Ministry of Defence Police had hoped to subject Lindis to an ASBO - a new order aimed at controlling "yobs" and "louts". It would have been the first time an ASBO had been used against a protestor and was a worrying development. Fortunately for us all, the Judge said he was not willing to use ASBOs as a club to beat

down legitimate protest. However, he did sentence Lindis to a night-time curfew which will stop her attending the demos, which will be monitored with the electronic tag.

To show your support for Lindis and the right to protest and your opposition to Menwith Hill, join the regular CAAB demonstration at the main gate of the base every Tuesday between 6pm and 8pm. For more info contact CAAB (01943 466405 or 01482 702033, email: anniandlindis@caab.org.uk or caab@btclick.com) or Yorkshire CND (details on back)

ILKLEY MOOR SPONSORED WALK



Spring is well and truly here, the sun's starting to shine and the days are longer. It's a perfect time of year for a stroll in Yorkshire's fine countryside. So it's good news that there's still just time to join the Yorkshire CND sponsored walk on Ilkley Moor.

It's an 8 or so mile stroll across Ilkley Moor on Sunday June 19th, led by Rob Baker - Yorkshire CND supporter who's done the walk many times before. All proceeds go to Yorkshire CND's campaigns, although if you can't get any sponsorship but want to join in the walk you're welcome to come along.

To find out more about the walk and when and where to meet, contact Yorkshire CND (details on the back)

STAR WARS CONFERENCE AND TOUR

On October 1st Yorkshire CND will gather together the world's leading campaigners on Missile defence and Space issues at a campaigner's conference in Leeds.

Speakers at the Star Wars conference will include Bruce Gagnon of the Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space, (Florida, USA), Stacey Fritz of No Nukes North (Alaska, USA), Dave Webb (Global Network and Yorkshire CND), Kate Hudson (Chair, CND) and Jeremy Corbyn (MP and CND Vice-chair).

As well as talks from these and other experienced and active campaigners there will be workshops on the issues and discussion groups on taking action. The conference offers the chance to catch up on the Star Wars debate. More importantly perhaps, it's a chance to find out what the Star Wars states are doing and what activists across the world are doing in response.

After the conference Bruce Gagnon will be touring the UK with Dave Knight speaking at public events across the country, to raise awareness of Star Wars. Full details of the conference and tour will be available soon so watch this space and book off the conference date now!



Bruce Gagnon - Co-ordinator of the Global Network

FASLANE - G8

7am - Monday 4th July - just two days before and 60km away from the start of the G8 at Gleneagles. The G8 depend on their overwhelming military might to defend and extend the globalisation that allows them to exploit and oppress the poor. Nuclear weapons are the ultimate expression of the militarism that makes economic globalisation possible. We cannot make poverty history unless we also make war history.

Faslane is one of Britain's most important military bases - home to Trident, Britain's own nuclear WMD Programme. It is situated 30 miles west of Glasgow in Scotland.

Thousands of peace campaigners from around the world

will non-violently disrupt the war machine by blocking all of the gates into the base - shutting it down for a day and preventing traffic from entering the base. Doing so will highlight the opposition to the war, nuclear weapons and militarism that make destructive economic globalisation possible. What's needed more than anything is ... YOU!

To find out more about the event and nonviolence training contact Scottish CND (phil.jones@banthebomb.org or 0141 423 1222). Transport is being arranged from across Yorkshire. To find out about transport in your area or to offer space in your vehicle, contact the Faslane regional transport contact for Yorkshire - Tracy Shippey (tracy@iskra.net or 08454565495) - www.faslaneg.com

INDEPENDENCE FROM AMERICA DAY DEMONSTRATION at MENWITH HILL

Menwith Hill is one of the US's most important military bases anywhere in the world. With vast powers to intercept all forms of military, political and civilian communication, a key role in planning and aiding war-fighting and a future role in the US Star Wars system, it stands for everything that we oppose. It's unaccountable and illegal and Yorkshire CND has run a lengthy campaign against the base from the beginning. July 4th is Independence from America Day. This year, as with previous years, the Campaign for the Accountability of American Bases plan to hold their annual Independence Day demonstration at Menwith Hill:

MONDAY 4 JULY 2005 - 12noon - 4/5pm

Guest Speaker: **SCOTT RITTER** (former US Iraqi Arms Inspector)

Music by: **CHUMBAWUMBA** (Acoustic)

Food by: **VEGGIES** of Nottingham

Tel 01943 466405 or 01482 702033, email: anniandlindis@caab.org.uk or caab@btclick.com, Web: www.caab.org.uk

YORKSHIRE CND GOES TO NEW YORK

Last month Yorkshire CND's Dave Webb, Dave Knight and Neil Kingsnorth travelled to New York to attend two crucial conferences: The annual international gathering of the Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference at the UN. Whilst there we kept an internet web log of our thoughts and experiences, some of which is printed below.

THE GLOBAL NETWORK CONFERENCE

"Activists from the USA, Romania, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, the UK and beyond joined hands and hearts to share news, spread the word and report on their actions to stop Star Wars and resist space weapons. This is truly a Global Network. It's maybe easy to feel alone as you sit in the UK wondering how we can ever get rid of Menwith Hill, stop UK involvement in Star Wars or resist the US war drive. But the fact is that there are countless people, just like you, at the grassroots, resisting space weapons, educating the public, demonstrating, blockading, speaking and campaigning on all levels to resist. The good news is that I can report to you that there are thousands across the world that are of the same mind, that are joined together through

the folks there all the hope and energy and love that is concentrated here. Our bonds are so much stronger than their satellite links and technocrap. Thank you to all of you who are working to keep space for peace, we need every one of you."

SUNG-HEE - South Korea: *"How wonderful it is to share one's love and concern of the global peace one another? There is no north and south in Korea. Korea has been one for more than four thousand years. And Korea is ONE. No The EARTH is the ONE. We draw the boundary. I dream we give my next generation the beautiful world. There are no axis of evils, no enemies. No Division, No War, No Space War, No Nuclear Space War. Justice Forever!!"*

NO NUKES DEMO

"We marched through the streets of New York chanting, singing and handing out leaflets. I met friends old and new from across the world as well as the UK and the US. There was also a good response from shoppers and passers by. Some looked a bit bemused perhaps but a whole load more waved back in support. Eventually we reached Central Park where the rally was to take place and were directed into position to make up

nuclear disarmament. Ireland spoke very strongly indeed Canada too made clear their frustration at the lack of progress. However, the USA stood proudly and expressed their good record on nuclear disarmament, describing what they see as the great steps they have made over the past few years. But they, like the UK, don't want to see anything come from this meeting that makes them disarm."

"Sitting in the observers gallery of the General Assembly listening to the delegates from various countries give their countries' presentations is not too exciting. Most of the speeches can be predicted before hand with some precision. However, the workshops that are being held by the many campaign and NGO groups are usually extremely interesting and very informative.

"Today I went to a workshop on Depleted Uranium (used to harden shells, tanks and vehicles in conflicts since the first Gulf War). The workshop started with a presentation by Malicia Sterring who was one of the many women GIs in the first Gulf War. Her story was amazing. More power to the NGOs and activists who, to my mind, are making much more of an impact with their workshop sessions and information materials than the UN



the Global Network and a common purpose. The resistance is very much alive and the feeling is ... we WILL win. To prove the point, I pass you over to Sung-hee of South Korea and Stacey Fritz of Alaska - two of the many great people in New York that are part of the global campaign to keep space for peace:"

STACEY FRITZ, No Nukes North: *"A big hearty howdy from the Great Northland (via NYC). We are the folks who were protesting at Fort Greely (Alaska's ground-based interceptor missile site) at the same time that you all were marching on Fylingdales. I can tell you that it is very difficult not to become overwhelmingly cynical and hopeless after the past winter and another stolen election here, and it is only these annual Global Network conferences that reinspire me and keep me going for another year. I will do my best to return to Alaska and convey to*

a huge human CND symbol (they call it a peace symbol over here). There was a whole load of activity scheduled for the stage - brief 2 minute speeches on peace and anti-nuclear issues and activities and some wonderful music, theatre and dance groups etc. Those of us from Yorkshire joined with other CND members on the stage for a short while to represent the UK, while Kate Hudson gave a short speech.

THE U.N.

The following few days were spent at the UN attending the NPT review conference - a crucial review of the key nuclear weapons Treaty.

"Words are one thing, action is quite another. Yesterday the states attending the NPT started to make their statements in the General Assembly. The non-aligned states, represented by Malaysia, made strong statements demanding genuine steps towards

delegates who churn out long (mostly) carefully worded statements that are of no surprise and carry little, if any, information."

"The message that comes from the non-nuclear states is strong and simple - nuclear disarmament can ONLY be achieved with the support and continual demands of civil society. It is, they keep telling us and each other, absolutely essential if the NPT is make headway. They need our backing and the nuclear states need the pressure."

"The grassroots resistance to this madness is alive, is massive, is growing, is vocal and is global. There are literally millions across the world working in all their many ways at all levels, still as passionate and still as determined. We are not alone."

Read the full "blog" at <http://ycnd.blogspot.com>

advertisement

THE GREEN PARTY IS THE PEACE PARTY

Join us at the inaugural meeting of **Richmond Green Party**
7.30 Monday 20 June
Swale Cottage, Station Road, Richmond DL10 4LU
Phone Dave on 01748 829452 for directions.

CONTACT YORKSHIRE CND

Write to: Yorkshire CND, 22 Edmund Street, Bradford, BD5 0BH
tel: 0845 4583315 fax: 01274 414413 email: info@yorkshirecnd.org.uk web: www.yorkshirecnd.org.uk

Dates for your diary

- Every Monday: Leeds Stop the War Coalition meetings, Leeds Civic Hall, 7pm - 9pm
- Every Tuesday: Join the CAAB demonstrations at the main gate of Menwith Hill from 6pm - 8pm. CAAB - 01482 702033 / 01943 466405
- Every Saturday, Leeds Stop the War stall in Leeds, Briggate, 2pm
- Once a month - midweek protest at the "Brough" factory, Doncaster, where Hawk Fighters are assembled (11.45am - 2pm)
Contact Dennis Rish for details (01302 570698)

JUNE

- 4th Friends Meeting for Worship @ Fylingdales - 01482 327574
- 19th Ilkley Moor sponsored walk in aid of Yorkshire CND. See inside for details

JULY

- 2nd Friends Meeting for Worship @ Menwith Hill - 01943 466405
- 4th Faslane G8 demonstration - contact Scottish CND for information (phil.jones@banthebomb.org or 0141 423 1222). For transport from across Yorkshire contact Tracy Shippey (tracy@iskra.net or 08454565495)
- 4th Independence from America demonstration at Menwith Hill, with Scot Ritter speaking. Contact CAAB for information (01943 466405 or 01482 702033, email: anniandlindis@caab.org.uk or caab@btclick.com)

AUGUST

- 6th Friends Meeting for Worship @ Fylingdales - 01482 327574
- 6th Hiroshima Day event - Yorkshire CND will hold a march and vigil in Leeds to mark the 60th anniversary of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings. For more information, see the next newsletter or contact Yorkshire CND

Help us to make a difference Join the Yorkshire campaign for nuclear disarmament

Membership rates:
Household = £12 Individual = £9
Youth (under 23)/Student/Unwaged/Pensioner = £5

Name _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
tel _____ email _____

I want to join by Standing order (our preferred way to pay): Please pay Yorkshire CND £_____ each month/year (delete) starting on _____ until further notice.

Name of my bank _____
Address of bank _____

My Account Number _____ My sort Code _____

Signature _____ Date _____

I want to join by annual cheque.

I enclose a cheque made payable to "Yorkshire CND" for £_____

Please complete the form and send it to Yorkshire CND, Freepost BD2869, Bradford, West Yorks, BD5 7BR
Thank you!