



WE'RE AN EYESORE?

"Trident... what the bloody hell is it for?"

Field Marshall Lord Carver

Faslane Peace Camp has been watching the Clyde submarine base, home of Britain's nuclear weapons, for fifteen years. Now the new local council want to evict it. It is argued that the camp, a collection of painted caravans, tents, and benders, is an eyesore. The dozens of local people visiting with support and donations every day would argue that the eyesore lies just a few hundred yards up the side of the loch.

"You're travelling around the loch and you notice what looks like a huge battleship with cranes and searchlights. Then you see the cameras, every few feet, and the miles of razor wire in triple-thickness rolls. You might notice the dogs, and the police with machine-guns. But when you come around the back of the base, and look down from what ought to be a classically beautiful Scottish valley, you see the Trident shed. It's big, and menacing enough to ruin the view. But when you know what it contains and what that means - well, when I show people they usually cry."

Faslane Peace Camper

Social spending? Nah.

The Trident programme costs £30 billion - the shed it lives in alone cost £800 million *over budget*. This in a country where 70% of people are opposed to nuclear weapons, and with a New Labour election manifesto promising to improve quality of life - not to mention promising "prevention of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction" and "a new momentum on arms control and disarmament."

But the real cost of nuclear weapons is in the kids with leukaemia around nuclear 'power' stations - most of which are just factories for the ingredients of nuclear bombs. And that's a global problem - more and more countries are rushing to develop their own nukes. Hardly surprising since Trident's post-Cold War role is to float around keeping an eye on 'potential insurgency' in 'third world dictatorships'. They've even developed a concrete missile, to use as a macabre warning shot.

Eviction Action!

In the last few weeks Faslane has started to swell at the edges as more and more people come back to help

defend. For fifteen years it's been a sorted place to live and good campaign forum, but now it needs defences to beat a potential eviction.

The new local council are just flexing their right-wing muscles - pigheadedly refusing to debate the eviction, even after a petition containing 2,500 signatures was handed to them. But with the niggling concern that their budget does actually have better places to go, such as schools and housing, they've admitted they can't afford a "Manchester-style eviction". So who you gonna call?

Work has begun on tunnels, lock-ons and tree-houses, and one resident has even set up his entire caravan as his lock-on. Scaffolding and other tat is still badly needed, though (please note, all you people with vans!) and of course bodies arriving with moral support are always welcome. There is communal space at the camp, although it tends to fill up so bring a tent or be ready to get bender-ing!

Nagasaki Anniversary

This weekend, the 52nd anniversary of the first aggressive use of a nuclear bomb by the USA against Japan, sees co-ordinated campaigns against Trident at sites of crime throughout Europe and the USA.

Youth CND are running a peace camp at Aldermaston bomb factory, and at Faslane, a rally at 1pm will be followed by a boat trip and... other events..!

Contacts...

Faslane Peace Camp: (01436) 820901
Shandon, Helensburgh, G84 8HT.
Train from Glasgow to Helensburgh, then there's a bus to Gaerlochhead.
(Ask the driver where the stop is.)

Aldermaston Youth CND Peace Camp
This weekend: (0171) 607 3616

Women's Cycle Ride: (0117) 939 3746

Aldermaston Women's Peace Camp:
2nd w/end each month: (0117) 939 3746

Burghfield Women's Peace Camp:
Last w/end each month: (01703) 554434

Menwith Hill Women's Peace Camp:
(0585) 329313

Windmill Hill Fur Farm

"Behind the quasi-glamorous world of fur lies this stinking, putrid scumbag-infested hell-hole of abhorrent cruelty called Windmill Farm."

Un-named animal rights activist

40 Animal Rights protesters gathered outside the Dorset premises of T.T. Smith, Britain's most notorious and barbaric fur farmers, last week in the first of a series of protests that have they have vowed to continue until the place is shut down. The farm, one of 13 in the UK, in Child Okeford near Blandford, houses hundreds of mink in appalling, stinking conditions. One protester told SchNEWS: "Mink are solitary creatures living in a territory of up to two kilometres whereas on this farm they are kept in tiny cages without any water to swim in. They live cruel, short lives and display signs of madness."

Protesters turned up at the farm to find it guarded by a horde of meat-headed village idiots employed as 'security', and requests to see the owner were met with refusals and threats, before one 26-year old activist, attempting to video proceedings, was assaulted. "A man struck me with a large PVC bar, which narrowly missed my eye. It was totally unnecessary; we were trying to carry out a peaceful protest."

The cops arrested a 43-year old man in connection with the attack and bailed him until September pending enquiries. The 'security' later drove at speed through the crowd, narrowly missing protesters who were forced to dive out of the way and the threats and intimidation carried on later outside a local pub. The protest, timed to coincide with National Anti-Fur day, comes in the wake of rumoured links between the farm and a local beauty parlour and extensive media coverage highlighting the horrific conditions.

When the ball started rolling at Consort it led quickly to the kennel's closure, T.T. Smith could be the next to go. "Some of the staff said we'd be dead if we came back and protested again. The farm is stinking and the animals are kept in terrible conditions, and we won't stop until something is done."

** Meet on Sunday Aug 31 @ 12 Noon outside the farm, speaker from Respect For Animals.

** SchNEWS urges readers not to bombard T.T. Smith, Holdway House, Shaftesbury Rd, Child Okeford, Dorset (Tel: 01258 860732) with junkmail, letters or midnight phone calls as these can upset the recipient.

STOP PRESS! Edinburgh RTS on 11th August - (01273) 685913!

INSIDE SCHNEWS

* Native American Leonard Peltier, a Chippewa/Lakota activist and important member of the American Indian Movement, was jailed in 1976 for the deaths of two FBI agents. Peltier was involved in the movement to protect the Black Hills area of South Dakota against uranium mining when a fire fight occurred between the FBI and activists on the Pine ridge reservation. Two FBI and one Lakota were killed. The death of the Lakota man was never investigated. There is no direct evidence that Peltier is guilty, in fact extensive trawling of FBI files have only revealed that the case against Peltier is based on perjury, mental torture, coercion of witnesses, fabrication of the murder weapon and the withholding of evidence. Peltier remains in prison, guilty of only protecting the land and its people. Contact: International Leonard Peltier Defence Committee, c/o Lesley Worrall, 140 Gramoyle Road, Liverpool L15 5AD (enclose SAE)

* Remember where your smoke comes from. Keith Lyons and Belinda Sims are both doing five years in a Moroccan jail with no chance of parole for smuggling 125kg of hash. Conditions in Moroccan jails are hideous, prisoners have to pay for food, blankets and even accommodation (!). Keith was tortured for three days in an attempt to get him to reveal information. Please send books, mags, money or even just letters of support: Keith Lyons (73702) and Belinda Sims (73703), c/o Stephanie Sweet, British Consulate General, 41 Boulevard Mohammed V, BP 2122, Tangiers.

* Ray Gilbert and John Kamara were sentenced to life for the murder of John Suffield, a betting shop manager, in December 1981. None of the eye witnesses could pick out Gilbert from an ID parade; no forensic evidence links the pair to the crime; uncorroborated evidence was used in prosecution; TWO juries were dismissed during the trial; Defence witnesses were interfered with; custody records were destroyed and deals were made with the police and remand prisoners for testifying against Ray. On prosecution witness admitted that his evidence was fabricated, yet it took the Home Office seven years to conduct an inquiry. Gilbert is not allowed to talk to the press about his case - in contravention of established case law. Write to Ray Gilbert H10111, HMP Long Lartin, Basic Wing, South Littleton, Evesham, WORCS WR11 5TZ or contact Brighton ABC, c/o Prior House, Tilbury House, Brighton BN2 2GY.

* *Claiming compensation for police conduct* is a pamphlet produced by Irwin Mitchell Solicitors, St. Peter's House, Hartshead, Sheffield S1 2EL. FREE - just send large SAE.

* Check out Path of Resistance: The practice of civil disobedience by Per Hergren - a Swedish ploughshares activist. Offers practical advice, history, ethical dilemmas and first hand experience. Published by Jon Carpenter at £9.99..order from your local library and share the knowledge.

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tel/fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 e-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk e-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>

Next Justice? meeting on Tuesday 19 August with a representative from The Friends and Families of Travellers

SCHNEWS IN BRIEF

*** A crop of **genetically-engineered** oilseed rape near Coventry was destroyed on Wednesday by a local DIY action. *** Protesters involved in the winnable campaign against the construction of the Rank holiday village in **Lyminge Forest** are hosting a party this weekend (9/10th Aug). For info: 01865 437 762 or 0410 536 592 *** **Sea Shepherd** president Paul Watson has made some early progress in his fight against a Norwegian attempt to extradite him from the Netherlands - the Dutch judge has dismissed two of the more serious charges - "*reckless navigation*" and "*illegal entry into Norwegian waters.*" Sea Shepherd: P.O. Box 628, Venice, CA 90294, USA. e: seashpherd@aol.com *** SchNEWS' fave person of the week is the maverick Italian politician Marco Panella, who handed out wads of cash to passers-by in the town of Treviso in protest against the use of taxpayers' dosh to **finance political parties**. Panella and other officials from the Radical Party pulled up in a truck laden with 2.7 BILLION lire (over **a million quid!**) and proceeded to hand it 50,000 lire notes to the amassed throng, bearing the words, "*This is part of the loot stolen from each citizen. The Radical Party has decided not to use this stolen from each citizen and give it back.*" *** **DATES: 21** - Anarchist Picnic, Regents Park, 2pm onwards. Let's pray for sun this time! * **23-25** - Exodus Long Meadow Community Free Farm Festival, Streatley, Nr. Luton, BEDS. 01582 508936 WATCH THIS SPACE! * **25** - Worthing FoE Eco-Festival. Homefield Park 01903 522949 * **30** - Frome Festival, Somerset * **30** - National Day of Action Against Vivisection. Meet @noon, BIBRA Woodmansterne Rd, Carshalton, Surrey. 0171 278 3068 * **31** - Off The Tracks Festival, Castle Donington, Derby.

Ashton Court Park to die?

20 acres of Ashton Court, a public park on the western edge of Bristol, has been leased by the city council to Pioneer Aggregates - an Australian multi-national - in order that they can expand Durnford Quarry. A beautiful wildflower meadow - home to a wide diversity of plants including Scabious, orchids and adders tongue fern - will be replaced with a 100 metre deep hole. Calls for a public enquiry have been declined by John Prescott. A local resident told SchNEWS, "*We are deeply disappointed that such a wonderful place could be lost.*"

Get down there for some fun on 26th August when locals will show Pioneer the same due respect that the Oz multi-national has shown the residents of Bristol.

Watching YOU

The Metropolitan Police are planning to install a dense web of spy cameras covering their entire area of jurisdiction following the success of trial schemes in the Square Mile of the city. The cameras use the Automatic Number Plate Recognition system, which reads the reg. plates of every single vehicle passing and checks them instantly with the Police National Computer- and then alerts the control room with a beep and a screen message when it comes across anyone it considers 'dodgy'- and we all know the broad potential of *that* definition. The City set-up, instigated in February, has already led to over

1000 police actions. As Commissioner Condon says, this system will 'detect and prevent many different crimes and help us protect the people of London against the ever present terrorist threat.' Hmmm.....

Newton Abbott

The tree camp in Newton Abbott set up in protest against clay quarry in July received possession orders this week, despite the DoE and John Prescott putting the whole scheme on hold until they decide whether to hold a public inquiry. WBB Group want to divert 1km of the rivers Bovey and Teign, in an area that houses otters, kingfishers bats and rare fish. They are in County Court on 29th August. Postal address: Aqua, c/o Coral Cottage, Ventiford, Teigngrace, Nr Newton Abbott TQ12 6QL. Please send donations as they are totally skint!

Mutant Greenwash

Scumbag PR firm Burson-Marsteller (the outfit who persuaded India's supreme court that Union Carbide weren't responsible for the thousands of deaths when their Bhopal plant blew up) have been hired by the biotech industry lobby group EuropaBio. B-M's brief is to use any means necessary to convince the great European public that five-legged sheep that shit soya beans are healthy and natural. Why not tell them what you think? Burson-Marsteller Ltd : (0171) 831 6262. Managing Director (UK) - Paul Philpotts: (0181) 467 5485, International Chairman - Robert Leaf: (0171) 262 4686. These may be their home numbers, so please try not to call at inconvenient times. Genetix Update c/o PO Box 9656, London N4 4JY.

SCHNEWSNIGHT

Political Cabaret

Saturday 14th August, 8:00 p.m.
The Lift, Queen's Road, Brighton.

...and finally...

A cop- bashin' boxer dog named Floyd gets a special SchNEWS pet rosette this week after trapping two terror- stricken WPC's in their car (appropriately a Rover) in Uttoxeter, Staffs. Called to investigate reports of a canine attacking a horse, the coppers ended up covering as the hate-fuelled hound turned on the more deserving target, finishing the job off stylishly by eating three of their tyres.

And as if CCTV madness wasn't over-the-top enough in the *real* world, management at a model village in Ramsgate, Kent are installing the much-loved spy cameras in their miniature streets after naughty tourists have indulged in pilfering the town's hand-carved populace- including a the village football team and churchyard ghost.

disclaimer

SchNEWS readers warn the disclaimer posse not to drink, smoke, or ingest strange substances after they achieve high office as they'll press the wrong button and we'll all then feel safe, snug and content. Er...honest!