

Disarming the Seas An International Week of Action, May 21st-29th

S.A.N.D.

In the last week of May, European Defence Ministers will meet in Kolding in Denmark, while on May 29th Reagan and Gorbachev will hold a summit in Moscow to discuss the prospects for a treaty to reduce strategic nuclear weapons.

The North Atlantic Network has called for a week of action on the theme of Disarming the Seas, which is being coordinated by CND in Britain.

The intention is to publicise the dangers of the nuclear arms race that continues unchecked in the Seas, and express our desire for the seas to be made safe.

Groups throughout England and Wales are preparing for this, and Scottish CND is organising a Gathering for a Nuclear-Free Scotland in Glasgow on May 29th.

At the next Clyde Federation Meeting we hope to discuss whether groups wish to carry out local actions during the previous week.

The sorts of action that groups are considering elsewhere are decorating harbours, bridges, piers, jetties; street and beach theatre, eg building huge sand models of Trident; floating demos - either real ones at sea or model boats on rivers and canals; leafletting with British CND's Trident/Jaws leaflet; making contact with Trades Unions in the ports, and lobbying MPs (those unlucky to live in G. Younger's constituency NB!).

If you decide to do any of the above, CND are trying to coordinate the activities and to send out press releases to local papers to back up any press work you may do, which has proven to be very effective in the past. They are asking for interested groups to send in their action details and contact numbers to: Janet Convery, CND, 22-24 Underwood St, London N1 7JG, Tel. 01-250-4010 by May 3rd, so that the information can be collated and sent back out to the contacts, so that ideas get exchanged, and hopefully a network of those particularly interested in the Disarming the Seas issue starts to develop.



Scotland Against Nuclear Dumping's first AGM took place in Stirling on February 27th with 21 out of 42 affiliated groups attending. We were told that NIREX is "disappointed" by the number of responses it has received to its discussion document, "The Way Forward". This document is a slick 15-page packet of information and bland reassurances by NIREX that what we have to say will greatly influence their choice of nuclear dumping site.

Section 7 of "The Way Forward" entitled 'Public Discussion of the Issues' poses a series of questions which we are asked to consider in order to help NIREX make a decision. Example: 'Should an adequate site which enjoys local support be preferred to a superior site which does not?'

Don't keep NIREX in suspense any longer - tell them how you feel about nuclear waste dumping in Scotland! Deadline is 31st of May.

Weighty Responses - NIREX has said that responses will be weighted in terms of the 'importance' of the individual or group responding. While every mere mortal counts, it's vital to get local authorities and MPs to write to NIREX as well. Even if your locality hasn't been earmarked as a possible dump, nuclear waste will probably be trundling through your area via road, rail or ship if we don't stop NIREX now. Sometime this year NIREX will be releasing a report on transport and packaging of nuclear waste, which will provide us with another opportunity to let them know what we think.

Joining SAND - Groups can affiliate to SAND by writing to the secretary Pete Roche, 11 Forth Street, Edinburgh EH1 3LE, enclosing £5 affiliation fee. SAND has a large amount of campaigning information and speakers who will address public meetings, but needs funds to keep going!

For copies of "The Way Forward" write to:

United Kingdom Nirex Ltd.
Curie Avenue
Harwell
Didcot
Oxfordshire OX 11 0EH
tel 0235 835153

Send responses to:

P. T. McInerney
Managing Director
at the address above

SCRAM has available a booklet "Nuclear Waste Management: An Environmental Approach" which is full of information and is useful for composing letters to NIREX. Available for £2 from

SCRAM
11 Forth Street
Edinburgh EH1 3LE

RESPONSES MUST BE IN BY MAY 31ST!!