

SUBVERT AND SURVIVE!

(BY GORDON
ROBERTSON)

by

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If a 20-megaton bomb fell on Glasgow tomorrow what would YOU do ? (a) die ?
(b) suffer burns, radiation, mental trauma plus long term genetic effects and
possibly cancer ? (c) retreat to your fall-out room for a fortnight to eat
your stockpile of tinned food (don't forget your tin-opener) ? (d) head for the
hills ?

The fourth option is obviously the best, providing you could reach an area
unlikely to be affected by radiation, unfortunately this option does not exist.

HQ Circular 238/1971 states that:

"ESRs (Essential Service Routes ie main roads and motorways) would be
controlled by the police, possibly assisted by the armed services, to
facilitate the free movement of essential traffic of all kinds engaged
in the implementation of transition-to-war measures" (New Statesman
19/9/80)

A more explicit quote is given from a top-secret defence manual which was
leaked:

"The capacity of the security forces to contain the urban population if
it decides to leave the towns and cities, during a nuclear alert, is
virtually nil. It is therefore imperative and of the most utmost urgency
that the population is sufficiently convinced that it should comply with
civil defence advice to remain at home. If the numbers which attempt to
leave the urban areas are small enough, it is hoped that the security
forces, which will include contingents of armed police, will be able to
contain them by use of arms when necessary."

From this it is quite obvious that "Protect and Survive" is intended to dupe
the ordinary people - the voters - into complacency for the survival of our

con but a ruthless blueprint for the survival of "the state" at the direct expense of the population as a whole. In the likelihood of nuclear war we will all be potential subversives to be eliminated (even patriotic God-fearing Tories!). The manual continues (after routine things like the stopping of public transport, sale of petrol to the public and disconnection of private telephones):

"Regional controllers may order the execution of persons who attempt to enter the shelters before or after a nuclear attack."

Civil defence (which was revamped by Ted Heath as a result of the miner's strike is against internal subversion rather than to protect the country against an external enemy - see Peter Laurie "Beneath the City Streets") is designed to protect the elite, not the population. Could Russia be more authoritarian? Possibly, but most of us realise how reactionary and totalatarian Russia is, while we take it for granted that we live in a free country with a government (be it Tory or Labour) which does all it can to protect us.

In the light of these astonishing revelations is it possible for anyone to seriously maintain an argument for the retention - and indeed renewal - of nuclear weapons in Britain. On the other hand is it equally possible for anyone to seriously believe that the government be it Foot or Benn will renounce nuclear weapons and bow to the wishes of the C.N.D.?

Saturday's demonstration (25/10/80) "Welfare not Warfare" points to the futility of action where a symbolic gesture is an end in itself. My previous belief that demos don't attain anything in themselves but at least they publicise the cause were cruelly and irrevocably shattered by the almost complete silence in the Scottish media. BBC-1 ignored the march while it got fleeting references elsewhere, including a mention half way down a column in the "Glasgow Herald" on road blockages (even then it didn't even mention that it was an anti-nuclear weapons demo).

What is to be done? The continual arms race means that people live in

to gesticulate, play their war games with our lives, invade countries, exploit and subjugate the Third World and generally live off other people's hard work. It is ironic that these are the people who will survive the nuclear war. Rational scientific thought leads one to the conclusion that these people ie world leaders are the cause of our peril not the Russian sovereign state as an entity. If these people were to suddenly "pass on" one evening by a bout of rare 'Meglomaniac's mauritian flu' or something, our problems would be solved - as long as they weren't replaced by more Hitler clones who wait impatiently in the wings of every seat of power. What I am saying that we have to disobey our leaders, more, we have to work against them, we have to struggle for our freedom and survival. The option is to sit and wait for a Soviet SS-20 or a British army bullet to end our pathetic subservient existences. Are you prepared to bow the knee to a regime in "peace time" which will violently turn on YOU as a result of the war it created ? If so you are a fool or a coward. As Paul Goodman said in "People and Personnel":

"...pacifism is revolutionary: we will not have peace unless there is a profound change in social structure, including the getting rid of sovereign power."