

2008 MARKS 50 YEARS OF CND ACTIVISM

Throughout the history of CND, local groups and specialist sections have devised inventive and colourful strategies of protest. These have included vigils, human chains, peace camps, festivals and die-ins. Between more spectacular demonstrations, CND supporters write letters, lobby Parliament, and spread CND's message through leafleting, education and member recruitment. Their efforts have made CND one of the world's most influential peace movements.

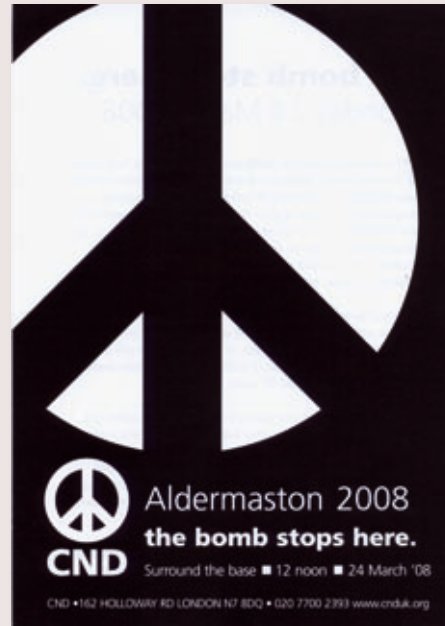
In recognition of the achievements of local and special interest groups, *'The Story of a Peace Movement'* is designed to tour venues throughout the UK. You can adapt the exhibition by adding historic and current campaigning materials from your own group. Photographs of group activities and newsletters illustrate how CND operates as part of a community. Visit our website to find out more about researching the history of CND in your area.

CND is still actively campaigning to make the world a safer place, for today and for generations to come. This work depends on the contributions of its members, as groups and as individuals. To find out more about CND's current campaigns, and how you can participate in them, visit www.cnduk.org.

To find out more about CND archives at LSE, visit www.lse.ac.uk/library/archive/



'Does your face fit?' Ex-Services CND flyer, early 1980s
'Festival for peace', Birmingham CND, 1984



'Aldermaston 2008 The bomb stops here', 2008.

Design: LSE Design Unit (www.lse.ac.uk/designunit)

Archives and Rare Books

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THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

Nuclear Education Trust

Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

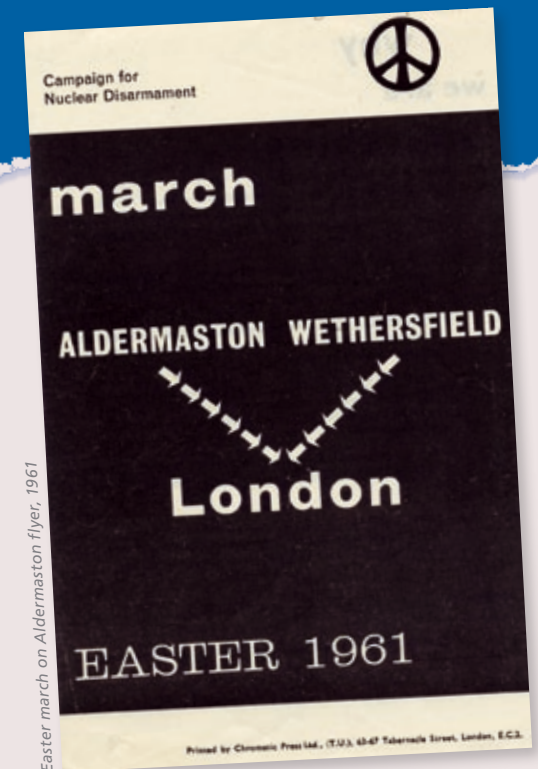
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Easter march on Aldermaston flyer, 1961

THE STORY OF A PEACE MOVEMENT

www.lse.ac.uk/library/archive/projects/cnd_project.htm

INTRODUCTION

In 1945, the US Air Force detonated the first nuclear bombs over Hiroshima and Nagasaki. With World War II over, the Cold War took centre stage. By the 1950s, the nuclear arms race was underway.

In 1958, a group of public figures and political activists established the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. Founding members included Canon John Collins, Bertrand Russell, and J.B. Priestley. Through a programme of peaceful demonstrations and public information, CND quickly established itself as a major political and cultural force for change. In the 50 years since the movement was founded, the CND logo has become an internationally recognised symbol for peace.

'The Story of a Peace Movement', supported by the Nuclear Education Trust and LSE Annual Fund, is part of an archival and educational programme developed by LSE and CND to mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of CND in 1958. Using material from the CND collections at LSE Archives, this exhibition will tour UK venues to bring the history of CND to a new audience. The text of the exhibition, together with selected images, are also available online.

1958 Easter March to Aldermaston: Column of marchers



Demonstration, 24 February 2007

TIMELINE

1945 Nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

1949 The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), a military alliance of Western powers, is established. The Soviet Union tests its first atomic bomb.

1950 The US announces plan to develop the hydrogen bomb.

February 1958 The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is founded in London.

April 1958 First Easter march on the Atomic Weapons Establishment at Aldermaston.

1960 CND president Bertrand Russell founds the Committee of 100 to campaign using non-violent direct action.



H-Bomb on Brighton Clock Tower, early 1960s

1961 Construction begins on the Berlin Wall.

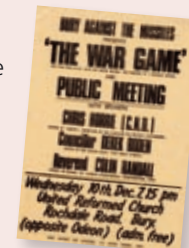
1962 The Cuban Missile Crisis inspires a new wave of anti-nuclear feeling among the general public.

1965 Peter Watkins produces 'The War Game' for the BBC. The BBC refuses to transmit the film until 1985. However, independent screenings throughout the country generate much publicity for the anti-nuclear cause.

1968 The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty is opened for signature.

1978 Public pressure forces US President Carter to abandon plans to develop and deploy the neutron bomb in Europe.

1980 EP Thompson's pamphlet 'Protest and Survive' helps to revive public interest in CND's cause. The title parodies 'Protect and Survive', the British government's public information programme about how to survive a nuclear attack.



Bury Against the Missiles presents 'The War Game', 1980



Will your town get wiped off the map? Operation Hard Luck', 1982

1981 Mass protests against deployment of cruise missiles in the UK. Protestors establish peace camps at military bases, including Greenham Common and Molesworth.

1982 Mass protests force the Home Office to abandon their 'Hard Rock' civil defence exercise.

1983 US President Reagan announces the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) programme, popularly nicknamed 'Star Wars', extending the battlefield into outer space.

1986 A disastrous reactor accident at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant causes immediate and long-term fatalities.

1987 US and USSR leaders sign the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, abolishing thousands of nuclear weapons.

1990 German reunification.

1991 Dissolution of the USSR.

1996 The International Court of Justice issues an advisory opinion that nuclear warfare 'would generally be contrary to the rules of international law'.

2003 Despite mass demonstrations, the US and UK invade Iraq.

March, 2007 Major backbench revolt over Trident replacement demonstrates renewed support for nuclear disarmament.

December, 2007 Submission of revised and internationally supported Model Nuclear Weapons Convention to the United Nations General Assembly.



'Son of Star Wars' early 2000s