

SCRAM

The Anti Nuclear & Safe Energy Journal No 39



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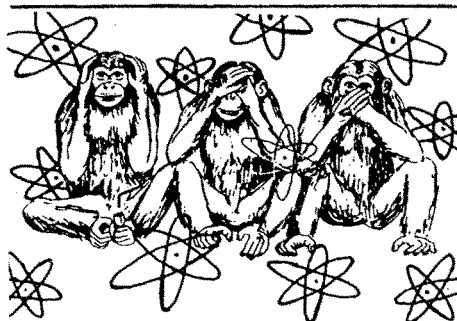
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COMMENT

Windscale

Three items have received a lot of coverage in the media recently. One is the radioactive pollution being pumped into the Irish Sea from BNFL's Windscale reprocessing factory [see SCRAM Journal 38]. Yorkshire TV's "Windscale: the Nuclear Laundry" must have shocked and frightened many people, not just those living near the installation but also anyone who holidays on the west coast or even eats fish from the Irish Sea. Prior to its broadcast BNFL issued a statement saying that the programme was "incomplete" and "biased". The debate after the film, which was originally intended to be 'live', allowed Prof. Mummery of BNFL to speak at length on the subject of radioactive emissions. It must be said that he seemed much less than convincing, and even a little anxious.

Following the screening of the programme, the Government has announced an investigation into the high leukaemia rates found in children living near the factory. The Chairperson of the working party of doctors and statisticians is to be Sir Douglas Black. Sir Douglas is known to have a committed liberal attitude to public health and some of his reports have upset civil servants and Ministers. In an article in the "Observer" newspaper he said: "At the moment we do not know the most important fact in radiation biology. Is there or isn't there a safe level of radiation below which damage to people does not occur".

The investigation and the cancellation of this year's sea dump just shows that concerted pressure from environmentalist groups and the Trades Unions can produce results. However, it must be remembered that Windscale also reprocesses foreign waste thereby making nuclear power less unacceptable for them. Closing Windscale will have a profound effect on the world's nuclear industry.

Waste Dumping

The other issue in the news was the continuing story of "what can we do with nuclear waste?". As reported in the last issue of the SCRAM Journal, the disused ICI anhydrite mine in Billingham, Cleveland has been chosen as the site for the longer-lived intermediate-level nuclear waste. The other site, for the shorter-lived wastes, was also announced and must have come as a surprise to many people — it is to be Kempston Hardwick, Elstow, South Bedford. The second site is to take the form of a 20 metres deep trench.

Strong local opposition has already shown itself at both sites: public meetings have been held and steering committees have been initiated. The struggle will last several years before the plans come to a public inquiry, but the initial opposition must be able to last out this delay.

Cruise

So Cruise missiles are now in this country. CND have said that they never expected to be able to stop them coming. This fact became particularly clear after the Conservatives were returned to power in June, although only 32% of the electorate actually voted for their right-wing policies. The major issues, like nuclear disarmament and jobs, were hardly discussed; instead internal bickering and character assassination were the order of the day. However, what really matters is that the missiles should never be allowed to become operational; and CND has stated that this is their aim.

On October 29th, 1000 women systematically removed nearly one third of the perimeter fence around the Greenham Common Airbase, and more than 180 of them were arrested, many of them brutally. This action, as well as the arrival of the missiles, prompted Mr. Heseltine to make his statement that intruders onto the base will now risk being shot. The article on page three is one woman's impression of the action, and points out that women at the Peace Camp are more committed than ever to disrupt the activities at the base. Mr. Heseltine has said, "The only majority that matters in Britain is the majority in the House of Commons" - who elected him? If nothing else the Greenham protestors have succeeded in making the Wolf lose its Sheep's clothing, and this must be a good thing.

The rallying cry for the future campaign must be "No Cruise & Trident, No Windscale, No Waste Dumping!"

Don't sit on the fence — CUT IT!

The action at Greenham Common on October 29th, when 1000 women gathered to take down the fence, was perhaps the biggest threat that the military authorities have had to deal with. It was also no small challenge for the women themselves; long prison sentences, personal injury and even being shot were real fears.

However, the imminent arrival of cruise and the intensified nature of Reagan's warmongering in Central America demand a measured response. Huge rallies in Hyde Park are loftily ignored by the Government and nullified by the mass media; it is time to show our strength and show them what we will do to stop their war plans. What follows is one woman's impression:

It was one of the strongest, most positive things I've ever done. I'd only been once before to Greenham Common, in the Summer. I had been impressed by the women living there then, now I was overwhelmed by their organisation, love, determination and strength.

I found an unexpected aura of calm around most of the women there. We discussed the action, stressing that it wasn't so much about **destroying** the fence, as how we went about it — quietly and determined, without hatred for the fence, soldiers or police, in keeping with the tradition of pacifism.

At about 3.30 p.m. we began our hallowe'en party. My apprehension had been building, until I didn't know if I'd be able to do anything, but at 4.00 over 1000 women in small groups began cutting down the fence. All my fears disappeared. The bolt cutters were heavy and unwieldy and it took a few seconds to work out how best to use them. My hands were trembling, but with adrenalin, not fear. Glancing up the fence line I could see other groups of women, some singing, others silent, a few triumphant cries as a piece of fence came down.

Soldiers and police had expected something, but nothing like this. They had actually put rolls of barbed wire on the inside to stop us getting in — but then they couldn't reach us to stop us cutting the fence down!

Where we were I found the police brutal. Some of the hulkier specimens ran down the line of the fence, knocking women down. One woman was torn from the top of the fence and

thrown to the ground, injuring her back and sustaining severe shock. Two young women were lying down, a constable standing guard over them and a stretch of ruined fence hanging beside them. Women stood around singing and giving support. The two were dragged heavily away, through the fence **onto** the base, to be bundled into a van and driven away. They epitomised the whole thing for me.

When things became a little calmer women began walking around, examining the fence, sitting on the hundreds of yards that had been pulled down. I met a woman whose hand had been broken by an American soldier; he bent it back on her wrist. Another had been hit over the hand with a confiscated bolt cutter. At the Green Gate, American soldiers had begun throwing rocks and bricks and one woman was being treated for a head injury.

One thing I felt stronger than anything else, while the police were trying to stop the action, while soldiers were trying to push us off the fence from 'their' side, we were winning! They had to resort to violence and they didn't know what to do about us and were in a real panic — whereas we had stayed calm, assaulted the fence of one of the country's highest security centres and brought down at least a third of it. There's something happening at Greenham Common Women's Peace Camp.

Since the action and Heseltine's ominous failure to guarantee women's safety from being shot on entering the base, there has been a marked change in attitude to the women by



the military and police. Women can expect to be stopped and searched for doing little more than walking around the perimeter fence. Women can expect to be stoned by soldiers and are being spat on and abused by police.

In Court this Wednesday (2nd November) one woman, when before the magistrate, refused to have her case postponed until December (she had demanded a different judge — a legal entitlement). When she refused to guarantee her reappearance she was sentenced to **seven days** detention. Eight women blockaded the exit, were forcibly removed by police and **kicked** down the stairs — one policeman was heard to say "I'm going to kick the crap out of you", **in front of the magistrate!** When the women were brought back after half an hour to be charged with 'contempt of court', the magistrate demanded an apology. The eight women refused to apologise and instead asked for an apology from the police. They were immediately sent down for seven days imprisonment.

However, it appears that not all members of the armed forces and police are bad. On Saturday, at one section of the fence, soldiers, who were pretending to have a tug-of-war with the women, were actually helping the women to pull the fence down! Some police and soldiers have been seen crying and singing "Give Peace a Chance".

In spite of incredible pressure the women are set to stay, and are more determined than ever. Your support is needed. Please send donations for food and warm clothing direct to the camp. Women, please go down and stay for as long as you can: numbers are needed to keep morale high.

Helen



Murdo MacLeod

China joins IAEA



China has become a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the official body set up in 1957 to oversee and promote nuclear power worldwide.

Although China joining the IAEA may appear a good step for international safeguards against nuclear proliferation, such are the limitations of the Agency (eg. the IAEA has never announced, let alone taken action against, a single example of diversion of nuclear material for military purposes), that this decision will in fact do little to control any country's nuclear plans, whether civil or military. Indeed, the net result of China's admission may reveal the real reasons behind the decision...

China's nuclear programme has been purely military up till now. In 1976 a decision was made to import two PWR's from the French company Framatome, only to be cancelled in 1979.

Since then, the struggling giants of the nuclear industry — Framatome, Britain's GEC and Westinghouse of the USA — have been fighting over the lucrative Chinese market. However, with China not a member of the IAEA, Westinghouse could not obtain an export licence from the US, and again Framatome stepped in to secure the vital first contract (with GEC making the turbines) because France has no reservations about sales to non-IAEA countries.

With the home market collapsing, Westinghouse were becoming desperate and considered selling to China indirectly, through Britain's National Nuclear Corporation (NNC), a Westinghouse licensee. At this point, Westinghouse and our own Walter Marshall (then head of the UK Atomic Energy Authority) were actively promoting this joint US-UK PWR for export, presuming (of course) that Sizewell B was given the go-ahead.

In early 1983 the US Secretary of State, George Schultz - a former executive of Bechtel, the nuclear power construction company - visited China specifically to discuss this contract to build a nuclear power station at Xian Dakeng (near the Hong Kong border). This visit seemed to do the trick - China are now members of the IAEA, Westinghouse can sell a complete reactor directly to the Chinese, and Britain has been effectively excluded from the deal.

New Scientist, 13.10.83

Roxby; Hawke does U-turn

Under increasing pressure from industrialists, Australia's Labour Government has just given the go-ahead for what could become the world's largest uranium mine, at **Roxby Downs**, South Australia.

When in opposition, the Labour Party had an unequivocal policy against uranium mining, but since coming to power this has slowly eroded away. In September, during an 800-strong blockade of the site, Labour Prime Minister Bob Hawke said: "the Roxby development is going ahead, and nothing is going to stop that".

The massive Roxby Downs copper-silver-uranium site, with an estimated 1.2 million tonnes of uranium, is jointly owned by the Australian Western Mining Corporation (51%) and British Petroleum (49%). Both companies have, despite assurances to the contrary, effectively overlooked the claims of Aboriginal people whose sacred sites are threatened.

Fierce opposition from anti-nuclear, Aboriginal and left-wing groups has forced Hawke to make moves towards holding a public inquiry. However, in November Hawke recalled nine MP's from overseas to narrowly win a vote (55 to 47) in favour

of developing the mine. A six-month inquiry will now be held into the uranium industry, but it will not concern itself with Roxby Downs specifically (the opposite of public inquiries in this country?).

Partizans Newsletter, late '83

The Western Mining Corporation, Roxby Management Services and Roxby Mining Corporation have filed a suit against the Campaign Against Nuclear Energy and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation for slander, libel and malicious falsehood. The suit was filed in August after a television programme about the Roxby Downs uranium mine was broadcast.

CANE says this action gives a credibility to their arguments against Roxby Downs and indicates that the Roxby Management is worried about the campaign against the mine.

CANE have put out a financial appeal to help them put their case to the courts, as they will receive no government aid. **Contact: CANE, 291 Morphett Street, Adelaide 5000, Australia.**

WISE, 18.10.83

Portuguese plan



Portugal is considering embarking on a nuclear programme. A new National Energy Plan includes the construction of four nuclear stations. The plan is to be debated by the Portuguese Parliament in January 1984, but already a considerable public relations campaign has started, promoting the benefits of nuclear power.

The Presidents of the four local councils, who are opposed to the planned stations, are being treated to all-expenses paid tours of nuclear facilities in Europe, Scandinavia

and the USSR. Similarly, a special commission of scientists has been selected by the Government to organise a public debate.

Opposition to the plan is apparently small and disorganised, and help of any sort would be welcomed.

Contact: Nucleo de Ecologia, Centro Cultural Rogue, Garneiro, Rua 1° de Dezembro 54, 2700 AMADORA, Portugal.

WISE, 6.9.83

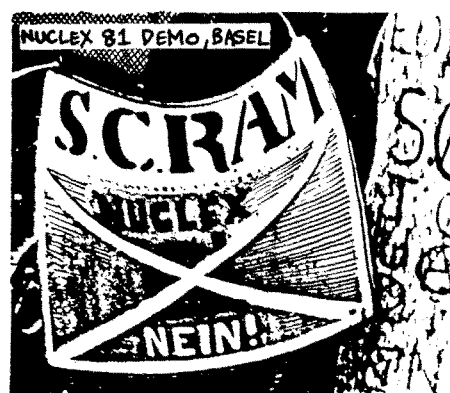
Nuclex Nixed!

Depressed nuclear business and the high level of anti-nuclear sentiments have been cited as reasons for the cancellation of Nuclex-84, scheduled for next October. Nuclex is an international nuclear trade fair which has been held every three years in Basle, Switzerland, since 1966.

Effective demonstrations and other anti-nuclear activities at the 1981 fair, coupled with the legal obligation of Basle area officials to oppose nuclear developments in their area, no doubt played a part in this decision.

However, the organisations have not gone for good - they may just move over the border to France or West Germany and hold it in 1985 instead.

WISE, 4.10.83



No THTR!

On September 17th 3,000 West Germans demonstrated against the initial loading and start-up of the 300MW Thorium High Temperature Reactor (THTR) in Hamm-Uentrop, West Germany. The THTR went critical for the first time the day before.

This is a significant increase in the number of people showing concern about the reactor. There are many reasons why opposition has grown: the reactor has started up while the emergency cooling and reactor safety systems are still under construction: the THTR has only one emergency shut-down system, instead of the two required by German atomic law; the reactor was given a test run licence despite knowledge that during this test run unfiltered radioactive materials would be released into the air (a decision being challenged in court); and opponents are also protesting at the lack of any emergency plan.

The THTR, which is expected to begin commercial operation in 1985, is a type of High Temperature Gas-Cooled Reactor (HTGR) which is being promoted as the most versatile and safest of reactor designs. However, very few HTGR's have been built and those that have, in America, Britain and West Germany, have been plagued with problems. Despite lack of sales, Harold Agnew, President of General Atomic Technologies, the only company in the US marketing HTGR's, claims that among the reactors advantages is that it is the best design for a 'defense production reactor'.

Atoms for Peace?

WISE, 4.10.83

Nukes Up

The SSEB's Annual Report (April '82 - Apr. '83) revealed that the proportion of Scottish electricity generated by nuclear power was 38.8%. This alarmingly high figure, 8.8% up from last year, represents the percentage of units of electricity actually supplied to the customer. As nuclear-generated electricity is always the first electricity to be supplied (it is the SSEB's base-load), the nuclear percentage will always be as high as it possibly can be. Thus the figure does not show the amount of coal-fired electricity which is no longer required - and, with a capacity for over-generation of 70 - 80% in Scotland at present, this amount is considerable.

At the same time, the SSEB's sales of electricity were down 2.3% from the previous year, due in part to industrial closures (especially the Invergordon Aluminium Smelter) and the mild winter.

Ridiculous?

Public acceptance of nuclear power was a major theme at this year's Symposium of the Uranium Institute in London. The Duke of Portland expressed concern at the industry's low profile, saying:

"we must persist in educating the public and in promptly refuting any false allegations relating to nuclear power, if possible ridiculing these accusations - ridicule is an effective and agreeable weapon. In addition, I strongly recommend that we should pursue an aggressive and not only a defensive policy, and should take every opportunity to point out and extol the advantages of nuclear power."

Perhaps he should get together with a certain Dennis Etheredge on this one, Chairman of the South African Nuclear Fuels Corporation, who played a prominent part in the Symposium.

ATOM. October 1983

Acid Rain

A recent survey in West Germany has shown that one third of their trees are damaged by acid rain - the precipitation caused by release of sulphurous chemicals into the atmosphere.

The vast increase, from 7.7% damage last year, is partly due to a more thorough investigation, revealing damage missed last year. Of spruce trees, 41% are damaged, 11% seriously; three out of four fir trees are damaged and 7% are dying. Deciduous trees are also under attack - 26% of beech trees and 15% of oaks have been damaged.

What is so worrying for the German forestry commission is that the damage is not only increasing, but the trees which are suffering from acid rain are being hit more severely. Trees with medium to severe damage have increased five fold.

Professor Hans-Ullrich Moosmayer, the Director of the forestry commission has stated: "The figures clearly indicate the necessity to intensify the efforts to cut down pollutant emissions, as well as to intensify the efforts to come to unleaded fuel regulations for new automobiles".

New Scientist, 27.10.83

Another Leak

Hunterston power station has had another leak. "Very lightly radioactive" water leaked from a pipe leading cooling water from storage ponds to a discharge point on the shore of the Firth of Clyde. An SSEB spokesperson emphasised: "There is no danger to the public or to station employees. The leakage occurred inside the perimeter fence, and the soil drainage brings the water back into the discharge area". A similar leak occurred in 1979.

Glasgow Herald, 15.10.83

MUF

The UK Atomic Energy Authority has lost some more plutonium. More than three pounds of the highly toxic radioactive material cannot be accounted for. The Authority stressed that, because the plutonium, and a similar quantity of highly enriched uranium, could not be accounted for, it does not mean that it had been lost or stolen. A "much more likely" explanation was "uncertainties" in measurements. These "apparent losses" are known in the trade as MUF (material unaccounted for), but, because of the highly radioactive nature of the materials it is "virtually impossible" to steal. Very reassuring.

Scotsman, 5.11.83

The Cracks Begin to Show

Following the decision by the Central Electricity Generating Board to withdraw from service its nuclear waste flasks one year ahead of schedule, a more concerted campaign has been launched by environmental groups and Trades Unions to halt the rail transport of nuclear waste.

The CEBG has announced that cracks have been found in an early generation of flasks, which are made of welded steel. These are to be replaced by new flasks of forged steel. The Board are also to start tests of full-size flasks, using British Rail locomotives to "simulate high-speed crashes". This is a marked change from their previous attitude - 30 ft. drop tests (equivalent to a 30 mph impact) on models were the only impact tests carried out. In America flasks are subjected to 80 mph rocket-propelled tests.

Alert London Against Radioactive Material (ALARM) has been given £3000 by the Greater London Council to produce a pamphlet on waste transport which is to be aimed particularly at the transport unions. The National Union of Seamen has called on the rail unions to support the

blackening of waste movements on land and ASLEF (the rail drivers' union) is said to be "very concerned" about the public health threat of waste transport. An ASLEF Spokesperson said: "We are not going to rush into any decision but our position is now very close to that of the seamen's union".

The anti-waste transport movement has consistently stated that moving nuclear materials, 'civil' or military, around the country is a very dangerous procedure: if only 10% of a flask's caesium load leaked out, it would cause 600 cancer deaths over a three-mile radius according to a report published by the Political Ecology Research Group. There have been many accidents throughout the world, although the CEBG claim that there have been only 12 minor accidents in the UK - mainly derailments - and no leakages have occurred.

After the effective halting of the sea disposal of nuclear waste much attention will now focus on the waste transport campaign. A success in the campaign will have far-reaching effects on the nuclear industry.



Nuclear Waste: The Political

The land dumping of nuclear waste has again come to the attention of anti-nuclear groups, environmentalists and the media, following the announcement on October 25th of the proposed sites for intermediate-level nuclear waste at Billingham and Bedford. Opposition has already surfaced on a large scale, with public meetings in both areas and a revitalisation of the waste dumping network.

In the following article Don Arnott, a former advisor to the International Atomic Energy Agency, explains some of the political realities in the nuclear debate, and suggests how we can tackle the issue of waste dumping, remembering that, even if the industry closes tomorrow, there are vast quantities of waste which must be safely and democratically dealt with.

Underlying this article is a highly definite view of politics which I shall summarise without attempting to justify, space being short.

1. For decades the parliamentary process has increasingly failed to deliver the goods. Any notion that we could control our destinies by putting crosses on pieces of paper has now worn threadbare. Those who still believe it have only themselves to blame if they don't like the results. Political evolution is called for.

2. The form I think it should take is participation in decision-making. I don't mean petitions and referenda; though not without value, these are ephemeral and often mindless. Nor do I mean 'consultation' in the way the Chinese once consulted their dead ancestors. No, where decisions must be taken which affect the lives of communities, those communities' wishes must be taken into account; and if that is resisted, they must force the issue.

3. Coming slightly nearer home: in the nuclear waste controversy, colleagues of mine have sometimes been slightly distressed to find me on the other side of the line. The explanation is that my front line runs at an angle to theirs. I don't believe that scientists take the decisions; but worried people at waste meetings, seeing faces at last in a singularly faceless system, thought differently - and hit out.

Why do scientists, many of them of great distinction, allow themselves to be turned into political Aunt Sallies? The notion that scientists originate the schemes and take the decisions died when the Government abandoned the

test drilling programme. This was done for political reasons: there was too much opposition. (The Scottish Secretary, George Younger, was in the peculiarly untenable position of having publicly opposed the programme before taking office). The Government therefore shopped its own scientific advisors - the very people whom were seen to be the villains of the peace. The real role of the scientists is very different: without them it is impossible to implement any waste disposal policies at all.

The implication of this is extremely important: where decisions are inevitable - and I believe that decisions on the backlog of nuclear waste are inevitable - all those whose interests are involved should play a full part in arriving at those decisions. It would provide a very good example of the sort of participative democracy which I hold to be essential if this country is to have any future which bears contemplation.

SOME VICTORIES - BUT WHERE NOW?

Campaigns are not won on gusts of emotion. Steady input over the years is needed - programmes evolve, objectives change; and what was not possible yesterday becomes possible today.

When I first entered the anti-bore-hole movement I was horrified to discover that it was full of people who had prejudged that they would lose; and if I can claim any credit at all for my own contribution it is that I helped to change that attitude into something more positive.

Well, we won. And there have been other victories too: Luxulyan, Portskewett. And sea dumping - a sort of ongoing victory which probably commands more unanimity of opinion than anything similar. We can no longer say that we are ineffective. However, protest is one thing; once you win, the argument becomes one of power, and how to exercise it. We have yet to face the consequences of this: we must be prepared, on occasion, to say "yes" instead of "no" - as I remarked, programmes evolve.

Opposition to a particular technology regarding nuclear waste disposal is one thing. In that case you have to be prepared to put forward a

better alternative. In respect of high-level waste we took that point particularly firmly; and we have had the satisfaction of seeing our proposals substantially adopted.

Blanket opposition to every proposal is quite different - the hallmark of people who believe themselves to be powerless and have lost the will to snap out of it.

At the moment we are in that position. We have ruled out irreversible deposition to living environments, which excludes sea dumping. This leaves land depositories as the only possible route - but we oppose that solution. In effect we are saying that nuclear waste should be put nowhere, yet we know that there is a thirty-year backlog. We also know that if planned decisions are not taken there will ultimately be severe environmental consequences. Let us stop painting ourselves into a corner.

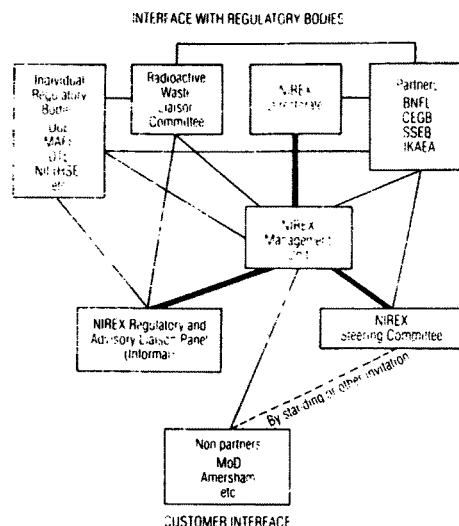
To an educated movement I have no need to waste space spelling this out any further except to say this, our attitude is three years out of date - which is a long time in politics.

NIREX'S REMIT

As one consequence of the Flowers Report the Government has now set up the Nuclear Industry Radioactive Waste Executive, NIREX.

NIREX is one year old, and consists at present of a block of offices at Harwell (on the wrong side of the security fence! For the sake of good public relations it should be outside, like NRPB: there is no room for secrecy here).

Behind the executive body there stands the NIREX Directorate. This consists of representatives of UKAEA, BNFL, CEBG and SSEB - and nobody else. Local authorities, who will be faced with crucially sensitive roles wherever NIREX ventures a proposition, are not represented. Neither are



Realities



environmental organisations such as FoE, TCPA or CPRE, who also have a legitimate concern.

Decisions about high activity waste having already been taken, this area is not the concern of NIREX; its task, to quote from its first Annual Report is "to develop and implement plans for the safe disposal of wastes of low and intermediate levels of activity" - not only from the military and 'civil' nuclear industry but from all other sources such as hospitals.

Its most sensitive task is to identify possible repository sites; it is believed to have about 150 possibilities in view and, at the moment, has made approaches of a provisional nature in respect of two: at Billingham and Elstow near Bedford.

CREDIBILITY GAP

Unfortunately the British political process often fails to recognise a credibility gap even when it falls flat on its face into one. Despite the fact - it is not disputed - that any decisions about repositories will require the normal planning consents the present NIREX structure is wholly lacking in the necessary credibility to accomplish its task, whether at Billingham or anywhere else. For, in politics, the question is not so much a matter of what is said but who is saying it.

And the nuclear industry, NIREX's sole component, is in no position to carry conviction. Reassurances are played out: our people have been fed to the eye-teeth with them for generations - reassurances about industrial diseases, for example, which subsequently turned out to be wrong. Glossies are also useless: the same people who produce them for CEBG would produce anti-nuke glossies for us if we could afford to pay them. Dialogue alone is useful; and for that NIREX must broaden its structure so as to include all with a legitimate interest in the matter. In an overcrowded island with heavy pressure on land-use any proposal to dump waste of any sort will arouse opposition whether the waste is nuclear or not: yet the problem must still be solved. One essential element in this is that the process must involve those in whom people repose trust.

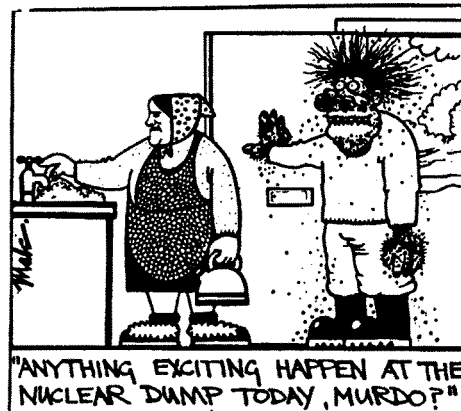
The matter will never be less than delicate to handle - but people are far more likely to feel confidence in local authorities (they can at least get at them!) and environmental organisations than they ever will in the nuclear industry.

Our effort from now on should be to take whatever steps we can to obtain a democratic structure for NIREX such that it is enabled to carry out its tasks in a manner which is not only scienti-

fically, but also socially acceptable. But I have left until last my deepest reason for writing this article. It can be simply stated.

Compared with the issue of nuclear power itself the issue of disposing of the nuclear waste backlog seems diversionary. But compared with the looming threat of nuclear war our pre-occupation with it looks to me like fiddling whilst Rome threatens to go up forever in an obscene morass of radioactive ash and megadeath.

If any reader has any views on the above article - agreement or dissent - please write and let us know. All correspondence will be printed in the next issue unless specifically stated otherwise. Address letters to: The Editor, SCRAM Journal, 11 Forth Street, Edinburgh 1.



BILLINGHAM NUCLEAR WASTE DEBATE

On November 1st 600 people crowded into Billingham's Forum Theatre for a debate which will dramatically affect their future. Over 1000 people overflowed into the Forum Centre and outside the building listened in to the debate relayed by loud-speakers. It was also broadcast live on Cleveland Local Radio. This large turnout from a population of 34,000, at 5.30 when families need feeding, and people are coming home from work was amazing.

Local MP Frank Cook (Stockton North, Labour) opened the meeting stressing the campaign against the Government's radioactive waste disposal plans was strictly non-party political - an all party meeting of councillors voted unanimously the previous day to oppose the NIREX proposal for the intermediate level waste repository. He condemned the timing of the Government announcement - only 7 days before the debate and received great applause when he told the meeting that the waste "is not coming here".

He made it clear that the opposition of Billingham should extend to "every other Billingham", especially the less well organised areas. But he asked that NIREX be given a fair hearing.

Maurice Ginniff, head of NIREX, began his piece with a tape/slide show, and was listened to politely until he tried to put radioactivity into perspective - he himself had received two days worth of dose during his flight up to the meeting - a voice shouted, "don't worry, you'll not need to come back again". Throughout the rest of his speech he was often drowned out as he tried to assure his audience that the waste dump posed no danger. He even had the gall to suggest that the Hartlepool AGR and the waste dump are an asset for Billingham!

Steve Bilcliffe, Director of Friends of the Earth, was given a much better reception. In his speech he revealed that some of the chemical waste discharged from ICI, who own the disused anhydrite mine, could leak through the sewers under the plant, eat through the boulder clay and corrode the concrete within which the waste will be sealed.

David Bellamy chaired the debate. The panel comprised: Roy Matthews (CEGB Director of Health and Safety), Dr. Norman Stott (UKAEA Chief Medical Officer), Peter Taylor (PERG and Greenpeace scientific advisor) and Dr. Alice Stewart (Birmingham Cancer Register Director). The audience listened attentively to Peter Taylor and Alice Stewart but heckled the two industry spokesmen.

Dr. Stott made the first attack on the 'environmentalist' groups; he accused Greenpeace of either being stupid or deceitful about information they had produced on exposure levels during sea dumping - "and they're certainly not stupid". This was followed by uproar in the hall.

The contributions from the floor really got the debate going. Bill Thornton, the ICI Shop Stewards Convener promised immediate strike action if the dump got the go-ahead, and said the Committee had written to ICI to this effect. Paul Marsden, the Deputy Manager of ICI was forced to reply and told the audience that the management were against the plans but would listen to all the arguments and make the decision, bearing in mind the interests of the community.

John Jones of the Stockton Trades Council informed the meeting that, when they had written to NIREX to request clarification of the short-listing of Billingham (following disclosure in the New Scientist in February), NIREX had claimed that Billingham was not on the list. It has also become apparent that NIREX has tried to 'do a deal' with Council Officials to ease their plans through.

Finally, a local referendum in the village of Cowpen Bewley, carried out by the Residents' Association, produced a 100% vote against the plans; and a street-by-street petition is being planned throughout the whole town, which should show massive opposition to NIREX proposals - 34,000 signatures? The Reverend Peter Hirst, chairperson of Billingham Against Nuclear Dumping, voiced the thoughts of all at the meeting when he stood up and said the people of Billingham won't have this waste - they'll take civil disobedient action to stop it.

Steve Martin

APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY

Wind Notes:

Netherlands

Researchers in the Netherlands are fuelling a new interest in wind power. The most optimistic plan is for 20,000 wind turbines by the end of the century and one massive scheme which would be sited on a lake is designed to meet the fluctuations, both of electricity demand and wind speeds. When the wind speed is high enough the 1000 turbines will pump 3000 MW into the grid, however if demand is low it will pump water into a reservoir 24 metres above the lake. If, for example in the morning, when demand for electricity is high but the wind is too slow, the stored water in the reservoir will flow back into the lake turning the turbines as it goes, producing an instant supply of 2,400 MW.

This model is a bit optimistic and a feasibility study has shown it would work well on a smaller scale of 500 turbines producing 1200 MW to 2000 MW. Cost of the project is £2000 million but before the government commits any resources into it a demonstration windpark is to be built in 1984. The emphasis is generally on more research.

Varied research work is going into 300 kw, 1MW + 3MW turbines but the direction is towards building larger turbines to feed the national grid. This centralisation of electricity supply can be undermined by small, efficient, local energy supplies and the decentralisation could prove to become politically explosive in Holland especially.

The confrontation between people and big electricity boards is already happening for example, two brothers Jaap & Pier Prins run a small Dutch farm and have installed a 20 kilowatt wind turbine to supply energy with the help of the Groningen Alternative Energy Foundation. The farm remains connected to the national grid to ensure a supply on windless days and to feed back excess energy produced by their turbine. The brothers are paid 2.5p/kWh for the electricity they put back into the

grid but they are charged 5p/kWh for any electricity they get from the grid! Despite this, the brothers say the turbine will pay for itself in ten years.

Another example of the centralisation policies of electricity boards, is the South Holland electricity boards' recent regulation stipulating that any electricity generated has to be sold back to the board for 2.5p/kWh and buy it back for 4p.!

The South of Holland Provincial Council and the Centre for Energy Conservation are opposing these new legislations. The centralisation policies are being attacked by small, efficient, independent wind turbines. It's just a pity it's all centred round money, if you've got the money you can build your own wind turbine; what happens to everyone else?

New Scientist, 27.10.83

Germany

Europe's largest wind turbine began production in West Germany in October. The turbine is part of a £23 million project financed by the Ministry of Science & Technology (BMFT) and will provide energy to 2500 houses. If the wind speed is over 12 metres per second the turbine's output will be 3MW.

According to the manufacturer it has cost less than £5 million but a BMFT spokesperson said that even excluding development costs, wind power was more expensive than oil-fired stations.

Is it money or an infinite, safe, renewable energy source we're after? we all ask, however the BMFT will decide whether to finance further wind energy projects after a three year trial period of this turbine.

New Scientist, 27.10.83

France

Jacques Cousteau, the world-renowned explorer and ecologist, and his crew have developed a wind-powered boat of ingenious design. It is not driven by a sail, but by a 13 metre cylinder shaped like an extra-thick mast with a fan on top. The mast has one vertical vent on each side which can be adjusted to suit the direction of the wind.

Cousteau believes that the sea-going windmill offers huge prospects for energy savings. Already experiments with an 800 tonne boat in a Paris wind tunnel have shown that it could move at 15 knots in a 20 knot win, using two of the wind cylinders. Normally 150 hp would be needed to achieve this.

Cousteau is presently on a journey from Tangiers to New York, using the windmill on catamaran sailing boat (Journey ends 15th November). He is hoping to persuade shipping companies to study his design and ultimately invest in it - he believes the design could pay for itself in three years on fuel savings alone.

Sunday Times, 23.10.83

Solar School

Employees of the Palo Verde nuclear plant in Arizona are sending their children to American's only totally solar-powered school.

A parabolic trough cogeneration system provides the school with most of its fuel requirements. The system will actually provide enough power to sell electricity back to the local utility.

The school Board said the reason for the solar-powered school was that they were trying to cut back on soaring utility bills and found this the most economic way to power a school. The system should pay off in energy savings in 8 years.

Renewable Energy News, August '83

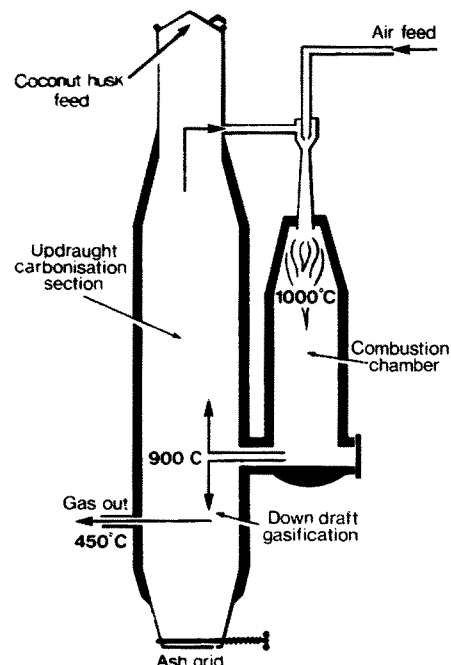
Split Wood Not Atoms

Wood gas generators are enjoying a partial return to their popularity in the thirties, especially in rural developing countries. The increased cost of buying and transporting imported oil, along with technical improvements, mean that wood gasifiers are now economically attractive. On the South Pacific island of Tahiti a new type of gas generator, which is fuelled by coconut husks (a local waste product), has been running successfully for the last 6 years. The dangers of a further increase in wood use worldwide — with the destruction of tropical rain forest leading to desertification and a potentially fatal 'oxygen gap' — should always be borne in mind. However, small-scale wood gas generators can provide a simple, efficient, cheap form of decentralised energy for rural communities. When a local waste product is being re-used as fuel, as in Tahiti, then this technology seems most appropriate.

Other wood gas generators are planned for:

- * Alaska - feasibility report conducted for gasification equipment involving up to 44 remote villages.
- * Western Samoa - two 900kW generators planned as alternative to hydro power during the dry season.
- * French Guyana - 7MW diesel generator planned, fuelled by wood gas.
- * Mid-Wales - the National Centre for Alternative Technology (NCAT) have installed a working display wood gas generator (sponsored by the Vegan Society).

Electrical Review, 14.10.83



Beating the Draught

Now that winter is again upon us, our minds naturally turn to keeping warm. Energy conservation techniques can help us achieve this end, and save money as well. The following article was written by Pete Roche and explains how local communities are setting up projects to insulate houses of those on low income in different parts of the country. There appear to be many complications put in the way of people trying to set up such a project, even though the Government has recently announced "the biggest ever energy campaign" to be run by the Energy Efficiency Office at the Department of Energy. The aim of the campaign is to save 20% of the country's energy bill.

Since the 1973/74 energy crisis successive governments have sought to reduce energy consumption in the domestic sector. In order to achieve this they have pursued four rather timid policies:

1. The cornerstone of the present Government's policy is to price fuel at a 'realistic' level - ie. make it more expensive;
2. A publicity campaign has urged consumers to "save it";
3. Grants are available for loft insulation (from local authorities) and for draught-proofing (from the DHSS, for low income households); and
4. Building regulations set standards for energy conservation in new buildings.

These four policies have had a small impact, but evidence suggests that they have been least successful in tackling the problems of low income consumers. The poor and the elderly are more likely to be spending a large proportion of their budget on fuel, and are more likely to live in old or low standard homes with inefficient and costly heating systems. Therefore price increases hit them hardest. They are the least able to respond to 'price signals' and least able to afford the balance between any grants and the total cost of insulation work.

It is against this background that the National Council of Voluntary Organisations launched Neighbourhood Energy Action (NEA) in June 1981, to assist local communities to run projects to help conserve energy in low income households, and at the same time create jobs. NEA is run from offices in Newcastle and London and provides information, training and a forum for schemes, both those already established and those in the planning stages.

Setting up a local scheme is a demanding, almost entrepreneurial task, calling for a wide range of skills particularly in financial management. The Department of Energy contributes to the initial costs of setting up the project, thereafter the main sources of funding for overheads and running costs are the Manpower Services Commission, the Urban and Inner City Programmes, local authorities, donations and charities. Projects relying only on MSC funding face grave financial problems.

It is not surprising, therefore, that a survey of schemes in September 1982 showed that there was by no means a national network. There were 28 projects in all, which were carrying out practical work in clients' homes. East Anglia and Wales had no established projects or energy advice units; the North West and East Midlands had very few; and a quarter of the projects were in the London area, and 18 per cent in Edinburgh and the surrounding area.

Ideally, energy conservation measures should be carried out on a national basis in a similar way to the North Sea Gas conversion programme, as suggested by the National Right to Fuel Campaign. But the government has shown a singular lack of initiative in this field, despite the numerous advantages of such a programme. So, local communities are faced with a choice of doing nothing or jumping in at the deep-end and trying to wade through the bureaucracy. Since 1982 a further obstacle has been that the original Community Enterprise Programme, which provided full-time, temporary work for the unemployed, has been abolished. It has been replaced by the much more complicated Community Programme, within which wages have to be averaged to £60 per week over the whole project, using a mixture of full-time and part-time staff. Nor are the interests of energy conservation served by the MSC's rules which only allow insulation workers to be employed for one year. After training employees to the point where they become skilled draught-proofers, they are then thrown back on the dole, or if they are lucky, they are employed doing something which does not make use of their new skills.

Despite all the obstacles and pitfalls in setting up and running local projects, many are carrying out useful work which is well appreciated by their customers. During the year ending 30th September 1982, among the 28 projects, a total of 7,979 households had had practical work done, of which 75% had received financial assistance of some kind. Ninety-one per cent of clients in Britain who had had loft insulation carried out had received a home insulation grant, and many of the 6,281 households who had had draught-proofing done had received this service completely free.

One of the 28 projects is Leith Insul-

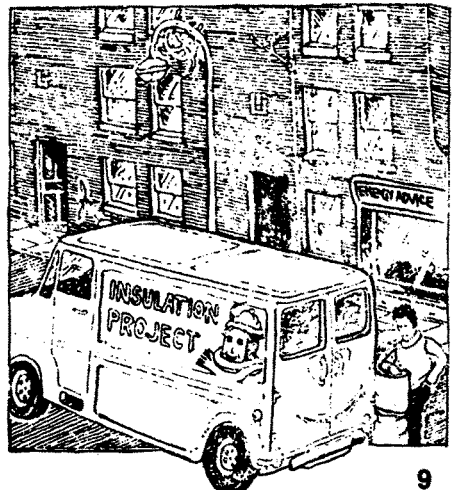
ation Project (LIP), in Edinburgh. It began in May 1982 and during its first year draught-proofed 850 dwellings and carried out loft insulation work in about 20 dwellings. Work is carried out for pensioners and those on low income such as single-parents, the unemployed or people in receipt of Family Income Supplement. However, only a few of these people are eligible for a single-payment from the DHSS, for example pensioners claiming a rent and rate rebate instead of supplementary pension, cannot claim a single-payment. The project will help customers to claim any grants which are available to them, and has also been able to raise money from local charities and the Scottish Development Agency to help subsidise work carried out for those not eligible for grants.

LIP is now into its second year and has a staff of 19, who work mostly part-time, and requests for draught-proofing work and loft insulation work are coming in thick and fast. LIP has been visited by people from other parts of Scotland who are planning to set up new schemes. It is not always possible for people from Scotland to get to training sessions organised by NEA in London, Birmingham or Newcastle, so this passing on of experience from established projects to new ones has been important.

A new organisation was set up on 8th November, with help from NEA, to stimulate projects north of the border. Scottish NEA is now co-operating closely with Glasgow District Council with the aim of setting up schemes throughout the city. Glasgow District Council is to employ four full-time staff who will work with community groups, with the eventual aim of creating 250 jobs. SNEA hope that by passing on the experience of existing projects, by training managers and staff, and publicising the benefits of insulation projects, the present half dozen or so schemes in Scotland will be increased to a complete network throughout the country.

Contact: SNEA, 266 Clyde Street, Glasgow 1. 041-221-8021.

Survey results from 'Local Energy Conservation Schemes in the UK', University of York, Dept. of Social Administration and Social Work, Social Policy Research Unit.



Reviews

UNDER PRESSURE: THE DANGERS OF THE PWR by Don Arnott; Anti-Nuclear Campaign. [50p + 20p postage].

"And who would run, that's moderately wise,
A certain danger, for a doubtful prize?"

The above quotation, by Rev. John Pomfret (1667-1702), appears at the beginning of the long-awaited ANC contribution to the Sizewell debate. At 50p this pamphlet is very good value, although Peter Kennard's photomontage cover - the British Isles being manipulated through a radiation-shielded glove box - is rather confusing.



The pamphlet is intended for campaigners addressing meetings and members of the public wishing to find out about PWR safety. This role the pamphlet performs admirably. It deals with the specific hazards of the PWR - general reactor dangers and other issues such as waste transport and proliferation are not dealt with at all, which may concern some readers. The essential requirements for any nuclear reactors are explained, as are some of the necessary scientific terms - all very lucidly.

Don Arnott then goes on to describe the workings of a Westinghouse PWR - the design chosen for Sizewell - and compares it with gas-cooled reactors. He suggests that the safest type of reactor must have the four essential functions - fuel, moderator, control rods and coolant - entirely separate; one of the 'generic' defects of PWR's is that the coolant and moderator are combined in the form of water, so that two essential functions can be distorted at the same time in the event of an accident.

Whilst not trying to make a case for gas-cooled reactors, there is a danger that this pamphlet may be interpreted as such - a position which Don stresses in his introduction as not being intended. Nevertheless there are a couple of irritating points which I must mention in an otherwise impressive work. Firstly there are two misleading proof-reading errors: page 9, paragraph 2 - the second mention of U-235 (in brackets) should be U-238, and page 14, paragraph 2, 4th sentence - the word should be **generates** not **guarantees**. The other niggling thing is the apparent ANC xenophobia - the PWR is still termed the **American PWR**.

Apart from the minor complaints, the pamphlet is well written and easily understood with its use of homely examples, and it is the only pamphlet on PWR safety to appear at a knockdown price.

Steve Martin

The Ground Launched Cruise Missile - A Technical Assessment. Electronics For Peace [Tim Williams]. [75p + 20p postage]

If the protest against the 160 GLCMs - starting to arrive at Greenham Common as we go to press - were restricted to this 30 page pamphlet, then one could be accused of falling into the trap of playing the scientific-boffin game. However, given the (relative) strength of the campaign against Cruise, this pamphlet will provide campaigners with excellent technical information to back up arguments against this uniquely dangerous missile. Tim Williams shows that, apart from Cruise being a destabilising (and unilateral) lurch toward a first-strike capability, the missile is in itself technically a risk to Britain because of its operational unreliability.

Research into the GLCM reveals the machines of power behind the nuclear arms race. The Tomahawk Cruise Missile is the prize of General Dynamics, the largest and most powerful defence/weapon company in the U.S. - the defects and risks in the Cruise system have been overlooked in the search for strategic superiority and profit.

This pamphlet is, for 75p, worth getting hold of. (Better the devil you know than the devil you don't know.)

Henry Mathias



FORTRESS SCOTLAND by Malcolm Spaven; Pluto Press. [£3.95 + 30p postage].

Did you know that Hunterston is the only one of the three nuclear installations in Scotland which doesn't have a secret military base attached? But then it does produce plutonium...

At Dounreay they will develop the Trident submarines' power unit - if the project is not cancelled. Chapelcross was built to produce plutonium for the UK Bomb programme, and now makes tritium for bombs too.

These are some of the interesting items contained in Malcolm Spaven's **Fortress Scotland**. The author has exhaustively detailed the 'military presence' in Scotland. Everything is in the book, from the smallest aerial or territorial army range to the biggest bases.

Malcolm Spaven tells us not only what and where the military machine is in Scotland, but also what it's for and how it would be used. Scotland's strategic position is emphasised to explain what does seem to be rather a lot of targets for any aggressor.

This is an easy-to-use reference book, interesting to dip into as well. The various mind-boggling acronyms, for example, COMNORECHAN (Commander North

East Channel - based at Pitreavie in Fife) and NICS (NATO Integrated Communication System), are explained, as are the functions of the people, units and 'projects' they represent. A longer index would have been a help so that I could have looked up, say, Brownclarrick Hill, even if I didn't know which region it's in (Strathclyde by the way).

Fortress Scotland is worth reading, perhaps we should start sending copies to those who say Ivan could march in tomorrow. The book has already received quite a lot of attention, I'll finish with a quote from the Glasgow Herald editorial (28.10.83):

"Perhaps knowledge of the extent of our present embattled posture will encourage public opinion to maintain the pressure for disarmament. It is a spur political leaders need."

Malcolm Bruce

DRAIN PIG AND THE GLOW BOYS by Dan Pearce; Junction Books. [£1.95 + 25p postage].

THE RIDDLE OF THE SPHINCTER by Ralph Edney; Pluto Press. [£2.95 + 45p postage].

Prisoner pig pressganged into plutonium production. Drain Pig and the Glow Boys is about Sizemould, that well known PWR, and its resident squad of Glow Boys, prisoners who undertake work in highly radioactive areas. Written and illustrated by Dan Pearce whose work graces the pages of YNNI, the Welsh anti-nuclear magazine, it is not only an excellent comic book in its own right, but it also puts across its message without the text book quality of Leonard Rifas' 'All Atomic Comics'. Notable features include chairman of the CEBG, and Drain Pig himself, an underground hero in every sense of the word.

The Riddle of the Sphinx is also a



comic book, and it too pokes fun at contemporary society, but in a more generalised fashion. It is a reworking of the Oedipus story with Lazarus Lamb cast as Oedipus. Laz has already appeared in a comic published by Knockabout, but this is much more satisfying. Laz wanders through the urban wasteland surrounded by a plethora of quips and one-liners on books, walls, in fact any place where writing is used. From time to time the picture focuses on a What do you think of it so far? scene where the public give their opinion on Laz and his life, and the book also includes a sci-fi horror film and a puzzle page. Excellently written and illustrated by Ralph Edney it puts a laugh where your mouth is.

PLUM!

Torness V Monktonhall

"Coal find could mean the death of Torness nuclear plan". This was the headline in the 'East Lothian News' of 9th October 1976. It referred to a find of 50 million tonnes of good quality coal under the Forth off Musselburgh, just 20 miles from Torness, and could have meant 500 jobs being preserved as other pits become exhausted. However, to justify the £20m investment, Sir Derek Ezra called on the SSEB to maintain its coal purchase of 8m tonnes per year and to reverse the nuclear-based energy policy.

Well, as we all know now, the threat to the Torness nuclear power station project was exaggerated! Indeed: **"Torness 'death threat to coal industry'"** read a headline in the 'Scotsman' of 10th November 1983. This followed the announcement that the SSEB, after two years' protracted negotiations with the National Coal Board, is to reduce its coal order to only 4.2m tonnes (3.8m if one excludes the slurry which is burned at the small Methil power station in Fife). This is the latest in a sequence of cuts: the Board bought 7.8 tonnes in 1981/82 and 6.2m in 1982/83; and the Scottish National Party has claimed that only 2m tonnes will be bought after Torness is commissioned.

A combination of the economic recession and a planned dismantling of the coal industry are to blame for the present state of affairs. The closure of the Invergordon aluminium smelter, allowing nuclear electricity from Hunterston to be used for other customers, and the shutting down of coal-fired stations in Scotland have both contributed to the reduction in coal-burn and the high 'nuclear portion' of electricity generation in Scotland - now at 38.8%. The leaked Cabinet minutes of 23rd October 1979 show that the pre-

sent attack on the coal industry is not random: "... a nuclear programme would have the advantage of removing a substantial portion of electricity production from the dangers of disruption... by coal miners or transport workers".

The coal find under Musselburgh Bay, mentioned above, could have been developed from the Monktonhall Colliery, but development stopped on those faces at the beginning of August. This was one of the reasons for the strike at the mine, which lasted two months. 280 miners, all aged 50 or more, have now accepted voluntary redundancy at the pit.

The NCB have said that the mine was one of the worst in Scotland, yet some of the faces have consistently come in the country's top six, on the NCB's own figures. During the strike, Ian MacGregor, the NCB chairperson, warned the miners, "You have no future unless you perform", even though it was said that the mine is not on any hit-list. The strike was made official on 27th September and a one-day stoppage in the Scottish coal field occurred on the 17th October.

The miners went back on 7th November with assurances from the Board that there would be local and national consultations on the pit's future, and David Hamilton (the NUM delegate at the mine) said that they would consult with the management "to resolve all the problems of Monktonhall".

John Home-Robertson, the MP for East Lothian, wrote to George Younger, the Scottish Secretary, during the strike to call for "a clear-cut commitment to coal mining at Monktonhall and coal burning at Cockenzie". He believed that this would "help to resolve the current problem". In his

letter he quoted a statement made in June by Donald Miller, the SSEB Chairperson, that Cockenzie and its associated pits would continue operation until the end of the century. The reply was rather "luke-warm". The letter stated that the Minister "realised the sizeable contribution to the area" which Cockenzie and Monktonhall made, but the source of the coal for the station is a matter for the SSEB and the NCB to decide.

As a foot-note to this story, Mr McGahey, the Scottish NUM President was quoted in the 'Guardian' on 8th November as saying "Nuclear and oil-fired stations should be moth-balled during the recession. You can't switch off a nation's mining". Better late than never Mr McGahey!

Perhaps this new understanding of the threat that nuclear power holds for the coal industry will provide an opportunity for a dialogue to be set in train between the miners' unions and the anti-nuclear and safe energy groups. Let's hope that it can happen.

Steve Martin

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Little Black Rabbit

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DIARY

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December

Whilst visiting relations in the North East of England last month Little Black Rabbit heard some very interesting stories. Her cousins live around Billingham in Cleveland and they've just heard that they are to be the lucky recipients of an intermediate level nuclear waste repository.

Being rabbits, her cousins have a wide knowledge of underground matters and they think that the ICI's disused anhydrite mines are not a very good choice for a nuclear waste dump. The NIREX people have said that they chose Billingham, from a list of 150 potential sites, because it appeared to be the best bet for the dump. The reason for their decision is that they say the mine is perfectly dry — apparently an important criterion.

Little Black Rabbit's cousins know differently — 1½ million gallons of brine per year runs into the mine and has to be continuously pumped out. Brine does awful things to rabbit fur — what will it do to concrete and steel? There is also evidence of methane seeping into the mine; there was a big explosion and fire in the mine in January 1960 which put two miners in hospital with burns for up to two years — still sounds safe?

So why did NIREX choose Billingham? Little Black Rabbit did some burrowing and discovered some interesting facts. Dr. Lewis Roberts, chairperson of NIREX, joined Tube Alloys in 1943 and has been involved in the "scientific beginnings of practically all the major atomic projects". Tube Alloys was the innocuous cover name for the UK's A-Bomb project; an ICI executive, Sir John Anderson, was given ministerial responsibility for the project!

It all becomes clear now, doesn't it. And I bet they all do funny hand shakes as well!

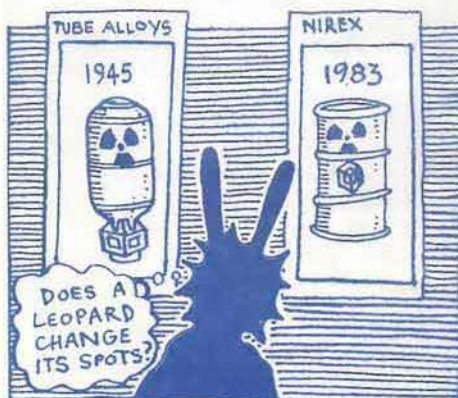
- 2-3 Blockade & Demonstration at ROF Llanishen, Cardiff, organised by CND Cymru.
- 2-4 National CND Annual Conference Sheffield.
- 2-4 Student Ecology Movement Conference to discuss formation of a Federation of Green Groups in Colleges and Universities, Exeter University.
- 4-6 "Householder's guide to saving energy in the home" - residential course at NCAT, Machynlleth, Powys.
- 10th Edinburgh CND rally at the Mound off Princes Street.
- 10-11 Greenham Common Women's action.

- 11-12 Faslane - Direct action.
- 14th Meeting between East Lothian District & Lothian Region Councillors to discuss waste transport through the area.
- 21st Winter Solstice.

January

- 1st Newspeak becomes official language. Ministry of Peace established.
- 11th Sizewell Inquiry's first birthday.
- 21st Holy Loch - mass women's action.

Please send entries for the Diary well in advance (preferably a couple of months) to ensure inclusion.



FORTRESS SCOTLAND

A GUIDE TO THE MILITARY PRESENCE
MALCOLM SPAVEN

PLUTO PRESS

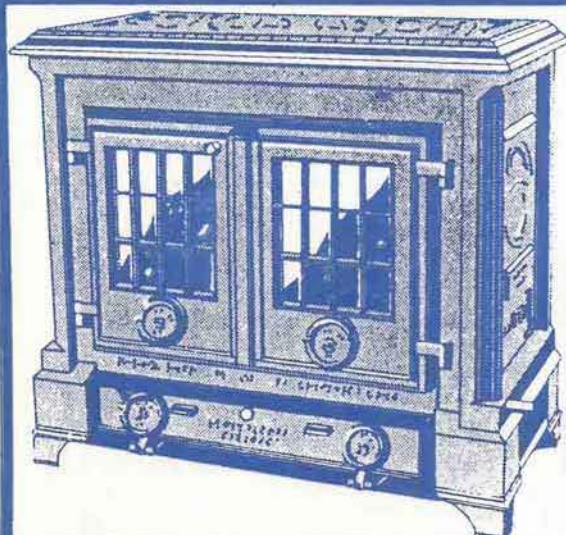


UK £3.95

From radar stations to nuclear weapons stores, this book details the activities and roles of over 200 military installations in Scotland. It explains Scotland's role in US and NATO strategy and reveals the disturbing impact of the military presence on the people, economy and landscape of Scotland.

Published in association with Scottish CND

Available with many more by mail order from The Smiling Sun, 11 Forth Street, Edinburgh 1.



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