

# campaign

## Trump state visit



CND General Secretary **Kate Hudson** explains why CND was part of the huge protests against Trump's state visit earlier this month.

**O**NCE we heard the news that President Trump was heading to Britain for a state visit, extensive plans were set in motion to give him the kind of welcome he deserves. Over the three-day visit there were protests across the country, including major events in London, as well as Portsmouth where he headed for the D-Day commemorations.

As there are so many issues on which to challenge him, the protests were diverse and creative as well as hard-hitting and heartfelt. Our CND focus was on his nuclear and military policies

and there are certainly plenty of those to get worked up about! Together with a wide range of partner organisations and coalitions, we were delighted to contribute to the positive protest outcomes. Trump may have said that there were no protests against him, but there is real documentary evidence of as many as a hundred thousand out on the streets across the country over those three days.

Trump highlighted some of the issues we are concerned about on a recent visit to Japan to meet the new emperor and the



prime minister, Shinzo Abe. Abe is notable for abandoning article 9 of Japan's 'peace constitution', which had outlawed war as a means of resolving international disputes. Recently, the *New York Times* described Japan as taking an 'authoritarian turn' under Abe, and quoted Trump's former chief strategist, the far-right Steve Bannon saying 'Abe was Trump before Trump', describing him as a great hero for being the first nationalist leader to govern an industrialized democracy.

Through the love-in of the press conference, various alarming developments were announced. Most strikingly, Trump revealed that he and Abe have agreed to expand their co-operation on human space exploration, with Japan joining US missions to the Moon and even Mars. 'It's very

exciting', said Trump, before going on to give us the real meat: 'And from a military standpoint, there is nothing more important right now than space.'

Of course we know this has been on Trump's agenda for a while. Just last summer he reconvened the National Space Council – on ice for years – and instructed the Department of Defense and the Pentagon to set up a sixth branch of the armed forces: the Space Force. As Trump said, 'When it comes to defending America, it is not enough to merely have an American presence in space. We must have American dominance in space. So important.' But the trouble is, it's not just this one area – US dominance is pretty much Trump's approach to everything.

Take this together with pulling out of the INF Treaty, trashing the Iran nuclear deal, building so-called 'usable' nuclear weapons, bullying NATO members into spending more on defence – AKA buying more US weaponry – there is plenty for anti-nuclear campaigners to protest about. Many thanks to everyone who came out during Trump's visit, to make the case for a world of peace and justice. Now's the time to step up our work for a future free from the threat of nuclear annihilation.

## Groups Spotlight

This month:  
**Derby CND**



The group had a strong presence last month at festival Belper Goes Green, with the local Mayor and Mayoress keen to show their support for CND's campaigns.

Volunteers had an active time, with plenty of discussions and interest shown at the stall.

If you would like to get in touch with the group, please contact 07557 271015 or email [viv.carnea@gmail.com](mailto:viv.carnea@gmail.com).

# UK banks invest in nukes

CND Parliamentary Officer **Amy Keegan** examines the new revelations about Britain's banks profiting from nuclear weapons.

**A NEW REPORT** has revealed how numerous British banks are profiting from nuclear weapons. The latest Don't Bank on the Bomb report, published by PAX, reveals that Aviva, Barclays, HSBC, Lloyds and the Royal Bank of Scotland are among the 27 UK financial institutions that have invested £25 billion in the nuclear weapons industry in the past two years.

Barclays comes top of this dubious league, having invested almost £4 billion, followed by Lloyds Banking Group on £3.4 billion and HSBC on £2.3 billion. The Royal Bank of Scotland has also invested £1.4 billion in this period. But while this is just a drop in the ocean of the almost £600 billion invested worldwide by 325 financial institutions, it still represents a grotesque notion of shareholders becoming wealthier on the back of trade in weapons of mass destruction. And more



**CND welcomes this report and its essential contribution to the case against investing in nuclear weapons. These findings must be used to pressure these companies to divest from funding these weapons of mass destruction.**

horrifyingly still, the total amount spent worldwide is up 42% in the last three years.

It is frankly appalling that

these companies are making money out of nuclear weapons whilst the UK government is wasting £205 billion of taxpayers' money replacing the Trident nuclear weapons system. Work has begun on building a new generation of Dreadnought class submarines to carry the UK's nuclear warheads. £18 billion was invested in BAE Systems, the lead company in this programme.

CND welcomes this report and its essential contribution to the case against investing in nuclear weapons. These findings must be used to pressure these companies to divest from funding these weapons of mass destruction. We encourage all of CND's supporters to write to the customer services department of their bank if they have an account with any of the institutions listed. Pressure from consumers can have a real impact on the decisions of these banks.

■ Read the full report: [www.dontbankonthebomb.com/](http://www.dontbankonthebomb.com/)



## Global Dangers Tour

We live in increasingly unstable times, where nuclear dangers are growing alarmingly. CND is highlighting these dangers in a national tour this year: get involved.

Upcoming dates include Nottingham (June 15th), Crawley (June 27th), Haringey (July 1st), Canterbury (July 5th), Isle of Wight (July 26th), Derby (Aug 6th), Reigate and Redhill (Sep 12th), Birkenhead (Sep 13th) and Oxfordshire (Sep 21st).

■ For more information or if you are interested in hosting a visit, please contact [enquiries@cnduk.org](mailto:enquiries@cnduk.org) or 020 7700 2393.

## Faringdon Grand Peace

**Fete July 6th, 2pm**

The Clock House, Coleshill

■ Contact 01367 241707

## No Nuclear Day at DSEI Arms Fair

**September 4th**

ExCel London, Royal Victoria

Dock E16 1XL

■ Contact [enquiries@cnduk.org](mailto:enquiries@cnduk.org)

or or 020 7700 2393

## Peace Camps

**Aldermaston Women's**

**Peace Camp** Second weekend of every month.

■ Tel 07946 676761

[info@aldermaston.net](mailto:info@aldermaston.net)

[www.aldermaston.net](http://www.aldermaston.net)

@Peace\_women\_AWE

## Faslane Peace Camp

Permanent. A814, Shandon, Helensburgh, Dumbartonshire G84 8NT.

■ Tel 07376 188216 or email

[faslanepeacecamp@protonmail.com](mailto:faslanepeacecamp@protonmail.com)

## Menwith Hill Vigil

The weekly vigil is now switching days – please contact Sarah for details: 01765 600928 or [sswift64@gmail.com](mailto:sswift64@gmail.com)

Notting Hill Arts Club, 21 Notting Hill Gate, London. Join CND for an evening of new music with **Sisteray**, **Bugeye**, **Luna Rosa** and opening words from Katharine Hamnett. Advance tickets £7.50, £10 on the door. Contact 020 7700 2393 or [information@cnduk.org](mailto:information@cnduk.org)

## Salisbury CND AGM

**June 18th, 7:30pm**

Salisbury Quaker meeting house, 51 Wilton Road, Salisbury SP2 7EP

■ Contact 01722 321865

## Rededication of Molesworth Peace Garden

**June 29th, 11am**

RAF Molesworth, Huntingdon PE28 0QA

■ Contact [christians@cnduk.org](mailto:christians@cnduk.org) or 020 7700 4200

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