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with the
Ministry
of Defence

DSEi 2005

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Issue 191
Aug/Sept 2005

£1.00

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Thank you also to our dedicated team of CAATnews staffers

Printed by Russell Press on 100% recycled paper using only post consumer de-inked waste.

Copy deadline for the next issue is 26 September 2005. We shall be posting it the week beginning 10 October 2005.

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CAAT was set up in 1974 and is a broad coalition of groups and individuals working for the reduction and ultimate abolition of the international arms trade, together with progressive demilitarisation within arms-producing countries.

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CAATnews is part of INK, the Independent News Collective.
www.ink.uk.com

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The G8 'geishas of gaiety' in action at Faslane – see page 6 NANTES INDYMEDIA

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Countdown to DSEi

The DSEi arms fair is just over one month away. Once again, London's Docklands look set to have to host arms traders from around the world so that arms companies can profit from death and suffering.

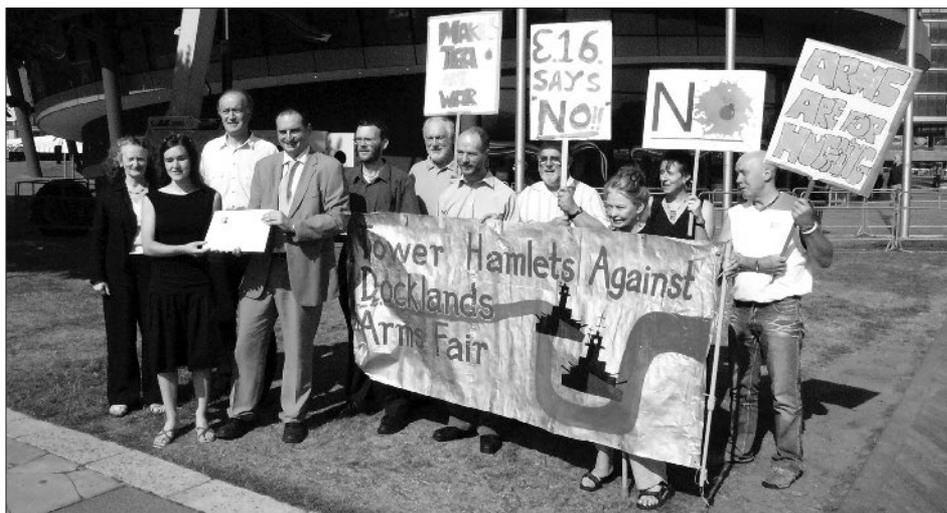
On pages 8 and 9 of this issue we provide the low-down on the arms fair and the role it plays in the international arms trade circuit. For now, here's a quick summary of the campaign and plans for protest at the fair itself.

Events in the run-up to DSEi

Campaign day: East London, 17th August. We will be talking to people about the arms fair and about the reasons for taking action against it.

Information and training day: London, Saturday 27th August. Specifically for people who would like to take independent non-violent action at the fair. Get in touch if you want to take part or to hold a similar event in your region.

CAAT alternative DSEi conference, part I: Sunday 11th September will see a day of talks, workshops, training, films and networking at Toynbee Hall, 28 Commercial Street, London E1 (nearest tube is Aldgate East). It will be a great opportunity to



Campaigners hand in a petition of over 1,000 signatures to the London Assembly, calling for DSEi to be cancelled CAAT

come together, learn more about the issues and prepare ourselves for the week ahead.

For further details of all of these events contact Anna at the office or action@caat.org.uk

Demonstrate against DSEi, 13th September 2005

When it comes to the first day of the arms fair, Tuesday 13th September, we are calling a mass peaceful demonstration to show our opposition. The demonstration will

start at 12 noon from Newham Town Hall in East London and will head to the ExCel Centre, a distance of about 3 miles. We need volunteers to be stewards – please contact Anna at the office or action@caat.org.uk. After the demonstration we will have Part II of CAAT's alternative conference – again at Toynbee Hall.

Events organised by other groups will be happening throughout the week – keep an eye on our website for more information.

ANNA JONES

Reed Elsevier: a company that should know better

Meanwhile our campaign continues against Reed Elsevier, the information giant whose subsidiary companies Reed Exhibitions and Spearhead Exhibitions organise DSEi and other arms fairs around the world. After attending the company's AGM in April, CAAT supporters have been present at other non-arms exhibitions organised by Reed. CAAT would like to have a presence at as many of Reed's exhibitions as possible, to give out leaflets and encourage exhibition visitors to sign postcards to Reed Elsevier's Chairman. If you would like to help us in this vital part

of our campaign, please contact the office.

One upcoming event is Reed Elsevier's 'Helitech' exhibition, which takes place in September at the Imperial War Museum, Duxford. Though the exhibition includes civilian as well as military helicopters, this is clearly an arms fair: 2003's exhibitors included such famous military industry names as AugustaWestland (manufacturer of the Apache attack helicopter); the UK's second biggest arms manufacturer Rolls Royce; and Thales, France's biggest arms

company. On Tuesday 27th September there will be a protest organised by Norfolk CAAT – contact norfolkcaat@yahoo.co.uk or call Rupert on 01263 512 049.

Finally, Reed Elsevier is famous for its academic, scientific and medical journals and publications. We are very pleased that several academics have spoken out against Reed Elsevier, which relies on the goodwill of academics to contribute to and purchase their journals. We would be very keen to hear from academics and professionals familiar with Reed Elsevier publications.

UK continues to train Uzbekistan Army

Despite condemning Uzbekistan's Army for shooting up to 500 civilians in May, the UK is continuing its training programme for the Uzbekistan military. *Private Eye* quoted the British Embassy in Tashkent as saying that the training aims to make a "significant contribution to conflict prevention and resolution." The Eye points out that, given the Army's crackdown and civilian death toll, the training may not be so successful.

PRIVATE EYE, 10/6/05; GUARDIAN, 30/6/05

UK-based airline accused of flying arms to Congo

Flights by African International Airways (AIA) may breach the UN ban on the shipment of arms to eastern Congo, with documents seen by the *Sunday Times* showing that the recipients of the flights' cargo included Rwandan-backed rebel groups. AIA has offices in Crawley.

After an investigation, during which AIA continued to carry out flights for the Ministry of Defence, a UK customs spokesperson said that there was "insufficient evidence to justify any further inquiries."

Amnesty International has called for a further inquiry into the flights.

SUNDAY TIMES, 3/4/05

On a slippery slope in Germany

In June a former German junior Defence Minister confessed to accepting bribes on arms sales to Saudi Arabia in the 1990s. Referring to a backhanders for his help in an arms deal he said: "I really cannot explain how this slip-up came to pass." The trial threatens to open a debate on political corruption at the heart of Germany's political elite.

TIMES, 29/6/05

China and India become top weapons importers

Figures recently released from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI, see page 13) show that China and India emerged as the world's top two arms importers between 2000 and 2004. Indeed, China's provisional military budget announced in March 2005 included an increase of 18.1 per cent over the 2004 budget.

To date, both China and India have looked to Russia for military equipment but are expected to look further afield as their demands increase.

JANE'S DEFENCE INDUSTRY, JULY 2005

Navy support ships to be built in China?

Shipbuilder VT Group is preparing a bid for 15 support vessels for the UK Navy. The bid includes the possibility that the ships' hulls may be built in China to save money. While the Ministry of Defence insists that all warships be assembled in the UK, VT believes that this may not apply to support ships. Aerospace equipment manufacturer Smiths is also considering expanding its facilities in China due to "significant cost advantage".

INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY, 15/5/05; FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL, 21-27 JUNE 2005

Surprise US rejection of moves to impose sanctions on China

In July a dramatic turnaround led to the US House of Representatives rejecting legislation that would give the president authority to impose sanctions on European companies that sell arms to China. More than 100 House members changed their votes after lobbying from the bill's opponents, including industry groups concerned at its potential impact on jobs. FINANCIAL TIMES, 15/7/05

2005 CAAT National Gathering

Saturday 12th November 2005, 10am-5pm, Mary Ward House, Tavistock Place, London (near Russell Square)

CAAT's annual gathering for all those interested in ending arms exports and working for a better world.

Join us for a day of workshops and discussions around current campaigns and other issues related to the international arms trade. The gathering will help you to become better informed, plan campaigns, develop your skills and meet like-minded people.

There is no charge for the day and a vegetarian lunch will be provided, though donations are welcome.

To register your place please contact Anna at the office (anna@caat.org.uk)

US increases control over Israeli arms exports

The US and Israel have developed new regulations specifying that Israel must inform Washington if it intends to sell weapons to "sensitive" countries. The list has not been released but is said to include China and India.

The restrictions come after the US accused Israel of providing false information about a deal in which Israel Aircraft Industries was to upgrade Harpy attack drones sold to China. FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL, 5-11 JULY 2005

Hawks to India may be used for combat

Hawk aircraft promised to India through a deal with BAE Systems may be used as combat aircraft "should an operational scenario present itself", according to the head of Indian Air Force training command.

While the Hawks will have the ability to carry live weapons, their use was supposed to be limited to pilot training. When this concern was put to the UK's Defence Export Services Organisation, its spokesperson stated he was sure that India would consult the UK if it wanted to use the aircraft in any other role.

TIMES OF INDIA, 26/5/05

Arms fairs claimed to increase sales

The export of arms from Bosnia-Herzegovina has grown rapidly in recent times. Bosnia's largest arms trader UNIS Promix put its success down to the Bosnian arms industry's participation in arms fairs around the globe, including London.

MEDIA MONITOR, 24/6/05

Government-industry links strengthened on aerospace

Industry minister Alun Michael and BAE Systems chief executive Mike Turner are to co-chair the new Aerospace Innovation and Growth Leadership Council, which will oversee implementation of the UK's aerospace agenda.

The Council will meet twice a year and will include representatives from Government, industry, 'regional partners' and trade unions. Membership will be decided by both Michael and Turner.

FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL, 28 JUNE-4 JULY 2005

Arms trade corruption in South Africa

In his recent high profile court case, Schabir Shaik, former financial advisor to then South African Deputy President Jacob Zuma, was found guilty of corruption and fraud for paying bribes in exchange for favours over arms deals.

Shaik was accused of trying to solicit bribes on behalf of Zuma from a subsidiary of Thales International, in return for protecting it from an investigation into an arms deal arranged by South Africa in the 1990s. INDEPENDENT, 3/6/05

Record sales for UK military equipment

2004 saw a five-year high for UK military exports, according to a report from the Defence Export Sales Organisation (DESO). The report also forecast that Asian spending on military equipment would rise significantly between 2005 and 2020, overtaking European spending by 2013. DEFENSE NEWS, 20/6/05

Shorts in brief

BAE aims to get Typhoon into Saudi Arabia

BAE Systems is attempting to develop its Al Yamamah arms deal with Saudi Arabia and is promoting sales of the Eurofighter Typhoon. Chief Executive Mike Turner said: "We've had £43 billion from Al Yamamah over the last 20 years and there could be another £40 billion."

FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL, 21-27 JUNE 2005

BAE Systems wins contract for US Army upgrades

BAE Systems has won a contract to upgrade the US Army's main battlefield vehicle, the Bradley armoured vehicle. The contract comes after BAE Systems' purchase of the US tank manufacturer United Defense Industries. TIMES, 28/6/05

£27 million of UK military equipment to Iraq

This May the UK government began handing a £27 million package of military equipment to the Iraqi Security Forces. The equipment included armoured Land Rovers, guns and ammunition.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, 17/5/05

Erinys expands in Africa

The 'private military company' Erinys is to open offices in several African countries, moving its activities on from Iraq. The expansion will be overseen by its South Africa office: this will be run by Jonathan Eldridge, former Africa chief of ArmorGroup, which he joined after a seventeen-year stint in the UK army. INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER, 4/6/05

Squabbling at BAE Systems

BAE chief executive Mike Turner has accused the company's chairman Dick Olver of having "a low knowledge base" and knowing nothing about the industry.

INDEPENDENT, 14/6/05

CAAT at the G8: Faslane blockaded

CAAT was among a number of groups supporting the Faslane Blockade that took place during the G8 summit. Organised by Trident Ploughshares and British and Scottish CND, the blockade was called to highlight the links between poverty and war, militarism and destructive globalisation.

Over 2000 people took part, including many CAAT supporters, representing a huge spectrum. Parliamentarians and Church leaders were there alongside the 'geishas of gaiety'; while anti-capitalists and

clowns involved with the Clandestine Insurgent Rebel Clown Army were also present. The Faslane base was shut down with all gates blockaded from 7am to 5pm. Even the main A814 road running alongside the base was closed to traffic.

A peaceful carnival atmosphere marked the day and only four arrests were made, though no-one appeared to be charged. One person entered the base, three others sat on perimeter gates or fences, and several people used the water to get

close by paddling up to the base in kayaks!

One of the key issues for CAAT around the G8 has been the fact that, in all G8 countries, arms companies are literally in government. This fundamentally undermines any possibility of progress on demilitarisation and therefore, also the fight against poverty.

CAAT's G8 briefing is still available – please contact the office if you would like a copy. ANNA JONES

EDO campaign

A legal observer at a demonstration outside the EDO MDM factory in Brighton was remanded for four days in June for allegedly filming a security guard. The observer was charged with breach of the interim injunction awarded by the High Court to EDO, which aims to restrict protests outside the factory. Although a Judge refused to impose limits demonstrations before a full court hearing on the injunction took place, EDO campaigners say that Sussex Police are making protest impossible by confining protesters to a small grass verge opposite the factory premises. The legal observer now faces up to five years in prison and has requested a jury trial at Lewes Crown Court.

The fight against the EDO MBM injunction has national implications, as it will affect the future right to protest in the UK (see CAATnews 190).

The campaign is organising a peace camp close to the factory from 13–19 August, beginning with a demo through Brighton on August 13th. Contact smashedo@hotmail.com for further details. MICHELLE TESTER

'Weapons inspectors' occupy Lockheed Martin board room

This June, People's Nuclear Weapons Inspectors made their way into the UK headquarters of Lockheed Martin, the largest arms manufacturer in the world, to verify whether the company was planning to use the site to develop deadly new weapons.

The People's Inspectors disrupted a meeting in the company's boardroom, chanting "you stop your trade in death". After an attempt by a Lockheed Martin manager to secure doors to the room with his belt, the People's Inspectors were left to occupy the boardroom for the afternoon.

The inspection took place in response to information that Lockheed Martin not only makes missiles for the Trident missile system but also is the lead partner in developing an upgrade or replacement of these weapons of mass destruction.

The Inspectors suggest that this new development contract will cost



The team plan their next move

THE INSPECTORS

UK taxpayers at least £5.3 billion. It would also contradict the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The Inspectors were prevented from carrying out their full research and decommissioning task by security and Metropolitan police officers, who made no arrests but forcibly removed them from the premises.

Contact the People's Nuclear Weapons Inspectors on 07890 124 276.

Stop Week 2005 news

Thanks to everyone who took part in activities during Stop the Arms Trade Week in June. The focus of this year's Stop Week was the Call the Shots campaign to take the arms companies out of government (see page 10). CAAT campaigners all around the UK sent letters and postcards to their MPs and collected petition signatures (over 1000 collected so far!) and pop-out 'keys' to symbolise locking the revolving door between arms companies and the government. Many campaigners organised street stalls to raise awareness of the issue. Margaret Wood from Buxton in Derbyshire collected 33 'keys' and lots of petition signatures on two stalls on consecutive Saturdays, on Disley High Street in Cheshire and at New Mills One World Festival in Derbyshire. CAAT campaigner Janice Thomson even circulated the petition around the hospital in which she is

an in-patient! Norfolk CAAT group had a stall, and got the public involved with street theatre, leafleting, signing the Call the Shots petition and with painting a giant 'key'. They also distributed resources to local churches for the Day of Prayer on 12th June. Steve Marshall from Sheffield writes: "We here in Sheffield CAAT (SCAAT) have done our little bit in Stop the Arms Trade Week, holding a letter-writing evening on the Thursday (to MPs, Councillors, press and broadcast media) and a two week window display in the Shop for Justice on Glossop Road. Also at the annual Peace in the Park Festival on 11th June in Sheffield, SCAAT had a very successful stall that was featured on the local Calendar news. Thanks and well done to all volunteers and to Lynda for all her efforts."

Hopefully this small sample of Stop Week activity shows that all your

efforts make a difference to the campaign – whether you are a lone campaigner or part of an established CAAT group, your contribution is much needed and appreciated.

For more info and action ideas, check out www.calltheshots.org. And please keep sending in your ideas and news (beccie@caat.org.uk).

Day of Prayer 2005 news

Once again, thanks to all who have raised the profile of the Day of Prayer in their local areas and to those who either got slots in their church services for prayers, songs or a talk about the arms trade or who organised separate anti-arms trade services. The Day of Prayer pack, which this year focussed on highlighting the links between the arms trade and global poverty, was sent to and used in a range of church services around the UK on Sunday 12th June.

Local campaigns news & views

Manchester CAAT protests on arms investments

Mike Kavanagh writes: Manchester CAAT has held five protests outside the main Council offices of Bury, Bolton, Manchester, Oldham and Rochdale to raise awareness of the arms investments held by Greater Manchester Pension Fund, the fund for Greater Manchester council employees. Thanks to those CAAT members who came along.

A Freedom of Information request revealed that the Fund had investments in four UK arms companies, one Japanese arms company and four US arms companies. It had its largest number of shares in Singapore Technologies Engineering, which has products including the world's lightest machine gun. So there is much to protest about!!



Leader of the Liberal Democrat group (on right) on Rochdale Council, signs Manchester CAAT's petition MANCHESTER CAAT

Manchester CAAT has planned five more protests in Greater Manchester. Tameside Council is the lead authority for the Fund and if you can even come to this protest

alone that would be a great help. For more info, including dates of the protests, contact info@endarmsprofits.org.uk

LIFEBLOOD OF THE ARMS TRADE

This September, buyers and sellers will spend four days in each others' company at the DSEi arms fair making sure that no opportunity is missed for spreading weaponry around the world. James O'Nions and Ian Prichard give the low-down.

DSEi – who runs it

Defence Systems & Equipment International (DSEi) is organised by Spearhead Exhibitions "in association with" the Ministry of Defence: a formal relationship that exists for no other UK arms exhibition.

First and foremost, arms companies want to meet buyers and that's what Spearhead and the MoD provide. As DSEi's 2005 brochure states, it delivers:

"Well-organised, top level international delegations; UK ministers and senior staff involved in UK defence procurement; senior international visitors and military influencers."

In 2003 the 973 companies from 28 countries enjoyed the "customer-rich environment" provided by 20,000 visitors from 65 countries. In 2005, it is likely that more companies will enjoy an even 'richer' environment.

Taxpayers' money

DSEi is heavily subsidised by the government. Direct costs alone were estimated to be £400,000 in 2003 and we cannot guess the indirect costs of the huge government support and involvement. And, while immediately after the event the government estimated police costs of around £1.7 million, the final cost was established several months later at over £4 million.

Closed and opaque

Spearhead is now owned by Reed Elsevier plc, the massive publishing group. Its Reed Exhibitions business organises six 'aerospace and defence' trade fairs including Latin America Aero & Defence, Taipei Aerospace and Defence Technology Exhibition and of course DSEi. When asked at the company's AGM about the ethics of organising arms fairs, the Chairman astonishingly said it was okay as long as "we don't deal ourselves in these kind of things, I suppose". When pressed again over Spearhead and DSEi, the board claimed that it was providing "an open and transparent process". This is a difficult claim to assess

given that, as Reed Elsevier states, "It is not open to members of the public." You might have thought that several million pounds of taxpayers' money would buy the general public a few tickets!

The defence of DSEi

There is nothing redeemable about the arms fair. Even DSEi and supporting organisations such as the Defence Manufacturers Association (DMA) are at a loss to know how to defend it in public. Their responses to criticisms have sunk to the desperate level of suggesting that it isn't an arms fair! However, the DSEi 2005 brochure is clear on the situation. It states that "DSEi provides a platform for the whole of the defence and military aerospace community" and "fulfils an important role within the selling process for defence companies". Then, of course, there are the arms companies...

The sellers

As of 17th June, there were 927 exhibitors confirmed for DSEi 2005. They include Lockheed Martin, the world's largest arms company and manufacturer of fighter aircraft, missiles, nuclear weapons and other hardware. Lockheed is joined by other massive US arms producers such as Raytheon (missiles), Northrop Grumman (radar and missile systems, warships, space systems) and General Dynamics (armoured vehicles, tanks, nuclear submarines). Then there are the major European arms companies: BAE Systems (fighter aircraft, warships, torpedoes, missiles, tanks), Thales (naval systems, avionics), EADS (fighter aircraft, missiles, helicopters) and Finmeccanica (helicopters, missiles).

These companies will all have enormous stands at DSEi and will dominate the exhibition as a whole. However, there is plenty of competition for specific weaponry. There will be at least 15 cluster bomb producers present. We don't know if individual companies will be actively marketing their cluster munitions at DSEi, but they have in

the past and there will be nothing to stop them this year. In terms of small arms and its ammunition, BAE Systems and General Dynamics are joined by a plethora of companies including Arsenal Co of Bulgaria, Glock and Steyr Mannlicher of Austria, FN Herstal of Belgium, Heckler & Koch, Rheinmetall DeTec and J.P Sauer & Sohn of Germany, Alliant Techsystems of the US, Diemaco of Canada, Giat Industries of France, Nammo of Norway, Helston Gunsmiths of the UK and Pakistan Ordnance Factories.

Official invitations

Official delegations from other countries attend DSEi at the invitation of either the Ministry of Defence or Spearhead. In 2003 there were 79 official delegations from 56 countries. On more than one occasion controversial invitees appear to have been avoided by the MoD, only for Spearhead to invite them anyway, saying that they are staying within the government's guidelines. In reality, of course, the two work hand in glove over DSEi.

Israel is one example. Whilst the government is still happy to allow arms exports to Israel, despite the 38-year occupation of Palestinian territories (judged illegal under international law) and well-documented human rights abuses including collective punishments and extrajudicial killings, it appears it has not always wanted to be seen to actually invite the country to DSEi. In both 2001 and 2003 Spearhead did the job for them. Given the presence of numerous Israeli arms companies as exhibitors at DSEi, the absence of an official delegation would be rather incongruous.

Of course, the UK government often isn't that circumspect about whom it invites anyway. Colombia was invited in 2003, a country whose military not only have documented links with the right-wing paramilitaries who murder hundreds of trade unionists, human rights advocates and rural workers each year, but who have also carried out some of these killings themselves. 2003 also saw the MoD invite delegations from both India and Pakistan, despite them having been on the brink of war with each other just the year before. Pakistan also was, and remains, a military dictatorship.

Arming Africa

Between them, the MoD and Spearhead officially invited 15 African countries over the past three DSEi exhibitions. These included Tanzania and Angola, whose very low Human Development Index ratings indicate that they are two of the poorest countries in the world. Encouraging these countries to

spend money on arms hardly helps them pull themselves out of poverty, nor helps stop Africa's many armed conflicts. Even the supposedly middle income African countries that have attended DSEi, such as South Africa and Botswana, receive millions of pounds of overseas aid from the UK, and have nowhere near the resources they need to deal with the HIV/AIDS pandemic currently ravaging the continent.

A number of the African countries invited also have serious human rights problems. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office website says that in Algeria there have been "numerous documented allegations of human rights abuses by the security forces and state-armed militias, including the enforced disappearances of at least 4,000 people, abductions, torture and extrajudicial killings". Meanwhile, for Nigeria, the FCO says that "the Army has committed serious abuses of human rights." Yet the MoD invited both these countries to DSEi in 2003. The official invitation lists are not available as CAATnews goes to press, but there is no reason to think that these countries and others with poor human rights records won't be invited again in 2005.

The International Arms Fair Circuit

DSEi is just one, albeit one of the biggest, of a series of military exhibitions that take place around the world. They represent "a key event for the total supply chain" as Spearhead described DSEi. Other major arms fairs include Eurosatory and the Paris Air Show, both in Paris, IDEX in the United Arab Emirates and Defendory in Greece.

Outside Europe, South Africa's Africa Aerospace and Defence exhibition and Brazil's Latin America Aero and Defence are also significant.

Like DSEi, some of these fairs started out primarily as national expositions to boost a particular country's arms industry. Though this function still exists, in an internationalised industry, arms fairs have increasingly become big business ventures in their own right, organised by corporations like Reed Elsevier.

Similarly, the Defence Export Services Organisation's role isn't limited to DSEi; in 2004 alone it spent over £1 million attending thirteen international arms fairs, promoting UK arms exports from Malaysia to Chile to Jordan.

In a very real sense, then, these fairs are the international arms trade. They are where negotiations are conducted, collaborations planned and purchases considered. They are a key part of the machinery that keeps this abhorrent industry running, and DSEi is more significant than most. That's why CAAT will be urging all those who care about social justice, human rights and peace to join the opposition to DSEi this autumn in whatever way they can.



Lock the revolving door



CAAT held a campaign day in London in July to collect signatures for the Call the Shots petitions and get the postcards and keys signed. In just three hours, with six people, we collected 221 petition signatures and got 108 keys and postcards signed. This shows how much can be achieved with little more than a few clipboards and some willing volunteers!

CAAT

A disturbing number of senior Ministry of Defence (MoD) officials, Ministers and armed forces staff have moved into high-salaried jobs in arms companies. Similarly the arms industry has seconded many of its own employees to the MoD. This 'revolving door' gives arms companies immense influence over government decision-making and inevitably leads to government arms export policy, and wider military or foreign policy, being skewed in favour of their interests.

Campaign update

For the past month or so CAAT campaigners have been sending Call the Shots postcards to their MPs and collecting 'keys' to lock the revolving door. See page 7 for more on some of the campaign activities that have taken place.

Please do keep going! Asking people to sign petitions and postcards is an easy, non-threatening way to introduce people to arms trade issues. And of course, if you haven't already sent the postcard to your MP, please use the one inserted in this mailing and send the pop out key back to us! If you have already done so, please consider passing the postcard on to a friend. For the petition, if just 100 people each collected five sheets of signatures, we'd have nearly 10,000 signatures.

Developments in Parliament

We're now waiting for the publication of the updated list of Ministers, senior civil servants and armed forces officers who have been given the go-ahead to move into the private sector (the Advisory Committee on Business Appointments report).

We're also waiting for the results of a completed review into the 'business appointment rules' that oversee the movement of government figures into the private sector. The review's terms of reference are to see that the rules are compatible with "a public service that is keen to encourage greater interchange with the private and other sectors". Doubts about this direction are made worse by the background of Sir Patrick Brown, who carried out the review. Sir Patrick was a senior civil servant who pushed through privatisation of the ports, the National Bus Company and Railtrack, and is now the non-executive chairman of the Go Ahead bus and rail company.

Maybe, against all the odds, the outcome will be positive. If it isn't, then the report will provide a focus for the campaign and an additional motivation! BECCIE D'CUNHA & IAN PRICHARD

To order more Call the Shots postcards, leaflets or petitions, or the 'Who Calls the Shots?' report, please

Relentless revolving...

Some of the revolvers who have come to light since the *Who Calls the Shots?* report was published.

Air Commodore Ron Cook

Was A Director of Equipment Capability at the MoD
Is now Head of new London Operations office, L-3 Communications

Admiral Lord Boyce

Chief of Defence Staff
Was Non-exec Director, VT Group
Is now Member of advisory team, Computer Sciences Corporation

Air Marshall Sir Christopher Colville

Was Commander-in-Chief, Personal Training Command
Is now Non-exec Chairman, Westland

Sir Michael Pakenham

Was HM Ambassador, Warsaw
Is now Non-exec Director, Thales

General Sir Jack Deverell

Was Commander in Chief RHQ Allied Forces Northern Region
Is now Senior Military Consultant, EDS Defence

Sir Robert Walmsley

Was Chief of Defence Procurement
Is now Non-exec Director, EDO Corporation

contact Patrick at the CAAT office (patrick@caat.org.uk). The petition and report can also be downloaded from www.calltheshots.org.

Lancaster students face criminal charges for campus protest

Six Lancaster University students and members of the local community face criminal charges for a demonstration against multinational corporations – including BAE Systems – that met at the university in September 2004.

While some protestors engaged delegates at the Corporate Venturing Conference in conversation, others were removed by security. The demonstration continued outside. Police were called but said that the demonstrators were doing nothing illegal.

Five months later the 'George Fox 6' received a court summons for the criminal offence of Aggravated Trespass. This carries a maximum sentence of three months

imprisonment. While the university denies any involvement, the protestors claim that the police must have had the university's approval to press charges.

The protestors said: "It is wrong, and in the long term counterproductive, for an academic institution to ignore [concerns over unethical companies and the university's involvement with them], let alone to prosecute those who raise them."

Lancaster University is to host another Corporate Venturing Conference from 6–8 September.

Contact the George Fox 6 Supporters Group on 01524 383012 or georgefox6@linuxmail.org.

Comedy night – all proceeds go to CAAT's campaign against the DSEi arms fair

'Stand up against the arms fair', featuring comedy from Adam Bloom, Ivor Dembina, Felix Dexter, Ayesha Hazarika, Stewart Lee, Angie McEvoy and Ian Stone

Thursday 8th September, doors 8.30pm, for a prompt 9pm start. Tickets are £8 (£5 concession).

Red Rose Comedy Club, 129 Seven Sisters Road, Finsbury Park, London N7 7QG. It is a smoke-free venue and is accessible to wheelchair users.

To book tickets, please send a cheque payable to 'CAAT' to the office or email kathryn@caat.org.uk

Mike Lewis, the new Media Co-ordinator started work at work at CAAT on 11th July

He writes: I am extremely excited to be joining the team as Media Co-ordinator at such a busy and critical time – in the run-up to September's DSEi arms fair, and in the aftermath of the meeting of the world's largest arms traders at Gleneagles. CAAT's hard-won media profile has long been a source of both inspiration and envy for me, coming from a background in advocacy, communications and research. Having trained as an economic historian specialising in Southeast Asia, I've spent the past year researching and teaching at Cambridge University, as well as helping to establish a UK-based research organisation, the Iraq Analysis Group, which deals with issues of economic development and military accountability. My media experience includes work with the Campaign Against Sanctions on Iraq and Cambridgeshire Against Refugee Detention. I've also spent some time working with the refugee assistance organisation France Terre d'Asile in Paris. I'm looking forward to meeting many of CAAT's supporters at events in the coming months.

New publications

Two CAAT publications on arms trade corruption are now available in print. These are the CAAT 2005 Lecture by Joe Roeber, *Parallel Markets: Corruption in the International Arms Trade* and Nicholas Gilby's *The UK government and arms trade corruption: a short history*.

The lecture text provides a clear and striking overview of the extent and role of corruption in the official arms trade. It describes how it is the most corrupt of all legal international trades and, more than that, is "hot-wired for corruption". Roeber considers the impact of corruption and, perhaps most importantly, demonstrates that rather than being peripheral to the business of selling arms, corruption is central to it.

Nicholas Gilby's paper focuses on the UK and is the result of extensive research in the National Archives. He has unearthed documents from the 1970s that provide hard evidence of official knowledge of corruption in arms deals in Venezuela and Indonesia. However, Gilby's is not just a historical study. It exposes the misleading nature of recent statements given to Parliament by the MoD and puts the continuing debate over the Export Credits Guarantee Department's anti-bribery procedures into sharp perspective. The paper is in-depth and fascinating, quoting in context some startlingly frank correspondence. A number of the original documents to which it refers are available on the CAAT website. IAN PRICHARD

Stop the revolving door – write to your MP

Many of you now have the Call the Shots pack and have sent off the postcard to your MP. However, MPs may be persuaded even more by an individual letter from a constituent.

Please find time over the summer to write to your MP, House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1 0AA. Tell your MP that you:

- Are worried about the movement of government ministers, civil servants and members of the armed forces to companies that manufacture military equipment;
- Think it is essential to:
 1. Remove the potential for ministers and public servants to be influenced in their current posts by the possibility of obtaining future employment;
 2. Prevent ministers and public servants from taking personal advantage of information obtained during their official duties;
 3. Stop ministers and public servants from obtaining preferential treatment or privileged access to government after leaving public office;

- Are concerned that there is no mandatory minimum time that must pass between someone leaving a ministerial or public office and taking up a position with a commercial company, and that there are no rules to prevent someone working on a project in the commercial sector to which his or her previous public work has some relevance.

Ask your MP to raise your concerns with Rt Hon John Hutton, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, as he has responsibility for the Advisory Committee on Business Appointments, which regulates these matters.

European Network

In May, CAAT hosted a meeting of its counterpart organisations in the European Network Against Arms Trade. As well as updating each other about our work, we also discussed the ENAAT Research Group (two reports are coming soon and will be publicised in later editions of CAATnews), the militarisation of the EU, export credits agencies and the pros and cons of the proposed Arms Trade Treaty.

ANN FELTHAM

New Steering Committee members wanted

The Steering Committee meets quarterly to decide CAAT's policy and direction. It includes eight Supporter Representatives who sit on the Committee for two years.

Please think about standing for Steering Committee, particularly if you are active at a local level.

- To become a Supporter Representative you need to have been receiving CAATnews for more than 12 months. You must be proposed and seconded by other supporters of at least 12 months standing, only one of whom may be a member of Steering Committee. The paid staff and the Returning Officer may not make nominations. The deadline is Wednesday 5th October. Send your nominations to Ann at the office.
- If you have not previously registered to vote and want to do so please send in a request now. It must include your signature.

For further info contact Ann on 020 7281 0297 or ann@caat.org.uk

Spying on CAAT – new statement and report

In September 2003, it was reported in the *Sunday Times* that British Aerospace (now BAE Systems) had paid a company directed by Evelyn LeChene to infiltrate CAAT and collect information about its workings and activities (see CAATnews issue 181).

Whilst CAAT cannot identify all the agents involved in providing LeChene with information, a careful study by a Steering Committee investigating group has left little doubt that, from his first contact with CAAT, former National Campaigns and Events Co-

ordinator Martin Hogbin was one of them.

The group investigated suspicious activity linked to Martin's office email account while he was employed at CAAT, as well as considering the evidence on which the *Sunday Times* based its article. The report of the steps taken during the investigation, the evidence gathered and the conclusions drawn has now been published.

To read the report and a new Steering Committee statement that accompanies it, visit

<http://www.caat.org.uk/spying.php> or phone the office.

We urge everyone involved in campaigning activities to read both the Steering Committee statement and report, particularly if they are considering working with Martin. We also encourage all campaigning organisations to check their email logs for the period before October 2003 to make sure that no information was being forwarded to any email address [@jofa.demon.co.uk](mailto:jofa.demon.co.uk) (the address to which Martin was sending information).

A UK 'Defence Industrial Base' – or just international big business?

The UK arms industry has seen dramatic changes in the past few years, the extent of which calls into question the industry's fundamental purpose, while undermining a prime Government justification for supporting arms exports. Ian Prichard and Joe Zacune explain.

The main justification for the UK arms industry is the need to retain a 'defence industrial base'. The argument goes that we need to export arms to make UK arms companies viable and able to continue supplying the Ministry of Defence.

This whole idea of a 'defence industrial base' is, however, rooted in the past. Traditionally the arms business was (and by the public still is) expected to comprise UK-owned companies, producing arms within the UK, for the UK's military. Yet a number of ongoing trends have undermined this position:

- The major UK arms companies are increasingly focussing on US contracts which requires that more of their production is located there. As a result, small and medium-sized US companies are swiftly being acquired by UK companies including BAE Systems, Smiths, GKN, QinetiQ, Rolls-Royce, VT Group and Cobham. BAE Systems appears to want to

go one step further and actually become a US company.

- Companies in the UK are increasingly being acquired by non-UK companies.

The company with the largest arms work-force in the UK is still BAE Systems. However, the next largest arms-production work-forces belong to Thales, a French company that has acquired Racal, Thomson Marconi Sonar, Short Missile Systems, Thorn, Avimo and Pikington Optronics to build its UK presence, and an Italian company, Finmeccanica, which purchased Westland helicopters last year. Add to this several thousand workers at the French/German/Spanish (and registered in the Netherlands) EADS, and the presence of Lockheed Martin UK, Raytheon Systems Limited, General Dynamics UK, Northrop Grumman UK, Claverham and EDO MBM Technology (all substantial UK subsidiaries of US arms companies), and the UK 'defence industrial base' has a distinctly globalised feel.

- Ministry of Defence contracts are increasingly being awarded to non-UK companies. Having a UK presence gives companies a distinct edge when bidding for MoD contracts, and high-profile procurement competitions sometimes seem to boil down to the claims each bidder makes

over the jobs it will 'create' or 'secure'. However, sizeable MoD contracts can also be obtained without a UK presence, either by an individual company or in collaboration with a UK company. The largest contracts have seen teams of UK and non-UK companies brought together to bid; a striking example being the massive, £13 billion, air-to-air refuelling contract, eventually secured by a team led by EADS.

When the Government subsidises UK arms exports, it is subsidising French, Italian and US companies as well as UK companies. The 'jobs' argument used to justify policies and subsidies are increasingly with companies that have no commitment to UK employees or the UK, only to international shareholders (whether they are UK companies or not).

There is no UK 'defence industrial base' in the sense that we are asked to believe in it; its place has been taken by international big business. The Government's use of the 'defence industrial base' in support of arms exports is either naive or is another disingenuous attempt to justify the unjustifiable.

Note: for the purposes of this article 'UK companies' refer to companies that are headquartered in the UK. This does not mean that most of their production or employees are in the UK or that the majority of their shares are held by UK citizens or institutions.

New figures for global military expenditure in 2004

In June the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) reported its findings for 2004 global military expenditure.

SIPRI found that global military expenditure rose in 2004 to \$975 billion at 2003 prices.

The US spent \$455 billion at 2003 prices. Approximately \$238 billion of this was raised almost exclusively for military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq: this bill is greater than the year's military expenditure of the entirety of Africa, Latin America, the Middle East and Asia (except Japan

but including China). The UK rose from being the third largest military spender in 2003 to being the second in 2004, undermining reports of 'defence cuts'.

For more see SIPRI's website at <http://yearbook2005.sipri.org/ch8/ch8>

Fundraising

By Kathryn Busby



I am delighted to announce that this October, for the first time, CAAT will be represented among the 40,000 runners in the Chicago Marathon. CAAT supporter Steven Downey is an experienced runner but this will be his first Marathon. We are delighted that he is taking on the challenge for CAAT and wish him good luck with his training.

I would also like to mention Louise Eaton, who organised a hugely successful Day of Dance in Saltaire. The event, which was held in May, raised money for four organisations – CAAT, Yorkshire CND, Chernobyl Children's Project and Oxfam. Congratulations Louise and thank you very much for your donation of £1,000 to CAAT.

Stand up against the arms fair

As part of the protests around the DSEi arms fair this autumn, CAAT

will be holding a comedy night on Thursday 8th September. You will have read the shocking facts about DSEi on pages 8 and 9 of this issue, and will have seen details of the protests against the arms fair that are being organised by CAAT and other groups. The comedy night is aimed at increasing awareness of the arms fair and encouraging people to take part in the protests; but we also hope to raise £1,000 for the campaign.

Arrive early to avoid disappointment

The comedy night will take place at the Red Rose Club on Seven Sisters Road in London. The club is accessible to wheelchair users and is one of the few smoke-free stand-up venues in London. The comedians who have generously agreed to donate their time are Adam Bloom,

Ivor Dembina, Felix Dexter, Ayesha Hazarika, Stewart Lee, Angie McEvoy and Ian Stone. Doors open at 8.30pm.

Tickets are £8 (£5 concessions) for what is sure to be a hilarious night's entertainment in support of a vital part of CAAT's campaign. To book, please send a cheque payable to 'CAAT', with your name, address and how many tickets you require, to 11 Goodwin Street, London N4 3HQ. Or email kathryn@caat.org.uk or phone the office on 020 7281 0297.

Skydivers needed

Finally, in the last issue I asked for volunteers to take part in a sponsored skydive for CAAT, but as yet have had no takers! It's a great opportunity to have the experience of a lifetime, so if you would like more details please get in touch.

Obituary: Ed Bishop

The actor and long-time CAAT supporter Ed Bishop died in June. The newspaper obituaries focused on Ed's acting career and particularly his appearance in science fiction films, which included playing Commander Ed Straker in Gerry Anderson's series UFO.

Most also mentioned the time that he used his acting talents for CAAT. This was in 1993 at the Royal Navy and British Army Equipment Exhibition, a predecessor of DSEi as the UK government's arms fair. CAAT had hired a limousine, complete with chauffeur, to take previous buyers of UK arms to the fair. These were Ivan the Terrible, Hitler, General Galtieri of Argentina who had invaded the Falklands, Saddam Hussein and Chile's General Pinochet. Ed played the last mentioned. As CAATnews reported it: "the dictators succeeded in



Ed Bishop tries to cut a deal with delegates on the way to the RNBAE arms fair

JANE SKINNER

driving past the police checkpoints and up to the main entrance. Ivan the Terrible, in 16th Century Russian Tsar's costume, was allowed through the entrance, but when Pinochet's case was found to contain monopoly money, security was called. Loudly complaining to the Channel 4 camera crew that

they had been allowed in before, the five dictators were escorted back to the car, and saluted by the police as they left the site."

Ed met his wife Jane Skinner while playing Pinochet and she generously asked that donations in his memory be made to CAAT. Our sympathy and thoughts go to her.

Campaign Against Arms Trade thrives on your participation. Some suggestions are below.

For more information on all of these contact the CAAT office on 020 7281 0297 or if you have any enquiries not covered below contact enquiries@caat.org.uk

Subscribe to a CAAT email list

Sign up to receive the monthly CAAT bulletin with the latest news and events; to receive press releases; to join the list for the CAAT Action Network and find out about nonviolent direct action to stop the arms trade; or to find out when the latest CAATnews is on the website.

Contact enquiries@caat.org.uk or visit www.caat.org.uk/lists

Make a donation

The donations of our supporters enable CAAT to struggle for a world without arms trading; without your help there would be no campaign. Support CAAT by sending us a cheque, setting up a regular standing order donation, or by taking part in a fundraising event.

Contact Kathryn at kathryn@caat.org.uk

Contact your MP

It is estimated that every letter written to a politician represents about 80 people who care but haven't got around to writing. If you would like to visit or write to your MP, contact the CAAT office to find out if your MP has shown an interest in arms trade issues.

On some issues it is also worth contacting your MEP. If you live in Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales, you can also raise issues that have an impact on employment or the economy with your national representatives.

Contact Ann at ann@caat.org.uk

Campaign locally

CAAT has a network of local contacts and groups around the UK who take responsibility for promoting anti-arms trade activity and the work of CAAT in their area. Get in contact if you would like to know what is happening in your area or if you are interested in becoming a local contact or setting up a group. All that's needed is a willingness to raise awareness of arms trade issues in any way that you feel is appropriate.

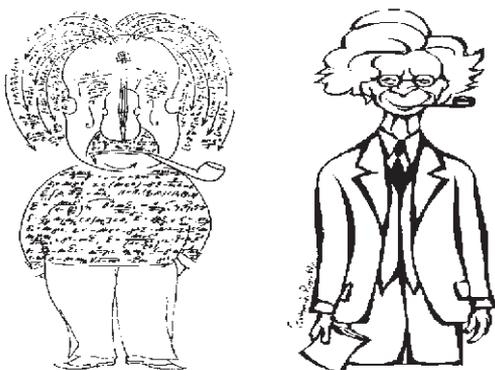
Contact Beccie at beccie@caat.org.uk for info, including the Local Campaigns Pack.

Raise awareness

Organising a public meeting, using the local media and running a street stall have proved effective ways for CAAT groups to raise awareness of arms trade issues. CAAT can provide speakers for public meetings, materials for stalls and can also help with publicity.

Contact Anna at action@caat.org.uk or Beccie beccie@caat.org.uk

For media info contact Mike at press@caat.org.uk



Albert Einstein, Bertrand Russell, Manifesto 50
The Spokesman - 85

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Research the arms companies

CAAT has produced a range of research on the UK's main arms companies. However, staff at the CAAT office are not able to track all arms company developments and would appreciate receiving any information you find. This can include anything from watching out for information in your local press, to undertaking basic research in your local library, to approaching a company directly for information.

Contact Ian at ian@caat.org.uk

Protest against the arms trade

A protest can confront the arms trade and illustrate that many people do not think that the arms trade is an ordinary, acceptable business. In addition, a protest can generate a lot of publicity, which will raise awareness about the company and the arms trade in general. CAAT is a non-violent organisation and any protest organised under the name of CAAT needs to be non-violent (contact the office for the CAAT guidelines).

Contact Anna at action@caat.org.uk

Join the CAAT Christian Network

The Network raises arms trade issues within national church structures and local churches.

Contact Beccie at beccie@caat.org.uk

Order a CAAT publication

CAAT produces briefings, reports and leaflets on a range of issues.

Contact Patrick at patrick@caat.org.uk

Subscribe now!

Subscription is voluntary, but we need your support. We suggest £26 waged, £14 low income and £35 for groups. Please give more if you are able, or less if not.

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Campaigns diary

13–19 August 2005

EDO campaign demo and peace camp, Brighton. See page 6.

27 August 2005

Info and training day for independent non-violent action at DSEi. See pages 3 and 8–9.

8 September 2005

'Stand up against the arms fair' comedy night, with all proceeds to CAAT campaign against the DSEi arms fair, London. See page 8.

10 September 2005

Musical protest outside the ExCel Centre, London, 2–4.30pm. Contact ELAAF, c/o C.I.U. Durning Hall, Earlham Grove, London E7 9AB

11 September 2005

CAAT alternative DSEi conference, Part I. See pages 3 and 8–9.

12 September 2005

DSEi Candle-Lit Vigil, 6pm. See pages 3 and 8–9.

13 September 2005

Demonstration against the DSEi arms fair, 12 noon; also CAAT alternative DSEi conference, Part II, 4–8pm. See pages 3 and 8–9.

27 September 2005

Protest at Reed's Helitech exhibition, Duxford. See page 3.

22–24 October 2005

Trident Ploughshares weekend of action challenging Rolls Royce in Derby. See www.tridentploughshares.org or phone 0845 330 3877

12 November 2005

CAAT National Gathering, London. See page 5.

See www.caat.org.uk for more information on arms trade events

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email: enquiries@caat.org.uk

website: www.caat.org.uk

