

# CAATnews

## Control BAE Time to bite back



Issue 201  
April-May 2007

£1.00

11 Goodwin Street, London N4 3HQ  
Tel: 020 7281 0297  
Fax: 020 7281 4369  
Email: [enquiries@caat.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@caat.org.uk)  
Website: [www.caat.org.uk](http://www.caat.org.uk)

**CAMPAIGN  
AGAINST  
ARMS  
TRADE**

**Editor** Melanie Jarman  
editor@caat.org.uk

**Legal Consultant** Glen Reynolds

**Proofreader** John Moseley

**Design** Richie Andrew

**Contributors** Kathryn Busby, Beccie D’Cunha, Ann Feltham, Anna Jones, Ian Prichard, Robin Yu.

Thank you also to our dedicated team of CAATnews stuffers.

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

Copy deadline for the next issue is 14 May and we will be posting it the week beginning 28 May.

Content of most website references are also available in print – contact the CAAT office.

Contributors to CAATnews express their own opinions and do not necessarily reflect those of CAAT as an organisation. Contributors retain copyright of all work used.

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.

Campaign Against Arms Trade  
11 Goodwin Street, London N4 3HQ  
tel: 020 7281 0297  
fax: 020 7281 4369  
email: enquiries@caat.org.uk  
web: www.caat.org.uk

If you use Charities Aid Foundation cheques and would like to help TREAT (Trust for Research and Education on Arms Trade), please send CAF cheques, payable to TREAT, to the office. Unlike CAAT, TREAT is a registered charity (No.328694) and will be able to use your donation for education and research.

**To receive this issue of CAATnews in large print please call 020 7281 0297**



**After the actions come the successes! See page 6**

<b>Control BAE part I</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Arms trade shorts</b>	<b>4-5</b>
<b>Reed campaign</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Local</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Control BAE part II</b>	<b>8-9</b>
<b>How to...</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>DESO campaign</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Parliamentary</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Other BAE investigations</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Fundraising</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Get active</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Diary</b>	<b>16</b>

# Control BAE: reopen the Saudi corruption inquiry

Since the announcement in December that the Government had dropped the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) inquiry into BAE Systems' Al Yamamah deals with Saudi Arabia, CAAT has been working on the judicial challenge and also helping parliamentarians, the media and other organisations keep the issue in the public eye.

BAE has been acting as if it is above the law. It is the company, not the Government, which decides UK policy. Stamping out corruption is less vital than the preservation of BAE's share price. Clinching the £10 billion Eurofighter jets deal becomes more important than sending the message that Saudi Arabia's record on human rights is unacceptable.

CAAT is now launching a 'Control BAE' campaign. You can find full details on pages 8 and 9.

## Legal challenge

CAAT and The Corner House, an environmental and social justice group, have now made a formal application for a judicial review to challenge the decision to stop the SFO investigation.

In mid-January it transpired that confidential and legally privileged material belonging to CAAT and relating to the proposed challenge had been received by BAE. The document was returned to CAAT voluntarily, but BAE refused to state how it had come into its possession. On the advice of its legal team, CAAT applied to the High Court, which, towards the end of February, ordered BAE to produce a sworn affidavit divulging what it knew about the source of the document. The situation at the time of writing is that the affidavit has been received, but, for legal reasons, CAAT cannot say more.

CAAT and The Corner House's legal team is Richard Stein and Jamie Beagent of Leigh Day & Co solicitors, and barristers David Pannick QC, Dinah Rose QC and Ben Jaffey of Blackstone Chambers. Jamie was profiled as the *Times*

lawyer of the week as a result of his work on this case.

Public documents about the legal case as well as the latest information can always be found on our website at [www.caat.org.uk](http://www.caat.org.uk)

## Parliamentary action

Parliamentary interest in the arms trade is currently very high, perhaps even surpassing that during the arms-to-Iraq scandal. Besides numerous parliamentary questions being tabled, there have also been an unprecedented number of full-scale debates. The Liberal Democrats prompted a debate on Al Yamamah in the Lords on 1st February, whilst, in the Commons, both the Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats devoted one of their allocated 'Opposition Days' to the alleged BAE corruption issue. These were on the Tanzania case (see page 13) on 30th January and on Saudi Arabia on 7th February respectively.

## Export credits

A parliamentary answer has revealed that BAE's application for cover for the Eurofighter deal was dated 22nd June 2006 and delivered to the Export Credits

Guarantee Department on 28th June. Cover was granted on 12th September. The dates are significant: the ECGD's new stricter anti-corruption rules affected applications made from 1st July 2006.

## OECD to visit

At its March meeting, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Working Group on Bribery confirmed serious concerns expressed in January as to whether the ending of the BAE Al Yamamah investigation was consistent with the OECD's Anti-Bribery Convention. The OECD works by consensus, so it is clear that no other government could be persuaded to back the UK.

The meeting also outlined continued shortcomings in the UK's anti-bribery legislation. The UK was urged to remedy the latter as quickly as possible. The OECD also decided to conduct a further examination of the UK's efforts to fight bribery. Officials from two other member states will be visiting the UK within the next year to undertake this review.

ANN FELTHAM

## The SFO investigation

The Al Yamamah arms deals between the UK government and Saudi Arabia were signed in 1985 and 1988, but have continued for two decades. They centre on the sale of Tornado fighter aircraft by BAE Systems, to be paid for in an oil barter arrangement.

Rumours of corruption surfaced within weeks of the first deal and have continued ever since. In November 2004 the SFO announced that it had started an investigation into suspected false accounting.

Warning that future sales were at risk, threats to the investigation

were reported almost immediately. However, formal agreements to buy Eurofighters were signed in 2005 and 2006; only the detailed contract remained. By November 2006, the SFO had persuaded a Swiss magistrate to allow access to Swiss bank accounts, causing Saudi anger and prompting a stream of articles about the loss of the Eurofighter contract and related jobs.

For Tony Blair, this meant that the inquiry had to end and it did. Maintaining BAE's profits was the Government's top priority.

IAN PRICHARD

## Troops out, mercenaries in

After Tony Blair revealed that he wanted to withdraw 1,600 soldiers from Iraq it emerged that ministers are negotiating multi-million pound contracts for mercenary companies to cover the gap left behind. Having already received £160m from the UK government since the beginning of the invasion of Iraq, mercenary companies have been told to expect more work during the "post-occupation phase".

War on Want's campaigns director John Hilary said: "There are genuine worries that the government is trying to privatise the Iraq conflict."

NEWSCOTSMAN.COM, 25/2/07

## UK plc up for grabs?

US companies Boeing and Lockheed Martin may be considering bidding for UK arms companies with an eye to winning orders from the Ministry of Defence. Some UK chief executives are concerned about the selling off of UK assets, particularly after the UK government's Defence Industrial Strategy stated that, so long as the build and maintenance of UK military infrastructure stays in the country, the location of a company's owners is of less concern. Sir John Rose, chief executive of Rolls-Royce said that the UK was being used as an "aircraft carrier", with foreign companies raiding profits but not investing in the future.

The US military company Northrop Grumman has opened another office and a demonstration facility in the UK, saying that "the Defence Industrial Strategy emphasises the need to build UK-based technical capability."

TIMES, 16/2/07; JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 21/2/07

## Cluster bombs

A preliminary report by the US State Department suggests that Israel may have breached procurement agreements by firing US-made cluster bombs on populated areas in southern Lebanon in 2006. In the 1980s the US imposed sanctions on Israel for misuse of cluster bombs during its 1982 invasion of Lebanon. Cluster bombs remain controversial weaponry: in February the UK, which continues to use cluster bombs, was accused of attempting to "water down" international efforts to ban them. Belgium has taken a different stance, passing a law that makes it illegal for Belgian institutions to invest in companies that make cluster bombs. A bank, insurer or investment fund present in Belgium can be taken to court if it "finances directly or indirectly a company that, even if only in a limited way, makes, uses or stores cluster bombs or antipersonnel mines."

Norway has also attempted to cut finance for the weaponry – a \$278bn investment fund managed by its central bank withdrew funds in South Korea's Poongsan Corp. after hearing that the company manufactures cluster bombs.

JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 7/2/07; INDEPENDENT, 22/2/07; DEFENSE NEWS, 15/1/07; AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE, 2/3/07

## IDEX 2007

UK military companies turned out in force at IDEX 2007, organised by Reed Exhibitions in the United Arab Emirates. The UK delegation was led by the government's Minister for Defence Procurement who was accompanied by DESO staff.

BAE Systems had a presence at the exhibition and received a visit from His Highness General Mohammed bin Zayed al Nahyan, the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces.

A record \$917m worth of contracts was awarded by the United Arab Emirates during the IDEX.

BAE SYSTEMS PRESS RELEASE, 22/2/07;

DUBAICITYGUIDE.COM, 21/2/07; DEFENSE NEWS, 26/2/07

## China increases spending

China has announced that it is to increase military spending by 17.8 per cent this year – almost double the pace of its economic growth – adding to a regional arms race as Japan and India have also increased their spending.

Despite the significant rise, China's military budget is still less than a tenth of the US's.

GUARDIAN, 5/3/07

## Indian market

US military companies had their largest presence ever at an Indian aviation fair after the signing of the Indo-US nuclear treaty gave a vote of confidence in collaboration on military and other industries. Boeing, for example, is eyeing Indian contracts worth up to \$15bn over the next decade.

India's aerospace and military is growing at around 8 per cent per year and India's defence minister has indicated that the country needs to modernise its weaponry.

The UK also had a significant presence at the fair, with at least 20 companies attending. UK military company Cobham believes that its business in India could grow five-fold over the next few years to at least \$50m annually.

FINANCIAL TIMES, 8/2/07; FINANCIAL EXPRESS, 7/2/07; DEFENSE NEWS, 12/2/07

## Crooked cars?

31 South African officials, including public servants and MPs, may face prosecution after allegedly receiving discounts on cars from the company Daimler Chrysler Aerospace, which benefited from a multi-million rand arms deal. The vehicles appeared to be part of a fleet purchased from the company by its sister company EADS, which was part of a consortium awarded a tender to provide arms to South Africa.

PRETORIA NEWS, 8/3/07

## Take my jet away

US agents have seized disabled F14 fighter jets from museums in California because of fears that parts would be sold to Iran, whose F14's date from before the 1979 Revolution and are likely to be in need of spare parts.

F14 fighter jets were made famous by the film *Top Gun*. The seized planes had been sold by a naval base in 2005 as scrap metal.

TIMES, 9/3/07

## BAE to increase Saudi presence over Eurofighter deal

BAE Systems has shrugged off criticisms around its supply of arms to Saudi Arabia by saying that it plans to double its workforce there.

Expansion plans are stimulated by the expectation that Saudi Arabia will sign a \$10bn contract for Eurofighter typhoons later this year. Although the order has already been agreed in principle, the signing of the contract was held up by the Serious Fraud Office investigation into the alleged BAE "slush fund".

INDEPENDENT, 23/2/07

## MBDA looks to exports

Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates both signed contracts with missile manufacturer MBDA in December 2006.

The Saudi order was the first of a package of acquisitions of French military equipment expected after a visit to Paris by the Saudi Arabian Defence Minister.

Export sales are increasingly vital to MBDA as the company faces stagnant sales in European markets, although the Estonian Ministry of Defence has awarded a contract to MBDA and Saab worth about \$79m.

Export bookings are due to account for two thirds of all new orders for the company in 2007.

DEFENSE NEWS, 19/2/07; JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 7/3/07; JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 21/2/07; DEFENSE NEWS 29/1/07

## Aid for arms

The Lebanese military is to receive foreign aid in 2007 for national security and to fend off the influence of Iran and Syria. The biggest donor is the US, which gave up to \$39m for training and equipment in 2006. Other donors include the UK, which has promised 50 Land Rover utility vehicles.

DEFENSE NEWS, 29/1/07

## VT acquisition

The UK shipbuilding company VT Group has bought Milcom Services Corporation, which provides electronic and communications systems. This is the second US acquisition for the company in the last two years.

JANE'S DEFENCE MONTHLY, MARCH 07

## BAE profit rise

Despite the threat of fraud investigations, BAE Systems has seen its profits rise. In February the company revealed a 51 per cent hike in annual pre-tax profits to £859m, with underlying operating profits up by 33 per cent to £1.2bn.

The profit increase was driven by its US arm, which has led to huge contracts, including the refurbishment of the US Army's Bradley armoured vehicles.

DAILY MAIL, 23/2/07

## Carlyle profits from Qinetiq

Carlyle is to sell its last 10.3 per cent stake in Qinetiq, leading to a likely overall return of £330m from its investment in the company. Carlyle paid the UK government £42m for a 34 per cent stake in Qinetiq in 2002.

FINANCIAL TIMES, 9/2/07

## Shorts in brief

### Indonesia cooperation

At a DESO-organised seminar on Indonesia, the Indonesian Ambassador to the UK said that it was "time for the Indonesian government to develop defence co-operation" with the UK. The proposed follow-up is a result of Tony Blair's visit to Indonesia in March 2006.

JAKARTA POST, 2/3/07

### Russia sales to Iran

Russia is selling more than \$1.3bn worth of anti-aircraft weapons to Iran and Syria, defying Washington's call for an international embargo on arms sales to Iran.

DEFENSE NEWS, 12/2/07

### Israel-Boeing deal

The Israel Air Force is to buy \$100m worth of precision-guidance munition kits from US company Boeing. The acquisition is part of the Israeli Defence Force's drive to use 2007 as a year of "restoring preparedness".

JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 7/2/07

### BAE Bradley work

A US section of BAE Systems is to rebuild US Army Bradley armoured vehicles returning from Iraq. These latest contracts bring the total value of the contracts that BAE has been awarded on Bradley work to \$3.5bn for 2005 to 2007.

DEFENSE NEWS 29/1/07

### Rise in French exports

French arms suppliers saw a 35 per cent rise in military exports for 2006. At the time of the announcement the world's other top military exporters were yet to release figures but the Israeli Defence Export Agency was indicating record sales for the same period.

JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 31/1/07

# Reed no longer ethical investment

February and March were exciting months for the Reed Elsevier arms fairs campaign. In February the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust announced that it was selling all of its nearly £2 million worth of shares in the company in protest at Reed Elsevier's continued involvement in the arms trade. It also emerged that F&C Management has divested from the company and has removed Reed Elsevier from its list of ethical investments for its stewardship funds.

## Academics condemn Reed Elsevier

The academic world has also been busy in the campaign. In an open letter to the *Times Higher Education Supplement* on March 1st, 138 academics from 17 countries called on Reed Elsevier to cease all involvement in arms fairs. Amongst those who signed the letter were Noam Chomsky, Michael Atiyah (one of the world's leading mathematicians) and Rhona Macdonald, Senior Editor of the *Lancet*. Many of the signatories are regular contributors to academic journals owned by Reed Elsevier, often acting for free as referees for articles.

Two petitions, set up by Dr Tom Stafford and Dr Nick Gill, have gathered nearly 1000 signatures (links to the petitions on [www.armsfairs.com](http://www.armsfairs.com)). Other academics have voiced their concerns in some of Reed's key publications. Dr Paul Chatterton and Dr David Featherstone of Leeds and Liverpool Universities respectively wrote a compelling editorial in the journal *Political Geography*, owned by Reed Elsevier. They made the point that Reed Elsevier's main argument, that organising arms fairs is entirely legal business practice, doesn't begin to address concerns about the ethical status of the arms trade. Furthermore, they said that this argument fails to address how Reed Elsevier's involvement in the arms

trade can be squared with the company's status as a signatory to the UN Global Compact, which sets voluntary corporate responsibility standards for promoting best practice in human rights. How can this hold water, they ask, when the company solicits clients from some of the world's most repressive regimes?

## Healthcare professionals speak out

Richard Smith, former editor of the *British Medical Journal* (BMJ), has called on researchers and authors to boycott the world's largest publisher of scientific and medical journals in order to pressure the company to divest itself of holdings in the arms trade. Writing in the March issue of the *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine*, Dr Smith argued that it is hypocritical for a company that publishes health journals to promote arms sales. Smith's article prompted two current *BMJ* editors to speak out in an editorial and, as we go to press, three pages of letters from doctors and healthcare groups

including the Royal College of Physicians, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Doctors for Human Rights, Medsin, and Doctors for Iraq have been published in the *Lancet*, Reed's flagship medical journal, saying that Reed Elsevier's commercial interest in the arms trade undermines the journal's efforts to improve health worldwide.

## AGM

On Tuesday 17th April, Reed Elsevier will hold its Annual General Meeting (where shareholders meet board members to discuss the company's activities). CAAT will hold a peaceful protest outside the AGM as part of our campaign to encourage the company to stick to its ethical business activities and stop playing such a devastating role in the arms trade. For venue and times, or to receive more information about the campaign or the references mentioned above, please contact Anna at [anna@caat.org.uk](mailto:anna@caat.org.uk) or 020 7281 0297. ANNA JONES

## What is Reed Elsevier?

Reed Elsevier is a global publishing company listed on the UK and Dutch stock markets. It is famous for its work in education, science and health publications, as well as massive web-based services such as the LexisNexis Total Research System used by academics and legal professionals. Reed Elsevier is also a big player in the global exhibitions market, organising 460 events a year including the London Book Fair and travel exhibitions.

Reed also holds a portfolio of arms fairs. These include DSEi, which takes place in London every two years; Latin America Aero and Defence, due to take place in Brazil in April; and Shot Show, a North

American small arms exhibition, where torture equipment was sold in 2006. When questioned about soliciting companies such as Security Equipment Corporation, which sold torture devices at the Shot Show with the tagline 'Making Grown Men Cry Since 1975', Reed insisted that its business was "necessary to the preservation of freedom".

At the end of 2006, Reed Elsevier announced it was buying IDEX, considered to be the largest military show in the Middle East, from the Abu Dhabi government. This brings the number of arms fairs that Reed Elsevier organises to eight.

# London CAAT group protest

Themed, 'Stop the Death Trade in London', the group met at 11am on 19th March to start our Central London Arms Trade Crawl outside BAE's headquarters. In this first leg we were emphasising the corrupt nature of the trade in death in our home city. The secluded Carlton Gardens, where the firm that has become synonymous with the term "slush fund" shares a building with investment bankers, is a few hundred metres from Buckingham Palace. Crime evidently pays very well.

After forty minutes of chatting and handing out leaflets to some of the people coming in and out of the building and other buildings around it, we began the short journey to the far busier Haymarket. At noon we were outside New Zealand House, which houses the offices of Land Rover Leyland International Holdings, the parent company of Ashok, which agreed to sell military trucks to Sudan despite the embargo there. The focus here was on the indiscriminate nature of the trade. The mention of Darfur was a definite catalyst for passers-by to agree to sign our petition.

A short walk across Trafalgar Square with our placards brought us some more attention and interest and we started our 1pm protest outside MBDA on the Strand. Like the previous location, we got interest from normal Londoners as well as some of those who unknowingly worked in the same building as Europe's largest missile company. With a focus on the fact that Alan Garwood – the present head of the Defence Export Services Organisation (DESO) – was seconded from MBDA, we were protesting against the fact that the arms trade is part of the UK establishment and we were calling for the closure of DESO.

Despite the cold, lots of people stopped to sign the petition and gave their email addresses to stay in touch with the campaign. Lots more were



The new CAAT group in action IAN HICKS

given leaflets with a map showing these three arms traders and details of the CAAT group.

In keeping with the theme of a 'crawl', our final stop was for refreshments at The Chandos, a favourite post-demo pub partly owing to its proximity to Trafalgar Square. Everyone felt the event had gone well: we had managed to speak to people about companies that they did not know were there, and about issues in the news. We are all hoping that measurable success will be achieved with new members joining the London CAAT group, which we launched with this event. I'd like to say a big thank you to all of you who helped in the preparation for this event and a special 'cheers' to everyone who came along. ROBIN YU

The London CAAT group meets every third Monday of the month. The next meeting is 16th April. For more details, see <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CAAT-london/> or email [londoncaat@riseup.net](mailto:londoncaat@riseup.net)

## Other local news?

Whether you are a lone campaigner or part of a group, please keep sending in your news and photos for this page. This is a great way to share ideas and lessons learnt and could also help to get more people along to your next event. Send your news or photos by post to Beccie in the office or by email to [beccie@caat.org.uk](mailto:beccie@caat.org.uk)

### Dates for your diary

Don't forget this year's Stop the Arms Trade Week, which is taking place between 2nd and 10th June. The CAAT Christian Network's Day of Prayer falls on Sunday 10th June. Both are opportunities for taking local action to 'Control BAE'. See pages 8–9 for more information on this campaign.

# Reopen the Saudi corruption inquiry

CAAT's major campaign for 2007 – 'Control BAE: reopen the Saudi corruption inquiry' – aims to do exactly what it says. We want to stop BAE from being put above the law.

This is an important campaign. As well as turning a blind eye to corruption allegations, the dropping of the inquiry raises issues that need highlighting as they are fundamental to the arms trade: BAE's disproportionate political influence and the unrivalled government support that the company receives. If anything threatens BAE's profit and share price, the company lobbies the Government. Stricter ECGD anti-bribery rules in 2004? Get the Trade & Industry Secretary to weaken them. Corruption investigations threatening a £10 billion deal with Saudi Arabia? Get the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) investigation called off.

The situation has also resulted in unprecedented parliamentary, media and public interest in CAAT, and we now need to build on the outrage being expressed from so many quarters. We need to deepen public understanding of the issues and move more people to action. By taking action across the country, we hope that CAAT supporters will convince friends, neighbours and colleagues that BAE is out of control and should be reigned in. Through this popular campaign – and the judicial review – we aim to get the SFO inquiry reopened.

None of this can be done without your help. Please take action now.

## BAE Systems' Annual General Meeting – 9th May

BAE's AGM is on Wednesday 9th May. It is the one time in the year when board directors face shareholders to

discuss the company's activities. CAAT supporters will be attending as 'token shareholders' in order to hold the company to account and call for the reopening of the SFO investigation. We will also hold a peaceful protest outside the AGM.

Please join us. Full details are on the enclosed leaflet.

## Stop the Arms Trade Week – 2nd to 10th June

CAAT's annual Stop the Arms Trade Week will this year focus on the Control BAE campaign. This is a unique opportunity for groups and individuals all across the UK to take simultaneous local action on this issue. Are you able to raise awareness of the campaign in your area during

the week of action? CAAT can provide Control BAE materials for you to use and distribute locally. Can you organise a campaign day, public meeting or protest that week? Or run a stall in your town centre, library or other public place to collect petition signatures and get postcards signed? Or co-ordinate a letter-writing campaign to your MP? Or perhaps you could get people in your area to do a day of web-based campaigning. If you are organising an event or action, why not invite your local MP(s) along and tell the local media your plans? Be imaginative – whatever action you can take will help the campaign.

Please get in touch with Beccie if you have ideas or plans for local activity ([beccie@caat.org.uk](mailto:beccie@caat.org.uk)).

## Day of Prayer – Sunday 10th June

Every year the CAAT Christian Network holds a day of prayer to coincide with Stop the Arms Trade Week. This year's



Outside the BAE AGM 2006



will also focus on the Control BAE campaign, an important issue for the Christian Network, as Saudi Arabia has a dire human rights record which includes ongoing persecution of Christian foreign nationals, as well as the Shia Muslim minority.

Are there ways you could raise awareness in your church or parish? Could you put something in your church newsletter, put up a display or stall at the back of your church or include some relevant prayers or readings in the service?

Day of Prayer leaflets and packs containing suggestions for prayer and action will be available to order soon. Please contact Alun in the office (christian@caat.org.uk).

**Invite a CAAT speaker to your event**

We want to ensure that as many people as possible hear about this campaign. Are you planning an event or public meeting this year that could benefit from a CAAT speaker on this issue? If so, let us know and we will do our best to provide a suitable speaker. Contact Beccie in the office (beccie@caat.org.uk).

**Early Day Motion**

An Early Day Motion is a sort of parliamentary petition through which opinion on particular issues is gauged. If you have not already done so, please contact your MP and ask her or him to sign EDM 595 on the "Serious Fraud Office Investigation into the Al Yamamah military contract" calling on the Government to reopen the investigation. You can do this by sending the enclosed Control BAE postcard to your MP or by writing a letter. To check if your MP has signed the EDM, go to [www.parliament.uk](http://www.parliament.uk). email addresses can also be found on that site. Or use the postal address: House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1A 0AA.

**Donate to the campaign**

Please make a donation to support our work on this issue. See page 14 for more information.

ANN FELTHAM, ANNA JONES,  
BECCIE D'CUNHA

**New materials available**

New Control BAE postcards, petitions and briefings, as well as BAE AGM leaflets, are now available to order free from the CAAT office (patrick@caat.org.uk).

**Postcard to MPs**

In this issue you will find a two-part campaign postcard. Please send one postcard to your MP and return the other to CAAT to be kept up to date with the campaign. The postcard asks MPs to sign EDM 595 and raise the issue with the Prime Minister. This is a great resource for local campaigning – please order plenty and get them signed and sent to your MP! The more he/she receives, the greater the impact.

**BAE Systems' AGM leaflet**

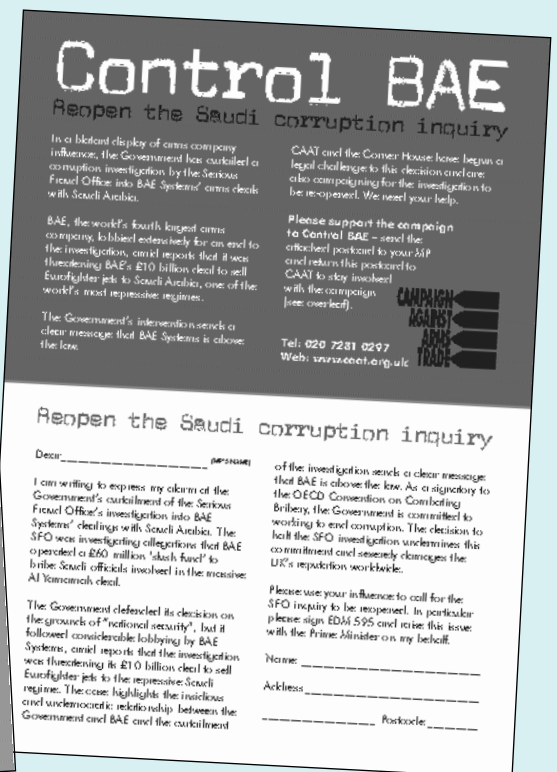
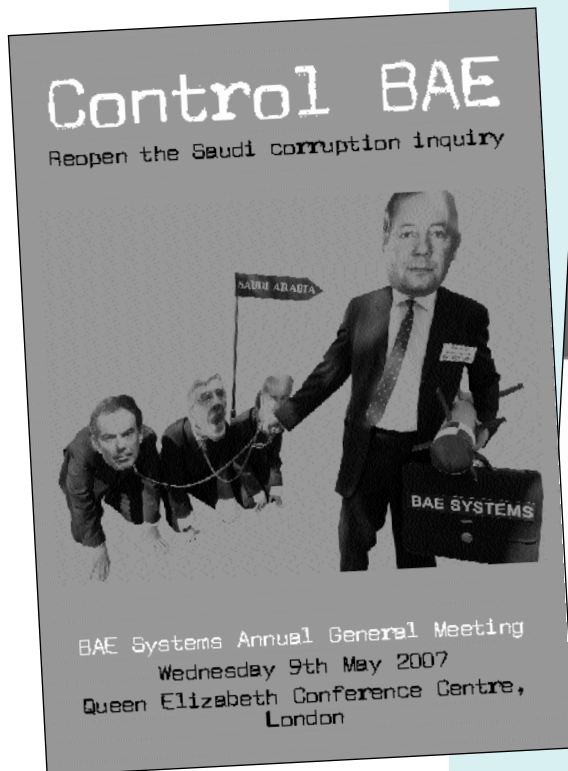
Also enclosed is a leaflet about BAE Systems' Annual General Meeting on 9th May. Again, please return the tear-off slip to CAAT to get involved and order more copies from the office to give out in your area.

**Petition to the Prime Minister**

Petitioning is a simple but effective way to raise awareness and get people signed up to the campaign. The Control BAE petition can be ordered from the CAAT office or downloaded from [www.caat.org.uk](http://www.caat.org.uk)

**Campaign briefing**

The four-page briefing contains everything you need to know about the dropping of the SFO inquiry and about CAAT's analysis of the current situation.



# Top tips for public speaking

Most people are terrified at the prospect of standing up and speaking in front of people. Yet public speaking, if done well, is an effective way of reaching mass audiences with our campaign messages. With practice and some strategies for preparing and delivering a good talk, the most nervous person can become a confident and persuasive speaker. Here are some tips to get you started.

## 1 Know your audience and purpose

Before you start working on your talk, it is vital to establish who your audience is and what you want them to do as a result of your talk. Will you be speaking to potential allies or potential enemies? What are their interests, presuppositions and values? How might you create a connection with them? Is your aim to educate them or to persuade? Or, if they are already on side, is your aim to inspire them to take action?

## 2 Structure your talk

A good talk should have a logical framework that flows. Make sure there is a clear beginning, middle and end. The introduction should give a taster of what is to come and grab the audience's attention. Ask a question, give a shocking quote, tell a funny story, issue a challenge, show a powerful picture. Keep the body of your talk simple and focused and try to stick to three main points. The conclusion should summarise your talk and be short, strong and memorable. End with a challenge, a question or a call to action.

## 3 Make it visual

Use visual aids to focus the audience's attention and to illustrate your main points. Visuals could include a flip chart, a powerpoint presentation, props, maps, videos.

The size of your audience and type of venue will inform what is suitable – it needs to be visible to everyone in the room. Simplicity is key – use pictures and simple diagrams and keep any words to a few short bullet points. Check beforehand that your visuals work. Have a back-up in case things go wrong.

## 4 Maintain eye contact

Making eye contact helps you to build a rapport with the audience, making them more attentive. It also enables you to gauge the audience's reaction to your message. Try to scan the whole room so that no-one feels excluded.

## 5 Be yourself and speak from the heart

Genuine passion and conviction are contagious. Be natural and let your unique speaking style and personality show. Inject a personal note – tell a short story about something that happened to you or share your thoughts.

## 6 Remember to pause

Well-timed, dramatic pauses can have a huge impact. They allow your words to sink in, as well as giving you a moment's respite. Silence is far more effective than 'ums' and 'ers'. Use pauses after shocking statistics or stories. If you know you speed up when you are nervous, try writing reminders to 'pause' in your talk notes.

## 7 Use your voice and your body

Studies show that people pay far less attention to what is said than they do to how it is said. Practice varying the volume, pace, and pitch of your voice. Think about the rhythm of your speech: emphasise key words, use short sentences for dramatic effect, repeat important lines. Dress comfortably and appropriately and

think about your posture, facial expression and hand gestures. And remember to smile!

## 8 Keep it human

Use stories, examples, case studies, photos to bring your points to life and keep the audience engaged. Hard statistics are important, but, if used on their own, can leave people feeling cold and unmotivated.

## 9 Practice

Try out your speech in front of a mirror or practice in front of others and ask them to give you feedback. They may notice nervous habits you haven't spotted.

## 10 Don't panic

Nerves and adrenaline are absolutely normal, and what is more, they can improve your performance and give you the energy to communicate enthusiastically, convincingly, and passionately. The key is to prepare thoroughly so your nerves don't overcome you on the day. If anything does go wrong or if you are asked a difficult question, pause and take a deep breath. Buy yourself some time by taking a sip of water or reflecting back the question. And smile – it will send positive chemicals through your body and help both you and your audience to relax!

Lastly, don't forget to take sign-up sheets and campaign materials so people can take immediate action after being inspired by your talk!

BECCIE D'CUNHA

Want to know more? Come to a CAAT public speaking training day. Contact Beccie for more information ([beccie@caat.org.uk](mailto:beccie@caat.org.uk)).

# Shut DESO campaign

Over the last year, CAAT has been campaigning to shut DESO, the Defence Export Services Organisation, which pushes arms sales to countries such as Saudi Arabia. Our Shut DESO action day in October and mass lobby of MPs have had a real impact, raising much-needed awareness amongst MPs and the public about the Government's arms sales unit. Many people had no idea what DESO's function really was. For example, many MPs were under the impression that DESO helps to control arms exports, so it has been very important to make it clear that quite the reverse is true, and that DESO helps to proliferate arms around the globe.



## Petition hand-in

On Wednesday 7th March, the day on which DESO held its annual symposium in London, supporters of CAAT and the Fellowship of Reconciliation gathered together to call for DESO's closure. After a peaceful protest outside the symposium, we made the short walk to the Treasury to hand-in over 10,000 petition signatures to the Chief Secretary of the Treasury, Stephen Timms MP.

The Treasury was the focus of the petitions and campaign postcards as we want it to consider DESO's closure as part of its Comprehensive Spending Review, which takes place this year. The economic argument for closing DESO is very strong. No other industry enjoys such high-level government support. DESO sells arms for big business and, at a time when civil service posts are being cut across government, it is untenable that a unit that is dedicated to selling weapons purely in pursuit of shareholder profit exists. DESO is a waste of hundreds of civil service posts. It is against the public interest. It undermines (much less well-resourced) initiatives around counter-proliferation and conflict resolution. It



**Anna Jones hands in the petition with Chris Cole from FoR** CAAT

should have no place within government.

## Thank you

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has taken part in the campaign over the last year. With your help we have encouraged the Liberal Democrats, Plaid Cymru and the Green Party to commit to closing

DESO. We have made many MPs in the other parties question DESO's existence. We hope it won't be long until the Government follows suit and sees that time is up for the Government's gunrunners. Until then, CAAT will continue to call for DESO's closure. ANNA JONES

For more on DESO see [www.calltheshots.org](http://www.calltheshots.org) or order a briefing from the office.

# Mercenaries

Virtually all CAAT's parliamentary work this year has focussed on the BAE Systems corruption allegations. This is discussed elsewhere in *CAATnews* (see pages 3, 8 and 9).

There are other issues on which CAAT keeps an eye. One such is that of mercenaries, nowadays frequently referred to as Private Military and Security Companies. This is a bid to sound respectable as governments pay private companies to undertake work once the preserve of the armed forces. Whatever the nomenclature used, there is widespread agreement that these individuals and companies need to be regulated. The companies generally say they can do this themselves and have set up a trade association to argue their case. Others think the Government must regulate them.

Last year, War on Want published an excellent report on the issue. Copies are available from CAAT free of charge or can be seen on [www.waronwant.org](http://www.waronwant.org). To highlight the message of the report, a parliamentary Early Day Motion has now been tabled by a multi-party group of MPs. This is a sort of parliamentary petition through which opinion on particular issues is gauged. EDM 690 on the 'Private Military and Security Companies' reads:


"That this House welcomes the recent War on Want report entitled



*Corporate Mercenaries* which examines the role of mercenaries and private military security companies (PMSCs) in conflict zones around the world; shares its concerns over the exponential growth of PMSCs since the invasion of Iraq; notes that PMSCs work alongside regular soldiers providing combat support in conflict situations, yet remain unregulated and

## A private security contractor looks down from helicopter patrolling over Baghdad

unaccountable leaving open the potential for human rights violations; further notes that problems posed by proliferation of PMSCs were highlighted in a Green Paper in February 2002 that originated in a request from the Foreign Affairs Committee but that almost five years later there is still no United Kingdom legislation regulating PMSCs; believes that self-regulation by the industry is not appropriate in this instance; and urges the Government to move towards binding legislation to control the PMSC sector as an urgent priority."

 If you have already asked your MP to sign the EDM on the Serious Fraud Office decision, please ask him or her to sign this one – either by writing to the House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1A 0AA or by email. Most MPs' email addresses can be found on the parliamentary website at [www.parliament.uk](http://www.parliament.uk) and following the link to MPs. ANN FELTHAM

# Who's investing in the arms trade?

Sadly, a whole host of organisations. But they don't need to, and those that are investing on your behalf surely shouldn't be. In June, we will release details of arms company shares held by local authorities, charities, trade unions and similar bodies. The focus will be on local authorities as they have sizeable funds and should be accountable to you.

Last year we obtained and published the shareholdings of 88 of the 99 local authority pension funds. Another five provided details later on and we are hopeful that this year we can publish figures for all local authorities. Having this information is helpful, but of course it's only the start. The campaign needs local groups and individual supporters to

persuade their local authorities to use their funds more ethically and productively.

If you don't already receive Clean Investment updates and would be willing to get in touch with your local authority (or other investors), please let us know by emailing [cleaninvestment@caat.org.uk](mailto:cleaninvestment@caat.org.uk) or ringing Ian at the office. IAN PRICHARD

# BAE Systems: a company out of control

BAE Systems, the company formerly known as British Aerospace, is the world's fourth largest arms producer. It makes fighter aircraft, warships, tanks, armoured vehicles, artillery systems, missiles, munitions and much more. Its only significant non-military business, Airbus, was sold off in 2006.

The company thrives on insecurity: last year's Annual Report stated that: "New threats and conflict arenas are placing unprecedented demands on military forces and presenting BAE Systems with new challenges and opportunities". The company has military customers in "some 130 countries", with its foremost markets being the repressive Saudi Arabia regime and the US, to which BAE Systems has steadily been moving its business. A stride in this direction was the 2005 purchase of combat vehicle and munition manufacturer United Defense, giving BAE Systems a major stake in the US's ground fighting in Afghanistan and Iraq.

## Ongoing SFO investigations into BAE Systems

Two common characteristics of major BAE Systems arms contracts are promotion of the deal by UK ministers in advance and allegations of corruption afterwards. Once the SFO had begun investigating BAE Systems' dealings with Saudi Arabia in November 2004, a steady procession of other deals joined the inquiry. News of each country's involvement has generally been broken by the *Guardian*, with little official comment. However, on 23 January 2007 the Solicitor General confirmed that BAE Systems' dealings with six other countries were still under investigation.

## Chile

In September 2005 the *Guardian* reported that BAE had secretly paid £1 million to General Pinochet in return for help over arms deals. The payments were said to have

appeared in US banking records, unearthed by a Chilean judge pursuing General Pinochet. They were made between 1997 and 2004. An SFO team is reported have met the judge in Santiago.

## Romania

In June 2006, with the arrest of a BAE agent, it emerged that the 2003 sale of two ex-Royal Navy frigates to Romania by BAE was under investigation by the SFO and MoD Police. £7 million in "secret commissions" was allegedly paid to clinch the £116 million deal.

## South Africa

In October 2006 the SFO raided the offices of John Bredenkamp, alleged by the *Guardian* to be BAE's agent in the £1.6 billion sale of Hawk and Gripen jets to South Africa in 1999. These aircraft deals formed part of a wider arms package that continues to be the subject of allegations of corruptions leading, so far, to the successful prosecution of two high-profile political figures. In January 2007 a Johannesburg newspaper published details of a leaked "mutual legal assistance" request from the SFO to South African authorities. The document contained details of alleged secret payments and allegations that "there is reasonable cause to believe" that BAE and named executives had "committed offences of corruption."

## Tanzania

In November 2006 both the *Times* and the *Guardian* reported that the SFO was investigating the sale of a BAE military air traffic control system to Tanzania. In January 2007, following interviews with two Tanzanian middlemen, the *Guardian* alleged that commissions of \$12 million, 30 per cent of the value of the deal, had been paid into Swiss bank accounts by BAE. An export licence for the deal had been granted in 2001 despite opposition

from Clare Short, then International Development Secretary, and Gordon Brown, and a damning World Bank report.

## Czech Republic

In November 2006, the sale of Gripen fighter aircraft to the Czech Republic became linked with the SFO investigation. An initial deal to buy 24 of the aircraft was cancelled as a result of the devastating floods in 2002, however two years later a lease deal for 14 Gripen aircraft was signed. In 2003 the *Guardian* said that the US had accused BAE of "corrupt practice" following reports from the CIA and rival arms companies and that the Czech police had confirmed bribery attempts by BAE. In February 2007 Swedish broadcaster SVT showed hidden-camera coverage of a former Czech foreign minister admitting that "money changed hands" with politicians over the Gripen deal. That month a senior Swedish prosecutor started an investigation into the contract due to the involvement of Saab, the part-BAE-owned manufacturers of Gripen aircraft. Czech police re-opened their inquiries.

## Qatar

Following the sale of a package of UK arms to Qatar in 1996, BAE paid a £7million "commission" into three Jersey trust funds under the control of Qatar's Foreign Minister. A criminal investigation began in Jersey in 2000 but, with Qatari pressure, a jittery UK arms industry and Qatar's support seen as vital in prosecuting the 'war on terror', the investigation ended in 2002 on "public interest" grounds. The Qatari Foreign Minister denied any wrongdoing but agreed to pay Jersey £6 million for "perceived damage". The investigation was uncovered by the *Jersey Evening Post* and thought to be off the SFO's agenda until the Solicitor General's recent announcement. IAN RICHARD

# Fundraising

By Kathryn Busby



## Legal Challenge Appeal

I'd like to start by thank everyone who has donated to CAAT's legal challenge fundraising appeal. There has been a fantastic response already, and if you have not yet had a chance to contribute, it's not too late. Simply send us a cheque payable to CAAT, and write 'legal challenge' on the back so we know what the donation is for. Or alternatively you can give online through our website [www.caat.org.uk](http://www.caat.org.uk)

## Great South Run

Every year, CAAT supporters run marathons, half marathons, 5k runs and other races in aid of CAAT. You may remember reading last year in *CAATnews* about Jan Walters, who ran the Great North Run and finished the world's biggest half-marathon in 2 hours 28 minutes and 36 seconds. She raised more than £600 from her friends and family, with sponsorship donations from *CAATnews* readers bringing the overall total to £2,073.10

We are now looking to the opposite end of the country and calling for supporters to join the

CAAT team for the ten-mile Great South Run in Portsmouth on 28th October 2007. This will be a great opportunity to meet other CAAT supporters and to help raise funds by asking your friends and family to sponsor you. Or if you aren't ready to tackle a ten-mile run, there are plenty of shorter races taking place across the UK. If you are interested in running any distance for CAAT, please contact Kathryn on 020 7281 0297 or [kathryn@caat.org.uk](mailto:kathryn@caat.org.uk) for more details.

*Continued opposite at bottom of page*

# Do you want a piece of the action?

WAR . PEACE  
 CLIMATE . TRADE  
 NUKES . LIBERTIES  
 NEWS . VIEWS  
 IDEAS . EVENTS  
 ACTION . COMMUNITY  
 CHANGE



## get it monthly with Peace News

call 0845 456 5183  
 or visit [www.peacenews.info](http://www.peacenews.info)

**Peace News**  
 Celebrating seventy years  
 of radical peace publishing

# Campaign Against Arms Trade thrives on your participation

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](mailto: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](mailto:enquiries@caat.org.uk) or visit [www.caat.org.uk/lists](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:action@caat.org.uk) or Beccie [beccie@caat.org.uk](mailto:beccie@caat.org.uk)

For media info contact Symon at [press@caat.org.uk](mailto:press@caat.org.uk)

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:action@caat.org.uk)

## Join the CAAT Christian Network

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

Contact Alun Morinan at [christian@caat.org.uk](mailto:christian@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](mailto:patrick@caat.org.uk)

## Continued from page 14

### Day of Dance

At the end of January, St Mary's Welcome Centre in Walthamstow hosted a one-day dance, organised by CAAT supporter and volunteer Jean Duggleby, to raise money for CAAT and Action Aid. There were opportunities to watch some beautiful performances, as well as plenty of time for trying out belly dancing, Bollywood, circle and line dancing and more. The event raised £400 for CAAT. Huge thanks to Jean for all her hard work, and for choosing CAAT as one of the beneficiaries. Thanks also to all the dance teachers, performers and workshop leaders who gave their time.

# 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.

Name

Address

Postcode

Tel

Email

I enclose a cheque/postal order for £

I do not want to receive an acknowledgment

## Please give by standing order

It helps CAAT plan ahead more effectively and costs less to administer, so more money goes directly to campaigning. Just £3 a month makes a real difference.

Name

Bank address

Postcode

Sort code  Acc/no

Please pay: The Co-operative Bank Plc, 1 Islington High Street, London, N1 9TR (sort code 08 90 33) for the account of CAMPAIGN AGAINST ARMS TRADE (account number 50503544) the sum of

pounds (£ )

starting on (dd/mm/yyyy)  and monthly/annually thereafter.

Signed

Fill in your name and address with the bankers order and return the whole form to CAAT, not your bank. Please make cheques payable to CAAT and send with this form to: CAAT, Freepost, LON6486, London N4 3BR.

If you DO NOT wish to receive CAATnews please tick here

CAAT use only.  
Please quote ref

on all payments

# Campaigns diary

## 17 April

Reed Elsevier AGM. See page 6.

## 21 April

Musical Protest Against the DSEi arms fair. Meet outside the Western Entrance, ExCel Centre, Custom House, London SE 16, 2pm-4.30pm.

## 9 May

BAE Systems AGM. See pages 3 and 8-9.

## 2-10 June

Stop the Arms Trade Week, including Day of Prayer. See page 7.

## 11-14 September

DSEi arms fair, London. More details soon.

## Weekly

Vigil outside headquarters of Reed Elsevier, the company responsible for organising the DSEi arms fair and other arms fairs around the world. Every Wednesday 12-2pm, 1-3 Strand, London WC2N 5JR (Call 020 7249 0041 / 07726 997 638 to confirm).

Noise demos at EDO MBM. Every Wednesday 4-6pm at EDO MBM, Home Farm Business Park, Home Farm Road, Mouslecomb, Brighton. Come and make some noise outside EDO MBM, a Brighton based company manufacturing electrical weapons components. For more information see [www.smashedo.org.uk](http://www.smashedo.org.uk)

Vigil outside offices of Raytheon, one of world's biggest arms manufacturers. Every Friday at 8am, on the UWE/Bristol Business Park roundabout, Coldharbour Lane, Bristol. Contact [jandamarra@riseup.net](mailto:jandamarra@riseup.net)

## Monthly

East London Against the Arms Fair meeting on the second Monday each month, 7.30pm, the Garden Cafe, 7 Cundy Road, London E16. Contact ELAAF, c/o CIU, Durning Hall, Earlham Grove, London E7 or call 020 7474 5257

CAAT London Group Meeting. For details, please contact Robin Yu at [londoncaat@riseup.net](mailto:londoncaat@riseup.net)

11 Goodwin Street, London N4 3HQ  
Tel: 020 7281 0297  
Fax: 020 7281 4369  
Email: [enquiries@caat.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@caat.org.uk)  
Website: [www.caat.org.uk](http://www.caat.org.uk)

