

# CAATnews



**COME AND SEE  
US ON MAY 7th**

**Chair of BAE Systems  
Richard Olver**

**Chief Executive  
Mike Turner**

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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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DISARM UCL

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You may notice that this issue of CAATnews is shorter than usual. This is because we are waiting for news on our biggest current story – the Judicial Review challenging the Government's December 2006 decision to stop the Serious Fraud Office investigation into BAE System's Al Yamamah arms deal.

The result of the case is not known at time of going to press so full coverage will be in the next, full-length issue of CAATnews.



# BAE AGM on 7th May: Get involved!

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is the one time in the year when BAE's board of directors has to face direct questions from shareholders. This year's AGM presents a great opportunity for CAAT to sustain the pressure built up around the company running up to, and since, Judicial Review proceedings in February.

Through actions at the AGM, CAAT will continue to highlight BAE's alleged corruption and the Government's attempt to put BAE above the law. We will also be highlighting the nature of BAE's current advertising campaign. In an attempt to cover up and divert attention away from the negative press surrounding allegations of corruption and the Government's curtailment of the Serious Fraud Office inquiry, BAE has launched an aggressive public relations campaign to convince us of the indispensable role that the company plays within UK business and society (see page 9).

Last year CAAT's protests at the BAE AGM generated a great deal of media interest, and lots of people turned out to protest. Inside the AGM itself the question and answer session was dominated by questions from CAAT token shareholders, placing the board under immense pressure to address our concerns. This year promises to be even more exciting.

## Join our protest

On the day of the AGM itself, CAAT supporters will once again have the opportunity to act as token shareholders and participate in the meeting, asking a range of questions designed to hold the company to account.

The AGM itself starts at 11am, with doors opening at 10.30am. There will be a peaceful protest outside starting from 9.30am. This will provide an opportunity for all supporters to get involved. There will also be a public meeting after the AGM and the protest. This will be a



**CAAT supporters outside last year's BAE AGM** PATRICK DELANEY

chance for a debrief on the day's events, with those from inside and those from outside telling one another what happened, as well as addressing any media interest.

For more information see the enclosed leaflet or contact Emma Longstaff at [emma@caat.org.uk](mailto:emma@caat.org.uk).

## Help spread the word!

We need your help to make this a protest for BAE to remember. Please join us on the day and order more leaflets to distribute locally in the run up to the event. Fill in and return the enclosed leaflet or email [emma@caat.org.uk](mailto:emma@caat.org.uk) to let us know if you're coming and/or to order extra copies of the leaflet. You can join the protest outside or we can arrange for you to go inside the AGM as a token shareholder.

EMMA LONGSTAFF

## Join us at the BAE AGM

**Wednesday 7th May,  
Queen Elizabeth  
Conference Centre,  
Broad Sanctuary,  
London SW1P 3EE**

**9.30am Protest outside  
the AGM starts**

**10.30am Token  
shareholders enter the  
AGM**

**11am AGM begins**

**2-3.30pm Debrief  
meeting followed by  
refreshments – all  
welcome. St Vincents  
Convent, Carlisle Place,  
SW1P 1NL**

## Cluster munitions

More than 80 countries signed the 'Wellington Declaration' at a conference in New Zealand in February, committing in spirit towards ending the use, production, transfer and stockpiling of cluster munitions 'that cause unacceptable harm to civilians'.

The Declaration is intended to be a basis for formal negotiations on cluster munitions, although the signatories have yet to define what they mean by cluster munitions and what they mean by 'unacceptable harm'. JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 5/3/08

## Dealer arrest in Thailand

A Russian man suspected of being one of the world's biggest illegal arms dealers has been arrested in Thailand. Viktor Bout was arrested on a warrant issued by the US government, which accuses him of supplying weapons to Colombia's FARC. Bout has also been accused of breaking UN embargoes on arms sales to countries from central Asia to Africa. BBC, 6/3/08

## Chad

France's military has admitted to sending arms to Chad from Libya in February to help the country's army fight rebels who attacked the capital. Rebel groups described the French move as 'neo-colonialist'.

INDEPENDENT, 15/2/08

## Indonesia-China

Indonesia and China have agreed to develop military equipment together, focussing on military aircraft and transport vehicles.

JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 23/1/08

## India

Pakistan's navy chief has warned of an escalating arms race in South Asia after India's first test fire of a nuclear-capable submarine-launched missile in February. Pakistan is already looking to buy submarine-launched missiles, although there is a shortage in international suppliers willing to sell it the components needed for their manufacture.

JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 5/3/08

Fears of an arms race between India and China increased after discussions between the US and India over a joint missile defence system. Beijing is concerned that the US is trying to 'encircle' China by using India, Japan, Australia and other allies as proxies. India itself has expressed reservations about such a move.

DAILY TELEGRAPH, 28/2/08

The US has promoted a \$10bn jet fighter contract to India, competing with Russian and European rivals for a slice of the more than \$30bn of military spending planned by India over the next five years. The head of the UK military manufacturing trade association described India's military



modernisation programme as 'a rapidly growing market of a potential superpower with clear intentions to be a player on the world stage.'

However, India's plans have met with domestic criticism. Noting that the country's military budget accounts for almost 19 per cent of government

spending, journalist Praful Bidwai said: 'We spend 1 per cent on public health and education is 5 or 6 per cent of the outlays'. Bidwai drew attention to a government report which found that 77 per cent of Indians live on less than 20 rupees (25p) per day.

GUARDIAN, 22/2/08; FINANCIAL TIMES, 16/2/08

Mumbai-based Tata Industries Limited and Boeing have signed an agreement for a Joint Venture (JV) to produce military aerospace components. DEFENCE INDUSTRY, MARCH 08

Boeing follows in the footsteps of BAE Systems, which has formed Joint Ventures with Indian companies in order to gain access to the Indian market. BAE Chief Executive Mike Turner said: 'eventually we see [India] becoming another of our home markets'.

TIMES, 22/2/08

## Colombia

Colombia has ordered 24 fighter planes from Israel Aerospace Industries. Delivery is due in early 2009.

JANE'S INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE REVIEW, MARCH 08

## Russia-Algeria deals

Algeria has said it wants to send back 15 Russian fighter planes that it deemed defective, possibly scuppering the rest of a 2006 \$8bn arms deal. However, the arms deal is not the only worry for Russia.

Moscow had hoped to agree another deal in the energy sector and open Algeria's natural gas reserves to Russian companies. The prospect of a natural gas cartel may now fall along with the arms deal.

DEFENSE NEWS, 25/2/08

## BAE Systems Australia

BAE Systems Australia has bought Australia's second largest military manufacturer, Tenix Defence Pty Ltd. The deal makes BAE Systems Australia the country's biggest military contractor with revenues of

1.21bn Australian dollars and a workforce of 5,300 people.

DEFENSE NEWS, 21/1/08

## Ship bid

BAE Systems has linked with a South Korean shipbuilder to bid for the first phase of a contract on the UK's next generation of warship support ships. The ships are likely to be built in Korea if the consortium wins the bid.

FINANCIAL TIMES, 16/2/08

## Negotiations

A number of UK-based military companies have formed management teams to negotiate with the Ministry of Defence over the impact of proposed cuts to procurement programmes. Executives from BAE Systems, AgustaWestland, Rolls-Royce and at least four other companies are concerned that a budget shortfall in the UK's Defence Planning Round 08 will lead to procurement projects being delayed, shrunk or cancelled.

JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 30/1/08

## US spending

Members of the US Congress have suggested that a planned spend of \$705.7bn on the military in 2009 – the largest budget since World War II – may not be enough. Gordon Adams, a director of defence budgeting under President Clinton, said: 'Guess what. It's an election year ... the politics of [this] are lethal.'

DEFENSE NEWS, 11/2/08

## EADS in US

European military consortium EADS has moved forward its attempts to enter the US military market by winning a \$35bn contract to supply the US Air Force with refuelling tankers.

EADS and its US partner Northrop Grumman beat Boeing in a competition that could lead to contracts worth more than \$100bn.

The decision – described by the *Financial Times* as a 'stunning victory' for EADS – came as a huge blow to Boeing, which won the original contract to provide tankers. The deal was cancelled in 2003 following a procurement scandal.

FINANCIAL TIMES, 1/3/08

## Cobham

The EADS consortium includes the UK company Cobham, which increased its US presence in January of this year by declaring an intention to acquire US systems engineering specialist Sparta Inc. Sparta and other US-based acquisitions mean that US sales will make up more than half of Cobham's anticipated total revenues in 2008.

JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 30/1/08

## Rolls-Royce

Rolls-Royce Chief Executive Sir John Rose has warned that more UK workers may lose their jobs as the company shifts its industrial base to lower-cost dollar-denominated markets. Rose said: 'Ninety per cent of our revenue comes from outside the UK, and the manufacturing balance will continue to move that way.' The news came days after Rolls-Royce confirmed the closure of a factory in Merseyside.

INDEPENDENT, 8/2/08

## Saudi Eurofighter assembly plans

Plans for in-country assembly of 48 of the Royal Saudi Air Force's 72 Eurofighter Typhoons could be finalised in the next two months. Mohammed Fallatah, Chief Executive of Riyadh-based Alsalam Aircraft, which is due to do the work in partnership with BAE Systems, has warned that time is running out to deliver the first locally completed plane in 2011 as planned.

FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL, 4 – 10 MARCH 2008

## Some destinations for UK arms

### Human rights concerns

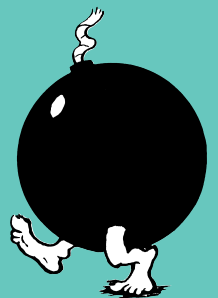
The UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office produces a Human Rights Annual Report each year. Its 2006 report identified 20 'major countries of concern'. The UK approved arms export licences to half of these. They were:

**Afghanistan**  
**Belarus**  
**China**  
**Colombia**  
**Iraq**  
**Israel**  
**Russia**  
**Saudi Arabia**  
**Turkmenistan**  
**Vietnam**

### Conflict locations

SIPRI\* produces an analysis of active conflicts each year. Its most recent report identified locations with at least one major armed conflict in 2006. Of these, the UK approved arms export licences to:

**Afghanistan**  
**Colombia**  
**India**  
**Iraq**  
**Israel**  
**Peru**  
**Philippines**  
**Russia**  
**Sri Lanka**  
**Turkey**  
**Uganda**  
**USA\*\***



\* Stockholm International Peace Research Institute

\*\* USA vs al-Qaeda ('location' refers to the government of the state that is being challenged by an opposition organisation, not necessarily the geographical location of the fighting)



# Parliamentary

## Corporate mercenaries

Since the beginning of the decade, there has been a growth in what those involved in the industry like to refer to as Private Military and Security Companies (PMSC), but others, including CAAT, call corporate mercenaries. Whatever the terminology, there is no disagreement that, especially since the invasion of Iraq, there has been a proliferation of people working for private companies but undertaking tasks that had long been the preserve of national armed forces.

The Government acknowledged the problem and issued a Green (consultative) Paper in February 2002. Six years later, despite many reported incidents of civilian killings and human rights abuses by PMSC guards, no action has been taken.

An Early Day Motion is a sort of parliamentary petition through which opinion on particular issues is gauged. EDM 785 on the 'Private Military and Security Companies', which has been tabled by a multi-party group of MPs, calls on the government to prioritise legislation to control the corporate mercenary sector. Ask your MP to sign, either by email (most MPs have the formula [smithp@parliament.uk](mailto:smithp@parliament.uk)) or by post at

the House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1A 0AA.

## The Quad changes its name

Since 1999, members of four Commons' Select Committees have met together to look at the government's policy on arms exports. This became known colloquially as the Quadripartite Committee, or 'Quad', which conveys little to those who do not know of its work. It has now changed its name to the Committees on Arms Export Controls. The membership, under Chair Roger Berry MP, is drawn from the Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform; Defence; Foreign Affairs; and International Development Committees. ANN FELTHAM

# Reed slow on arms fair exit



Outside the Reed Elsevier AGM in 2007 CAAT

DSEi-organiser Reed Elsevier has missed its deadline for exiting the arms fairs business. Last June, following a two-year campaign co-ordinated by CAAT, the company announced: 'Reed Elsevier intends to complete its withdrawal during the second half of 2007, subject to honouring its obligations to partners, customers and other key stakeholders.' However, just a few weeks ago, the *Guardian* reported

that the company's Chief Executive didn't recall giving any timing and wouldn't commit to any, claiming that 'the defence sale is proceeding fine.'

### Concerns

This may be the case, but it is equally possible that there are problems. In the case of the arms fair portfolio, any potential purchaser with significant non-military interests is likely to be wary of being on the

receiving end of the same kind of criticism experienced by Reed. For companies without such concerns, a much more pressing problem is the closure of DESO, the Ministry of Defence's arms sales unit. Prior to its demise, DESO was the co-organiser of the DSEi arms fair in East London. The reallocation of DESO's functions will undoubtedly raise questions about the arms fair's bottom line. The profitability of DSEi is entirely dependent on full, co-ordinated government support.

### AGM

Until Reed has actually exited the business, it is important that the company continues to be made aware of widespread concerns over its involvement. As such, unless there is an announcement in the meantime, CAAT and other campaigners will attend the Reed Elsevier AGM on the 23rd April to question the board. If you are a Reed shareholder you would be very welcome to join us.

IAN PRICHARD

# Local campaigning news

## Stop the Arms Trade Week

This year's Stop the Arms Trade Week will run from 1st - 8th June. The focus this year remains the Control BAE campaign as it is vital that we maintain pressure on the government to reopen the BAE-Saudi corruption inquiry.

Wherever you live, this is a great opportunity to take coordinated local action against the arms trade. CAAT can provide Control BAE postcards and petitions to use and distribute locally, and we may be able to put you in touch with others in your area. 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? Perhaps you could get people in your area to write letters or take online action. If you are organising an event or action, invite your local MP(s) along and tell the local media your plans. Be imaginative – whatever action you can take will help.



**Newcastle CAAT group protests at local BAE site on Valentine's Day** NEWCASTLE CAAT

Contact [beccie@caat.org.uk](mailto:beccie@caat.org.uk) if you have any ideas or plans for local action.

## Edinburgh CAAT event – Sat 19th April

After the success of their public meeting in November, Edinburgh CAAT has organised another event to consider the way ahead for CAAT's Control BAE campaign. The event

will take place from 3pm to 7pm at the Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh. There will be a panel and debate in the style of the BBC's Question Time, followed by some political stand-up comedy and music. All welcome. For more information, contact Mark Bitel at [caatedinburgh@live.com](mailto:caatedinburgh@live.com).

BECCIE D'CUNHA

# CAAT Christian Network

## Day of Prayer to end arms trading with Israel

Every year the CAAT Christian Network holds a day of prayer to coincide with Stop the Arms Trade Week. This year's day of prayer on Sunday 8th June will focus on ending arms trading with Israel.

If you are a church member, please put something in your newsletter, put up a display or stall at the back of your church or include relevant prayers or readings in the service. Leaflets to publicise the day and a pack to help you raise awareness in your church or parish will be available shortly. Please contact Alun for more information or to place an early order for materials ([christian@caat.org.uk](mailto:christian@caat.org.uk)).

## SPEAK Exeter meeting

On 30th January, Christian Network coordinator Alun Morinan gave an introductory talk on the arms trade to the SPEAK group at the University of Exeter. SPEAK is a network of young adults that prays and campaigns about issues of global injustice (see [www.speak.org.uk](http://www.speak.org.uk)).

The talk began with a brief biblical background to ending the arms trade. It then moved on to statistics on the cost (in every sense of the word) of the arms trade and, finally, to CAAT and its successes during 2007. The talk concluded with suggestions for practical actions that Exeter students could take. These included questioning the University's investments in arms companies and its support for military research.

Although Exeter was not one of the 26 universities examined in the recent *Study War No More* report, Alun mentioned that the School of Biosciences had recently advertised for two postdoctoral research workers in molecular microbiology funded by the US Defense Threat Reduction Agency. Also, the School of Computing & Mathematics has a member of the Defence Science & Technology Laboratory on their External Advisory Committee. One student at the talk said he would raise the issue of biological weapons research in his School with the relevant member of staff.

If you would like a talk at your church or another Christian meeting, please contact [christian@caat.org.uk](mailto:christian@caat.org.uk).

ALUN MORINAN

# CAAT at the courts

**Some CAAT staff have spent rather a lot of time in courtrooms recently. While the results of the cases are unknown at the time of writing, much has already been revealed about the UK's relationship with Saudi Arabia and the way arms and oil have allowed the latter to be the dominant partner. Ann Feltham reports.**

## Al Yamamah Judicial Review

On 14th and 15th February, Lord Justice Moses and Mr Justice Sullivan heard the Judicial Review challenging the Government's December 2006 decision to stop the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) investigation into BAE Systems' Al Yamamah arms deal. The case, brought by CAAT and the Corner House, a social justice research group, took place in a packed courtroom at the Royal Courts of Justice.

CAAT's case was eloquently argued by Dinah Rose QC, from Blackstone Chambers, who said the decision violated the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's anti-bribery convention and was also unlawful because the SFO's Director had permitted threats from Saudi Arabia (to withdraw all security and intelligence co-operation with the UK government) to influence his decision. She said the real reason for stopping the investigation was not 'national security' – the justification given by the then Attorney General Lord Goldsmith – but the threat to a BAE Eurofighter Typhoon deal. This was subsequently signed in September 2007.

## Information Tribunal

Just a few weeks later, from 3rd to 10th March, CAAT was in court again, this time appealing two cases before an Information Tribunal under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). The first case, by CAAT as an organisation, was against the refusal by the Ministry of Defence (MoD) to hand over two 1980s Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) on which the Al Yamamah deal was founded.

In the second case, CAAT researcher Nicholas Gilby was appealing against the decision to withhold Foreign Office documents from the late 1960s and early 1970s. The documents concern negotiations around UK arms sales to Saudi Arabia which we think contain evidence of corrupt practices. In wonderful cross-examination, Nicholas questioned William Patey, the UK's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia and a Government witness, about similar documents already in the public domain that demonstrate that Saudi princes had demanded payments.

The Government had justified its position on the basis that the release of the documents would offend the Saudis. CAAT's argument, supported by witness and deputy Liberal Democrat leader Vincent Cable MP, is that the public interest demands the release of these documents to enable informed debate on the matter.

## Saudi power

A theme that ran through all the court proceedings was the power that the UK government has allowed the Saudi Royal Family to exert over it. UK Ambassador to Saudi Arabia William Patey said: 'they expect us to understand them. They expect us to have sensitivity to the different cultural norms there.' This does not appear to be reciprocated. In the Judicial Review, the judges asked the Government's barrister what steps had been taken to explain to the Saudis that the UK has a separation of powers between the government and the judiciary, and what had been done to explore alternative ways of overcoming the Saudi threats

to UK national security. The answer, as Lord Justice Moses said in a sentence picked up by many journalists: 'I have seen nothing to suggest that anyone did anything but roll over.'

Stephen Pollard made the original decision not to give CAAT the MoUs at the heart of the Information Tribunal case. He is the senior civilian in the Saudi Armed Forces Programme. This is the group of two hundred civil servants and military personnel in the UK MoD who are paid by the Saudi government. Again, his approach did nothing to suggest that the UK valued openness. When quizzed at the Tribunal he said that, before responding to CAAT's request he had asked a Saudi general his opinion by saying that the MoUs remained 'confidential or secret between the two governments, and would he be of the opinion that we should not accede to the request?'

## New legal ground

A considerable amount of Government evidence was heard in sessions closed to those without security clearance so CAAT's lawyers, Tom Hickman of Blackstone Chambers and Jamie Beagent of Leigh Day, applied to the Tribunal for the appointment of a Special Advocate, something that had never been done before in an Information Tribunal case. Despite strong resistance from the MoD and the Foreign Office, the Tribunal agreed and a security-cleared barrister was appointed. We were able to brief Khawar Qureshi QC beforehand and he represented our interests in the secret sessions, but cannot report back.

## More information

For more details about all the cases, including released Government documents, witness statements and transcripts, see the CAAT website at [www.caat.org.uk](http://www.caat.org.uk)



# BAE's frantic flag-waving

## Ian Prichard looks behind BAE Systems' latest advertising campaign

BAE has launched a new advertising campaign, its first for more than five years. The company claims that 'It is not a knee-jerk reaction to the negative press and the SFO inquiry'. The campaign includes adverts in a selection of national and regional newspapers, 'giant mobile poster sites' in regions where it has a 'significant industrial presence' and advertising wraps on taxis in Farnborough and London.

The basic campaign image is the Union Jack, which seems a little rich considering two company trends. Firstly, BAE Systems is moving into the US as fast as it can. The number of BAE employees in the UK is steadily decreasing while the number



of BAE employees in the US is rapidly increasing, overtaking the number of UK employees in 2006. BAE may happily become a US company if the opportunity arose. Secondly, BAE is increasingly subcontracting work to lower-cost countries. For example, BAE's signature Hawk aircraft are being built in India for the Indian air force, with talks reported to be taking place about Hawk production there for the global market.

There is no indication that the company has any interest in its UK manufacturing base except as a bargaining (blackmailing) chip, primarily to gain new contracts from the Ministry of Defence.

**Advert 1: 'Our firsts in engineering help the UK stay a world leader in innovation... In the last two years we're proud to have launched the Type 45 destroyer and Astute submarine'**

BAE projects are routinely late and over budget with the taxpayer left to pick up the bill. Only two weeks before the launch of the BAE ad campaign, a report from the House of Commons Defence Committee revealed that the budget for BAE's Astute Submarines had increased by 47 per cent and the budget for BAE's Type 45 Destroyers by 18 per cent, costing the taxpayer £2.2 billion more than expected. The in-service date for the Type 45 is presently three years later than planned.

But a wider question leaps out: what sort of innovation do we want? Nuclear submarines or alternative energy and transport systems? Even civil aviation has been rejected by

BAE which sold its stake in Airbus, leaving the 13,000 UK employees subject to the politics surrounding French/German aerospace giant EADS.

**Advert 2: 'We train more skilled engineers in the UK than any other company... We've always hired and trained the very best of UK talent'**

There is a skills shortage in many areas of UK science and technology. But extensive government support for arms production, not least by means of Research & Development funding, means that arms companies have not been the ones to suffer. In 2005, around £2,600m of government R&D money went to the military sector while a paltry £37m went to renewable energy.

If the government were to reduce its arms expenditure and put the money into technologies required for our wider, environmental security, there would be equivalent levels of skilled employment. A recent government report estimated that the number of jobs in the renewable energy sector could, given supportive enough policies, expand from 8,000 in 2004 to as many as 35,000 by 2020. In contrast to arms companies, this work would be a contribution to global welfare and security.

**Advert 3: 'Last year we spent over £3.2 billion with our UK suppliers... it's all of us that benefit'**

Every company has a network of suppliers. The economic activity that would result from workers moving into other sectors would result in alternative supplier networks.

And the beneficiaries of BAE's activities? There is no doubt that the company's decisions are taken not with the UK public or even its own employees in mind, but in order to generate maximum wealth for its international shareholders.

## New Control BAE petition

In the light of recent developments, we have produced a new petition to Gordon Brown calling on him to break from Blair's legacy and reopen the SFO inquiry into BAE. We will be handing in the old Control BAE petitions to Downing Street soon, once we have the Judicial Review ruling. Thanks to everyone who has collected signatures so far.

Please send any old petitions you have collected over the past year to the CAAT office as soon as possible.

Help us collect signatures for the new petition. This is a great way to raise awareness of the campaign in your area. You can order colourful copies of the new petition from CAAT. Alternatively, it can be downloaded or signed online at [www.caat.org.uk/campaigns/controlBAE](http://www.caat.org.uk/campaigns/controlBAE)

# Sponsored events



We are always looking for supporters to raise money for CAAT by getting sponsored to participate in daredevil, gruelling or sometimes downright bizarre activities. For example, on April 20th Katey Young and her son Izaak will be doing a spot of 'orb rolling'. For those not familiar with the term, this will involve them climbing into a huge ball (not unlike an oversized hamster wheel) and rolling down a hill near Brighton! We would like to say a big thank you to them for coming up with such an imaginative way of raising money for us and wish them good luck for the day. To sponsor Katey and Izaak please contact Sally on

020 7281 0297 or email [sally@caat.org.uk](mailto:sally@caat.org.uk).

## The Great South Run

As reported in *CAATnews* 205, last October a team of three CAAT supporters raised over £2,100 by running the Great South Run in Portsmouth. The event was such a success that we are hoping to get another team together for this year's race on Sunday 26 October.

If you are already planning to enter the race please consider supporting CAAT. Not only will you help fund our campaign, you'll also raise awareness of our work. If you've been waiting for the right

reason to get on your running shoes, then now's the time! Please register via the website [www.greatrun.org](http://www.greatrun.org) and contact [sally@caat.org.uk](mailto:sally@caat.org.uk) so that we can put you in touch with other runners.

## Other races

If Portsmouth isn't the ideal location for you but you would like to raise money by racing for CAAT, please visit [www.greatrun.org](http://www.greatrun.org) for details of races throughout the UK. Remember to let us know where and when you plan to run, so that we can help you find sponsorship and raise money online.

SALLY CAMPBELL

# Student apathy? Not when it comes to the arms trade

Universities faced a day of protests on 27th February, when students throughout the UK called for an end to university arms investments. Many also drew attention to arms companies' involvement in university research and careers fairs.

The events were organised by students with the backing and assistance of CAAT and the support of People & Planet, the UK's largest student campaigning network.

At University College London (UCL), students dressed as arms dealers sold fake missiles in the main quad. They called on UCL to ditch its shares in the arms company Cobham and adopt an ethical investment policy. Similar calls were made by students at Manchester, Newcastle and Nottingham.

On the same day, Lancaster University Debating Society held an open-air discussion on the arms trade's ties with their university,

which holds shares in BAE and receives sponsorship from the company for management courses. When the issue was put to the vote, there was overwhelming opposition to BAE, with only three students voting in favour of the university's links with the company.

Meanwhile, students at Warwick stepped up their campaign for an end to BAE's presence at careers fairs. The arms trade is so unpopular with Warwick students that BAE now bring their own security staff onto campus, although all anti-arms protests there are nonviolent.

Student campaigners at the universities concerned found a positive response to their actions. In recent years, there has been significant success for students



opposed to the arms trade. Universities including Bangor and the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS, part of the University of London) have ditched their arms shares in response to campaigning by students and staff. In December, the report *Study War No More* (produced by CAAT and the

Fellowship of Reconciliation) drew attention to military involvement in universities and led to increased anti-arms activism by students.

The simple but forceful point of February's simultaneous protests was summed up by Lancaster student Joanna Hill: 'Students across Britain have today made clear that they do not want their universities supporting the arms trade.' It is a message that university authorities cannot afford to ignore. SYMON HILL

# Participate in CAAT – here's how

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 an email list

Sign up to receive the monthly CAAT bulletin with the latest news and events, receive press releases or join the CAAT Action Network list. Visit [www.caat.org.uk/lists](http://www.caat.org.uk/lists).



## Donate



Our supporters' donations enable us to strive 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

Sally at [sally@caat.org.uk](mailto:sally@caat.org.uk).

## Campaign locally

CAAT has a network of local contacts and groups around the UK that 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 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 help with publicity.

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

## Protest

A protest against the arms trade can show that many people do not think it is an ordinary, acceptable business. It can also generate a lot of publicity, raising awareness about individual companies and the arms trade in general. CAAT is a non-violent organisation and any protest organised under the name of CAAT must be non-violent (contact the office for the CAAT guidelines). Contact [action@caat.org.uk](mailto:action@caat.org.uk).



## 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 publications

CAAT produces briefings, reports and leaflets on a range of issues. See overleaf for an order form.



## Diary dates

**23 April**  
**Reed Elsevier Annual General Meeting**  
(see page 6)

**7 May**  
**BAE Systems Annual General Meeting**  
(see page 3)

**1–8 June**  
**Stop the Arms Trade week** (see page 7)

**8 June**  
**Day of Prayer** (see page 7)

**14–20 July**  
**Farnborough International arms fair**  
(see next issue of *CAATnews*)



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## Recent publications

- ☐ **The Facade of Arms Control**, Feb 2008, by Anna Stavrianakis (£3) Quantity
- ☐ **Study War No More: Military involvement in UK universities**, Nov 2007, by CAAT and the Fellowship of Reconciliation (£3.00) Quantity
- ☐ **Bribing for Britain: Government Collusion in Arms Sales Corruption** (Goodwin Paper #5, Oct 2007) by Tim Webb (£3.00) Quantity
- ☐ **A seriously funny attempt to get the Serious Fraud Office in the dock!** Sept 2007. Programme from gig at the Hammersmith Apollo, London on 23rd September (free) Quantity

## Campaign postcards

- ☐ **Control BAE: Reopen the Saudi corruption inquiry postcard** (free) Quantity
- ☐ **Corporate Mercenaries postcard** (free) Quantity
- ☐ **Stop Arming Israel postcard** (free) Quantity

## Other resources

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- ☐ **Recruiting postcard** (free) Quantity
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