

CAAT*n*ews



White elephant,
n. a useless object,
maintained at great cost

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IN THIS ISSUE...

Welcome to this issue of CAATnews

... which goes on a journey of discovery. On page 3 we hear how ECGD insurance cover for BAE's Saudi deals ended last year. This significant act may have stayed out of the spotlight if not for sustained questioning, in which CAAT played a part. Page 10 also tells how we questioned BAE directly at the company's AGM.

On page 11 we highlight the issue of jobs, uncovering a more realistic contribution of the arms

trade to the economy. And pages 8 and 9 feature the campaign to reveal the true nature of the DSEi arms fair, still described by organisers Clarion Events as a "trade exhibition".

All this discovery does not take place for its own sake – it leads to action! See pages 8 and 9 to find out plans for DSEi and don't forget to end this issue's journey with a look at the campaigner's 'to do' list on page 15. MELANIE JARMAN

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Campaign Against Arms Trade (CAAT) works for the reduction and ultimate abolition of the international arms trade, together with progressive demilitarisation within arms producing countries.

BAE ends its Saudi export insurance

No announcement from the Government; no press release from BAE Systems: the news that BAE had stopped the Government's Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD) insurance cover for its arms deals with Saudi Arabia on 1 September 2008 emerged, in stages, months after the event.

The first indication of the cancellation came from correspondence between the ECGD and lawyers acting for CAAT and The Corner House. However, it took parliamentary questions from Vince Cable MP and several Freedom of Information requests to reveal the full story. This became public when Peter Marshall, a journalist with BBC2's *Newsnight* programme, reported on it on 28 May.

Two decades of support

Documents inadvertently placed in the National Archive and found by a CAAT researcher in 2006 revealed that the ECGD and the Treasury were deeply unhappy when the Al Yamamah arms deal with Saudi Arabia was originally underwritten by the ECGD in 1986. The cover was reluctantly agreed as necessary

Trying to maintain secrecy

In February, the Information Commissioner ruled that the ECGD should give CAAT part of the ECGD's Underwriting Committee's assessment of the Al Yamamah deal. In yet another attempt to keep the saga secret, the Government has appealed to the Information Tribunal. The hearing, in which CAAT is an Additional Party, takes place in mid-September.



BAE's Eurofighter on display at Farnborough Air Show 2008

if the deal championed by Margaret Thatcher was to go ahead.

Export credit support continued. By 31 March 2008 the ECGD's total liability for BAE's Saudi Arabia arms deals – now including the Eurofighter deal – was £750m. It was by far the largest project supported by the ECGD and accounted for nearly half of its portfolio. Without the recession, which has left many companies turning to the public sector for credit support as private provision dried up, the end of support for BAE Saudi deals would have left the viability of the ECGD in some doubt.

Why was the insurance cover ended?

So why did BAE cancel its ECGD cover at a time when other companies increasingly seek state support? Interestingly, BAE still has export credit cover for other deals – with South Africa, Romania and a third, unknown customer. We can only speculate why BAE has cancelled its Saudi cover, but the

cancellation is certainly convenient for the Government.

The cancellation came just weeks before a report from the Anti-Bribery Working Group of the Organisation on Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in October 2008. This report was prompted by the Government's 2006 decision to stop the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) investigation into BAE's Saudi deals (see 'Background'). The report was highly critical of ECGD's continuing support for these deals. It questioned why the ECGD had not acted on evidence, handed over by the SFO, that BAE had allegedly made bribery-related fraudulent misrepresentations when it requested insurance cover from ECGD.

CAAT and the Corner House have written formally to the OECD which, it appears, did not know that the cover had been cancelled. ANN FELTHAM

For more information see www.caat.org.uk/press/recent.php?url=290509prs

Korea

The senior managing director of the Korea Defence Industry Association has described recent weapons testing by North Korea as "worrying" but also as "a good thing for South Korea's defence industries."

Many military companies in South Korea saw their first gains in several months after North Korea's reported nuclear test at the end of May.

Prior to the tests the Korea Development Bank (KDB) entered discussions with both EADS and BAE Systems over the possible sale of a stake in Korea Aerospace Industries. The KDB holds a 30 per cent share of the company on behalf of the South Korean government.

JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 3/6/09 AND 29/4/09

Cargo carriers

A report from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute has found that at least 90 per cent of international air cargo carriers named in UN security council and other arms trafficking-related reports have also supplied UN agencies, EU and Nato governments. Carriers involved in humanitarian aid and peacekeeping operations have also transported a number of other "conflict-sensitive" goods such as cocaine, diamonds and precious minerals. GUARDIAN, 12/5/09

Gaza

A UN report in May said that Israeli forces displayed reckless disregard for human life during the invasion of Gaza at the end of last year and beginning of this, quoting deaths, injuries and more than \$10m of damage to UN property. The Israeli government has rejected the report's findings. Israel's military has absolved itself of war crimes in Gaza, with internal investigations finding that the Israeli Defense Forces acted lawfully, did not intentionally target innocents and did not use disproportionate force.

FINANCIAL TIMES, 6/5/09; DEFENSE NEWS, 27/4/09

Israel

Israel Aerospace Industries' orderbook increased to a record \$8.1bn over the past year, helped by a \$1.4bn contract with the Indian government for the development and procurement of a medium-range surface-to-air missile system.

In other developments, in March, Israel Military Industries signed a deal to help India's state-owned Ordnance Factory Board build a factory. The board previously shied away from foreign partners and this recent policy shift is intended to ease dependence on India's Defence Research and Development Organisation for research to launch new products.

DEFENSE NEWS, 4/5/09; JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 3/6/09

Cluster bombs

Norway-based munitions company Nammo Group is expecting to make money in the wake of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, which bans cluster munitions. One staff member said: "The practical side of the cluster munitions ban is that stockpiles...need to be destroyed. This is one of our specialities, and we expect to see more work in this area."

Nammo has received a cluster weapons demilitarisation contract from the UK. DEFENSE NEWS, 11/5/09

Lib Dem donor

Liberal Democrat donor Sudhir Choudrie has been named in foreign media as a key arms broker who has accepted tens of millions of pounds in kickbacks from an arms deal between an Israeli company and the Indian government. Choudrie has personally donated £95,000 to the Lib Dems and his relatives' companies have donated a further £475,000. Choudrie has rejected the allegations. OBSERVER, 19/4/09

Kazakhstan

The Kazakh Deputy Defence Minister and a number of other key military decision-makers were arrested in April by the Kazakh National Security Committee over suspicions of arms procurement irregularities. Accusations include the taking of illegal decisions that led to contracts with Israeli companies for the procurement and licensed production of artillery systems.

JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 29/4/09

QinetiQ

QinetiQ, the former Ministry of Defence research unit, is to replace its current Chair Sir John Chisolm with US citizen and former IBM executive Mark Elliott. The contentious privatisation of QinetiQ three years ago brought Chisolm more than £20m and an accusation by a committee of senior MPs of "profiteering".

Elliott is joining the company as it continues its expansion in the US, where QinetiQ is on the brink of earning more than it does in the UK. The company has also recently bought US-based cyber security company Cyveillance Inc.

In the UK, QinetiQ has announced plans to cut 400 jobs, quoting a lack of business growth after a 23 per cent drop in Ministry of Defence research revenue.

EVENING STANDARD, 21/5/09; JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 13/5/09; DAILY TELEGRAPH, 22/5/09

BAE job cuts

At the end of April BAE Systems announced plans to close sites in Guildford, Leeds and Telford and cut 500 jobs across the UK. The reduced requirement for equipment and support for operations overseas, as work supporting operations in Iraq and Afghanistan has slowed down, has hit BAE. The company also blamed the postponement of a decision to award a big contract for a battlefield vehicle – the Future Rapid Effects System utility vehicle.

TIMES, 1/5/09



In May, former CAAT press officer Andrew Wood (pictured) won a major victory for civil liberties when the Court of Appeal ruled that police had illegally photographed him and kept his photos on a police file after attending the 2005 Reed Elsevier AGM. A fuller account, together with the implications of the ruling, will feature in the next CAATnews.

BAE in schools

BAE Systems is a "corporate champion" in the UK India Education and Research Initiative, managed by the British Council and intended to improve cultural and educational links between the UK and India. BAE's contribution is £100,000 per year in collaborative education projects. The company has been working with schools in Brough, where it builds the Hawk advanced jet trainer, and Bangalore, where Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd is building Hawk aircraft for the Indian Air Force. BAE SYSTEMS NEWS RELEASE, 23/4/09

Eurofighter controversy

Senior army figures expressed indignation at the Government's decision to press ahead with the purchase of Eurofighter jets. The aircraft programme would have cost £2bn in penalties to cancel. One army figure said: "We're in a position that is utterly absurd," citing concerns that the UK is cutting back spending on land forces while buying jets that are of questionable long-term value to military operations and have been criticised as obsolete relics of the cold war. Senior RAF figures have argued that the jets provide support to ground troops in Afghanistan.

Inter-service rivalry is likely to come to a head in 2010 when the next government conducts the first strategic defence review for more than a decade. FINANCIAL TIMES, 15/5/09

Helicopter jobs

Upgrade work on 33 Puma helicopters, expected to take place in Romania, has been delayed due to fears over voter reaction amid rising unemployment in the UK. The Government is thought to favour switching the upgrade to Sea Kings helicopters, which could be done in Yeovil. The armed forces favour the Puma upgrade, considering them better suited to work in Afghanistan. A senior military officer said: "We need the aircraft but it is not politically acceptable to be sending work to Romania." TIMES, 26/5/09

Europe heads east

EADS has announced plans to establish a joint venture with Mumbai-based Larsen & Toubro with a focus on military electronics. The venture is the latest move by foreign companies to tap into India's growing military procurement budget, as its armed forces plan to spend at least \$30bn over the next five years.

India's Bharat Electronics Ltd and European group Thales are also finalising a joint venture, with Thales holding a 26 per cent stake.

Meanwhile, Land Rover and its parent company Tata Motors are in talks with India's defence department about vehicle contracts.

FINANCIAL TIMES, 6/5/09, 30/5/09 AND 31/5/09;
JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 13/5/09

Arms data update

The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) has recently published its 2009 yearbook – a substantial tome profiling "armaments, disarmament and international security".

The tables below show military spending for 2008, arms export rankings for 2004–2008 and company rankings for 2007. Further details are available at www.sipri.org.

Top 10 military spenders (\$bn)

1. USA	607
2. China	85
3. France	66
4. UK	65
5. Russia	59
6. Germany	47
7. Japan	46
8. Italy	41
9. Saudi Arabia	38
10. India	30

NB FIGURES FOR CHINA AND RUSSIA ARE ESTIMATES

5 largest arms suppliers

1. USA
2. Russia
3. Germany
4. France
5. UK

5 largest recipients of arms

	Main supplier
1. China	Russia
2. India	Russia
3. UAE	USA
4. South Korea	USA
5. Greece	Germany

10 largest arms companies

1. Boeing (USA)
2. BAE Systems (UK)
3. Lockheed Martin (USA)
4. Northrop Grumman (USA)
5. General Dynamics (USA)
6. Raytheon (USA)
7. EADS (West Europe)
8. L-3 Communications (USA)
9. Finmeccanica (Italy)
10. Thales (France)

Stop Clarion's Arms Fairs. Stop DSEi.

8–11 September will see DSEi take place in London (see pages 8–9). This is the first DSEi since the massive arms fair was added to Clarion Events' portfolio last year. CAAT activists across the country have been taking action to end Clarion's involvement in the arms trade. After all, arms fairs don't sit very well alongside baby fairs.

The Baby Show at the National Exhibition Centre (NEC), Birmingham

CAAT supporter Dorothy Forbes reported that, in spite of severe restrictions on positioning and activity imposed by the NEC security manager, a group of CAAT supporters at the Baby Show managed to collect nearly 150 signatures for a petition calling on Clarion Events to stop promoting arms fairs.

Dorothy said that visitors to the show were shocked to learn of Clarion's involvement in the arms trade and were keen to find out more. The Birmingham CAAT group was joined at the NEC by Chris from

Oxford, and a group from Warwick University.

The Clarion connection is of particular concern in Birmingham: Clarion has its Midland headquarters at the NEC, and the NEC's principal shareholder is the City Council.

Beware, arms traders operate here!

London CAAT took action against Clarion in Stop Week too, giving out around 1,000 leaflets by the company's offices in Earls Court. The leaflets were titled Beware! Arms Traders Operate Here. Ian Mackinnon of the group said: "We received some encouraging comments and support from people surprised at Clarion's involvement in arms fairs and interested in learning more about planned protests. One Clarion worker gave a slightly baffling heckle, 'It's not an arms fair; it's a trade fair.' Another came to discuss Clarion's involvement in arms fairs. He said that, while he was against the invasion of Iraq, he believed that selling weapons overseas was sometimes justified."

Speaking out for CAAT

CAAT speakers and local campaigners from Swansea to Norwich and from Hull to Portsmouth came together in Birmingham on 25 April for a training day.

About twenty activists participated enthusiastically in training sessions on public speaking, as well as learning more about CAAT's current campaigns.

In particular it was a great opportunity to meet CAAT campaigners from different parts of the country and exchange experiences and ideas about what works best in campaigning for CAAT.

One participant summed up their favourite parts of the day: "Finding out what UKTI and DSO are, and understanding the issues. Getting some 'weaponry' for general conversations, and practising doing it – realising it might be something I can do." RHIANNON REES

CAAT National Gathering 2009

Saturday 31 October, Toynbee Studios, London, E1 6AB (2 mins walk from Aldgate East tube)

- Arrive 9.45am for 10.15am. Finish 5pm.
- Venue fully wheelchair accessible; hearing loop available; free creche available.
- £5 waged; £2 unwaged. Tea, coffee and a light vegetarian lunch will be provided.

Join CAAT supporters from around the country for a day of speakers, discussion and inspiration!

The event will include workshops on topics from arms fairs to corporate mercenaries to challenging the arms industry's jobs argument. It offers the opportunity to hone your skills in making the most of the media, lobbying to win and more.

With an election looming and BAE Systems taking advantage of the recession to claim it invests "more and more in UK manufacturing", this year's event will provide the facts, skills and passion you need to challenge Government support for the arms trade and tackle the arms industry's spin.



PRZEMEK WAJEROWICZ

You can book online at www.caat.org.uk/events/nationalgathering/, return the booking form included with this CAATnews, or contact Julia on julia@caat.org.uk or 020 7281 0297

Stop UKTI's Arms Fairs. Stop DSEi.

This year's Stop Week ran from 14 to 21 of June. It shone a spotlight on UKTI DSO's support for DSEi, the world's largest arms fair (see pages 8 and 9). Hundreds of CAAT supporters from around the country took action calling for the closure of this Government body that exists solely to support UK arms and "security" exports abroad.

UKTI: a stop on the Merchants of Death tour

Ian Pocock from London CAAT reported that the group visited a number of arms companies in London on their fourth Merchants of Death walking tour. The tour kicked off at UKTI's offices, then visited companies including BAE Systems, Lockheed Martin and QinetiQ. It was a successful day and people went away well-informed. London CAAT's next tour is planned for 25 October.

A wave of stalls throughout the week

Thousands more people learned about our UKTI: Armed & Dangerous campaign during Stop Week, as supporters mobilised for an impressive series of stalls. These included stalls in Cardiff, Evesham, Hastings and Norwich as well as



The Green Fair in Somerset

stalls at the Leamington Peace Festival, Somerset Green Fair and Coed Hills Solstice Celebration. Two of CAAT's newly trained speakers took the plunge during Stop Week and gave a talk on CAAT for the first time too!

More Stop Week actions

At the time of writing, lots of Stop Week reports haven't yet made it in

to the office, but check our website (www.caat.org.uk) for reports on an action in Manchester at UKTI, East London Against the Arms Fair's musical protest at the ExCel centre, an event in Glasgow and more! And don't forget to let us know what you've been up to. Contact Anne-Marie at the office, annemarie@caat.org.uk.

ANNE-MARIE O'REILLY

Christian Network: Day of Prayer

The Day of Prayer, themed 'A Farewell to Arms Fairs', marked the beginning of Stop Week on Sunday 14 June.

During the week, CAAT Christian Network Co-ordinator Alun Morinan spoke to Bury St Edmund's Christian Network for Justice & Peace. 20 people attended, despite a clash with two other relevant meetings in the town.

Christian communities across the UK took part in the Day of Prayer

itself, ordering more than 60 campaign packs!

Alun said: "For Christians, reflection and prayer are important ways to link our faith to action. Turning swords into ploughshares is not just a biblical injunction but an inspiration to our modern world to act against war and those who wage it."

Adrienne Clarke attended the service organised by the Penarth Christian Network CAAT group at All

Saints Church, Penarth. She said: "The service was very well put together and I found it very moving. I think it is up to every person in Britain to do all they can to stop the spread of arms trading. I hope to join them again next year in praying for the cessation of this grim and awful trade."

Stop DSEi: Drop DSO

This September DSEi, the world's largest arms fair, returns to London – with the political, financial and logistical support of the UK government.

What is DSEi?

Arms fairs exist so that arms buyers and sellers can come together, network and make deals.

DSEi (Defence Systems Equipment International) is one of the biggest events on the international arms fair circuit. It takes place every two years at the ExCel centre in London's Docklands and welcomes arms dealers and arms buyers from all over the globe to shop for weapons. These range from small arms to fighter jets to battleships. The organisers boast: "DSEi's truly comprehensive scale makes attendance a must for everyone in the defence, security and military aerospace community."

The sellers

The fair will host over 1,350 companies from 40 countries, selling small arms, missiles, planes, tanks, military electronics and warships, as well as surveillance and riot control equipment. DSEi has been running since 1999 and past exhibitors include China, India, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Pakistan, Russia, South Africa, Thailand, UAE and Ukraine. Alongside large companies such as BAE Systems, a host of smaller companies will cater for every part of the military supply chain.

The buyers

Over 26,000 visitors are expected in 2009. Buyers come from all over the world and more than a third of the world's governments are likely to be represented. Many of these will be



A previous DSEi protest

there by invitation. These will include countries involved in conflict and human rights abuses, as well as those with desperately under-funded development needs. Adversaries will shop side-by-side for weapons to use against each other. In 2007, China, Libya, Colombia and Saudi Arabia were among those invited.

For the duration of the fair, the ExCel centre will be surrounded by layers of security and police lines – designed to allow arms dealers to trade their deadly wares unhindered by public protest – and subsidised by the taxpayer.

The organiser: Clarion Events

Clarion Events is a privately owned company that runs a wide range of exhibitions and trade fairs. These include the Baby Show and the Spirit of Christmas Fair – events that seem somewhat incompatible with arms sales. Yet in 2008 Clarion Events bought DSEi and two other arms fairs from previous owner Reed Elsevier.

"Not an arms fair"

Astonishingly, Clarion has tried to resurrect the claim that DSEi is not an "arms fair". In a letter to one concerned customer, Chief Executive Simon Kimble wrote: "CAAT inaccurately describes these as 'arms fairs'; in fact these are trade exhibitions." This distinction won't convince many, particularly when DSEi publicity promotes the fair as "a place to do business", and features quotations from satisfied customers such as, "The excellent range of suppliers meant I was able to conduct a significant level of business, whilst reviewing some novel opportunities."

A legitimate trade?

Reed, a publisher of medical journals, was persuaded to sell its arms fair holdings after a CAAT-coordinated campaign that highlighted the incompatibility of Reed's involvement in the arms trade with its other business. Yet, despite also facing strong criticism from its customers, Clarion has continued to expand its arms fair portfolio and to vigorously defend it.

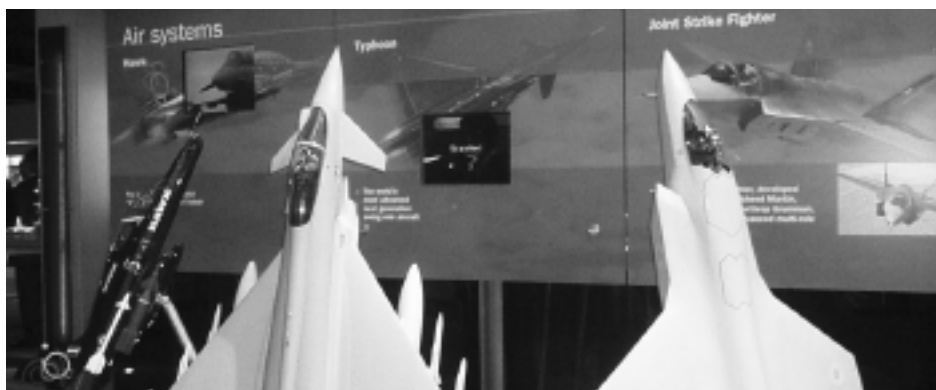
When a FTSE 100 company such as Reed found DSEi to be a liability, why does Clarion feel it can justify its involvement in a trade that Reed's stakeholders found unacceptable? The answer appears to lie with the continued support of the UK government. Government support gives DSEi the appearance of legitimacy. It allows Clarion to state that its events "enjoy full UK and international government support and... serve only the legitimate global defence industry."

UKTI DSO – making DSEi happen

Government department UK Trade & Investment's Defence & Security Organisation (UKTI DSO) exists to

help private companies promote arms and make sales. It essentially co-organises DSEi, and its support is crucial to the fair's success and continued existence.

A key role of UKTI DSO is officially inviting key foreign governments. Although the official invitation list is not yet available, "VIPs" are expected from 55 countries. The final list is likely to include countries such as Algeria, India, Libya and Oman, where the UK Government has already made "high-level interventions" to help arms companies secure deals. In past years, official invites have been extended to a wide range of human rights-abusing states and countries involved in conflict. Inviting delegates to arms exhibitions such as DSEi provides countries with not only the opportunity to buy the weapons and tools with which they can perpetrate



Some of the wares on display at a previous DSEi

human rights abuses, but also gives moral and political support to their actions. This is all part of the "legitimate" arms trade!

Further political support will be provided by the presence of senior Government figures. UKTI DSO will also use taxpayers' money to provide significant logistical and financial support. In past years, the

Government has contributed towards the cost of hosting official delegations, paid for security for the event in the form of both civilian and Ministry of Defence police, and supplied armed forces personnel for demonstrations at the event.

SARAH WALDRON

Stop DSEi: Drop DSO

This year, it's crucial that we highlight the UK government's role in making DSEi happen – and use it as an opportunity to expose other ways in which the Government advances the interests of arms companies. We must challenge the idea that "legitimate" use of public resources includes helping private companies profit from conflict and insecurity, and organising events where human rights abusers, warring states and countries with desperate development needs can increase their armaments.

DSEi 2009 will run from 8–11 September. Put the dates in your diary now.

CAAT will be protesting at the ExCel centre on the opening morning of 8 September. But it's not enough to allow the fair to continue out of sight in East London. From ExCel we'll be taking our protest to UKTI's office in central London to expose the Government's complicity in this devastating trade.

We'll be highlighting the costs of DSEi and wider Government support for the arms industry – both the financial costs and, crucially, the wider costs of global insecurity and lives lost – with a "white elephant parade". This will culminate in a petition hand-in and colourful demonstration (including a picnic!) outside UKTI. We hope you'll be able to join us.

Fill in the form to the right to let us know you're hoping to attend, and to keep in touch with CAAT's plans. Return the form to CAAT, FREEPOST, LON6486, London, N4 3BR.

Visit www.caat.org.uk/campaigns/ukti for latest information on the campaign. This includes a calendar of all the activities that different groups are planning around DSEi. The website will also be regularly updated with the latest research behind this year's events.

You can also follow CAAT on social networking site Twitter, where you'll find regular updates on DSEi and UKTI's role, and the occasional online action: we're www.caat.org.uk

Please keep me updated on plans for DSEi

Name _____

By email. Email address: _____

By post. Address: _____

Postcode _____

Please send me ____ publicity leaflets to distribute.

I hope to be able to attend.

NOTE: WE WON'T SEND YOU LOTS OF MESSAGES, AND YOU CAN OPT OUT AT ANY TIME.

BAE – Bluffing About Ethics

Every May CAAT supporters attend the BAE AGM to ask the sort of questions the board definitely does not want to answer.

The 2009 AGM, held on 6 May, was dominated by Chair Dick Olver, who answered nearly all questions. He started by outlining BAE's commitment to "total performance" and "commitment to corporate responsibility and high standards of business conduct". He insisted that BAE was an ethical company.

CAAT supporters questioned the Chair on a range of issues including:

- BAE participation in DSEi and increased arms sales
- human rights in Saudi Arabia
- arms sales to India and Pakistan
- job losses in the UK
- corruption investigations in South Africa
- BAE involvement with the company MBDA and maintenance of nuclear-armed submarines.

Even the steely Dick Olver faltered while answering some questions. At one stage he showed that he was not aware of the contents of BAE's own Corporate Responsibility report.

Another question on the number of SFO investigations still faced by BAE received the initial response:

"Probably four or five – I don't know." Cue incredulous laughter.



Campaigners tell it like it is

Time restrictions meant that we couldn't ask all the questions we wanted. However, we got revealing answers to some questions and a few laughs. Our efforts also resulted in good, largely sympathetic coverage in the mainstream press.

Dick Olver announced that he will stay on as Chair till 2013. Well, CAAT will continue to attend, whoever is Chair. Thanks to everyone who attended and we look forward to seeing you again next year. KAYE STEARMAN

Wanted: members for Steering Committee

The Steering Committee is CAAT's ultimate decision-making body, making the final decisions on campaigns and policy as well as making sure that the organisation's administration and internal workings are legal and efficient. It meets on four Saturday afternoons each year.

We are looking for five supporters to stand for election to Steering Committee – if you are campaigning locally we would particularly like to hear from you. To stand, you must have received CAATnews for more

than 12 months. The nominations deadline is 23 September. For information contact Ann on 020 7281 0297 or ann@caat.org.uk.

Register to vote

Elections will be held if more people are nominated than there are places. Ballot papers will only be sent to supporters who have registered to vote. If you have not previously registered, ask Ann for a card to do so, by emailing ann@caat.org.uk or sending an SAE to the office.

They said it...



"The thing that was always there at BAE was the campaign by people who frankly just didn't like the defence industry..."

People pejoratively called us arms dealers and they decided that the best way of attacking the industry was by trying to draw attention to the advisers' positions at BAE Systems. It's gone on for many years but it is absolutely clear that the company has done nothing unlawful."

Mike Turner, former BAE Chief Executive, interviewed in the Daily Telegraph, 2 March 2009

"The Campaign Against Arms Trade has even gone to the effort of posting up on its website a short list of those UK companies who are thought to have supplied military equipment to Israel, giving the names and addresses of some 13 companies..."

CAAT has also been lobbying hard, using many media outlets, to campaign for an embargo on sales of military equipment to and from Israel.

As a result, the number of attacks on the premises of these and other defence companies has increased...

UK defence and security companies, especially those with links, public or otherwise, to business with Israel, are strongly advised to review current security precautions to ensure that that they do not, themselves, fall victims to future attacks."

DMA News 54, newsletter of the Defence Manufacturers Association

If you see a quote that you think deserves a wider circulation, please send to us at press@caat.org.uk.

Questioning jobs: truth and spin

Ian Prichard runs through some Frequently Asked Questions in this important area.

How important are arms exports to the UK economy?

The 55,000 arms export jobs make up less than 0.2 per cent of the UK workforce and less than 2 per cent of manufacturing jobs. Obviously there are further jobs in producing arms for the UK military, but even the total of 210,000 workers makes up less than 0.7 per cent of the UK workforce.

Arms exports comprise only 1.5 per cent of total exports, and even this is an overestimate of their importance as many of the components of UK arms exports were imported in the first place (approximately 40 per cent of the value of the exports).

Even if the arms industry isn't an enormous sector, isn't it vital because it is so high-tech and leading edge?

This is a question of priorities: do we want to be at the leading edge of green technologies tackling the biggest threat to human security this century – climate change? Or would we rather pursue international power projection through the old commitment to arms production?

The Government is able to choose where resources are targetted as it is responsible for much of the Research & Development funding for arms. Moving resources towards the under-funded renewable energy sector could establish a strong UK presence in a sector that is vibrant.

How can CAAT claim that it doesn't want to put people out of work?

CAAT wants the skills of many arms workers to be used more productively, rather than being wasted producing arms that will increase instability and conflict

around the world. While an end to arms exports would undoubtedly lead to some workers being worse off, moving resources from arms to other sectors could increase rather than decrease the number of jobs.

There has been a long-term decline in the arms industry (from 560,000 workers in 1980 to 210,000 today). It is extremely unlikely that this would be reversed, whereas other sectors, notably those addressing carbon emissions, involve many similar skills and are likely to grow.

Anyway, it still needs to be asked why UK jobs are often considered to be more important than the human rights of people on the receiving end of UK weapons.

What about the towns that are dependent on arms exports as a major employer?

There are only a handful of localities that could be described as possibly having a dependency on arms exports – around BAE Warton in Lancashire, BAE Brough in East Yorkshire and AgustaWestland in Yeovil.

Anywhere in the world that depends on one industry or employer is going to be in a vulnerable position if demand dries up or the employer decides to relocate. In this situation coordinated action is needed, and previous company and public initiatives have been shown to greatly improve the re-employment success of those made redundant. Additional funding would be needed, but this would amount to far less than the ongoing cost of subsidising arms exports.

Are there realistic alternatives to arms production?

While there are a number of possible sectors, technologies to address carbon emissions are the most obvious alternatives to arms production. There has been a growing chorus of demand, driven by environmental concerns and the recession, for greater investment in both renewable energy and energy efficiency.

For further information and references visit www.caat.org.uk/issues/jobs/ or ring the office.

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A YEAR**

BAE SUBSIDISED

REAL WEAPONS. REAL VICTIMS.

BAE's recent flag-waving PR campaign left us confused, so we've tried to help them out with some of the details

Israel

In a Ministerial Statement on 21 April, months after last winter's attack on Gaza and when the furore had abated, Foreign Secretary David Miliband admitted that Israeli equipment used then "almost certainly" contained UK-supplied components. He cited F16 combat aircraft, Apache attack helicopters, Saar-Class corvettes and armoured personnel carriers.

The Foreign Secretary concluded his statement by saying: "UK export controls and the consolidated criteria are amongst the strongest and most effective in the world and are the best basis for putting into practice our commitments on arms exports."

His earlier admissions give the lie to this. Only an immediate embargo on all military sales to Israel, as well as on components going into US and other equipment destined for Israel, will show that the UK government places respect for human life before the profits of the arms companies.

ANN FELTHAM



This woman's home in Gaza was hit by Israeli rockets, killing her son and injuring two more of her children JENNY MATTHEWS/PANOS PICTURES

Corporate Mercenaries

The last decade has seen the emergence and growth of "corporate mercenary" companies, which employ ex-military personnel and others, selling their services to governments, mining companies, relief organisations and others. In 2002, the UK government produced a Green – or consultative – Paper with options for the regulation of this burgeoning industry. Since then, as scandals constantly have emerged about the conduct of Private Military and Security Companies (PMSCs), as they prefer to be known, a proposal for regulation has been awaited.

In April, to the dismay of CAAT and others such as War on Want, the Foreign Secretary rejected the

call for regulation. Instead, David Miliband has proposed that the trade organisation, the British Association of Private Security Companies, should encourage high standards through a code of conduct to be agreed with and monitored by the Government.

CAAT thinks that the Government's proposals are a dereliction of its duty to regulate activities which can have deadly consequences for those living in areas where PMSCs operate. Combat activities and support for them by PMSCs should be prohibited and both the companies and their individual contracts should be licensed.

ANN FELTHAM

Parliamentary in brief

Bribery Bill

A Joint Committee of MPs and Lords has been taking a detailed look at the Government's Draft Bribery Bill. Among those giving evidence was BAE's Group Business Development Director, Alan Garwood. The company is now presenting itself as super-clean with 18 executives devoting their time to implementing anti-corruption procedures.

Since the Committee was, in the main, looking forward rather than examining the past, Alan Garwood was spared questions about the part played by the Ministry of Defence's Defence Export Services Organisation (of which he was head from 2002 to 2008) in the £1bn allegedly paid by BAE to Saudi Arabia's Prince Bandar.

Democracy?

Following the recent Government reshuffle, Lord Davies of Abersoch, reporting to Lord Mandelson at the new Department of Business, Innovation and Skills, has both UK Trade & Investment and the Export Credits Guarantee Department in his remit. Lord Drayson, no doubt to the arms companies' delight, is back at the Ministry of Defence overseeing the Defence Industrial Strategy. In the Foreign Office the job of sorting out what to do about corporate mercenaries falls to Lord Malloch Brown.

Former bankers, pharmaceutical entrepreneurs and diplomats they may be, but no-one has elected them to government.

ANN FELTHAM

No future in guns and mines

Luis Samacumbi, Director of the Social and Development Department of the Evangelical Congregational Church of Angola, describes the impact of 30 years of war on his family and country.

"I was born in 1971 in the village of Nazareth on the border between Kwanza Sul and Huambo provinces. War divided my family. For 15 years my father and mother were separated by the civil war.

I served the government army as a Tank Commander from 1985 to 1992. My older brother was abducted by UNITA when he was 14 years old and we did not see each other until we were reunited 30 years later in 2004. He lost a leg after treading on a land mine. When we met again we realised that we had both fought at the same battle at the same time. Our story is a poignant reminder of how conflict tears families apart.

My church is involved in community development projects in rural areas around Mavinga in Cuando Cubango province in southern Angola. Our projects include literacy classes, midwifery, community



Angola is littered with the instruments of war PAUL JEFFREY/ACT

organisation, food security, landmine awareness, HIV/AIDS and women's vocational projects.

Now the war has ended we are finally enjoying peace. People are really tired of war and peace-building activities are taking place everywhere. Huge numbers of families in the villages are no longer starving, although the rural economy has yet to recover and Angola remains one of the world's poorest countries. Most people don't share in the oil wealth and depend on subsistence agriculture.

Travelling to remote areas can be extremely dangerous as Angola is

one of the world's most heavily mined countries. Most schools remain derelict due to the war and most rural children still lack a nutritious diet, decent healthcare and an education.

Yet in the midst of all this darkness a hopeful beacon shines: the future lies in humble sacrifice and not in guns and mines."

*Luis Samacumbi visited the UK on behalf of Christian Aid in 2008. This article is an extract from *Angola Peace Monitor*, February 2008, published by Action for Southern Africa (ACTSA).*

Angola – a lucrative market for arms

Angola is one of the world's most war-ravaged countries, having spent over 40 years in conflict. From 1961 to 1974 opposition movements fought the Portuguese colonialists. After independence in 1975 these groups engaged in a civil war, with outside intervention.

Peace only arrived in 2002. An estimated half million people had been killed, and untold numbers injured. Over 4 million people had been forced to flee. Armies had planted over 15 million landmines. Angola remains awash with arms

and a disarmament programme aims to retrieve weapons from the civilian population.

The UKTI DSO connection

Despite such desperate poverty and the history of conflict, UKTI DSO is actively promoting military exports to Angola.

In 2008, Angola not only received UK military exports but UKTI DSO also arranged a Trade Industry Day in October. Organised and attended by UKTI DSO staff, as well as by members of the British

military, HMS *Liverpool* docked in Angolan waters and hosted Angolan political and military officials.

Following the "success" of this and other events, UKTI DSO are looking to "build on this interest and develop contacts", evident in their consideration of a marketing event in May to "provide an opportunity to brief on the capabilities of the UK defence sector."

In addition, in the past year UKTI DSO has also exhibited at three international arms fairs to which Angola sent official delegations.

Fundraising



Local fundraising guide

Have you ever thought about fundraising for CAAT in your local community, but weren't quite sure how to go about it? Our new Local Fundraising Guide is just what you need. It's packed with advice and tips on everything from running a raffle to organising a larger scale event. It also includes inspiring case studies of past fundraisers organised by CAAT supporters.

The guide is free and can be ordered using the form on the back page. Don't forget to let us know if you're thinking of organising an event, as we can often help with publicity. Just email sally@caat.org.uk.

SALLY CAMPBELL



Great Yorkshire Run

In the last CAATnews we reported that we were looking for volunteers to go on the Great South Run. Unfortunately we weren't quick enough off the starting blocks to get places in this year's race, but we're hoping that CAAT supporters Sami Wannell and Kat Hobbs will do a better job when they take part in the Great Yorkshire Run on 6 September instead.

Sami and Kat helped set up Weapons out of Warwick, the Warwick University anti-arms group. In particular their work has focused on disrupting BAE's recruitment efforts on campus. Sami is hoping that lots of CAAT supporters will sponsor them. He says: "All the campaigning we've done has been informed by CAAT's research. Now we'd like to give something back. Given the fact that we usually do much more campaigning than exercise, you can sponsor us safe in the knowledge that completing the 10km course will be a real challenge for us. But don't worry, we're training hard!"

Any sponsorship you can offer will be very gratefully received by our runners and by CAAT. You can sponsor Sami and Kat by completing the form that's been included with this copy of CAATnews and sending it to CAAT, FREEPOST, LON6486, London, N4 3BR. Or, if you'd rather donate online, just visit <http://www.bmycharity.com/V2/caatgreatyorkshirerun>.

SALLY CAMPBELL

rĕk'ən-sil'ē-ā'shən
(Reconciliation)

Called to be Peacemakers

30 October – 1 November 2009
Birmingham

Called to be Peacemakers Conference
30th Oct – 1st Nov 2009, Birmingham

A residential weekend event for 18 to 30 (ish) year olds who are interested, active and/ or engaged in peace and conflict issues. With expert speakers and skills training, the event provides an opportunity to join a community of like-minded individuals from across the UK.

For more details please contact Martha Beale by visiting www.for.org.uk/C2BP2009, emailing martha@for.org.uk or phoning 01865 250 781.

Participate in CAAT – here's how

Subscribe to an email list

Sign up to receive the monthly CAAT bulletin with the latest news and events, and receive press releases. Contact enquiries@caat.org.uk or visit www.caat.org.uk/lists

Make a donation

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.

Campaign locally

CAAT's campaigns are effective because people like you take action around the country. Have a look at our campaigners' 'to do' list (see box) to find out our key campaign priorities. You might run a CAAT stall, contact your local media or invite a CAAT speaker to speak at an event. You can also get more involved in a campaign by taking on one of these campaigner roles:

Join or start a local CAAT group – visit www.caat.org.uk/getinvolved/local/groups.php to find out if there is a group near you or contact Anne-Marie annemarie@caat.org.uk to start a group in your area.

Become a Local Contact – act as a contact for CAAT supporters in your area. Co-ordinate local campaign activities or keep a local campaign group updated on CAAT's work.

Become a Local Media Contact – help build CAAT's profile by contacting your local media with the help of a briefing from CAAT. Contact David at david@caat.org.uk.

Join the CAAT Speakers Network – raise awareness about CAAT and get people campaigning by committing to arrange at least three talks a year. CAAT will provide training and a speakers pack with information and presentations.

Become a Local Multiplier – help spread the word about CAAT by receiving multiple copies of our materials to distribute in your area.

More information on how to campaign locally can be found at www.caat.org.uk/getinvolved/local

Order a copy of the Local Campaigns Guide or find out more about these campaigner roles by contacting annemarie@caat.org.uk.

Universities Network

Join in with planning the next stage of our universities campaign, whether that is working towards ethical investment, stopping the arms trade's graduate recruitment or exposing the arms trade's research involvement at your university.

- We have just launched a brand new discussion and planning list. Subscribe by sending an email to caatunis-subscribe@lists.riseup.net
- Contact universities@caat.org.uk for more information about the Network.

CAAT Christian Network

The network raises arms trade issues within national church structures and local churches. Contact Alun Morinan at christian@caat.org.uk.

Leave a legacy

If you are currently making or re-writing your Will, please consider leaving a gift to help fund our campaigns. Your legacy will make a real difference to CAAT's future work. Please call Sally on 020 7281 0297 to discuss the different ways you can remember CAAT.

Campaigners' 'to do' list

- Attend our DSEi action in London to end UKTI DSO support and involvement in the world's largest arms fair. Email sarah@caat.org.uk.
- Support our DSEi actions by organising an action outside your local UKTI office.
- Raise money in your local community and help keep the campaign going.
- Order a local fundraising guide from the office. Email enquiries@caat.org.uk.
- Book now to attend the CAAT National Gathering on 31 October – see page 6.
- Write to your MP about government support for arms fairs.
- Send us your photos and reports from Stop Week.
- Write for the CAAT blog, and share your ideas and experiences to inspire others.

Subscribe now!

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

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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.

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Selected publications

- Making Arms, Wasting Skills: Alternatives to Militarism and Arms Production**, April 2008, by Steven Schofield (£3) Quantity
- Local Campaigns Guide**, September 2008 (free) Quantity
- Local Fundraising Guide**, April 2009 (free) Quantity

UKTI: Armed & Dangerous campaign materials

- Postcard (free)** Quantity
- Campaign pack (free)** Quantity
- Briefing (free)** Quantity
- Poster (free)** Quantity

Other resources

- T-shirts** Black with small white logo (women's fitted: small, medium or large; unisex: medium, large or extra large) (£6.95) Quantity
- Mobile phone recycling envelopes** (free) Quantity
- Introduction to CAAT** (free) Quantity
- Recruiting leaflet** Counting the Cost (free) Quantity

WE DON'T WANT ANYONE TO BE PREVENTED FROM GETTING INVOLVED BY THE COST OF MATERIALS, SO MANY OF OUR RESOURCES ARE FREE. HOWEVER, IF YOU ARE ABLE TO MAKE A DONATION TOWARDS THE COSTS OF PRODUCING AND SENDING OUR RESOURCES, IT WOULD BE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.

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