

CAAT*n*ews



Come to the CAAT National Gathering!

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COVER PHOTO: ALASTAIR RAE

IN THIS ISSUE...

Welcome to this issue of CAATnews

The big event for your diary this autumn is surely the CAAT National Gathering on 6 November, always a vibrant affair!

This is a chance to meet up as a CAAT community, review and celebrate our work so far, and plan for the future. It's also a rare chance to meet several of the people behind the stories in CAATnews. For example, this year's gathering will host talks by Nicholas Gilby, author and

tenacious discoverer of info that arms trade proponents may prefer stayed under wraps; the Decommissioners, who were acquitted after destroying arms equipment (see CAATnews 216 and 217); and, of course, the staff from the CAAT office. And did I mention Mark Thomas?

I hope to be there too so, if our paths cross, do let me know your thoughts on CAATnews! Hope to see you on 6 November.

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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.

A great line-up on 6 November

Hear from irreverent comedian and activist Mark Thomas at CAAT's National Gathering on 6 November

If you haven't heard Mark speak before, you definitely should. If you have, then we need say no more! As if that isn't enough reason to come along, we are delighted to host an impressive line-up of challenging speakers and workshops.

Mark Thomas

Mark Thomas has always found a unique way for laugh-out loud comedy to go hand-in-hand with cutting-edge political activism. In 2003 for a *Dispatches* programme he attempted to make an inspection at the UK's nuclear submarine base at Faslane using a pedalo and armed with a lawyer in a wet suit and a copy of the Geneva Convention!

Three years later he helped school students set up arms brokering businesses in England and Ireland to expose loopholes in UK and European arms control laws. On another occasion he was acquitted of criminal damage after he and some friends locked themselves to a bus full of arms dealers. He is also an honorary doctor of Bradford University for services to peace and for his contribution as a comedian, political activist, presenter and investigative journalist, in particular in recognition of his effective campaigning on the ethics of the arms trade.

Recently, Mark has also taken on the criminalisation of protest, the banking system and the ethics of Coca Cola. We are delighted to have Mark as the keynote speaker for CAAT's National Gathering, to get his witty take on the way forward in the campaign to end the arms trade.



An active moment from last year's gathering IAN MCKINNON

A great line-up

The line-up will include Nicholas Gilby, author of *The No Nonsense Guide to the Arms Trade*; a representative from War on Want, who will discuss modern mercenaries and bankers' profits; campaigners including the Decommissioners and Raytheon 9, who were successful in direct action against the arms trade; and firsthand accounts of the effects of the UK's zealous arms sales to Israel, Indonesia and India. That's not to mention the stalls, photo exhibitions, short films and workshops!

Gearing up for the year ahead

With the world's largest arms fair coming to the UK in 2011, this gathering will be crucial for making links, sharing ideas and hatching plans to shut the arms profiteers down. As well as lots of chances to meet other inspiring campaigners, the day also includes an open session in the afternoon for you to set the agenda!

Speaking about last year's National Gathering, CAAT campaigner Debbie Payne described the event as follows: "It's a great way of finding out more about the work of CAAT. It's also a good opportunity to meet the friendly people from CAAT and to make links with fellow campaigners who are in a similar position to you!"

Contact the office or book via the National Gathering page on the website – see www.caat.org.uk/nationalgathering

ANNE-MARIE O'REILLY

Saturday 6 November, 9.45am–4.30pm at Conway Hall, London WC1R 4RL (Holborn tube) £5 waged (£3 unwaged) Tea, coffee and a light vegetarian lunch will be provided.

Quiz: Match the quote!

You've asked hundreds of parliamentary candidates and MPs what they think about the arms trade. Can you attribute the response to the right person?

- 1 "The arms industry should not be subsidised by the taxpayer. The overseas aid budget should promote health, welfare and environmental sustainability."
- 2 "When it comes down to fundamentals, I believe that the production and maintenance of weapons is an important means

of establishing security, order and peace through deterrents."

- 3 "[We] would end all export subsidies for the arms trade... We absolutely agree that these resources should be better spent on other priorities such as climate change."

- A Green Party MP
- B Monster Raving Loony Party candidate
- C Conservative MP

ANSWERS: 1B, 2C, 3A

US sales

While the US kept its role as the world's leading weapons supplier, global recession led to sales declining sharply in 2009 to the lowest level since 2005. The main cause was a pause in major orders from clients in the Middle East and Asia. Also, fewer support and services contracts were signed with US military firms.

NEW YORK TIMES, 12/09/10

A Russian newspaper has suggested that President Obama's visit to India in November may secure \$5bn worth of arms sales and see the US replace Russia as India's biggest supplier.

GLOBAL TIMES, 13/07/10

Fears of a new arms race in the Gulf arose in response to the announcement that the US has agreed a \$60bn arms deal with Saudi Arabia.

DAILY TELEGRAPH, 14/9/10

The US has issued an ultimatum to Turkey that unless it shifts its position on Israel and Iran it has little chance of buying US weapons. Turkey is keen to buy US weaponry, in particular to attack the PKK.

FINANCIAL TIMES, 16/8/10

Iran has offered to back the Lebanese Army with money and weapons after the US Congress suspended \$100m in military assistance to Beirut. An end to the military aid programme could mean an increase in Iranian influence along Israel's northern border but US officials say that, for now, military aid is expected to continue.

TIMES, 12/8/10

Israel is to buy Joint Strike Fighter jets in a deal valued at around \$2.75bn, despite opposition from a number of senior military officials over the high cost. The deal will be funded by the US military.

HAARETZ, 27/09/10

UK sales efforts

UK government and military industry representatives visited Brazil recently to further a military co-operation agreement, and to promote the UK's military firms. Brazil is the biggest spender in Latin America and the UK's military industry is hoping for a wave of deals to lift trade.

TIMES, 17/9/10

UK military companies visited Polish arms fair MSPO 2010, with the UK also taking the role of lead partner nation. UKTI DSO staff including Richard Paniguan, Head of UKTI DSO, played an active role in the fair.

BRITISH EMBASSY, ARGENTINA, 3/9/10

The UK Government is paying US lobbying firm O'Brien & Associates \$10,000 a month to push US politicians to award contracts to UK military companies and to improve transatlantic relations. In a recent comment the *Telegraph* said that it was not clear "why [this assistance] does not fall under the remit of activities normally undertaken by foreign-based diplomats."

TELEGRAPH.CO.UK, 27/09/10

BAE

In September BAE Systems announced more UK job cuts taking the total of BAE jobs lost in the last 12 months to more than 4,000. The company blamed changes in military programmes and in workload.

JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 15/9/10

BAE has confirmed that it is to set up an aircraft plant in Saudi Arabia under the "al-Salam" Eurofighter Typhoon deal.

JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 25/8/10

BAE is re-focussing its operations and putting parts of its US commercial aerospace business up for sale. The company says it is being hit by cuts in military budgets in both the UK and the US. However, BAE has also been paying out – buying Oasys Technologies in the US for \$55m.

GUARDIAN, 13/9/10; JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 18/9/10

Earlier this year, BAE Systems Chair Dick Olver declined an offer to take up the post of trade minister. The search for a business leader to fill the role complements Foreign Secretary William Hague's drive to inject a "new commercialism" into the work of his department.

Links between BAE Systems and the Government remain strong: documents released in August showed that the company regularly wined and dined Ministry of Defence staff; it was billed as the most assiduous in courting the MoD.

DAILY TELEGRAPH, 16/7/10; GUARDIAN, 22/8/10

In the US, the suspension on new BAE export licence applications remains in place although talks between the company and the US State Department are expected to lead to a "consent agreement".

JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 1/9/10

Mercenaries

The controversial UK mercenary company Aegis Defence Services is moving to Switzerland for tax purposes. The move embarrasses the Government, which has pledged to reduce tax avoidance, as Conservative MP Nicholas Soames is a company director.

Questions have also been raised over the impact of the move on Swiss neutrality and there have been calls for legislation to regulate mercenary firms and the export of their services outside Swiss borders.

TIMES, 11/8/10; SWISSINFO.CH, 11/8/10

The Afghan President has called for corporate mercenary companies to end operations in Afghanistan later this year, in some circumstances. A US official responded that there was still a need for the companies and called the deadline "challenging".

BBC NEWS, 17/8/10

Yemen

The US has proposed a \$1.2bn military aid package to Yemen to tackle al-Qaeda, despite concerns

that the equipment could be used in the country's civil war. Meanwhile, Amnesty International has raised concerns that Saudi Arabian planes supplied and maintained by the UK have taken part in raids that killed Yemeni citizens.

DAILY TELEGRAPH, 17/9/10; AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, 25/8/10

Corruption

A Czech deputy defence minister has been fired following allegations that he conspired to receive money from Finnish military firm Patria around a deal over mortar turret systems. The Czech Defence Minister said he now plans an audit of procurements to determine whether any corruption took place. Elsewhere, Slovenian prosecutors filed charges against a former prime minister and four others over alleged bribery in a deal with Patria. At the time, the deal was Slovenia's biggest ever military contract.

JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 8/9/10; DEFENSE NEWS, 27/8/10

In what may be the biggest corruption scandal involving a Swedish corporation, criminal charges have been filed against Saab for alleged bribery in the sale of a warplane to South Africa. A previous investigation over the issue was discontinued but new information has resulted in fresh charges.

SWEDISH PEACE AND ARBITRATION SOCIETY, 9/9/10

Corruption allegations mean that German company Ferrostaal may have to leave a consortium formed to build and run factories in Algeria due to corruption allegations. Planned factory products include Fuchs armoured transport vehicles and engines.

DEFENSE NEWS, 16/8/10

Swedish sales

Swedish media reports have claimed that Saab sold arms to Saudi Arabia, despite previous denials by the

2009 arms export figures

The arms trade is dominated by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council: China, France, Russia, UK and the US, along with Germany and, increasingly, Israel. However, aside from the US, the relative importance of the others depends on what is being studied and who's studying it.

There are two main ways of looking at arms transfer figures: actual deliveries or export orders placed. "Deliveries" are a clearer measure, but "orders", while less concrete, indicate the likely volume of future deliveries.

CAAT uses two main sources for international arms trade figures: the US Congressional Research Service (CRS, which uses non-public US Government data) and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI, which uses public sources but does not include components or services).

In 2008 the UK Government stopped producing its own data for arms deliveries, although figures for arms orders continue to be produced by UKTI's Defence & Security Organisation (UKTI DSO) in conjunction with the arms industry. These figures give a very different picture to the other data.

Arms deliveries to the world, 2009 Percentage of total world deliveries

CRS, Sept 2010

1. US	41.0
2. Russia	10.6
3. Germany	8.0
4. UK	6.3
5. China	5.1

SIPRI, July 2010

1. US	30.0
2. Russia	19.7
3. Germany	10.9
4. France	8.2
5. UK	4.5

Arms export orders placed, 2009 Percentage of total world orders

CRS, Sept 2010

1. US	39.3
2. Russia	18.1
3. France	12.9
4. Germany	6.4
5. Italy	4.7
...	
8. UK	2.6

UKTI DSO, July 2010

1. US	35
2. UK	20
3. France	20
4. Russia	10
5. Israel	5

Swedish trade minister that combat materials had been sold to the Saudis. Saab has refused to comment. THE LOCAL, 17/9/10

Swiss cuts

Despite a multibillion dollar tendering process, Switzerland has delayed the partial replacement of its fighter jets, blaming budgetary constraints and a re-think over resource use. It has postponed a purchase until 2015 at the latest.

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE 25/8/10; SWISSINFO.CH, 25/8/10

Russian rubber

Russia has ordered inflatable copies of its planes, tanks and missiles to fool its enemies in future conflicts. Military analysts have criticised the purchase, saying the Kremlin should be spending on real equipment instead.

DAILY TELEGRAPH, 25/8/10

BAE Systems: a blight on universities and education

Universities Network Co-ordinator Abi Haque introduces the Ban BAE campaign.

BAE Systems is currently the world's largest arms producer. It sells its products indiscriminately to countries with poor human rights records such as Saudi Arabia, Israel, Pakistan and Indonesia. It has been accused of bribery and corruption, and in 2010 was fined £30 million in the UK and \$400 million in the US following corruption investigations.

Graduate recruitment

BAE Systems needs university graduates to replenish its talent base. Careers fairs are the most straightforward and visible approach that BAE Systems uses to attract graduate talent. The company attends careers fairs nationwide, offers evening talks that often include free food and drink as an incentive and spends lavishly on glossy graduate recruitment advertisements.

Controversial companies may stop attending careers fairs if they consider that their presence has become detrimental to their objectives. This happened in 2008 when the Climate Camp campaign launched the "E.ON F.OFF" campaign, which achieved such adverse publicity that the company E.ON pulled out of careers fairs. We are hoping to achieve the same thing with our newly launched counter-recruitment campaign, 'Ban BAE'.

The Warwick story

A great success story is the "Weapons out of Warwick" university campaign. In the spirit of education and free information students put together an alternative careers guide. This detailed how the arms trade severely undermines human rights, security and economic development at global, regional, national and local levels. Warwick students also staged protests at



careers events. Last year they got students to give speeches about the unethical nature of BAE Systems and were so relentless that they successfully filibustered the company's promotion time!

Campaign

There are numerous student actions that have been hugely successful and, in many cases, very entertaining too. Student campaigns have included "die-ins"; confiscation of company's promotional materials; removal of displays; and street

Students at a demonstration highlight BAE's record

theatre, such as Grim Reapers looming over stalls. I wonder what this year will bring?

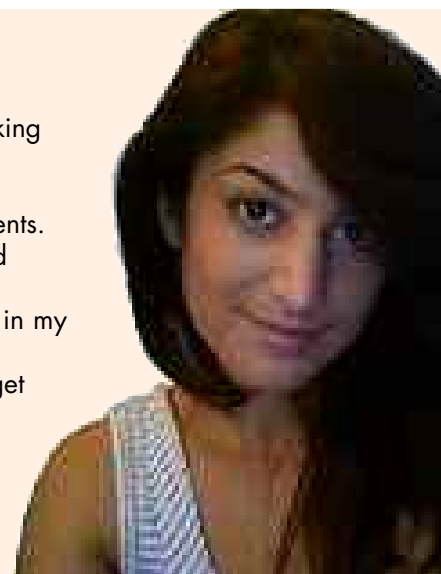
For more information on the CAAT Universities Network and the Ban BAE campaign please visit <http://universities.caat.org.uk>

If you have any questions or want support in campaigns against arms companies on campus, please email universities@caat.org.uk.

Hello Abi

I'm Abi Haque and I am elated to be taking on the role of Universities Network Coordinator. Like many people, I was introduced into campaigning by my parents. I've shaken tins, run races and supported fund-raising! I am thrilled to have the opportunity to put my passion for peace in my job.

It's an exciting challenge for me as I get to enrol students into direct action against the arms trade and look at ways of recruiting, and retaining younger supporters for CAAT!



Blockade Devonport

Devonport Dockyard in Plymouth not only refits, maintains, and upgrades the submarines that carry the UK's immoral and illegal Trident nuclear weapon system, it is also increasingly becoming the dumping ground for old and out-of-service nuclear submarines.

On 1 November Trident Ploughshares is calling on people to disrupt work at the dockyard by non-violently blockading the Devonport submarine base.

Blockading the Devonport Dockyard is an effective way of disrupting re-fitting work. It also expresses a clear and unambiguous message of opposition to the barbarity that is the UK's Trident nuclear weapon system.

Such a blockade allows everyone to get involved at a level that suits them. You need not get arrested! Everyone is welcome, providing you abide by the non-violence and safety guidelines.

For more information see www.tridentploughshares.org



Coventry

As Coventry commemorates the 70th anniversary of the Blitz we are keen to remind people that the city was bombed because its car factories had been turned into arms factories. We are therefore holding an event during Coventry's two week Peace Festival. This will be an evening of drama, dialogue and song about arms manufacture in Coventry through the authentic voices of workers. It will take place on Wednesday 10 November at 7.30 pm in London Road Social Club, CV1 2JU.

We are also compiling an e-book entitled "Making Weapons in Coventry" and would like to hear from anyone who can contribute. The book will include chapters on the manufacturing that took place in the past and in the present; on workers' misgivings; on the role played in research by Warwick and Coventry universities; on the Lucas project and Matrix Churchill; on protest; and on the role of women in manufacturing. If you would like to discuss the e-book please contact me at Coventry Peace House on 02476 664616 or info@covpeacehouse.org.uk

PENNY WALKER

Barclays bikes stickered



Some of the stickers featuring messages about Barclays

On the eve of the launch of the Barclays-sponsored pay-as-you-go bike scheme in London, activists covered the bikes with stickers that highlighted the banking giant's involvement in the global arms trade.

Almost 4,000 of the stickers were placed on blue Barclays' bikes all over the city. They were designed to blend in with the Barclays advertising on the bikes and included the message: "£20m investment in bikes. £7,300m investment in bombs".

At the media launch on 30 July Barclays chairman Magnus Agius was asked his opinion on the

stickers. He replied "I have nothing to say."

Some of the people who stickered the bikes expressed the opinion that, though they considered the bikes to be a step in the right direction, the scheme was exploited by Barclays as one big advertising campaign. They noted that no other city worldwide with similar schemes has been fully sponsored by one company and hoped that the stickers will raise awareness of Barclays' position as the world's largest investor in the arms trade.

INDYMEDIA

UKTI DSO: LIB DEMS SAY NO!

Sarah Waldron reports on good news from the Liberal Democrat party conference and makes some suggestions for further action.

For even the most optimistic among us, there have undoubtedly been a few gloomy moments in the last few months. For example, when ministers in the new Government boasted that there would be a “very, very, very heavy ministerial commitment” to arms exports (see *They said it in CAATnews* 217). Or when old allies such as Liberal Democrat minister Vince Cable suddenly began defending the Government’s support for the arms trade.

So we were delighted when, on 19 September, delegates at the Liberal Democrat party conference voted to make the closure of the Government’s arms sales unit Liberal Democrat party policy! You can read more about the details of the vote on page 12.

Policies

UK Trade & Investment’s Defence & Security Organisation (UKTI DSO) has been the main focus of CAAT’s campaigning over the last two years. This taxpayer-funded unit helps arms companies sell weapons to areas of conflict, repressive regimes and to countries with major development needs.

While all the political parties have said they want to end arms sales to dangerous regimes, only the Green Party and Plaid Cymru had recognised that closing the department that promotes such sales

is an essential first step to achieving this.

Previously, Liberal Democrat policy had only included a commitment to supporting the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). While a treaty could help governments trying to prevent the circulation of small arms it would make no difference to UK arms sales. Supporting the closure of UKTI DSO provides a real challenge to UK government support for the arms trade – and is a particularly important step forward now that the Liberal Democrats have a voice in Government.

‘Supporting the closure of UKTI DSO provides a real challenge to UK government support for the arms trade’

Moving it on

Many thanks to CAAT supporters for the thousands of letters you sent that put this issue on the agenda. However the vote that approved this policy was very close – and it’s hard to tell exactly what it will mean in practice. So there’s plenty more to do to keep the momentum going:

- Keep up the correspondence with your MP. We need to build a real movement for change within Parliament – and the first step to achieving this is to dismantle the myths about the arms trade. CAAT’s website has both an easy template letter you can send to your MP if you’ve not written before, and plenty of arguments to help you respond to their arguments when you hear back. See www.caat.org.uk/ukti/mp-response.php or contact the office

for paper copies. Personal, sustained correspondence from constituents is a really important way to get an MP to recognise that the arms trade is an issue of real concern to their constituents and to engage with the arguments.

- If your MP is a Liberal Democrat, then please do write to welcome the party’s position on UKTI DSO and ask them to support action on it in Parliament. If they’ve not got a Ministerial position, one easy way they can show their support is by signing EDM 460 on “arms

and military equipment sales” - see www.caat.org.uk/issues/ukti/EDM460.php.

- Find out who your MP is at www.theyworkforyou.com, or by calling the House of Commons information office on 020 7219 4272. Write to him or her at the House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA.
- Lastly, this decision by the Liberal Democrats shows the importance of grassroots action and support. Those who voted to change the policy included parliamentary candidates at the last election and local councillors – so do keep spreading the word!

For more on the UKTI: Armed & Dangerous campaign see the page on the CAAT website at <http://www.caat.org.uk/issues/ukti/>

FARNBOROUGH 2010



JF-17 fighter aircraft

In July, CAAT's Ian Prichard attended Farnborough 2010: an arms fair masquerading as an air show - and supported by the government's arms trading unit, UKTI DSO.

Algeria, Iraq, Libya, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia were among the military delegations invited by UKTI DSO to shop. Ministers, including Business Secretary Vince Cable and Defence Minister Liam Fox, were out in force to boost the sales effort, and military



Futures Day

personnel were on hand to demonstrate the goods.

Set aside from the numerous US military aircraft were two Pakistan-built Chinese JF-17 fighter aircraft (with Russian engines) with a raft of Chinese missiles. The "partial" arms embargo on China obviously didn't extend to inhibiting an export push of fighter aircraft! It probably shouldn't be a surprise that a Chinese military delegation was also invited, though this was missing from the initial list of delegations, only being added at the last minute.

Near the JF-17s was the base for "Futures Day", a "new and exciting programme" for 7-21 year olds aimed at "Inspiring Young Minds



Unfortunately, we don't think this sign was meant to be ironic...

towards a Career in Aerospace, Defence & Security". A large number of universities and companies were represented, including MBDA, Europe's dominant missile producer.

BAE's huge howitzer seemed a strange item for an "airshow". BAE was impossible to escape throughout the exhibition, with staff everywhere and adverts featuring schematics of aircraft, tanks and soldiers.

In prime position in Hall 1 was a large UKTI DSO stand. The organisation also had its own private chalet purely for its arms promotion



BAE Archer howitzer

activities: hosting 40 military delegations and ensuring that companies have the right access to them is not something you would want to do on a shoestring.

Lots of drones were present, as well as the odd robot. Boeing had a building full of them, there was a specific drone pavillion and individual companies displayed them in their exhibition space including BAE, Israel Aerospace Industries, Northrop Grumman, Finmeccanica, Thales and QinetiQ and General Atomics, the makers of the CIA's preferred assassination-drones in Pakistan.



Boeing Phantom Ray drone

CAAT Steering Committee

CAAT's Steering Committee takes the final decisions on campaigns and policy and makes sure that the organisation's internal workings are legal and efficient. Currently the Steering Committee is partly elected, but it also includes representatives from organisations that were historically connected to CAAT. This includes the Peace Pledge Union and the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. After a lot of debate, this structure is changing. In future, the committee will have 10 members elected on a three year rotating basis, and four co-opted members to fill skills gaps.

We are now seeking supporters to stand for election to Steering Committee. Below, two current members explain why you might like to do so!

Nick Ballantine-Drake:

"I became a Steering Committee member last year having supported CAAT for over 15 years. Steering Committee really lets you into the heart of CAAT – you can get involved in a huge number of ways if you choose and you really feel that you are helping out. I work full-time, but being on Steering Committee lets me contribute to CAAT very effectively. The main



meetings are every three months on a Saturday. However, a lot of optional activities can be done remotely, usually online by email. I've also chosen to spend a few extra days in the year giving my time to CAAT. I have a background in science and information technology and have been able to use some of this experience with CAAT. CAAT benefits from having Steering Committee members with diverse skills, interests and experiences. Whatever your interests, you'll receive a warm welcome as part of Steering Committee – I know I did!"

Sharen Green:

"Serving on the Steering Committee puts you at the centre of a vibrant, focused and effective organisation. It's exciting to work with highly professional, dedicated staff and to be 'hands on' when it comes to making policy and guiding the campaign. I have learned new skills by volunteering for administrative tasks such as selecting new staff, conducting staff reviews and having to make decisions fast when the unexpected happens. My time on the committee has been fascinating and rewarding."



'They said it'



"With oil at \$70 plus a barrel all of our Middle Eastern customers are awash with money and they're buying. There's real evidence of growth in this market and a lot of people whose budgets have not been cut."

ALAN GARWOOD, BAE, GULF TIMES, 23 JULY

"We're seeing unbelievable demand from India. There's a lot of willingness to spend on defence."

MIKE ALVIS, ITT DEFENCE INTERNATIONAL, PRESS CONFERENCE AT FARNBOROUGH AIRSHOW, 24 JULY

"We see huge opportunities from emerging markets. We have a global market share of close to 20 per cent and we have been bringing delegates from as many countries as possible to Farnborough."

ADAM THOMAS, UKTI DSO, FARNBOROUGH AIRSHOW, 24 JULY

"The Government encourages us to increase our market share, and we are determined to deliver on that ... It is our job to ensure that UK industry is in the fittest possible condition, and able to anticipate market needs."

RICHARD PANIGUIAN, UKTI DSO, FLIGHT GLOBAL, 30 JULY

"Would it 'feel' nicer to be selling butter than guns around the globe? Sure it would. But if guns are what the customer wants, then these are the companies positioned to profit from it."

RICH SMITH, THE MOTLEY FOOL, 13 AUGUST

Election info

Who can vote?

You can vote in the Steering Committee election if you've given at least £12 to CAAT since 1 January 2009.

Who can stand for election?

You can stand for election if you qualify as a voter and, additionally,

have been a CAAT supporter for at least 12 months.

Who can nominate you?

You must be proposed and seconded by supporters who are themselves eligible to stand for election. In this context, "supporters" include organisations and groups that meet the criteria, although the nomination must be of an individual.

If the nomination is by an organisation, the ballot paper will reflect this by saying, for example, "Pat Bloggs nominated by Chipping Sodbury for Peace."

The nominations deadline is 1 December.

For more information contact Ann on 020 7281 0297 or ann@caat.org.uk.

“Homeland security” and the EU

Researcher Ben Hayes gives some background to military companies’ moves into new markets.

Since 9/11 the arms industry has been steadily diversifying into all things “homeland security”, from border control to counter-terrorism. In September, France’s Safran Group bought L-1 Identity Solutions, creating the world’s biggest biometric identification company, while BAE Systems snapped-up L1’s Intelligence Services Group, its counter-terrorism arm.

As military spending in traditional areas of procurement comes under pressure from austerity measures and budget cuts, the security business is the perfect makeweight. Services accounted for 49% of BAE’s revenues in the first half of 2010 and the company describes the analysis of intelligence data as a particular “sweet spot”.

Subsidies

This process of diversification is being heavily subsidised by national governments, research councils and the European Union (EU). A dedicated European Security Research Programme (ESRP) is worth €1.4 billion over the seven years to 2013, with the same again estimated to be on offer from the ‘security’ dimension to the EU’s space, transport, energy and IT research budgets. The ESRP was explicitly devised to create a competitive homeland security industry in Europe, one that could compete with the USA, Israel and China in an ever more lucrative global marketplace. Europe’s biggest arms and IT companies were brought in to advise the European Commission on the ESRP’s structure and objectives, together with research institutes like the RAND Corporation. It comes as no surprise then that the defence sector has been the principal beneficiary of the ESRP to date.

EU ambitions

Security ‘research’ also fills a void in the EU’s state-building ambitions. The EU’s security architecture is becoming more elaborate with every passing year but it lacks the powers and budget to procure the physical hardware required for border control, critical infrastructure protection, crisis management (such as activities termed peacekeeping) and other policies. Finmeccanica-Selex is leading a €10 million “EU sea border surveillance” consortium, BAE has landed a €2.3 million European Commission (EC) contract to develop an organised crime database and QinetiQ is leading a €12.5 million project to develop a communications system for EU crisis management operations.

Political will

That these projects count as ‘research’ is testimony to the lack of scrutiny and accountability surrounding the programme. The diversion of funds to military projects can also be explained by the lack of political will behind the newly established European Defence Agency, which has an annual budget of around €30 million (peanuts in comparison to the hundreds of millions on offer annually for security research).

Drones

Manufacturers of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), also known as drones, are also receiving large subsidies from an EU committed to

the introduction of drones for border control, policing and surveillance missions. BAE, Finmeccanica, Dassault Aviation, EADS, Thales and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) have all received substantial EU funding to put their wares in the shop window, despite the fact that drones are currently banned from flying in civilian airspace. Both the EU and the UK government are now providing millions more to help these companies convince European air traffic controllers that UAVs are safe, in spite of massive opposition from aviation experts, civil society groups and an abject lack of parliamentary debate.

Israel’s role

Anti-war and arms trade campaigners will also be dismayed to learn of the extent of Israel’s involvement in the ESRP following its incorporation into the ‘European Research Area’ under the EC-Israel Association Agreement. The likes of IAI, Verint, Motorola Israel and Elbit Systems are now involved in dozens of EC-funded security projects as the EU effectively subsidises and endorses a sector whose counter-terrorism-related exports already top \$1bn annually.

Ben Hayes is a researcher with Statewatch and the Transnational Institute and the author of *NeoConOpticon: The EU Security-Industrial Complex*. You can read the report and his blog at: <http://neoconopticon.wordpress.com>



A dilemma for Vince Cable?

Supportive of CAAT's work while in opposition, now that he's in government, Business Secretary Vince Cable is arguing for the continuation of UK Government support for arms exports. His party, the Liberal Democrats, do not agree.

Motion

Its Conference adopted a motion calling for the closure of the UK Trade & Investment Defence & Security Organisation (UKTI DSO) and an end to export credit support for military goods. Both UKTI DSO and the Export Credits Guarantee Department fall within the Business Secretary's remit. Will Cable now rethink his stance?



CAAT supporters

The motion, which was an amendment to the party's International Development policy paper, was proposed by Gareth Epps with Nader Fekri summing up the debate. Both are CAAT supporters as well as members of the group Liberal Democrats for Peace & Security. Our thanks go to them, to David Grace, who also helped, and to all Liberal Democrats who supported the motion. Several of these, as parliamentary candidates, had been lobbied by CAAT supporters earlier this year.

Strategic Defence and Security Review

The Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR) has been making headlines. The Commons' Defence Committee, with many of its members from areas of military manufacturing, has said that the Review is rushed and the industry has not been fully consulted. Well, CAAT and others calling for disarmament were not approached either!

What the arms companies really dislike is that the Review is being run by the new cross-Government National Security Council, based in the Cabinet Office, rather than the Ministry of Defence. This has given the Treasury a leading role, something the industry sees as a threat.

Corporate mercenaries

In September the Foreign Office announced that it was retaining the Labour Government's proposals regarding Private Military and Security Companies (the official term for corporate mercenary companies). This is bad news. The proposals will see a trade association monitoring a code of conduct, rather than a ban on combat activities and a Government licensing system for other work, as advocated by CAAT and War on Want.

ANN FELTHAM



Mercenaries on a US State Department detail in Baghdad

Consultations

Most of the House of Commons' Committees that look at the work of the different Government departments have now been appointed and have got straight to work. Besides the Strategic Defence and Security Review, there are consultations by the Business, Innovation and Skills Committee on Government assistance to industry; and by the Public Administration Select Committee (PASC) on the role of ministers. CAAT has pointed out to the former that not all trade is good, and that support for the arms companies ought to end.

The submission to the PASC focused on the practice of appointing ministers from outside the House of Commons, and the problems of accountability that this engendered. Unfortunately, while it was being drafted, it was announced that Stephen Green from HSBC is to take over as Trade Minister by the end of the year. Once again it seems that the junior minister with direct responsibility for arms export promotion will be a member of the House of Lords, brought in from industry.

India Hawks come home to roost

Kaye Stearman questions the latest developments in UK arms sales to India.

In late July, the media gave prominence to Prime Minister Cameron's diplomatic and trade mission to India. Mr Cameron was accompanied by half a dozen cabinet ministers and fifty "leaders of industry", including arms company bosses Dick Olver of BAE, Miles Cowdry of Rolls-Royce and Graham Cole of Agusta Westland.

The purpose of the jamboree was "sell, sell, sell", and the ultimate sale was a highly contentious arms deal. Under the deal, 57 BAE Hawk jets will be manufactured under licence in India by BAE's Indian partner, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), with Rolls-Royce also getting a slice of the action.

The deal was hailed as being worth £700 million to the UK economy – with £500 million for BAE and £200 million for Rolls-Royce. Most importantly, it was claimed it would support valuable jobs in the UK, especially in BAE's plant at Brough on Humberside.

View from the UK

So what jobs will result from the Hawk deal, given that the planes are actually being manufactured in India? The official line was that the deal would "protect" around 200 jobs in BAE's Brough plant. For a £700 million deal that works out at £3.5 million per job.

In September, just six weeks after the fanfare around the Hawk deal, BAE announced that it was shedding one thousand jobs in five plants. One of the hardest hit was Brough with over 200 jobs to go. BAE justified the cuts stating that: "The job losses result from the impact of the changes in the defence programme announced in December 2009, together with other workload changes."



Supporters of Control Arms Foundation of India (CAFI) demonstrate at the AeroIndia arms fair in 2009. PHOTO: CAFI

Understandably, BAE workers and their union representatives were not impressed. Local MPs David Davis and Alan Johnson declared the redundancies were "a breach of faith" on the part of BAE. Mr Davis even used the M word, "moral," a concept as foreign to BAE as to a bird of prey.

View from India

Will India benefit? No doubt the deal will create some jobs at HAL's assembly lines. However, in this highly capital-intensive industry, jobs are limited to the already skilled and the multiplier effects are low. The arms industry will not provide India with the number and type of jobs it so desperately needs.

Despite rapid economic growth, most Indians still live in abject poverty. In July United Nations-backed research revealed that eight Indian states had more poor people than the 26 poorest African countries. Every rupee that India invests in weaponry is a rupee less invested in health, education and the social infrastructure that will improve the lives of the poor majority.

Since 1947 India has been involved in four wars and in internal conflicts, including Kashmir. How will building Hawk jets support peace efforts within India and the region? Will it further encourage an arms race with Pakistan, a country in an even more parlous situation than India?

More to come?

Despite these huge economic and ethical issues, the UK is keen to flog more arms to India. Only a year ago, in opposition, now Business Secretary Vince Cable condemned the Eurofighter as a waste of money and irrelevant to today's needs. Yet on 28 July this year he was happily pitching sales to the Indian Government, stating: "I am pleased that the Indian Government is considering the Eurofighter Typhoon for its medium multi-role combat aircraft. This bid has the full backing of the UK Government." Truly, the Hawks are coming home to roost.

For more background on India see UK vying for Indian arms deals on page 13 of CAATnews 217.

Pounding the pavements to raise pounds for CAAT



On Saturday, 7 August, myself and Ian Pocock completed a walk to raise funds for Campaign Against the Arms Trade. We walked a total of 6.2 miles, starting at St. Stephen's church in Dulwich, and finishing at the Stock Exchange in the City.

The idea for the walk came about after I had decided on a walk to raise funds for St. Stephen's. However, I soon decided on a joint walk to raise funds for CAAT also. I wanted to bring the message to the congregation that the arms trade is an unnecessary evil, and to impress upon them the importance of world peace.

I was pleased by the response I got, with around 80 per cent opting to support both the church and CAAT, including both curate and vicar. In fact, the curate and his wife had previously attended a CAAT protest at the Millennium Dome! Each sponsor also received a CAAT leaflet.

The walk

After strolling through leafy Dulwich, and luckily missing the earlier rain, we soon hit the Walworth road, and made our way up to the Elephant & Castle, a contrast from the peacefulness of Dulwich Village; and

only a couple of miles between them! As we made our way across the river we could see St. Paul's cathedral, our destination on the first leg of the walk. A short walk across Paternoster Square brought us to the Stock Exchange, our final destination. The walk took about two hours in all. We are pleased to have raised several hundred pounds. Any further donations can be made at www.caat.org.uk or sent to CAAT, 11 Goodwin St, London, N4 3HQ.

ROBIN LANE, ST.STEPHEN'S CHURCH

Support us with a gift in your will

Remembering family and friends when you are writing or updating your will is really important and gives peace of mind. For many people, the next stage is to decide how you would like to help the causes you feel passionately about.

As a supporter of CAAT, you already know that our campaigning has exposed the devastating impacts of the arms trade and held the Government to account for its support of this industry.

Please consider continuing your support by leaving a gift to CAAT in your will. If you have already made your will, then it is a simple process to update it.

Let us know if you have already included CAAT in your will, or would like further information, by emailing fundraising@caat.org.uk, or writing to CAAT, 11 Goodwin Street, London, N4 3HQ. Thank you.

Thousands raised for CAAT

CAAT supporters have raised thousands of pounds in 2010 by walking and running in sponsored events, and volunteering behind the bar at music festivals.

Mike and Bianca Tyrrell (pictured) have beaten their fundraising target of £300 after completing the Bristol Half Marathon in September. James Cracknell is "Running to the Beat" in London, and a record five runners are taking part in the Great South Run. Our fantastic team of volunteers have worked over four hundred hours behind the bar at events such as Glastonbury Festival to raise funds for CAAT.

Thank you to everyone who has taken part in these vital fundraising activities and to the generous sponsors. If you would like to raise funds for CAAT through a sponsored event please email: fundraising@caat.org.uk



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it's your call

Get phone and broadband from a telecoms supplier with a difference and support CAAT at the same time

CAMPAIGN AGAINST ARMS TRADE

As a CAAT supporter, we will give you a £10 credit on your first bill AND 6% of your spend will go to CAAT to help them continue their excellent work

Call: 0845 458 9040
Visit: www.thephone.coop/CAAT
QUOTE: 'CAAT' and AF0302

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.

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 Supporter Media Activist – help build CAAT's profile by contacting 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 speaker's pack with information and presentations.

Become a Key Campaigner – receive campaigner updates from CAAT and help spread the word about CAAT 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 our vibrant network of students and staff taking action for clean investment, stopping the arms trade's graduate recruitment and exposing the arms trade's research involvement in universities.

- Visit our Universities Network wiki – universities.caat.org.uk.
- Join the Universities Network and get the monthly ebulletin: www.caat.org.uk/campaigns/universities/getinvolved.php
- Contact universities@caat.org.uk for any questions or if you want to share a planned action.

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 020 7281 0297 to discuss the different ways you can remember CAAT.

Campaigners' 'to do' list

- Book for CAAT's National Gathering on 6 Nov – see page 3.
- Help end massive taxpayer support for the arms trade – see pages 8 and 9.
- If your MP is a Liberal Democrat, then please write to welcome the position on UKTI DSO and ask them to support action in Parliament – see pages 8 and 9.
- Students: take action against BAE recruitment on campus this term – see page 6.
- Help fund CAAT with a Direct Debit. See the back page or visit www.caat.org.uk/fundraising/donate.php

Donate today!

You can donate to CAAT by either visiting our website at www.caat.org.uk, or by completing the form below (in block capitals) and returning to: CAAT, Freepost, LON4296, London, N4 3BR.



Name

Address

Postcode

- I enclose a cheque for £___ made payable to CAAT.
 I wish to donate by credit/debit card and have completed my card details.
 Please send me the CAATnews quarterly magazine.
 Please send me CAAT's monthly email bulletin.
 I wish to set up a Direct Debit (complete form below)
 I'd like information on setting up a legacy to CAAT.

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Email address

Card details

Credit/debit card type (please tick appropriate box):

Solo Switch/UK Maestro Visa Visa Delta

Credit/debit card number:

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Start date

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A direct debit is the most convenient and cost effective way to support CAAT. £10 a month will make a real difference.

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To: The Manager Bank/Building Society:

Banks/building societies may not accept Direct Debit Instructions from some kind of accounts.

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Postcode

Name(s) of account holder(s)

Bank/building society a/c no.

Sort code

I wish to donate £_____ every month/quarter/annually (please delete).

Reference (CAAT use only)

Please pay Campaign Against Arms Trade Direct Debits from the account detailed in this Instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this Instruction may remain with Campaign Against Arms Trade and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my bank/building society.

Signature(s)

Date

