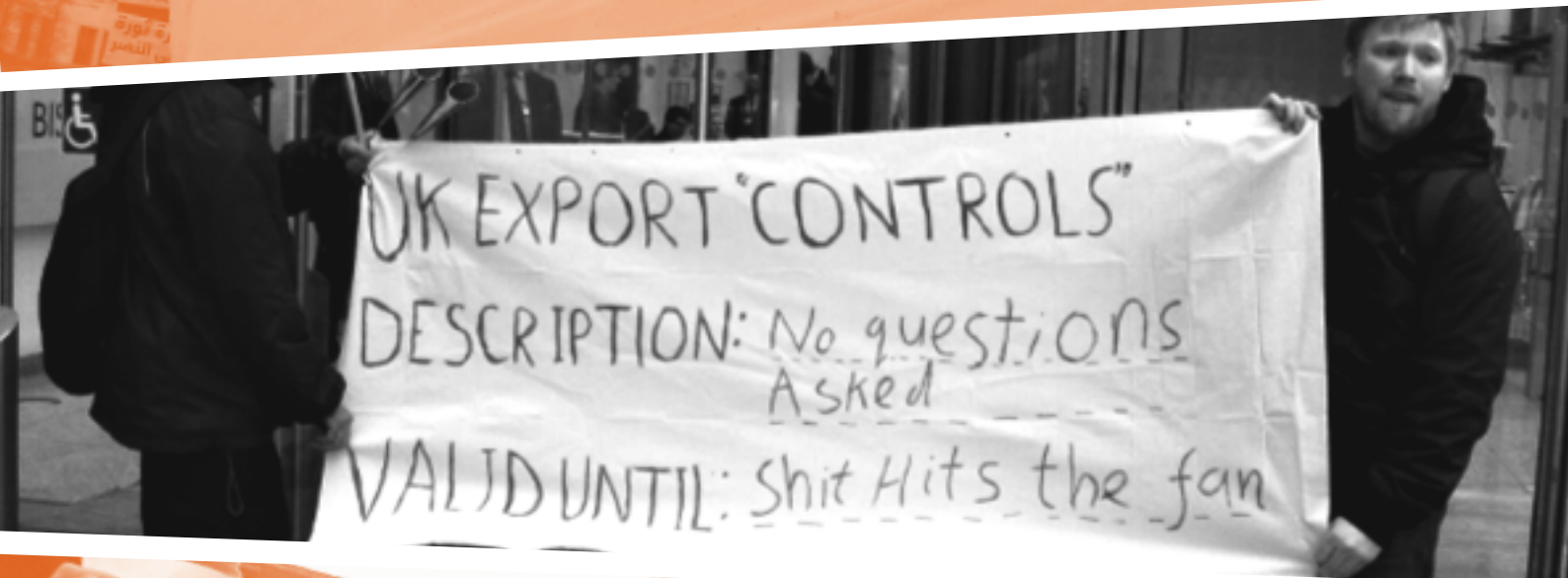


CAAT*news*



Issue 220
April-June 2011

£1.00

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AGAINST
ARMS
TRADE**

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Thank you also to our dedicated team of CAATnews stuffers.

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

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

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IN THIS ISSUE...

Welcome to this issue of CAATnews

This spring, the issues on which we campaign hit the mainstream media. In many cases the public response agreed with CAAT's position, with one poll showing that 76 per cent thought it wrong to have sold arms to Libya (see page 4).

At times like this our commitment and hard work really pay off, for CAAT supporters were ready to

respond with informed arguments and effective actions (see page 7). Our challenge now is to keep up pressure despite the media spotlight moving on: pages 8–9 feature plenty of info and ideas for action.

Finally, on page 14 we remember Alun Morinan, whose commitment and hard work paid off, for he inspired many to take forward the issues that he raised.

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Campaign Against Arms Trade works for the reduction and ultimate abolition of the international arms trade. The arms business has a devastating impact on human rights and security, and damages economic development. Large scale military procurement and arms exports only reinforce a militaristic approach to international problems.

Gaining momentum

Sarah Waldron reflects on links between the arms trade and recent headline stories and calls for a transformation of opinions into action.

As revolutions in North Africa and the Middle East have challenged authoritarian regimes, they also challenge the UK government's approach to arms sales.

Time and again, the Government responds to our campaigning with the assurance that it has a "responsible" policy on arms sales. Now, the evidence that it is otherwise is there for all to see.

Equipment

In the last year, the Government approved the supply of equipment including tear gas, crowd control ammunition and sniper rifles to Libya and Bahrain, even though both are authoritarian regimes with a well-documented record of human rights abuses. Armoured vehicles sold by the UK have been used against protesters in Libya, and Saudi Arabia sent UK-made vehicles to help crush pro-democracy protests in Bahrain.

Opinions

CAAT has been working hard to make sure that this gets the coverage it deserves – and now it's not just anti-arms trade activists asking tricky questions. A February opinion poll reported that only 7 per cent of people thought that the UK was right to sell arms to Libya (see page 4).

So how were such licences approved in the first place? Quite simply, they were approved because, whatever Government policy says, Government practice is all about selling arms.

Routine

Unfortunately Libya is not a one-off. The UK routinely supplies regimes that have appalling human rights records. These include Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Israel and Sri



The first stop for the This is NOT OK petition was Number 10 Downing Street on 9 March, where we let the prime minister know our disgust at his arms-selling tour of the Middle East. CAAT staff and members delivered the petition, together with Azeldin El-Sharif of the British-Libyan Solidarity Campaign.

Lanka. Successive UK governments have promoted the sale of arms and internal security equipment with virtually no discrimination.

The current Government is no different – except it has expressed concern that its predecessors were a little too squeamish and proclaimed it has "no embarrassment" about its plans to increase arms exports.

Selling

Unbelievably there was little embarrassment from the Government when, in the midst of brutal suppression of protest, the Prime Minister chose to go ahead with an arms promotion tour in the Middle East.

At the same time, a large UK delegation was displaying its wares at the regional arms fair IDEX. This included representatives from the UK Trade & Investment Defence & Security Organisation (UKTI DSO), which has designated Libya and

Saudi Arabia as "priority markets" for UK arms.

It is clear that the focus of UK government policy is on promoting, not controlling, arms sales – and while this remains the case, a "responsible" arms export policy is impossible.

DSEi

In September, the Government plans, once again, to support a massive arms fair in London. In 2009, Libya, Bahrain, Egypt and Saudi Arabia were on the guest list; Israel exhibited its "battle-tested" weaponry and the Pakistan Ordnance Factories advertised cluster bombs in its literature. This cannot happen again.

Our campaign has huge momentum at the moment. Public opinion is with us. Turn to pages 8 and 9 to help turn that into public action. Together we can end the arms fair, and end the promotion of arms sales to dictators.

Revolving door (I): Ex-envoy joins BAE

Sir Sherard Cowper-Coles (pictured), former UK envoy to Saudi Arabia, has been hired by BAE Systems. Cowper-Coles left the Foreign Office last October. This February he took up post as BAE's international business development director, focusing on the Middle East and south-east Asia.

According to a US cable given to WikiLeaks, Cowper-Coles "had a profound effect" on the decision of the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) to end the investigation into BAE's Al-Yamamah arms deal.

The move highlights questions over the close relationship between the Government and BAE, and the circumstances in which the SFO inquiry was dropped. **GUARDIAN**, 18/2/11; **TELEGRAPH**, 18/2/11 & 12/3/11



and work with arms companies to promote their wares.

TELEGRAPH, 7/1/11

Sales to Libya

A YouGov *Sunday Times* poll in February found that 76 per cent of those polled thought it wrong to have sold arms to Libya and only 7 were in favour of such sales.

62 per cent thought Prime Minister Cameron was wrong to take arms company representatives on his Middle East tour.

YOUNGOV PLC, FIELDWORK OF 24-25 FEB 2011

Revolving door (II)

Air Chief Marshal Sir Glenn Torpy – in charge of the Air Force from April 2006 until July 2009 – has become a senior adviser at BAE Systems. Just before leaving the Air Force Torpy endorsed the controversial Eurofighter Typhoon, the contract for which is held by BAE.

PRIVATE EYE, 4/2/11

Graham Wright has been appointed by Northrop Grumman to work on the company's expansion into UK cyber security. Wright's last job was at the Cabinet Office where he was Deputy Director, Office of Cyber Security and Information Assurance. He previously held senior positions in the Ministry of Defence.

NORTHROP GRUMMAN, 4/1/11

BAE curb

BAE Systems may face serious restrictions on its operations, as the US State Department is considering debarment.

The threatened curb comes after the company's 2010 admission of conspiracy to violate US arms-export laws. Such a move would come as a great blow to BAE's non-US business although any penalty on BAE Systems plc would not affect the US operation BAE Inc.

FINANCIAL TIMES, 7/3/11; **THE REGISTER**, 7/3/11

BAE drone deal

BAE has signed a deal with French company Dassault to build a drone that can be used by both countries' air forces (see page 11).

The joint project is part of the Government's plan to cut military costs through more joint purchasing.

DAILY TELEGRAPH, 14/3/11

UK sales

The UK is in talks with Indonesia over a potential sale of up to 24 Eurofighter Typhoons. Military exports to the country were banned 12 years ago after allegations that UK-made jets were used to bomb civilians. Debts from Indonesian military purchases in the 1990s are still ongoing.

Separately, BAE Systems has offered to upgrade Indonesia's existing UK-made Hawk jets.

TIMES, 10/3/11

Lord Green

Reports in the *Telegraph* earlier this year suggested that Trade Minister Lord Green had expressed "issues" with representing the arms industry as part of his work.

The ordained Anglican priest has now agreed to represent the UK Trade & Investment Defence & Security Organisation (UKTI DSO)

Prince Andrew

In March Prince Andrew pulled out of an arms-selling trip to Saudi Arabia.

Buckingham Palace denied the move was related to revelations over friendships with a convicted paedophile and tyrannical regimes.

DAILY MAIL, 11/3/11

Middle East arms fair

The UK had a strong presence at the Middle Eastern arms fair IDEX 2011, making up nearly 10 per cent of exhibitors. BAE, Babcock and Marshall Land Systems attended the event in Abu Dhabi alongside a host of small and medium enterprises. The US, China and France also all had a significant presence.

The talk of the fair was the pro-democracy demonstrations taking place in a region long seen as a stable market for military sales. Delegate numbers were down and the mood was subdued, but business carried on. The United Arab Emirates announced nearly \$4bn in contracts over the four-day event, mostly with local firms.

ADS, 16/3/11; **DEFENSE NEWS**, 28/2/11; **JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY**, 2/3/11

India arms fair

Peter Luff, Minister for Defence Equipment Support and Technology, led a delegation to the arms fair Aero India 2011 in February. Luff was keen to promote the Eurofighter Typhoon for India's aircraft programme.

FOREIGN & COMMONWEALTH OFFICE,
3/2/11

Military budgets for 2011

South Africa has announced an increase of 10.87 per cent in its military budget although the increase is expected to be largely absorbed by a new salary structure.

JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 2/3/11

China's military budget has increased by 12.7 per cent. This represents a resumption of double-digit growth after last year's interruption due to the global economic downturn.

Beijing does not publish a breakdown of its military budget and this lack of transparency has led Western governments to speculate that China is spending more on its military than official figures suggest.

JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 9/3/11

India has announced a military budget increase of 11.94 per cent. The government says this will help pay for modernisation; analysts say the money will also go towards a series of re-capitalisation projects. The effect of the rise will be limited by an inflation rate of 9.3 per cent.

JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 9/3/11

QinetiQ

QinetiQ has signed an agreement with Saudi Arabia to collaborate on a range of research and technology development programmes. These could include robotics, communications and remote sensing.

WWW.JANES.COM, 22/11/11

UK arms to authoritarian regimes in the Middle East and North Africa

In 2008, the Economist Intelligence Unit¹ categorised countries as one of full democracy, flawed democracy, hybrid regime or authoritarian regime.

The Authoritarian Regimes in the Middle East and North Africa are shown in the table. Also displayed is:

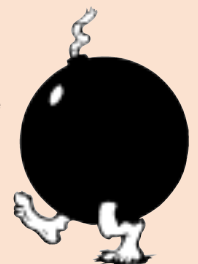
- whether or not UK Trade & Investment's Defence & Security Organisation (UKTI DSO) provided support to "companies marketing defence and security goods and services" to that country during the past three years² and
- the value of UK arms export licences 2008–2010.³

Country	UKTI DSO sales support?	Arms licences (£ million)
Algeria	Yes	283.9
Bahrain	Yes	4.0
Egypt	Yes	6.5
Iran		0
Jordan	Yes	34.4
Kuwait	Yes	42.9
Libya	Yes	66.1
Morocco	Yes	2.8
Oman	Yes	25.4
Qatar	Yes	6.4
Saudi Arabia	Yes	1,823.6
Syria		0.1
Tunisia		6.4
UAE	Yes	48.1
Yemen		0.6

1. The Economist Intelligence Unit, Democracy Index, 29 October 2008

2. Hansard, 17 February 2011, Col. 977/8 W

3. UK Strategic Export Controls Annual and Quarterly Reports. Figures do not include the 4th quarter of 2010 as it has not yet been published. Licences are for equipment on the Military List



Lockheed Martin

Lockheed Martin faced protests after its controversial involvement in the census in March (see page 7). The company, which makes Trident nuclear missiles and F-16 fighter jets, won the £150m contract in 2008. A census spokesperson highlighted the difference between Lockheed Martin UK and Lockheed Martin US and said the company offered best value for money.

GUARDIAN, 18/3/11

Iran

The UK has condemned Iran for supplying weapons to the Taliban, after UK special forces intercepted weapons in southwestern Afghanistan in February. In 2010 US military reports claimed that Iran was arming, financing and training Taliban members.

JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, 16/3/11

University representatives on Middle East arms tour

Senior figures from four universities have been exposed as part of the business delegation on David Cameron's Middle East "trade tour", which visited Kuwait, Egypt, Qatar and Oman in February. Tour participants included Professor Lord Darzi of Imperial College; Professor John Hughes, Vice-Chancellor of Bangor University; Professor Malcolm Grant, President and Provost of University College London (UCL); and Stuart Laing, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University.

They were accompanied by no less than eight representatives from the world's biggest arms companies including BAE Systems, Atkins and QinetiQ. Students and staff have been extremely critical of the relationship between their universities and arms companies and many were outraged at this new development.

Several universities are involved in occupations because of the public spending cuts and have included demands for their institution to stop associating with the arms trade. A

student from UCL commented: "Malcolm Grant's recent tour of the Middle East with David Cameron and arms manufacturers, amongst other business [heads], was utterly inappropriate for the provost and president of a university."

It is clear there is still much work to do to cut the link between education and the arms trade. We can take great encouragement from the news that students are campaigning passionately and holding their universities to account!

Alternative careers event—York University

Our excitement about holding our first ever alternative careers event was well rewarded with a turn-out of over 60 students.

Scientists for Global Responsibility's Director Stuart Parkinson presented a strong case arguing that the arms trade fails to address the issue of global security. He explained that what is often described as "defence" does not defend us from the drivers of global instability that lead to the conflicts for which we seem to be continually arming ourselves.

He identified the critical threats to society as climate change (making scarce the basic resources necessary



for life), competition for resources (creating the dynamics that explain current global conflict) and lack of access to social justice (for example, access to justice, healthcare, education). He then talked about

solutions being developed in the areas of science and technology and gave ideas on how to pursue a career in these areas.

Many universities don't give advice on careers from a social perspective or stress their importance in the wider challenges of a global society. However we've found that students have immense interest in ethical careers. We will continue encouraging careers services to promote socially productive employers and industries.

Hearts and minds

Earlier this year, Warwick University held a debate on the subject of whether the UK should be involved with the arms trade. Barnaby Pace (pictured), a CAAT Steering Committee member and graduate of the university, put a strong case forward for saying "No"!

Initially the audience was strongly in favour of the arms trade, as shown by a straw poll. A similar poll taken at the end showed that hearts and minds had been won: the audience was now strongly opposed to the arms trade!



Get involved

- Find out more about the Universities Network at <http://universities.caat.org.uk>
- Check our map to see when arms companies are coming to your campus (see the Ban BAE page on the website).
- Sign the website petition to cut wasteful military spending not education.
- If you have any questions or want to organise a workshop or event at your university please email universities@caat.org.uk.

ABI HAQUE

Constituents target Vince Cable

As Secretary of State for Business, Vince Cable is responsible for the government agency that has been promoting arms exports to Libya, Bahrain and other governments that abuse human rights. Cable's constituents and members of Kingston Peace Council lobbied him at his constituency office in March. Some had placards saying 'Cable, where's your conscience?' or 'Vince, don't sell arms to dictators.'

Cable said it was acceptable to sell military equipment to "stable" countries and that sales to (unspecified) countries where there was trouble at the moment had been cancelled. He did not explain why they had been allowed in the first place!

We were not convinced by his arguments and stayed near his office with our banners. Two local newspapers covered the protest and it was also mentioned on a local radio station.

RHIANNON REES



Business Minister Vince Cable gets lobbied over UK arms sales to Libya

Plotting and planning at Manchester event

What a great day we had at the CAAT regional event in Manchester! In just six hours we delved into weapons sales to the Middle East, equipped ourselves to tackle arms companies' claims that they are essential for the economy and got some action plans brewing. A new Manchester group also looks set to get off the ground. One participant said: "I was already inspired to do something. But the day made me really energised." More evidence that if you put two or more CAAT supporters in a room together, great things can happen!

Demo shuts business department

With the news that British weapons had been used by Gaddafi to suppress pro-democracy protests, activists mobilised to hold to account the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), which licensed the sales. This government department is also responsible for promoting weapons sales to oppressive regimes.

A samba band played, while one of the protesters scaled the entrance to hang a banner. The BIS had to close its doors for an hour. Doors at the Government's arms sales unit were also blocked.

Count me out

In March, as part of the Count Me Out campaign's weekend of action against Lockheed Martin's involvement in the census (see page 5), London CAAT carried out a protest at Victoria station. We handed out 400 leaflets and encountered a lot of sympathy for our cause. The Guantanamo Bay-style costume also attracted attention (Lockheed contracts out interrogation at Guantanamo Bay).

IAN POCOCK, LONDON CAAT

For more information see countmeout.me.uk

Want to take action? Check out pages 8-9 for more ideas. Have a story to share? Contact Anne-Marie at outreach@caat.org.uk

SHIFTING THE GROUND ON UK ARMS SALES

This spring, a tide has begun to turn. Government claims that UK arms exports are "responsible" and "legitimate" have been seriously undermined. People everywhere

have seen UK weapons turned on pro-democracy demonstrators and reacted with horror.

The single event which brings the government's hypocrisy and the horrible reality of the arms trade into focus is coming up: the world's largest arms fair – DSEi (Defence & Equipment Systems International) – is

planned to take place in London in September. Yet this is also an opportunity to push for fundamental change.

These two pages highlight key events and opportunities for action, now that UK arms sales are in the spotlight. Please consider how you

could get involved – and let us know what you are planning!

This is NOT OK

One action we want to ask EVERYONE to do is to sign our This is NOT OK petition, adding a message in their own words about the arms trade. This is a powerful

way of demonstrating public support and will be used at key times in the year to lobby decision-makers.

We doubled the numbers to 4,000 in the week we delivered the petition to Downing Street in response to attacks on civilians in Libya and Bahrain (see picture below).

Let's keep doubling it for every one of its next stops: Lord Green – the wavering Trade Minister; Vince Cable – arms trade critic (at least until very recently); William Hague – proud to be pushing weapons sales abroad; London's mayoral candidates; party conferences and more!

TARGET

STOP THE ARMS FAIR

At the last DSEi, guests included an impressive number of A-list repressive regimes seeking to shore up their power with the latest weapons technologies. DSEi publicity boasts that this year it will be "even bigger" and will host the "Largest Unmanned & Robotics Demonstration area in Europe".

We want to use the event to:

- Let as many people as possible know about the nasty business that takes place on our doorsteps
- Make it as difficult as possible for it to take place! Political pressure, demonstrations and direct action will show that people will no longer tolerate this event.

TARGET

MPS MUST CHANGE UK'S APPROACH TO ARMS EXPORTS

For years, MPs have been responding to our calls for change with assurances that the UK's sales are carefully vetted and it will only sell to "stable regimes". Recent events have shown once again that these can only ever be empty promises while the emphasis of government policy is on promoting weapons sales, not controlling them.

Let's make the most of this opportunity to really shift the ground of the debate. First aim: the Government must stop co-organising DSEi!

SPREAD THE WORD & GET MOBILISING!

Take the message to street stalls, public meetings and campaign groups to build the campaign. Contact CAAT for:

- Posters and action leaflets
- Speakers for public meetings
- Support with the local media
- Help contacting other CAAT supporters in your area

Your local DSEi exhibitor

The arms companies and suppliers who exhibit at DSEi can be found in nearly every town in the UK. Have a look at our website or give us a call to track down your local arms site.

WRITE TO YOUR MP

Engaging in correspondence and making sure your MP looks at the facts can really help shift their position. The DSEi guest list will be an ideal opportunity to show the countries to which the UK is pushing arms.

If you haven't done so already, please write to your MP in response to the UK's role in arming dictators such as Gadaffi.

CAAT can help with suggested responses to your MP's letters. Have a look at our website for key points and let us know what your MP has to say!

GET READY FOR DSEi ON 12 JUNE

10.30am–5pm, Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ

A day of workshops, plotting and scheming for an end to the DSEi arms fair and an end to the arms trade.

Hear the latest on DSEi and what goes on there. Learn new skills from direct action to clowning to putting your message across. Meet others to work with on the day of action. Help finalise plans for DSEi week.

If you can't make it to London, but would like to host a workshop in your area contact outreach@caat.org.uk



KEEP UP THE PRESSURE!

Step up the pressure and organise a meeting with your MP too. CAAT may be able to put you in touch with others who can go along with you.

DAY OF PRAYER ON 11 SEPTEMBER

A poignant Christian Network action on the eve of DSEi week. Pre-order your pack now: contact outreach@caat.org.uk or call the office.

TARGET

CLARION EVENTS

The events company that owns the arms fair also hosts family-friendly events such as the Baby Show and the Spirit of Summer Show. Three years ago, the arms fair's previous owners were forced to sell up after a CAAT campaign. We're aiming to do this again. We can start by debunking Clarion's claims that because what it does is legal, it's legitimate.

DAY OF ACTION ON 13 SEPTEMBER

The Stop the Arms Fair coalition want to make it too difficult for the arms companies to do business by supporting a mass of diverse and creative actions against the fair.

The day will be accessible to all whether it's your first demo or you've spent hours of your life chained to arms factory gates.

Put it in your diary. Start talking to others and making links with local campaigns. Let's get a group from every town and city down to London!

TAKE CREATIVE ACTION AT OTHER CLARION EVENTS!

- 14 May – Spirit of Summer, London
- 21 May – Baby Show, Birmingham
- 3 Sept – Baby Show, Manchester
- Or look at Clarion's website and organise an action at another of their events!

TOGETHER WE CAN:

1. Stop the world's largest arms fair

2. End the huge government support for the arms trade which means weapons end up in the hands of dictators

Take your dismay to AGM day

What appals you most about BAE Systems?

- That it was represented on David Cameron's tour to sell arms to Middle East regimes while democracy protesters were brutalised?
- That it sells arms indiscriminately for the benefit of international shareholders?
- That it has an insidious relationship with the Government, blatant under Tony Blair but showing no sign of wavering under David Cameron?
- That it continues to deny corruption, despite a wealth of evidence obtained by investigators?
- That it attempts to cloud the reporting of corrupt activities by calling them "historic issues" when half the current board, including the Chairman, were on the board or senior within BAE in 2005 when the company was making corrupt payments in Tanzania?
- That it now employs the former Ambassador to Saudi Arabia who, while Ambassador, pressured the Serious Fraud Office to end its investigation into BAE?
- That it waves the union jack in its public relations but has shifted the bulk of its activities to the US, leaving the UK as just one of seven "home markets"?
- That the Government gave BAE the equivalent of £64 for each person in the UK in 2009-10?

Whatever it is, maybe you'd like to convey your dismay to BAE's board at their Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 4 May. It's at 11am at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre in Westminster.

Email ian@caat.org.uk or ring the office if you'd like to come.

IAN PRICHARD

Interview: Sharyn Lock

Hilary Aked talks with Sharyn Lock, author of *Gaza beneath the Bombs*

Gaza beneath the Bombs (Pluto 2010) is an eyewitness account of three weeks in Gaza during Israel's 2008 Operation Cast Lead. Created from a collection of blog entries, author Sharyn Lock describes it as "almost an accidental book". She chose to focus on this period because what happened during those weeks was "symbolic of day-to-day existence in Gaza, but intensified".

The book describes scenes as surreal as watching children kicking lumps of white phosphorous around while it was still burning: no-one knew what this material was.

Such experiences and the fact that friends remain in Gaza (both Palestinian and members of ISM, the International Solidarity Movement), mean Lock hopes her book will inspire further action, including action against the arms trade. She



says that the people of Gaza are "well aware" of the origins of the weapons used by the Israeli state to bombard their tiny strip of living space on an almost daily basis. The UK plays a major role: for example, BAE Systems and AgustaWestland provide parts for aircraft and helicopters.

Lock says: "For me it's so obvious that all the choices we make in our

... lives are completely tied up with people's lives elsewhere. I'm quite startled when people don't realise this, so I hope the book makes a few more people conscious of the [connections]."

Sharyn Lock is available for talks on the book and on her experiences in Gaza. She can be emailed at accessforpeace@riseup.net. If you buy the book online from Pluto Press, on checkout, insert the code ISM-GAZA or FREEGAZA and Pluto will donate part of the price to the ISM or the Free Gaza Movement.

Questioning Arms Spending in Malaysia, Kua Kia Soong, Suaram Komunikasi 2011

This book offers the first full exposé of Malaysia's military since independence.

For price and further info contact suaram@suaram.net.

Drones: out for the kill

Drones, or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) as the military calls them, are the latest "must have" weapons, expected to reach \$62 billion of sales over the next five years. Chris Cole of Drone Wars UK details recent developments in this aspect of robotic warfare.

While today's killer drones are mostly active in the skies above Afghanistan, Pakistan and Gaza, the drone industry is set to proliferate around the globe. Yet serious concerns have been raised over armed drones. Not least is the suggestion that the distance between the drone operator and the target lowers the threshold in regard to launching an attack, making it more likely that weapons will be used. For instance, current British Reaper drones are controlled by operators more than 7,000 miles from the target: they observe blips on a screen, rather than human beings. Drones are also being challenged by international legal experts as they have enabled targeted assassinations to take place.

The BAE link

BAE Systems is, of course, deeply involved in drone technology. Its projects include Mantis, a medium altitude, long endurance armed drone similar to the US-built Reaper that the UK currently operates. The Ministry of Defence (MoD) began jointly funding Mantis development in 2008. This March, BAE Systems and French company Dassault announced that they had signed a Memorandum of Understanding to work together on a new armed drone, based on Mantis.

Taranis (see picture) is BAE's new combat UAV prototype, developed as part of a MoD-funded project, and there has been speculation about a test flight this year. Taranis is designed to be stealthy (carrying



weapons internally, for example). It will be powered by jet engine, which today's generation of drones are not.

Herti

Finally, BAE's Herti is a much smaller and unarmed drone designed for surveillance rather than attack. It has been deployed to Afghanistan twice – in 2007 and 2009 – for testing and to assist in the search for roadside bombs. It has reached the production stage but is not yet in

The Herti drone (top, mocked up as a police drone) and Taranis (bottom)



technology and it has been estimated that drone exports earns Israel around \$350m each year. The UK's purchase of Watchkeeper drone, albeit through this British front company, means military money pouring into Israel.

[OPERATORS] OBSERVE BLIPS ON A SCREEN, RATHER THAN HUMAN BEINGS

production. BAE is aiming Herti at both the civil and military markets. If the police and security services are ever allowed to regularly fly surveillance drones in the UK, Herti is likely to be the device of choice. Indeed BAE has sent an advertisement to all police forces with Herti mocked up as a police drone (see picture).

The Israel link

I can't end an article about drones without mentioning Watchkeeper, the new surveillance and targeting drone developed by Leicester-based company U-TACs. U-TACs is jointly owned by Israeli arms company Elbit Systems and Thales UK. It is building the Watchkeeper to replace the Israeli-made Hermes 450, which the UK is "temporarily" operating in Afghanistan. Israel is the major producer and exporter of drone

The DSEi link

Drones will be showcased at this September's DSEi arms fair. The growing use of drones around the globe is of great concern and the "drone showcase" at DSEi should not go unmarked! See you there.

Finally, it should be noted that currently Civil Aviation Authority rules forbid UAVs from flying in the UK without a specific license with the exception of two specific test zones (Aberporth and Boscombe Down). If you do see a drone being flown (for example, at a demonstration) ask the operators to see their license and contact me contact me at chris@figtree.org.uk.

For news on drones, including a link to the report "Convenient Killing: Armed Drones and the 'Playstation' Mentality" see Drone Wars UK's website: dronewarsuk.wordpress.com

Export credits

For some time, CAAT has been working informally with Amnesty International UK, The Corner House, the Jubilee Debt Campaign (JDC) and WWF UK on issues around the Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD). This department provides government insurance cover to exporters.

These groups are currently working together on the campaign 'Clean Up Britain's Exports' (CUBE). One of CUBE's demands is that the ECGD have an exclusion list of projects and products it will not cover. CAAT, obviously, believes this must include military equipment.

ECGD support for military goods has been at a very low level since BAE Systems ended the cover for its deals with Saudi Arabia. However, this may change soon. Bob Keen, Head of Government Relations at BAE, gave evidence to a parliamentary committee on 1

February saying: "ECGD support is absolutely essential to BAE Systems in a number of markets."

Encouragingly for CAAT supporters, he went on to say: "It is certainly our sense that ECGD is concerned in the defence sector that [non-governmental organisations] may mount legal challenges to any positive decision they might make in the defence sector. We have to be sensitive to that."

It is nice to know we are making an impact.



Human rights or arms sales?

The report of the Commons' Committees on Arms Export Controls (CAEC) has, for the first time, raised the question of how a policy of promoting arms exports could be reconciled with "the staunch upholding of human rights." The Government now has to explain why it thinks they can be.

Arms industry witnesses giving evidence to the CAEC in December had left MPs with the impression that there was no reason for concern about the push to increase arms exports since the markets envisaged were the USA and the newer European Union members. CAAT pointed out that the Government's arms sales unit, the UK Trade & Investment Defence & Security Organisation list of priority markets for 2010/11 included Algeria, India, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.

BAE provides clarification on indemnity

The Serious Fraud Office (SFO) and BAE Systems have now confirmed to lawyers working for CAAT and The Corner House that their understanding of the indemnity clause of the plea bargain ending the SFO's investigation into BAE, and

agreed by the court in December, is more limited than it actually says.

To quote BAE's lawyers: "we confirm that our client would not dispute that paragraph 8 should properly be interpreted as meaning that the SFO will not prosecute our client's group in relation to matters

which were the subject of its investigations or of which the SFO was otherwise aware before the date of the settlement."

Paragraph 8 had simply given indemnity to "any member of the BAE Systems Group for any conduct preceding 5 February 2010."

Corporate mercenaries

To the dismay of organisations such as War on Want and CAAT, which were working on the issue, the Labour government announced in April 2009 that it would allow the rapidly growing private military and security industry to regulate itself. This approach, rejecting any

government licensing process of the "corporate mercenaries" or "contractors" working in such trouble spots as Iraq and Afghanistan, was confirmed by the present Government last October.

The choice of trade association to undertake the "self-regulation" was,

however, left open with the British Association of Private Security Companies competing with A|D|S. Now the Government has announced that the latter, which represents over 2,000 companies in the AeroSpace, Defence and Space sectors, has been chosen.

EU behaving badly

It's not just the UK that has a shameful record on arms exports. Kaye Stearman reports on other European Union (EU) countries that also promote and sell weapons enthusiastically and indiscriminately.

Arms export licences from EU countries totalled a record €40.3 billion in 2009, up 20 per cent on 2008, with the biggest sales going to areas of conflict. These figures were hidden in the EU's highly technical Twelfth Annual Report on control of exports of military technology and equipment, published on 13 January. The data was analysed by Giorgio Beretta of Unimondo (One World, Italy) for the European Network Against Arms Trade, of which CAAT is a member.

Data

France was the largest exporter followed by Italy, Germany, the UK and Spain, with their combined sales covering over three-quarters of EU military exports. Many smaller countries were also enthusiastic exporters.

The EU serves a worldwide marketplace. Of the total value of export licences listed by regions of destination (€36.5 billion), 53.3 per cent went to Southern (non-Western) countries and 46.7 per cent to Western countries (North America, EU and other countries including Turkey, Japan and Australia). Some smaller EU countries were also enthusiastic arms exporters.



Intra-EU transfers of weapons fell from €10.6 billion in 2008 to €9.6 billion in 2009, while exports to non-EU European countries almost halved from €3 billion in 2008 to €1.6 billion in 2009.

Other regions

Sales to other regions rose sharply. As with the UK, there was little hesitation in selling arms to undemocratic and abusive regimes. Arms exports to the Middle East almost doubled from €4.9 billion in 2008 to over €9.6 billion in 2009. Exports to North Africa doubled from €985 million to €2 billion.

Role of the EU

The EU was founded in part to support and promote democratic government and institutions. Yet EU weaponry is used to suppress democracy protesters in the Middle East and North Africa. It's not just despots and dictators who behave badly. Our governments are also guilty.

For more on the European Network Against Arms Trade see www.enaat.org.

'They said it'



"I am calling for an end to arms sales to dictatorships. It would be a 'brave' politician who would turn down a lucrative arms contract but I believe such steps must be taken if Britain is not to prop up autocracies. If any of this talk about the protection of democracy and human rights is going to mean something then that is probably what governments are going to have to do."

KIM HOWELLS, JUNIOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER (RESPONSIBLE FOR EXPORT CONTROLS) JULY 1998-JUNE 2001 AND FOREIGN OFFICE MINISTER (RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MIDDLE EAST) MAY 2005-OCTOBER 2008, WESTERN MAIL, 1 MARCH 2011

"We should be suspending all arms exports used to repress pro-democracy protests. The idea that British weapons could be used to fire on and injure children makes me feel ill."

DENIS MACSHANE, FOREIGN OFFICE MINISTER 2001-2005, GUARDIAN, 17 FEBRUARY 2011

"If we found, as we did in some instances, that they were not being used for the license they had been granted for ... If that's the case, then it was wrong to sell them and we wouldn't do it again."

PETER HAIN MP, FOREIGN OFFICE MINISTER 1999-2002, ON QUESTION TIME, 24 FEBRUARY 2011

"The duke does not negotiate trade contracts for arms companies. Only when advised by government he will support government-to-government defence opportunities for British companies."

SPOKESMAN FOR PRINCE ANDREW, GUARDIAN, 9 MARCH 2011

"Why build a new aircraft carrier with no planes when you could have built 50,000 new homes?"

DAVID ORR, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, NATIONAL HOUSING FEDERATION, GUARDIAN, 9 FEBRUARY 2011

Top EU arms exporting countries, 2009

1.	France	€12.7 billion (€10.6 billion in 2008)
2.	Italy	€6.7 billion (€5.6 billion in 2008)
3.	Germany	€5 billion (€5.8 billion in 2008)
4.	UK	€3.5 billion (€2.5 billion in 2008)
5.	Spain	€3.2 billion (€2.5 billion in 2008)

Raising funds for CAAT



Kate rides the nasty El Cid route



Kate Byrne gives her verdict on the arms trade

Kate Byrne announces an epic bike ride through Spain to raise funds for CAAT.

From 26 May to 12 June this year I am going to cycle the El Cid route from Bilbao to Valencia. I will be travelling with members of The Imps, a local East End cycling group. I will be cycling some 45 miles or more a day with some challenging hills.

You may have heard of El Cid and perhaps even seen gun-loving Charlton Heston play him. El Cid

seems to have spent a lot of his time on earth killing people. Nasty! But if you donate to CAAT to sponsor my trip, it should help even the score a bit.

Please sponsor me today and inspire me to keep up my training tomorrow! Let's remind El Cid and his kind that war is really not the answer. Thank you! **KATE BYRNE**

Send cheques payable to 'CAAT' with a note to let us know it is sponsorship for Kate, or sponsor her at www.caat.org.uk.

Day of Prayer

This year's Christian Network Day of Prayer will take place on the eve of the DSEi arms fair, and on a poignant date ten years from the attacks on the twin towers: Sunday 11 September 2011. Many will already be reflecting on the legacy of that day: two illegal wars,

increased inter-community tension, and an increasingly militarised approach to security.

Please put the date in your diary, and contact outreach@caat.org.uk to pre-order materials for reflection in your Christian community.



In memory of Alun Morinan

It was with great shock and sadness that we learnt of Alun's death on New Year's Day. For over five years, Alun volunteered his time to co-ordinate CAAT's Christian Network and was a much loved and respected member of the team.

Alun was warm, lively and humble; a pleasure to work with and an inspiring presence in the peace movement. In his time at CAAT, he put together the pack for new members of the Christian Network and represented us at the Network of Christian Peace Organisations. He organised the Christian Network's Day of Prayer each year, creating thought-provoking reflections for Christian communities.

Many CAAT supporters around the country will have met Alun since he was a powerful advocate for the campaign and travelled thousands of miles to speak to hundreds of people. A letter of thanks from the Justice & Peace group in Tayside described his "friendly and graceful manner": this is among the great many things for which he will be missed.

Alun's passion and commitment inspired many to action. As he put it: "For Christians, 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."

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 payment, or by taking part in a fundraising event.

Campaign locally

CAAT's campaigns are effective because people like you take action around the country. The "to do" list on this page gives a few ideas, but if you'd like to do that bit more for CAAT in your area why not consider one of these roles?

- **Join or start a local CAAT group** – why not start with a street stall or public meeting?
- **Become a Supporter Media Activist** – with the help of monthly briefings from CAAT.
- **Join the CAAT Speakers Network** – help spread the word!
- **Become a Local Contact** – co-ordinate local campaign activities or keep a local campaign group updated on CAAT's work.
- **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 outreach@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

Share CAAT issues with your Christian community. Order a Christian Network introduction pack and pre-order a Day of Prayer pack for Sunday 11 September.

Bring your expertise

CAAT wants to co-op four members to its governing Steering Committee. We especially welcome people with experience in human resources. For more information see: www.caat.org.uk/getinvolved/vacancies.php



Campaigners' "to do" list

Help make the most of this opportunity to challenge the UK's arms sales:

- **This is NOT OK** – order posters and action leaflets and help double the number of signatures before the next hand-in!
- **Write to your MP** calling for a fundamental shift in the government's approach to arms sales. There's a draft letter on our website.
- **Mobilise** to stop the arms fair! We can support you to link up with others in your area.

Dates for the diary:

- 12 June: Get ready for the arms fair – event in London
- 13 Sept: Day of Action Against DSEi

See pages 8-9 for other action dates and more info. Any questions? Call the office or email enquiries@caat.org.uk

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.

Telephone number

Email address

Card details

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

Solo ☐ Switch/UK Maestro ☐ Visa ☐ Visa Delta ☐

Credit/debit card number:

Cardholder's name

Start date

Expiry date

Security number (3 digit number on back of card)



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

Service User Number: **250347**

Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit

To: The Manager Bank/Building Society:

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

Address of Bank/Building Society

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

