

# CAAT NEWS



APRIL - JUNE 2013 • ISSUE 228

## THE UK'S MILITARY SPENDING IS **£39 BILLION** A YEAR

「 TIME TO SHIFT  
PRIORITIES 」



ARMS EXPORTS  
ARE SUBSIDISED BY  
**£700M EVERY YEAR.**

ENOUGH FOR  
**33,000 NEW  
NURSES.**

**PLUS**

Student day  
of action **P7**

National Gathering  
speaker Owen Jones **P11**

Get ready to stop  
the arms fair! **P15**

# CAAT NEWS

JANUARY-MARCH 2013

This issue of CAAT NEWS really reflects the wide range of creative ways there are to oppose the arms trade. It's given me a head full of images: activists in ballgowns (page 9); students telling it like it is to the arms giant General Dynamics (page 7); the thought of health workers re-instated

in jobs while arms-promoting middlemen get the boot (page 3); and office workers taking a minute to email their MP about stopping the arms fair (page 15).

So many inspiring examples, surely there's a path to action for everyone.

Good luck choosing yours!

**“[An arms trade treaty] will make British industry more competitive. The Government and the UK defence industry enjoy a close working relationship on the Arms Trade Treaty”.**

Foreign Office Minister,  
Alistair Burt MP, April 2012

By the time you read this, a treaty may have been agreed. Whether it has been or not, it wouldn't do much anyway to end the immoral trade in arms and its terrible consequences. The Government may say it wants a “robust” treaty and talk of the “highest possible common standards” but its real priority is arms export promotion – see page 12.

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**Campaign Against Arms Trade** works to end 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.

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# TAKE ACTION ON MILITARY SPENDING

15 April is the Global Day of Action on Military Spending. Its message is that military spending can be redirected to help meet human needs.

Every year a whopping £700 million of public money is spent supporting arms exports, often to countries in conflict and human rights abusers. This subsidy is handed to a deadly sector that accounts for less than 55,000 UK jobs. Meanwhile, at least 56,000 jobs in the NHS have been cut since this Government came to power.

The UK has the world's fourth largest military budget. Yet as austerity is implemented, it has seen one of the smallest dents in its budget line.

As cuts in our communities start to bite, we need to show that

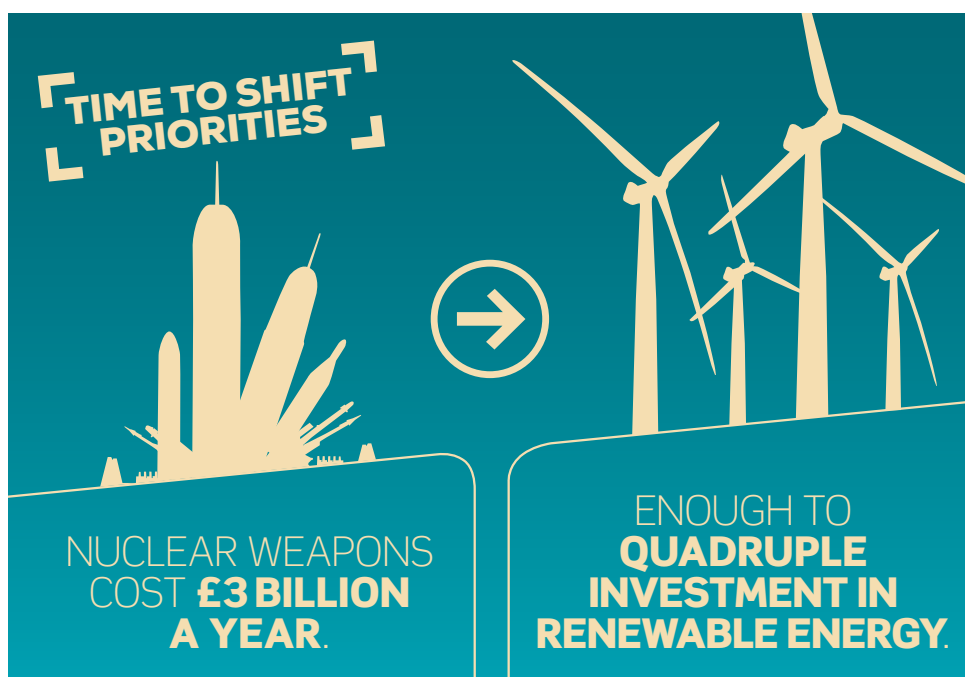
there are alternatives. Military spending can be redirected to help meet human needs.

## Play your part

UK Uncut's playful and inspiring actions have shown we can clamp down on tax evasion instead of cutting public services, welfare and health. Now it's time to build another alternative into the picture: cutting the billions that are wasted on weapons every year.

- Order postcards and posters from CAAT to get the word out in your local libraries, campaign meetings and beyond!

- Use a simple visual stunt to engage people in a street stall. Ask people to make posters of what they'd spend £39 billion on. Label jars "education", "health", "libraries", "military" and so on and invite them to vote with 1p coins for their priorities. Collect people's ideas for alternatives and deliver them to your MP.
- Research cuts to your services locally and contact local media to highlight that they could be saved if military spending were cut.



- **London:** 9am, Creative action outside parliament in Old Palace Yard
- **London:** 5pm, Public Meeting in parliament with Bruce Kent, Caroline Lucas MP and others
- **Edinburgh:** 8.30am, leaflet at Scottish Parliament
- **Glasgow:** All day, Big Blockade to Shut Down Faslane

Take action and help put people before arms company profits. Read more ideas and info: [www.demilitarize.org.uk](http://www.demilitarize.org.uk)

# ARMS TRADE SHORTS

## FINMECCANICA

In February Giuseppe Orsi, then chair and chief executive of Finmeccanica, was detained following accusations of corruption and tax fraud. Bruno Spagnolini, chief executive of the group's Anglo-Italian helicopter company AgustaWestland, was arrested on the same charges, which relate to allegations of bribery of Indian government officials to secure a 2010 helicopter deal.

During a recent visit to India (see page 12), David Cameron declared his support for AgustaWestland, but India suspended payments to the company and said it will cancel the deal if allegations are proved true. The Indian government said it had raised the allegations with the UK but received an inadequate reply.

**Times**, 16/2/13;  
**Guardian**, 13/2/13



AgustaWestland's AW101 helicopter

## LIBYA

A Russian representative has said that military-technological cooperation with Libya could be revived in the short-term, although possibly not on the scale of previous deals.

Russian exporters are looking for new markets, working with Egypt and exploring prospects in Bahrain and Kuwait.

**Interfax-Ukraine**, 19/2/13

Five Libyans tortured under the Gaddafi regime have filed accusations of complicity against Amesys, a subsidiary of French technology firm Bull, which supplied Libya with surveillance equipment.

**Agence France-Presse**, 15/1/13

## CHINA

China's military budget this year is planned to reach £76bn – an increase of 10.7 per cent. Though significant, the figure still underscores a trend of lower growth in Chinese military spending.

**Financial Times**, 6/3/13

## MoD PASSES

Almost 2,500 retired and serving officers and businessmen have been banned from entering the Ministry of Defence at will by having their access passes removed.

The move follows the *Sunday Times*'s "generals for hire" exposé (see CAAT NEWS 227) and an ensuing review by the Ministry of Defence.

None of the generals mentioned by the *Sunday Times* had retained their passes.

**Sunday Times** 24/2/13

## AID

David Cameron has backed moves to "pool" more money between the Department for International Development and the Ministry of Defence (MoD), freeing up money for the MoD and pacifying Tory colleagues who oppose increasing international aid.

**Independent**, 21 & 22/2/13

## MEGGITT

Meggitt, which specialises in making aircraft components, has reported good recent results despite budget constraints in government spending on military aircraft. The results are partly due to its supply of parts to Boeing and Airbus and also a jump in orders for large commercial aircraft from developing markets as well as mature economies such as the US.

**Financial Times**, 6/3/13

## TRIDENT

The Royal United Services Institute has warned that spending on the Trident successor will take up to a third of the military spending budget within the next decade.

**Daily Telegraph**, 27/2/13

## MALI

UK military advisers are to train armed forces in Mali as part of an EU training mission this Spring.

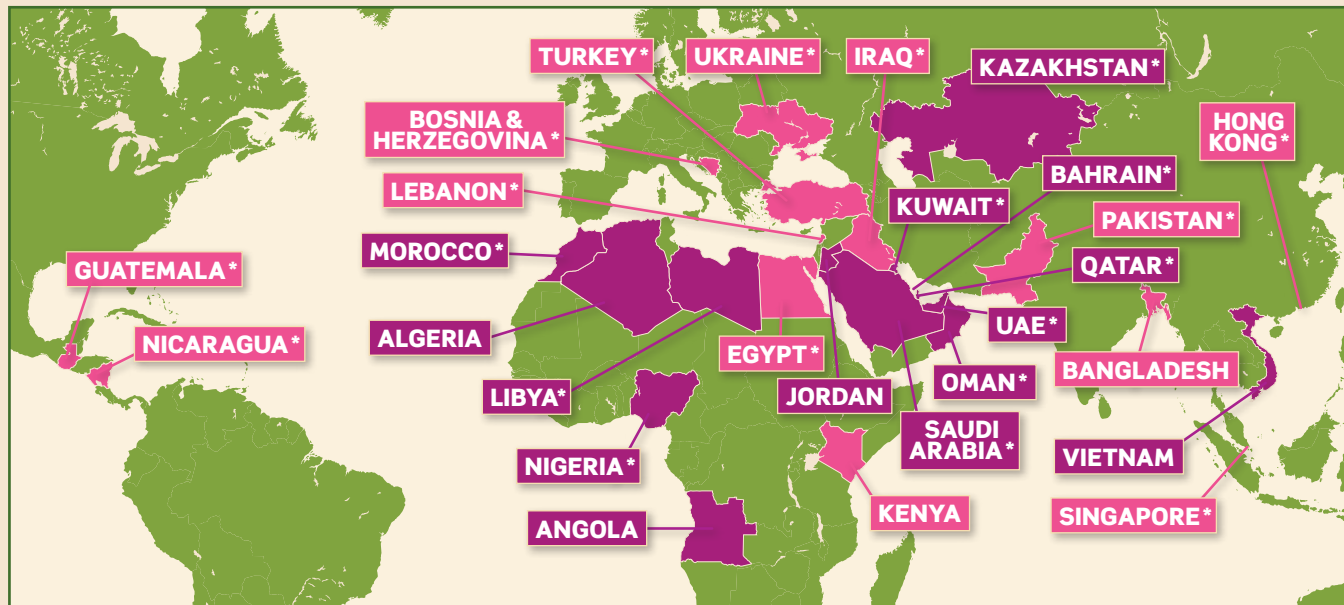
**Daily Telegraph**, 19/2/13

# COUNTRIES INVITED TO SECURITY & POLICING 2013

See page 8 for more about Sec & Pol 2013. \* Denotes attendees.

**AUTHORITARIAN REGIMES**

**HYBRID REGIMES**



Democracy ratings are provided by The Economist Intelligence Unit's Democracy Index 2011.

This categorises countries as one of: Full democracies; Flawed democracies; Hybrid regimes; Authoritarian regimes.

**ALSO INVITED:** Australia, Austria\*, Belgium\*, Botswana\*, Brazil\*, Brunei\*, Bulgaria\*, Canada\*, Chile\*, Colombia\*, Costa Rica\*, Croatia, Czech Republic\*, Denmark\*, Dominican Republic, Estonia\*, Finland, France\*, Germany\*, Ghana\*, Greece\*, Hungary\*, India\*, Indonesia, Italy\*, Japan\*, Korea (South)\*, Latvia\*, Lithuania\*, Malaysia, Mexico\*, Netherlands\*, New Zealand, Norway\*, Peru, Poland\*, Portugal\*, Romania\*, Serbia\*, South Africa, Spain, Sweden\*, Switzerland\*, Taiwan\*, Thailand\*, Trinidad & Tobago\*, USA\*.

## UAE

The United Arab Emirates has signed a \$197m deal to buy unarmed Predator XPs.

This is the first time that a non-NATO country has been sold Predator drones.

**Flight International, 19/2/13**

## BAE

The US head and UK chief executive and finance director of BAE Systems all missed out on huge bonuses after failing to meet their earnings target for 2012.

The company launched a £1bn share buyback in February in an attempt to ease concerns over the failed merger with EADS (see CAAT NEWS 226) and slowing finances.

The latter is partly due to military spending cuts in the UK and in the US, where BAE has warned that 3,500 jobs in its ship repair business may go if Pentagon spending cuts become a reality.

**Independent On Sunday, 17/2/13;**

**Independent, 22/2/13;**

**Daily Telegraph, 21/2/13**

## SPYING

A whistleblower has passed on files from the Serious Fraud Office's inquiry into BAE, including a statement by a former security chief outlining ways in which the company spied on activists. It said some of the intelligence "came from Special Branch and the security services" raising questions on government agency collaboration with BAE to silence critics.

**Sunday Times, 10/2/13**

## SALES

Global arms sales have fallen for the first time since the mid-1990s, with BAE slipping from second to third in a league table of the biggest manufacturers.

Austerity measures; shrinking military budgets; postponements in procurement programmes in North America and Western Europe; the withdrawal of troops from Iraq and Afghanistan; sanctions on arms transfers to Libya and currency fluctuations were all blamed for the decline.

**Daily Telegraph, 19/2/13**

## UZBEKISTAN

The UK government is to give Uzbekistan £450,000 of equipment including Land Rover spare parts and Leyland DAF trucks after the country agreed to help out with British repatriation of kit as operations wind down in Afghanistan.

Uzbekistan has a poor record on human rights and is banned from most arms purchases in Europe and the US. The UK Defence Minister said the equipment would not be used for "internal repression".

**Daily Telegraph, 14/2/13;**

**New York Times, 31/1/13**



Photo © Ingy The Wingy/Flickr

# SFO INVESTIGATES SAUDI ARMS DEAL - AGAIN

Last year the Serious Fraud Office started a new investigation into a Saudi arms deal supervised by the Ministry of Defence. Writer and researcher Nicholas Gilby gives an update on progress so far.

The current investigation is the second by the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) into Saudi arms deals. The first was the Al Yamamah investigation in 2006, which was controversially halted by pressure from the Saudis, BAE Systems and the UK government.

## This more recent probe is looking at a £2 billion deal

This more recent probe is looking into a £2 billion deal with the Saudi Arabian National Guard, run until 2010 by King Abdullah himself, and now by one of his sons. EADS subsidiary GPT Special Management Systems is the contractor and is wholly dependent on the deal, known as SANGCOM.

### Allegations

Whistleblowers have claimed that GPT made £14.5 million in questionable payments between 2007 and 2010 to two Cayman Island companies, SIMEC International and Duranton International. They claim the Ministry of Defence (MoD) knew about these payments from at least 2008.

Recently, *Private Eye* has shed further light on the long history behind SIMEC, Duranton and the Saudi Arabian National Guard,

### Those involved

SIMEC was founded in the secretive tax haven of Liechtenstein in October 1975. That same month, the MoD first put a detailed and costed plan for SANGCOM to the Saudis. The directors of SIMEC were Bryan Somerfield, a former intelligence officer now deceased, and Peter Austin. In the late 1960s, Somerfield was known to British diplomats as having “found the right connections for doing business with the National Guard” and having “a special pull with the royal family”.

In 1976, the MoD approved a commission of three per cent for SIMEC in the SANGCOM deal. The commissions in Saudi arms deals were described in a MoD draft memo as payments for “the exertion of influence”.

Little Whale Cay, in 1985, ran the companies for decades.

### Ongoing

The SFO investigation continues. EADS, GPT’s parent company, has stated that internal audits have found no illegal payments and that Pricewaterhouse Coopers has found nothing improper.

### Al Yamamah update

A recent *Sunday Times* article has made fresh claims about the SFO’s Al Yamamah investigation that stopped in 2006. Documents provided by a whistleblower apparently show that the SFO discovered that two luxury penthouse flats in London’s super-rich Mayfair district, now owned by former BAE Systems Chairman Sir Dick Evans, were originally bought

## Whistleblowers have claimed that GPT made £14.5 million in questionable payments between 2007 and 2010

In 1980, SIMEC purchased Duranton, and Austin became its chairman. Duranton’s business was “that of agents, advisers and consultants to persons and institutions interested in trade between Europe and the Middle East”. Two Cayman Island companies with the same names were founded in 1982. Austin, who bought his own Caribbean island,

by two Panamanian companies owned by associates of the Saudi royal family. Evans lived in the flats for several years, before they were transferred into his ownership. BAE and Evans declined to comment to the newspaper.

Nicholas Gilby is the author of the *No-Nonsense Guide to the Arms Trade* (New Internationalist, 2009)

Six months before the DSEi arms fair is due to return to London, students and others across the UK took action against arms companies, sending a strong message that their business will not go unchallenged.

# STUDENT DAY OF ACTION A BIG SUCCESS

## Warwick

Weapons out of Warwick took non-violent direct action against the arms trade on their doorstep with an occupation of the General Dynamics offices. A statement was read out over the intercom.

An excerpt: “Unlike the UK government we will not stand by whilst General Dynamics makes a killing out of dealing in destruction and war. General Dynamics, the blood of innocent civilians around the globe is on your hands. Stop indiscriminate arms sales, put people before profit.”

## Swansea

A university careers event with Marshall Aerospace was cancelled shortly after campaigners had made plans to protest. They leafleted anyway, using the opportunity to build their campaign to “disarm Swansea”.



## London

Activists leafleted outside the offices of Lockheed Martin to draw attention to the presence of arms companies in central London.

## Leeds

The day of action took place during a busy period for the group Let's Disarm Leeds, which was campaigning to win a referendum to ban BAE from campus!

Their efforts were successful – the motion passed by 826 to 804. The motion demands that the company be banned from attending careers fairs on campus, from providing future funding to university research projects, and that the university sell BAE shareholdings.

## Bristol

The day after the CAAT student day of action, activists set up a fake Palestinian check-point for those attending a talk for the University of the West of England by the President of Boeing UK.

## Lancaster

Lancaster students held a die-in to demand an end to university investment in BAE Systems and collected signatures for a petition to the Vice-Chancellor.

## Sheffield

Students staged a “die-in” by the Thales stall at their careers fair and read out names of drones victims.

The group said: “The University prides itself on being a values-led organisation; however, its continued liaison with arms companies responsible for the murder of innocents around the world throws this claim into serious disrepute.”



The day of action was just one part of the build up to the DSEi arms fair. Get in touch ([universities@caat.org.uk](mailto:universities@caat.org.uk)) to get involved at your university or contact Stop the Arms Fair on [info@stopthearmsfair.org.uk](mailto:info@stopthearmsfair.org.uk) to join us in protest at the fair (or to stop it first!).

# WINNING AN WITH THE

It's amazing how many conferences and expensive dinners arms dealers get round each year. But this year, wherever they have been, protesters have been there too, to offer a reminder of the human costs of pushing weapons sales.

## Arms dealers in a Cathedral?

One of the dates on the calendar this Spring, on 12 March, was the Gala Dinner for Security & Policing, which was hosted, unbelievably, by Guildford Cathedral in 2012 and booked again for 2013.

## Buying respectability?

The arms industry loves to hold its events in such prestigious locations: as well as purchasing a "unique and exclusive" venue, by buying into public institutions it is also buying itself the appearance of public respectability.

Security & Policing needs this respectability more than most. Its customers included tyrants and dictators (see page 5) – invited by the UK government's arms sales unit – and the exhibitors, the companies which arm them.

- BAE's armoured vehicles were used by Saudi Arabia in Bahrain to support the repression of democracy protests.
- Chemring's weapons have been turned on protesters in Egypt and Kuwait and it continues to supply repressive regimes across the region.
- Gamma Group tried to sell its spyware to Egypt before the revolution; it has since been discovered in Indonesia, Bahrain and Turkmenistan.

## Taking an ethical stand

Campaign Against Arms Trade raised our concerns with the Cathedral – and we're delighted to report that, a week later, it decided it was "not appropriate" for the event to go ahead.

This marks another really encouraging step in challenging the arms trade's attempts to legitimise its deadly business, following the end of the National Gallery's sponsorship relationship with arms company Finmeccanica (see CAAT NEWS 227).

## HELP KEEP UP THE PRESSURE

Join us at **BAE's Annual General Meeting** on Wednesday 8 May, 10am–1pm.

We'll be there to make sure that BAE's dodgy deals and support for repression don't go unchallenged.

Contact Anne-Marie on [outreach@caat.org.uk](mailto:outreach@caat.org.uk) or **020 7281 0297** to arrange for a proxy share in your name so you can enter the meeting and help hold BAE to account.



**23 MAY '12**  
**ANNUAL DEFENCE DINNER**  
Imperial War Museum



**9 JUL '12**  
**FARNBOROUGH DINNER**  
Natural History Museum



**1 NOV '12**  
**AIR POWER CONFERENCE**  
Church House



# D DINING ARMS TRADE

## WENDY HORLER GIVES AN INSTALMENT FROM THE ADS ANNUAL DINNER:

The arms dealers were out to dinner again on 29 January, this time at the London Hilton.

Twelve of us got together to attempt to highlight the indecency of what was going on and, though I say it myself, we did rather well.

The first approach was the big CAAT banner at the entrance and the small group handing out leaflets. Lots of irritated responses from the arriving dinner guests! They really don't want to know what we think of them.

The second approach showed up a new development. For the first time people were asked to show their "permits" for entry. This hasn't happened at their previous dinners. I think it's a tribute: we're making our presence felt.

Anyway, the arms trade opponents slipped past security at the stairs, went on up to the main gathering and were stopped there by another security man. One of our group blustered and shouted whilst the other sneaked through and distributed leaflets. They were stopped of

course, but they made a glorious verbal condemnation of the proceedings whilst the security team tried to bundle them out.

The third approach came up by lift and strolled round the back of the security people to the main assembly where they discretely and politely distributed leaflets to the surprised guests, explaining the disgusting nature of the trade being plied that night. They were finally asked to leave, but not before they had managed to leave pictures of the arms trade's victims on the dinner tables.

The fourth approach had come up early by lift, avoided the security men and loitered as guests until the company were summoned to the dining room. When most people were seated one of them took to the platform and was about to make a short speech, but by now security were on the alert and both middle-aged ladies were unceremoniously

bundled out by the heavy mob – not an edifying sight for the dinner guests!

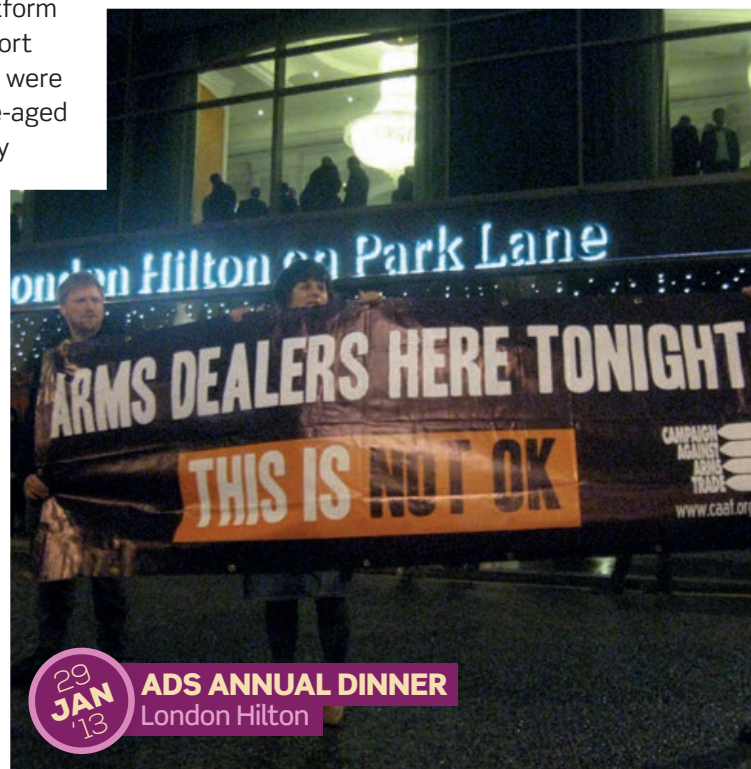
The final approach was to re-group and enter the hotel lobby, requesting to speak to the hotel manager about the hotel's decision to host the arms trade. The manager wasn't keen to see us and neither did security want to let us, but when they realised we weren't going anywhere until he did, we were able to lodge our complaints in person.

How aggravating for these people. We know about their dinner parties. We can get past their security. We can express our moral outrage. I'm sure they tell themselves it's unimportant. But they are certainly getting irritated – which is very good. Let's carry on!



26  
NOV  
'12

**ADS DEFENCE DINNER**  
Institute of Directors



29  
JAN  
'13

**ADS ANNUAL DINNER**  
London Hilton

# CAAT STEERING COMMITTEE ELECTION

A huge thank you to everyone who voted in our recent Steering Committee election and to all of the wonderful candidates for offering their time and expertise.

We would like to welcome **Mark Bitel** (top left), **Kat Hobbs** (right) and **Stella Westmacott** (bottom left) who join the Steering Committee for the first time, as well as **Symon Hill** and **Nicholas Russell** who have been re-elected.



## ETHICAL SAVINGS

Investing savings ethically can be a tricky business. Most banks hold arms trade investments, and very few publish their investments transparently.

### CAAT's involvement

CAAT has teamed up with the Triodos Bank, which has a commitment to never invest in the arms trade. The bank also publishes details of all of its investments so you can be sure where your savings are going. Triodos only lends its savers' money to people and organisations working to make a positive impact - culturally, socially and environmentally.

### Funding to CAAT

Triodos will donate £40 to CAAT if you open a savings account at [www.triodos.co.uk/caat](http://www.triodos.co.uk/caat).

CAAT will only receive the £40 if you open the account through that online link, and once your savings reach £100.

CAAT has also teamed up with Investing Ethically, who can offer advice on ethical pensions and investments. Contact Investing Ethically at [contactus@investing-ethically.co.uk](mailto:contactus@investing-ethically.co.uk) or on **01603 309020**. Quote CAAT as a source to get 10 per cent of all fees and commissions donated to CAAT.

## CHANGE YOUR BANK. CHANGE THE WORLD

Are your savings being used to support something you don't believe in?

At Triodos Bank we only lend our savers' money to people and organisations who are working to make a positive impact and we promise you'll always know where your money goes.

Your savings will never be used to finance the arms trade.

Find out more at [www.triodos.co.uk/caat](http://www.triodos.co.uk/caat)

**Triodos**  **Bank**



\*See [www.triodos.co.uk/caat](http://www.triodos.co.uk/caat) for the full terms and conditions. The donation can only be paid if applicants complete an application form in accordance with these terms and conditions.  
Triodos Bank NV (incorporated under the laws of the Netherlands with limited liability, registered in England and Wales BR3012). Authorised by the Dutch Central Bank (DNB) and regulated by the Financial Services Authority (FSA) for the conduct of UK business. Registered office: Triodos Bank, Deanery Road, Bristol BS1 5AS.

# SPENDING CUTS AND REVOLVING DOORS: OWEN JONES SPEAKS OUT

Author and journalist Owen Jones is a prominent opponent of Government cuts, arguing for cuts in military spending rather than welfare. He was a key speaker at CAAT's National Gathering this year. We interviewed him after his rousing speech.

## What do you make of Defence Minister Phillip Hammond's call for further cuts to welfare to save the military budget?

What we saw with Phillip Hammond's comment was again classic divide and rule strategy from this Government who have always tried to redirect people's anger from the people who caused this crisis, to people's neighbours

**This Government has always tried to redirect people's anger away from the people who caused this crisis**

down the street. They've tried to turn the working poor against the unemployed, non-disabled people against disabled people, private sector workers against public sector workers.

The reality is the welfare state is getting a hammering, the working poor, unemployed and disabled people are being badly affected by cuts to tax credits, housing benefit, council tax benefit, and the bedroom tax.

Instead what we should be arguing when it comes to military spending is to stop wasting billions of pounds. We've spent more than £20 billion on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Wars that were unjust and, in the case of Iraq, illegal. Hundreds of UK personnel have died as well as the horrific civilian loss of life. Instead we could have used that £20 billion to defend our NHS, or for education, housing, or the welfare state.

## Is there a problem with the way government, the military and arms companies interact?

One of the things that exposes how the slightly murky British establishment works is the so-called "revolving door" where politicians award contracts to arms companies, then end up working for the company they've awarded the contract to in the first place. We see it with military personnel: the *Sunday Times* had an exposure a few months ago of former

army generals being lured into promoting fake defence contracts. We've also seen it with senior civil servants or diplomats who are hired purely because of the huge list of contacts that they have.

**We could have used the £20 billion spent on the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq to defend our NHS, for education, housing, or the welfare state**

We've had the likes of Geoff Hoon, who was Defence Minister, and gave AgustaWestland a billion pound contract. Then, after he left Parliament, he was recruited to work as Vice President for AgustaWestland. We've had that again over Saudia Arabia where the senior British diplomat who helped pressure the Serious



Photo: edurneaginaga.com

Fraud Office into dropping its investigation into BAE slush funds to the Saudi dictatorship, then ends up working for BAE as an international business partner on the Middle East.

Now that's perfectly [within] the law, but I think most people object to the huge and growing influence of the military-industrial complex. We really should have a ban on people awarding favourable contracts who then end up working for those companies. I don't think it's right, I don't think it's just, and I think most people in this country would agree with that.

Owen Jones tweets at [@OwenJones84](#)

# UPDATES

## A SMALL STEP

The priority list of arms markets drawn up by the UK Trade & Investment Defence & Security Organisation (UKTI DSO) includes some countries, such as Saudi Arabia, which also feature on the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's list of countries of concern on human rights grounds. CAAT has drawn parliamentary attention to this and last year the Foreign Affairs Committee (FAC) questioned

the then Human Rights Minister, Jeremy Browne MP, about it. He claimed it had not been brought to his attention.

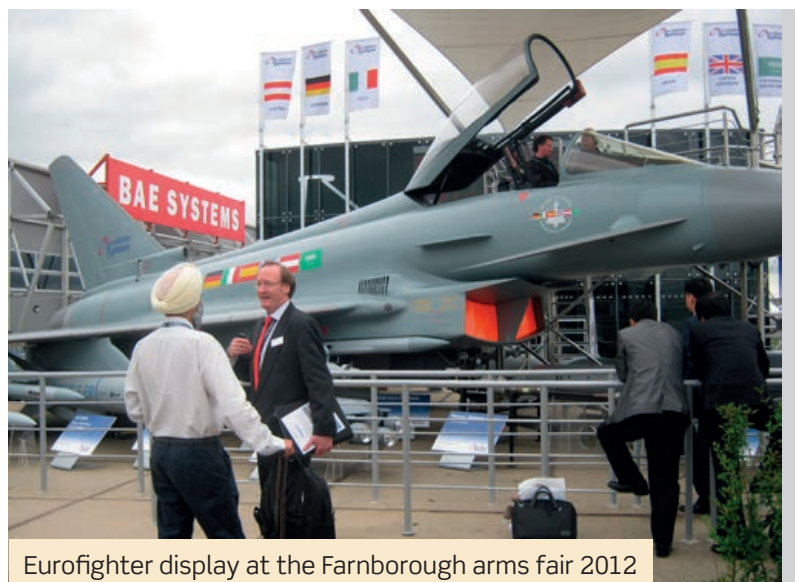
The Government has now confirmed to the FAC that the draft priority list will be discussed with the Human Rights Minister before it is finalised. A small step in the right direction, but it remains to be seen if this will change the priority list.

## CAMERON'S INDIA JAUNT

In February the Prime Minister led the UK's biggest-ever trade mission to India. The delegates included representatives of arms companies, among them BAE Systems, EADS, Rolls-Royce, Thales and Ultra Electronics. Even fellow delegate Cobra Beer boss Lord Karan Bilamoria was on-message regarding arms sales, telling the BBC that the Eurofighter is "the best aircraft".

David Cameron wasn't perturbed by corruption investigations in India around the procurement of AgustaWestland helicopters (see page 4).

He was keen to point out that AgustaWestland, based in Yeovil, is a subsidiary of Italian company Finmeccanica so the alleged bribery was not a matter for the UK.



Eurofighter display at the Farnborough arms fair 2012

## STILL A SYRIAN EMBARGO?

The EU arms embargo on all parties in Syria was extended for another three months in February, but modified to allow the supply of non-lethal equipment such as armoured cars to the opposition. In March David Cameron told MPs that the UK might go it alone and arm the opposition if the EU does not agree to do so in May.

## SELLING TO LIBYA

A Defence and Security Industry day is being held on board a British Navy ship docked in Tripoli in April. Organised by UKTI DSO, CAAT has, at the time of writing, not been able to ascertain which companies are taking part or even the exact date for the floating arms fair. However, it seems more military equipment will be sold into an unstable country.

## PRINCE TO THE RESCUE IN SAUDI

BAE has been having problems agreeing a price with Saudi Arabia for the 48 Eurofighter Typhoon aircraft which remain to be built and delivered under the Salam contract. David Cameron failed to secure the deal during his November trip to the authoritarian regime. Now it seems the UK government is trying to soften up the Saudis by sending in the royals – Prince Charles visited Riyadh and Jeddah in March with "military links" the top theme for the visit.

## INDONESIA

During a recent trip to Indonesia to promote military ties, UK Defence Minister Philip Hammond described the risks of doing business there as "manageable", despite corruption being endemic.

# REVIEW:

## **SECRET MANOEUVRES IN THE DARK: CORPORATE AND POLICE SPYING ON ACTIVISTS**

EVELINE LUBBERS (PLUTO PRESS, 2012)

*Secret Manoeuvres* examines how companies such as Nestle, Shell, BAE Systems and McDonald's use covert methods to evade accountability.

Covert infiltration of activist groups has been unmasked to some extent since the recent exposure of police spy Mark Kennedy. However, Lubbers highlights the limitations of official reviews of the Kennedy case in that none of them investigate

### **Lubber's intention is to lay another stepping stone on the path of resistance to corporate counterstrategies**

corporate spying and the links between special police units, heads of security of private companies and private agencies providing corporate intelligence.

Her work focusses more on this territory, giving an insight into the methods used for gathering information; for processing this information into intelligence; and the strategic use of this by corporations.

This isn't necessarily new ground, although Lubbers claims exclusive access to previously confidential sources, which she relays through a series of detailed case studies exploring many different aspects of the spying process.

CAAT features as one of these case studies. Unfortunately – particularly given the extent of research that appears to have gone into the book – the description of CAAT as a “Quaker

and Christian-based pacifist group” was incorrect. The chapter then details the ways spies were infiltrated into CAAT by a company paid by BAE Systems, and the steps CAAT took to tackle the abuse.

Lubbers concludes that

corporate intelligence gathering has important implications for democracy. She also recognises that the power context in which the intelligence

is produced needs to be addressed.

She calls for more research – not a surprising conclusion given the academic style of the book – but her intention remains that of an activist, aiming to lay another stepping stone on the path of resistance to corporate counterstrategies.



# THEY SAID IT!

**At the IDEX arms fair (the largest arms fair in the Middle East), United Arab Emirates, 17-21 February 2013**

The riot catastrophe in Egypt was greatly exacerbated because police were using inappropriate equipment. Appropriate and better-quality anti-riot vehicles and equipment increases police safety, thus reducing the pressure they feel in conflict situations.

**Ivor Ichikowitz of Paramount (South African arms company)**

Egypt is a big customer. Egyptian police have several thousand of these [Benelli's M3 shotgun]. In the past two years, we had a big increase in purchase orders from the Middle East, especially the UAE.

**Mauro Della Costanza of Benelli (Italian shotgun maker)**

We've had a lot of interest. Interior ministries, presidential protection details, companies and individuals in the Gulf and beyond.

**John Lashmar of Ares (UAE-based armoured plated vehicles)**

There are over 100 British companies exhibiting ...[IDEX] is a reflection of the close relationship between the UK and UAE Armed Forces.

**Adam Johnson, UK pavilion representative**

Our last issue discussed some of the difficult ethical and personal issues raised by the arms trade (CAAT NEWS 227, pages 12 – 13). It included a letter from Richard Essex, who works in the space industry for a company with civilian and military divisions. Following on from this, long-standing arms trade activist **Grahame Nicholls** sent his story.

# OPENING A DIALOGUE

“I was very interested in reading of the issues raised in the debate. I’d like to relate my experience, albeit many years ago.

In 1959 I commenced my five-year apprenticeship in HM Dockyard, Chatham, as an Engine Fitter and Turner. At that time (I was nearly 16) issues about arms

German Democratic Republic, and my letters were always opened before I received them.

It wasn’t until the end of the third year of my apprenticeship that I started to take an interest in the wider issues. By 1963 I was on the Aldermaston Marches, selling the CND paper *Sanity* in the Naval

from my proposed trade.

However, when the Admiralty tried to introduce into our curriculum a section on nuclear weapons, I took the District Secretary of my union (the AEU) to meet members of the Admiralty Board and managed to get it scrapped.

Life was getting very difficult for me but in their last six months all apprentices were able to choose where they would like to take up employment within the Dockyard. I decided to work on maintenance – not ideal, but the only area where I would not be involved in building armaments. I only stayed 18 months and for twelve of those I was a full-time union convenor and not involved at all.

I can appreciate the dilemma facing our colleague in the space industry, particularly with the current state of employment and the state spying on the political activities of HM subjects. Perhaps talking to his work colleagues and entering into dialogue with them about convincing them that the two divisions must be kept apart should the company suggest a merger ‘to save jobs’ might be useful.”

Perhaps talking to his colleagues about convincing them that the two divisions must be kept apart might be useful

were of little concern to me. It was the height of the Cold War and many people in the Naval Dockyard were quite paranoid. I had two penfriends, one in Czechoslovakia and one in the

Dockyard as well as Chatham High Street on a Saturday. There was little else I could do at the time as I was in the middle of my apprenticeship and it would not have been sensible to walk away



Grahame Nicholls, Chair of Chester CND, in his CAAT T-shirt protesting outside Cheshire County Council against Civil Defence Day and Regional Seats of Government, 26 September 1980. Graham has been active in the peace movement, Labour Party and NUPE and UNITE trade unions.

Please do keep sending your thoughts and comments. Email to [enquiries@caat.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@caat.org.uk) or by post to **CAAT NEWS** at the address printed on page 2.

# GET READY TO STOP THE ARMS FAIR!

In Australia, a concerted and diverse grassroots campaign stopped an arms fair in 2008. In the UK, a huge arms fair is threatened to take place this September, bringing 28,000 arms buyers and sellers together.

But we too can show that an arms fair is not welcome and we will do whatever we can to stop it. However you want to, get involved.



## Expose the arms fair exhibitor on your doorstep

CAAT's new map of the arms trade means you can discover the arms companies in your area who tout to repressive regimes at the arms fair. Then, with our arms company hazard tape and support, and your creative ideas, help step up the pressure in your area!

## Book a workshop

Stop the Arms Fair campaigners would love to visit your town to run a talk or workshop on challenging the arms fair. Get in touch to book a workshop for your campaign group or area now!

## Gain skills for non-violent direct action

Join a Non-Violent Direct Action training day to develop your skills for impeding the arms trade. The next training is in London on 11 May.

## Learn & plan on 13 July

Take part in a day of workshops, plotting and scheming for an end to the DSEi arms fair and an end to the arms trade.

Saturday 13 July, 11am–5pm (arrive from 10.30am), Small Meeting House, Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ. For more info see [www.stopthearmsfair.org.uk](http://www.stopthearmsfair.org.uk)

## Contact your MP

DSEi encapsulates the evils of the arms trade and the UK government's promotion of it. Help make sure your MP is informed and ask them to take action.

We'll be highlighting some of the key issues in the coming months on these pages and at [www.caat.org.uk/getinvolved/lobby](http://www.caat.org.uk/getinvolved/lobby).

Please ask your MP to write to Secretary of State for Business Vince Cable, to ensure that Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and other countries that abuse human rights are not invited to this September's DSEi in London.

More info on any of these actions: [outreach@caat.org.uk](mailto:outreach@caat.org.uk) or **020 7281 0297**

## CAMPAIGNERS' TO DO LIST

Order postcards and posters and plan how you will take part in the Global Day of Action on Military Spending on 15 April **P3**

Request a proxy share to come and put BAE on the spot at its AGM in London on 8 May **P8-9**

Book a place at a non-violent direct action training on 11 May **THIS PAGE**

Put 13 July in your diary for a day to learn and plan how to stop the arms fair **THIS PAGE**

Ask your MP to make sure that repressive regimes and countries in conflict are not invited to the arms fair this year **THIS PAGE**



You can donate to CAAT by either visiting our website at [www.caat.org.uk](http://www.caat.org.uk), or completing the form below (in block capitals) and returning it to:  
**Freepost RSYR-UCBS-GHEE, CAAT, Unit 4, 5-7 Wells Terrace, London, N4 3JU**

Donations direct to CAAT are the most useful for the campaign, but if you send a Charities Aid Foundation cheque please make it payable to TREAT (Trust for Research and Education on Arms Trade) making clear that you wish for your donation to support CAAT's research programme. Unlike CAAT, TREAT is a registered charity (No.328694).

## SINGLE DONATION

### PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:

Address:

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### DONATION DETAILS

- 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 CAAT NEWS quarterly magazine.
- Please send me CAAT's monthly email bulletin.

### CARD DETAILS

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

- Mastercard  Visa  Visa Delta

Cardholder's name:

Credit/debit card number:

Start date:   Expiry date:

Security number:  (3 digit number on back of card)

## REGULAR DONATION



A direct debit is the most convenient and cost effective way to support CAAT. Just £5 a month makes a real difference.

### INSTRUCTION TO YOUR BANK/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.

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Bank/building society a/c no.

Sort code:

I wish to donate £\_\_\_\_\_ every

- month  quarter  annually

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: