

CAAT NEWS



JULY - SEPTEMBER 2013 • ISSUE 229

CHALLENGING THE ARMS TRADE WHEREVER IT SEEKS TO DO BUSINESS



NOW LET'S STOP THE ARMS FAIR

As the cover of this issue announces, CAAT campaigners and supporters seek to challenge the arms trade wherever it does business! One of the most high profile forums for such a challenge is DSEi, the biennial arms fair that takes place in London in September.

As outlined on pages 8-9, the UK government is inviting a host

of human rights abusers, and deals struck at the fair will have a directly detrimental impact on many people around the world.

Many campaigners are getting ready to challenge the arms trade both in London, where the fair takes place, and around the country.

See the centre pages to find out how you can get involved.

CAAT's Core Campaigns Co-ordinator Sarah Waldron reports on this year's Annual General Meeting of BAE Systems.

CAAT TAKES OVER

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What do you get for leading an arms company that supplies some of the world's most repressive regimes and which has faced billion-dollar corruption investigations? BAE's outgoing Chairman, Dick Olver, has been given a knighthood for his "services to business."

“We were determined to make sure they couldn't hide, and a whole coach of campaigners were in attendance”

There was however, one award he wouldn't accept. In May, CAAT used his last ever company AGM to draw attention to his "achievements", presenting him with our own "Whitewash Award."

Sadly he was too shy to allow us to finish our tribute; instead those making the award were evicted one-by-one.

Running away?

After years in Central London, BAE had moved its 2013 AGM to its home turf in Farnborough. Was this

another sign that arms companies are on the run from campaigners?

Whatever the reason, we were determined to make sure they couldn't hide, and a whole coach of campaigners gathered to ensure the scrutiny was as strong as ever.

It worked!

Once more we dominated the questioning prodding, coaxing and provoking the company into telling more than it meant to.

One week later some of the information we uncovered was cited by a Bahraini human rights defender in evidence to a parliamentary inquiry.

Challenging the charade

We also wanted to upset the choreography of such events - where the Chairman expected to be able to claim BAE as "one of the world's leading and most ethical companies" without challenge.

This time, shareholders were primed with set responses to the most frustrating phrases: references to ethics were met

with spluttering fits, and the company's "Total performance" slogan received ironic cheers. Others serenaded Olver; all demanded a proper answer to questions.

As the *Independent* reported, he first blustered, then lost his cool and finally called in security to evict campaigners. The paper described the protest as a well orchestrated "surge" that completely overwhelmed the meeting. Olver was heard to complain: "That was much worse than usual."

“We dominated the questioning, provoking the company into telling more than it meant to”

As we returned to the coach, we recalled him telling us: "I personally, passionately, believe, that you can have no impact whatever by standing on the sidelines in life."

BAE's next stop is the London arms fair. Don't stand on the sidelines. See pages 8-9.

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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.

Campaign Against Arms Trade, Unit 4, 5-7 Wells Terrace, London, N4 3JU

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ARMS TRADE SHORTS

EXPORT FINANCE

The Government's Business Department, led by Vince Cable MP, has backed £2bn of loans to Oman's oppressive regime for the purchase of Typhoon fighter jets.

The news came in the annual report of UK Export Finance, which backs loans for overseas buyers of UK exports.

Of 139 projects announced in the report, only four had had any assessment of their impact on human rights and the environment.

The report also revealed that support for arms exports has ballooned from 1% to 47% of Export Credit business.

Jubilee Debt Campaign, 20/6/13



Vince Cable has backed £2bn of loans to the Omani regime

GLOBAL SALES

An annual survey by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) found that arms sales to European countries had fallen by over 20 per cent since the financial crisis in 2008, with the group outstripped by Asian countries.

The UK fell out of the top five arms exporters for the first time since records began in 1951, and was replaced by China.

Euobserver.com, 18/3/13

MAURITANIA

The Mauritanian Air Force has ordered two AgustaWestland AW109 helicopters for reconnaissance and border patrol missions. The deal was signed off by Geoff Hoon, former Secretary of State for Defence and now a Managing Director with AgustaWestland.

HELIHUB.com, 18/6/13

BAHRAIN

UK-Bahraini relations on military matters developed further this year. A Bahraini representative came here, visiting a London arms fair featuring the latest technologies in "counter terrorism"; then a delegation including the head of the UK Trade & Investment Defence & Security Organisation went there, meeting with Bahrain's Minister for Defence Affairs.

Bahrain News Agency, 25/4/13 & 29/4/13

SYRIA

Russia's threat to supply anti-aircraft missiles to Syria's Assad regime has stoked fears of an arms race and further intensification of the civil war in Syria.

The announcement came the day after the EU failed to renew an embargo on delivering arms to the Syrian opposition. The UK, which favoured easing the embargo, blocked a compromise deal.

Heavy weapons have since arrived on Syria's front lines, with rebels saying anti-tank missiles had been supplied by the US's key Gulf ally Saudi Arabia.

Guardian, 28/5/13; Independent, 29/5/13; Daily Telegraph, 19/6/13

ISRAEL SALES

Pakistan has denied importing arms from Israel after UK documents suggested that Israel had sold arms to Pakistan and a number of other predominantly Muslim countries. Some of the countries in receipt of weapons did not have diplomatic ties with Israel.

The UK documents were from the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, which publishes a list of export licences it has approved for arms sales, including where it is intended that the arms, or components, will be passed on to a third country.

Independent, 11/6/13

BAE

Sir Roger Carr will be joining the board of BAE Systems as Chair this October, finishing as Chair of energy group Centrica in order to take on the role.



In June, outgoing BAE Chair Dick Olver was given a knighthood for "services to business", while the head of the company's largest shareholder, Invesco Perpetual, received a CBE for "services to the economy".

Financial Times, 12/6/13; Telegraph, 21/6/13

ROBOTS

Minister Alistair Burt has said that the UK is prepared to develop "killer robots". He described this as a "step on" from using drones because the robots could automatically select and kill targets. He said the UK would not join the UN in calling for an outright ban on the technology.

Daily Telegraph, 19/6/13

BRIBERY

The former Slovenian prime minister has been found guilty of receiving bribes in a 2006 deal to buy armoured vehicles from Finnish arms company Patria.

Global Times, 21/6/13

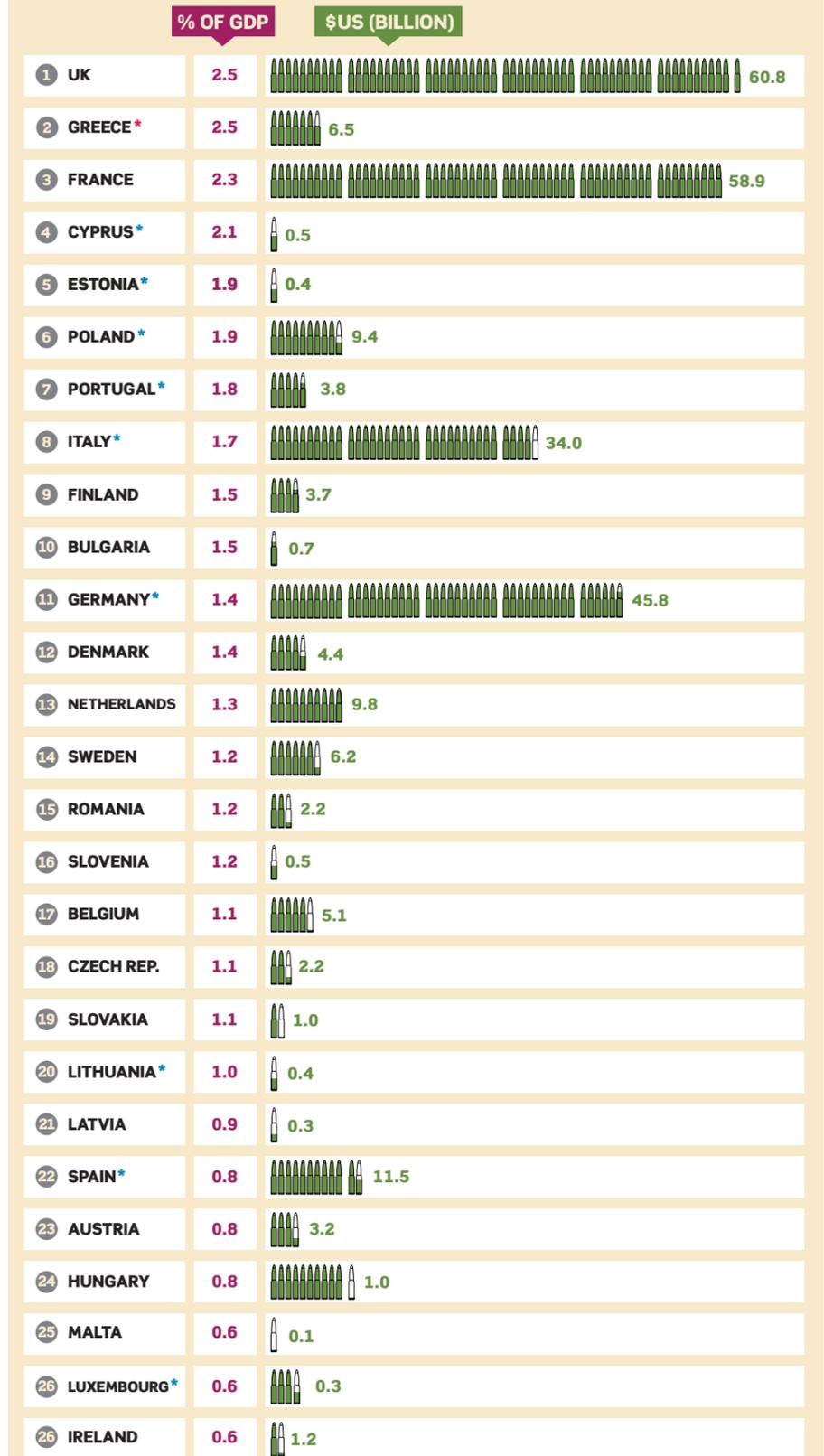
CONNECTIONS

The President of the United Arab Emirates was hosted by the Queen at a State Luncheon when he visited the UK in the spring. The arms trade was represented at the event, with BAE Chief Executive Ian King on the invitation list.

Court Circular, 30/4/13

EU MILITARY EXPENDITURE 2012

Countries are arranged in order of % of GDP (highest to lowest). Figures are taken from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), www.sipri.org



* Indicates SIPRI estimates

* Indicates highly uncertain data

DIRECT ACTION

In May, campaigners came together for a direct action training day. On Saturday they practised climbing onto the roof of a bus stop. Three days later they were on the roof of the Business Department as arms dealers arrived for a conference on Government support available for weapons sales (see below and cover). Wherever the arms trade seeks to do business, we aim to shut it down!



CHALLENGING DRONES

Since April, UK forces can remotely control armed drones over Afghanistan while sitting in trailers at RAF Waddington in Lincolnshire. The growing use of unmanned drones to launch lethal attacks at great distances – over 3,500 miles in the case of Waddington and Afghanistan – with no risk or political consequences should be a cause of extreme concern. It has inspired an impressive public response in recent months.

Demo

A Cardiff conference brought Welsh campaigners together to challenge the deadly technology being trialled in their airspace. A huge demo that marched from Lincoln to RAF Waddington also showed the scale of opposition to this deadly new face of warfare.

Entering Waddington

In June, six peace protesters entered the base to symbolically breach the secrecy and silence surrounding British use of armed drones, and begin its conversion to peaceful purposes by creating a peace garden and displaying information about the impact of airstrikes on Afghan civilians. They were in the base for an hour, but then faced arrest and raids on their houses. More serious charges have now been dropped, but the six still face court.

Drones at DSEi

Drones are big business and DSEi has been extended to include a drones conference. [See pages 8-9.](#)

For more info see dronewars.net



© Andrew Skudder/Flickr

G8 PROTESTERS AT ARMS COMPANIES

Five of the world's top six arms exporters are G8 countries, fuelling conflict and human rights abuses around the world. During the Stop G8 week of protest in June, people took action to challenge this catastrophic commitment to arming the world and privatising warfare.

A gang of grim reapers joined

a huge team of citizen weapon inspectors to expose the arms companies with offices positioned strategically close to Parliament. The 150-strong crowd included people from Stop the Arms Fair and Campaign Against Arms Trade as well as Smash EDO, Disarm DSEi and Stop G8 protesters.

MORE SUCCESS AT LEEDS

In March, the campaign group Let's Disarm Leeds succeeded in winning a student referendum on banning arms companies from

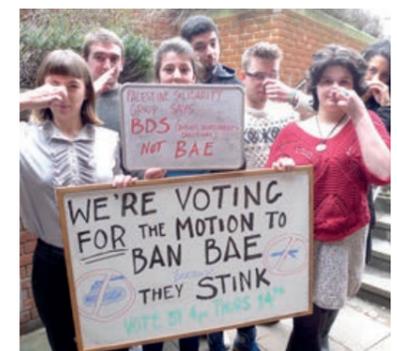
Previous recruitment fairs have seen arms company stands dismantled and reassembled in a graveyard

campus. They will now lobby university management on the issue, but it seems the message of strong resistance to arms companies on campus is already getting results.

For example, earlier this year

arms company Thales was listed as attending the Yorkshire Graduate Recruitment Fair in Leeds. However, before the fair took place, the company's name disappeared from the list of exhibitors.

Students have taken creative action at many recent Leeds recruitment fairs, including dismantling arms company stands and reassembling them in a graveyard. It seems that the presence of a vibrant anti-arms trade campaign on campus was enough to put this arms company off. An inspiring sign of what might be possible in the next year.



Leeds students won a referendum against the university's links to the arms trade and now arms companies are thinking twice before coming to events on campus

EDINBURGH CAREERS FAIR

No arms company participated in this fair and a university steward gave a clue as to why: student groups have been targeting arms companies on campus, using tactics of non-violent direct action at careers fairs.

Edinburgh CAAT group and partners had prepared posters such as "Arms companies here? If not, we're winning", and

"Armed Forces Careers: it's a 'dead' end. Choose to work for human needs". These provided a starting point for talking about the issues. About 300 of CAAT's "Time to shift priorities" postcards were distributed at the careers fair and details of Edinburgh CAAT group were shared. A very worthwhile day!

David Turner

CHALLENGING UNI RESEARCH

Five north-western universities have partnered with BAE to develop "autonomous systems" that can be used in drones – but students are gearing up to tackle it. An engineering student at Liverpool University, said: "It is our responsibility ... to prevent and not

tolerate such acts on our behalf."

Meanwhile students at Portsmouth are preparing to challenge their university's announcement that it will provide support to repressive regime Oman's Military Technology College.

SHEFFIELD RESEARCH CENTRE

The University of Sheffield announced in June that it had secured funding for a £43 million Research Factory, with support from "leading manufacturers including Boeing, Airbus, Rolls-Royce, BAE Systems and Spirit AeroSystems." The project also has £10 million from the taxpayer through the Higher Education Funding Council for England.

Nearly 2,000 students voted in October 2012 for a student union policy that called on the university to "end all dealings with arms companies": student group Fund Education Not War is now campaigning to put this into action.

Nearly 2,000 students voted for a policy that called for an end to all dealings with arms companies

2012-13 saw loads of campaign successes on campuses across the UK. Thanks to everyone who made it possible. CAAT would also like to thank Beth and Joe who worked to support the network from the CAAT Office over the year, and wish them well in what they go on to do. We look forward to welcoming Holly-Rae as Universities Co-ordinator this summer.

STOP THE ARMS FAIR

The Government is welcoming the world's worst human rights abusing regimes to shop for weapons at the DSEi arms fair in London. What will you do?

NOT WELCOME HERE

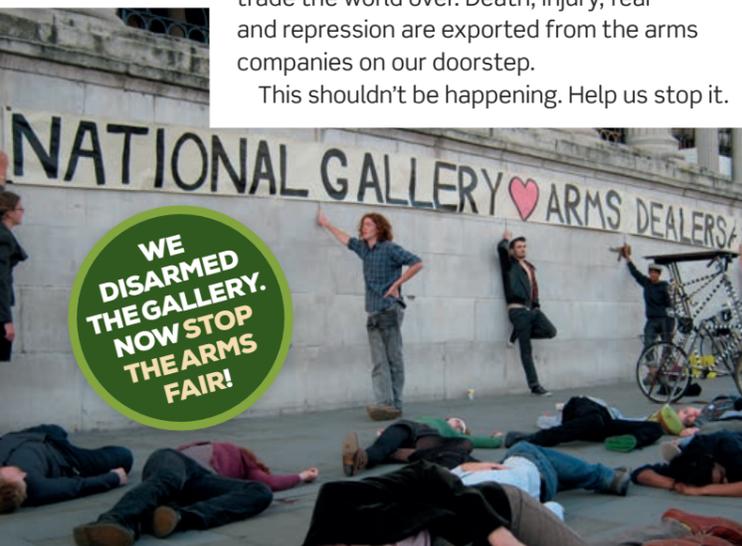
A massive arms fair is planned to take place in the UK in September 2013. The UK government plans to invite human rights abusing regimes, such as Algeria, Bahrain, Columbia, Saudi Arabia and Vietnam to the London arms fair to court them and sell weapons.

Hundreds of companies will be there – and there are few limits on who is welcome. Assad's Russian arms suppliers, Israeli companies displaying "battle-tested" weapons and the companies supplying teargas used in Turkey, Brazil and Bahrain have all booked to attend.

Instead of condemning this event, the UK government will be there promoting and supporting it: with our money, and with civil servants, representatives of the armed forces and Government ministers.

The deals that begin here fuel the arms trade the world over. Death, injury, fear and repression are exported from the arms companies on our doorstep.

This shouldn't be happening. Help us stop it.



WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Our actions are making it harder for the arms trade to operate. By speaking out together last year we put an end to the National Gallery's sponsorship by an arms company. This year Guildford Cathedral cancelled an arms trade dinner and BAE moved its AGM out of London – but we still took over the meeting with tough questioning and creative action (see page 3).

Now the Government's arms sales unit is trying to keep the location of its events secret, claiming protests would make arms companies less likely to attend. A concerted campaign in Australia **stopped their arms fair** in 2008. Can you help do the same here?

JOIN THE HUGE DAY OF ACTION ON 8 SEPTEMBER

A massive week of action is planned from 7-14 September to expose the arms fair and make its business as difficult as possible.

If you only do one thing, join us on Sunday 8 September for a huge protest as arms dealers arrive and try to set up at the fair.

Let us know you can come and we'll keep you posted as plans develop!

Also...

- Why not invite a speaker to help get people interested in coming and taking action at the arms fair?
- A direct action training is planned in London for 17 August. Let us know if you'd like to come.
- Can you help spread the word about the day of action? Please order some leaflets.

Any questions? Contact Anne-Marie on outreach@caat.org.uk or 020 7281 0297.

TAKE LOCAL ACTION

Wherever they seek to do business, we aim to stop them.

The arms fair may take place in London, but the exhibitors are located at hundreds of sites across the UK. Our map of the arms trade can help you find your nearest arms company. Visit www.caat.org.uk/on-our-doorstep.

What next?

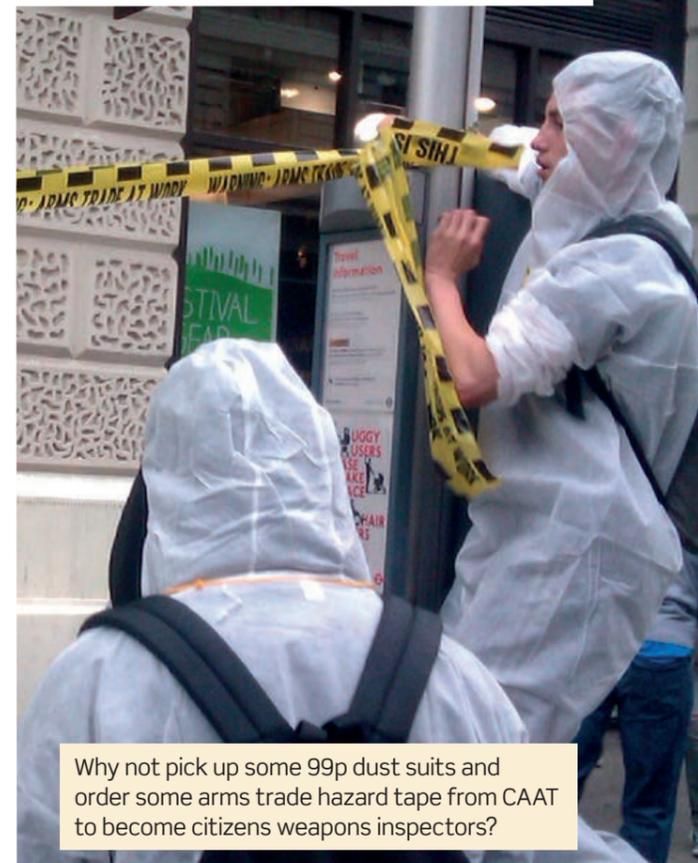
Think about how you'd like to put on pressure.

Alert your local paper: John Warren contacted his local paper when he discovered a St Albans-based firm had been granted licences to supply weapons to Bahrain, where democracy protesters have been killed, tortured and imprisoned. So far, the paper has run two stories and an anonymous warehouse site has been exposed as arming repressive regimes.

Arms not their main business? For some of the companies that exhibit at the arms fair, military sales are not their main business. This inspired one CAAT supporter to write to all the exhibitors in Northamptonshire encouraging them not to taint their reputation by attending the arms fair.

Plan an action: During the last arms fair, people in Hastings blockaded General Dynamics; earlier this year students occupied another of their offices too. A photo stunt can help raise awareness, and step up the pressure on the arms fair. Get in touch with us to order an action pack!

Let us know what you plan and we can help with publicity and media too!



Why not pick up some 99p dust suits and order some arms trade hazard tape from CAAT to become citizens weapons inspectors?



Grim reaper costumes are a simple and visual way to draw attention to arms companies' deadly trade.

CAAT's Outreach Co-ordinator Anne-Marie O'Reilly lays bare the impact of financial support for arms.

WHO PAYS FOR HIGH MILITARY SPENDING?

We need to make explicit the choices that politicians are making. They are choosing to protect military spending while subjecting public services to vast cuts; they are choosing to make hunger a daily reality in the UK; choosing to increase homelessness; choosing to stop sick and disabled people's access to social security; choosing to limit access to healthcare.

Spending Review

Instead of meeting human needs, the Comprehensive Spending Review in June saw funding slashed from welfare, environment and justice, among other areas, while military spending remained protected.

Many people who rely on social security will now have to live on even less, so that funds for nuclear weaponry, fighter jets and warships are not jeopardised.

In Greece, Cyprus and Spain, high levels of military spending played a significant role in creating debt.

Euro crisis

A former Spanish secretary of defence said: "We should not have acquired systems that we are not going to use, for conflict situations that do not exist and, what is worse, with funds that we did not have then and we do not have now." In Greece, Cyprus and Spain, high levels of military



A gameshow outside Parliament on the Global day of Action saw an engineer win military research instead of renewables (not pictured); a student end up with a nuclear weapons system rather than an education; and a patient end up with a mothballed aircraft carrier instead of an A&E.

spending played a significant role in creating debt. Meanwhile, their creditors continue to hawk more weapons sales (see page 13) – all the while demanding drastic cuts to social spending.

Security

High military spending is an investment in a militaristic vision of security that undermines safety and security. It is our role to shape a different vision: considering what we really need and tackling root causes of conflict rather than fuelling them. The Ministry of Defence says the major threats it sees are terrorism, cyber-attacks and major accidents: so even on its own terms, there is no justification for nuclear weapons and aircraft carriers.

Spending on education and public transport creates double the number of jobs as investments in the military.

The number of jobs in the arms export industry supported by a taxpayer subsidy of £700 million is fewer than those already lost in the NHS. And investing in renewable energy instead of military research would create jobs in a vital industry – and tackle climate change, a genuine threat to human security.

Day of Action

These were the messages of forty organisations in the UK who took action alongside hundreds internationally on the Global Day of Action on Military Spending in April. CAAT has produced a series of postcards to challenge military spending, which can be used on street stalls, at anti-cuts events and meetings or simply sent to your friends. To order contact outreach@caat.org.uk or **020 7281 0297**.

PARLIAMENTARY

SAUDI ARABIA INQUIRY

CAAT was delighted when, back in September, the House of Commons' Foreign Affairs Committee (FAC) announced an inquiry into the UK's

The Saudi regime wasn't at all pleased by the inquiry

relations with Saudi Arabia and Bahrain. The FAC is a backbench Select Committee and these play an enormously important role in holding Government departments and official bodies to account, and in questioning established policy.

Appointment

The Saudi regime was not at all pleased by the inquiry, telling BBC News in October that it was "insulted" and was "re-evaluating" their country's "historic relations with Britain." Maybe this pressure produced results. Sir William Patey, former UK Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, was appointed as a Specialist Adviser to the inquiry. Sir William had been closely involved in implementing the

current policy with regards to Saudi Arabia. CAAT feels his appointment raises questions over the impartiality of the inquiry.

Submissions

The FAC published many of the submissions made to it by interested organisations and individuals at the beginning of January. It did not, however, publish that from CAAT or those from several Bahraini human rights groups. The FAC says it will publish CAAT's submission, and most likely

the others, soon. That still means that, for six months, CAAT's perspective has been missing from submissions on the web, a matter of some concern which CAAT raised with the FAC.

However, the FAC was on form with an evidence session in June. The MPs subjected Foreign Office and Ministry of Defence Ministers to rigorous questioning. The FAC's report, which might be published in July but could be held until the autumn, may yet be an interesting read.



State flags outside Buckingham Palace symbolise the UK-Saudi relationship

SYRIA

The situation in Syria deteriorates and the armed factions multiply. Meanwhile, at Westminster, MPs of differing political persuasions are adopting a common cause. They oppose the arming of the Syrian rebels.

At the end of May, the UK and France blocked the renewal of the European Union embargo which prevented the arming of any parties in Syria. Foreign Secretary William Hague argued that freedom was needed to supply arms to the "moderate"

rebel forces. The MPs – who range from scourge of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) Julian Lewis, to CND activist Jeremy Corbyn – are concerned about sending more weapons to a region awash with them and fear they would be unlikely to stay in "moderate" hands.

At the time of writing, media reports suggest that David Cameron would find it difficult to win a Parliamentary vote on the issue, a vote to which he is committed.

LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE

CAAT is joining forces with SERA, the environment campaign affiliated to the Labour Party, for a fringe meeting at this autumn's Labour Party Conference. Jonathan Neale, who is working on a report for CAAT on shifting jobs from arms to renewables, will be speaking.

The meeting is on Monday 23 September at 1pm at the Friends Meeting House, Ship Street, Brighton. It is outside the security zone so is open to everyone.

Further details will be put on the CAAT website nearer the time.

CAAT's Core Campaigns Co-ordinator Sarah Waldron reports on the latest in the campaign to end arms trade links with cultural institutions.

OUT OF OUR SPACE!



In CAAT NEWS 227 we reported on the London Transport Museum's relationship with arms company Thales.

Many of you wrote to the Museum's Director to express your concerns and to enquire about the Museum's ethics policy. But the Museum refused to engage. At first it insisted on referring to Thales as a transport company only – and when this was challenged in further correspondence, it gave only a two-line reply.

We want to make it impossible for the Museum to keep ignoring Thales' role in the arms trade.

In June the Museum was visited by several Grim Reapers advertising the Museum's arms trade support. The next week Thomas the Tank Engine and Mr Thales, the "arms controller" (pictured), delivered the same message.

Add your voice.

- Contact us to order postcards to share with friends and family or for campaign stalls.
- Don't be fobbed off! Write to Sam Mullins, Director, London Transport Museum, Covent Garden Piazza, London, WC2E 7BB
- Read more at www.caat.org.uk/ltn

What's in your town?

Arms companies are hiring the rooms of our museums, galleries, and historical buildings. They don't do this to be nice; they do it because it's good for business.

By agreeing these deals, public institutions are supporting the arms trade, giving both practical support and a veneer of legitimacy to an industry based on death and destruction. We're asking them to reconsider.

We want to track down who's supporting the arms trade – and who is prepared to take a stand.

What are your local museums, galleries and cultural events doing? Edinburgh CAAT supporters were disappointed to see Selex, a subsidiary of Finmeccanica (the ex-sponsor of the National Gallery) sponsoring the Edinburgh International Science Festival Fair. They were even more concerned when they realised it was running "family" events during the festival for children as young as five.

Campaigners in Bath and Bristol have successfully challenged drone conferences in their cities.

What's happening near you? Please do let us know!

Arms at the Museum

The majority of Thales' business is in the arms trade. It supplies missiles, drones and other military products, and has sold to repressive regimes including Saudi Arabia, Russia, Colombia, Kazakhstan and the UAE. The Museum has directly supported its arms trading activity: Thales has used Museum rooms to meet with the UK Trade & Investment Defence & Security Organisation, the government body responsible for promoting arms exports.

HE SAID IT! Chair Dick Olver at the BAE AGM 2013, 8 May 2013:

BAE is one of the world's most leading and ethical companies and its performance is extraordinary.

Our ethics policies are among the best in the world.

DSEi is an extremely important event in our calendar ... because it's a moment when we can interface with many of our customers ... We are very happy to see any of our customers at ExCel because, as I've said, it's an important engagement point for us with our customers.

BAE's engineering team's support of Team GB contributed at least 19 medals at the Olympics.

Continuous improvement in safety is of great importance to me.

EU ARMS EXPORT INFO REVEALED

CAAT and the European Network Against Arms Trade have launched an EU Arms Export browser, showing all known weapons transfers out of the EU from 1998, broken down by source, destination and type of equipment.

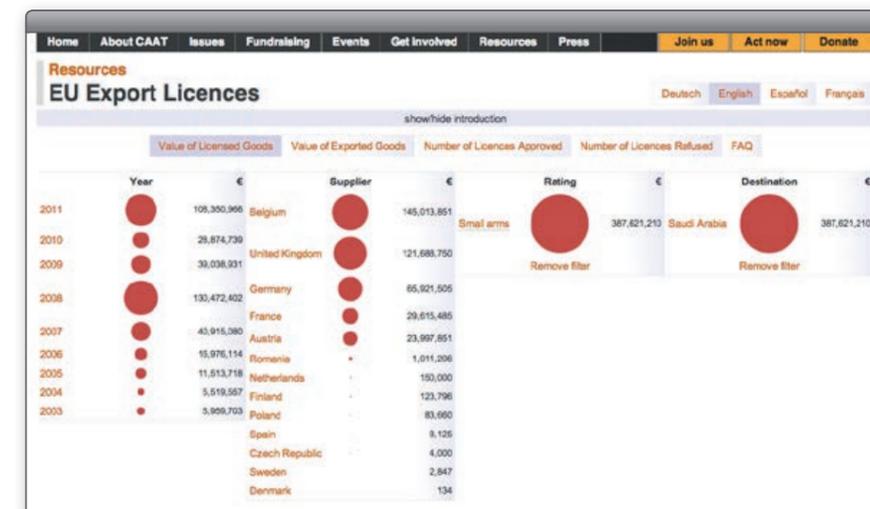
This is a ground-breaking tool for arms trade campaigners as it makes existing data on EU exports accessible in a way that's never been done before.

There are still gaps. For example, it doesn't include export licences for "dual-use" equipment (equipment that could be used for military or civil purposes), and information on actual deliveries is not provided by several major suppliers

including Germany and the UK.

To access the app see the CAAT website or go to <http://j.mp/eu-arms>.

This screenshot shows which EU countries have granted licences for small arms to Saudi Arabia. It can be further broken down into individual years and supplier countries.



ARMS & AUSTERITY

Why is Greece so deeply indebted? The EU arms export app (above) reveals Greece to be one of the EU's largest spenders on military hardware.

Between 1998 and 2011 Greece imported over €15.7 billion of arms from other EU countries, with military aircraft making up almost half the total. And who provides these weapons? Overwhelmingly it is France and

The report is a devastating critique of the political pressure behind the needless waste of military spending

Germany – the countries pushing Greece into ever greater austerity. An aide to former Prime Minister George Papandreou said: "No one is saying: 'Buy our warships or we won't bail you out.' But the clear implication is that they will be more supportive if we do."

EU pressures

This parlous situation has been explored in detail in a new report by Frank Slijper from Dutch Campaign Against Arms Trade. Drawing upon a wealth of sources, the report is a devastating critique of the political pressure behind the needless waste of military spending.

Greece is definitely the most egregious case, but there are also dreadful examples from Portugal, Spain and Italy. A must-read report.

Guns, Debt and Corruption: Military Spending and the EU Crisis, Transnational Institute, Amsterdam, April 2013.

Kaye Stearman



CAAT'S RUNNING COSTS

Two CAAT supporters are taking part in sponsored events to raise funds for the campaign. Please sponsor Kat Hobbs and Rebecca Tully by returning the form enclosed.

Rebecca Tully's sprint triathlon for CAAT and Food Sovereignty UK



Rebecca Tully is taking part in the Clacton Sprint Triathlon on 7 September.

"So, I'm doing a triathlon for CAAT and Food Sovereignty UK. Why? Because I'm hugely unfit and I need a goal! But also because:

- If the UK didn't spend money subsidising arms companies we wouldn't need austerity
- With a fairer food system the poverty of millions could be avoided.

Please support CAAT and Food Sovereignty UK by sponsoring me to wear a wetsuit. Both these groups will use every penny wisely. More money will definitely inspire me to train harder, but I'm still not sure I'm going to avoid being the one they're waiting for before they clear the barriers!! Thank you."

Kat's marathon effort to end the arms trade



Kat Hobbs is running the Bournemouth Marathon on 5 October.

"Four years ago I ran my first 10k for CAAT. I've run every year since, and this year I'll be running my first ever full marathon in October.

It's my biggest challenge yet, and with your support I'm hoping to beat last year's fundraising total of £1,448.

I ran my first half marathon on 14 April as part of my training (it's a year of firsts for me!).

It's been pretty grim running in the snow and rain so far, but I've been involved with CAAT for many years and am passionate about the work that they do. I'm running to help end Britain's role as one of the biggest arms exporters in the world.

So please sponsor me, and support CAAT any way you can. Thank you very much – your support means a lot!"

LEGACIES

You can support anti-arms campaigning with no cost now, by leaving a gift in your Will to CAAT.

Every gift makes a difference. Because CAAT is a small organisation, gifts in legacies make a bigger difference to the campaign than for larger organisations. We will never ask you how much you have left to CAAT. The wording to leave a share of your Will to CAAT is:

"I give all/a share of (please state fraction/percentage) of the residue of my estate absolutely to Campaign Against Arms Trade (CAAT) of Unit 4, 5-7 Wells Terrace, London, N4 3JU and I further direct that the receipt of the Treasurer or any other proper officer of CAAT for the time being shall be sufficient discharge to my executors."

If you have already written your Will and would like to change it to include CAAT please contact Henry McLaughlin, Fundraising Co-ordinator at CAAT, at henry@caat.org.uk, or write to us.

ERRATUM

On page 14 of CAAT NEWS 228 the picture caption contained an error, stating that Grahame Nicholls was active with the UNITE union, when it should have read UNISON. Apologies for any confusion caused.

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OBITUARY PAT ALLEN



Pat worked tirelessly for peace and justice, and against war and the arms industry.

Pat's death at the beginning of June came as a great shock. A member of CAAT's Steering Committee since 2005, Pat was a peace activist who had been known to many of us for far longer.

As well as campaigning with CAAT at national level, in his local area of Hackney in London Pat was instrumental in raising the question of pension fund investments in BAE Systems.

It was the dropping of the atomic bombs on Japan in 1945 which prompted Pat's

anti-war activity. This was centred on the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament since its beginnings in 1958. As those gathered for Pat's funeral were told, he was also an active trade unionist, promoted links with the former German Democratic Republic and espoused the cause of the Palestinian people. Pat was working class, at times a communist and old Labour. He worked tirelessly for peace and justice, and against war and the arms industry. He will be missed.

Ann Feltham

REVIEW

DIGITAL REVOLUTIONS – ACTIVISM IN THE INTERNET AGE

SYMON HILL, NEW INTERNATIONALIST PUBLICATIONS LTD, 2013

How to circumvent an escalation towards conflict marshalled by your political leaders with the support of the media? Symon Hill's whistlestop tour through recent movements that have challenged power from the grassroots up reveals one simple method made possible in the internet age: set up a Facebook page called "Israel loves Iran".

That's exactly what one Israeli did last year in response to his Prime Minister's speech about war with Iran. Within days, the gesture was mirrored with Iranians setting up a page called "Iran loves Israel". Within weeks, both pages had reached thousands of ordinary people, who posted messages such as: "I'm not afraid of you, I don't hate you. I don't even know you." A series of posters were run on public transport in Tel Aviv to take the message even further.

This is one window on the way that grassroots campaigners

are making use of new ways of communicating, enabled by the internet. *Digital Revolutions* is told through stories of moments and movements.

Inspiring tales of people who have used the internet to build their capacity to challenge power

From the Arab Spring to Occupy to Slutwalk and beyond, the author has interviewed and assembled inspiring anecdotes and tales of people who have used the internet to build their capacity to challenge power.

Set alongside each other, these stories prompt important reflections on the new dynamics of social movements in the internet age. Is there a shift from

building organisations to coming together for key moments? To what extent do movements still depend on mainstream media as a catalyst to social media success? Does an over-emphasis on online tools obscure movements' roots in local and long-term struggles?

For anyone who wants to reflect on the world-changing movements of recent years, this book is sure to add another dimension and a few surprising stories.

Anne-Marie O'Reilly





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