

# CAAT NEWS



OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2014 • ISSUE 234

## CAN THE UK-ISRAEL ARMS RELATIONSHIP BE STOPPED?



**PLUS**

Cultural Institutions **P8-9**

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Drawing the arms trade **P10**

# CAAT NEWS

OCTOBER –  
DECEMBER 2014

There's a strong theme of visions in this issue – visions that stand in contrast to the current situation where the arms trade has such prominence.

The first expression of this is on page 3, which highlights new research as to why an industrial focus on renewable energy, rather than weapons, leads to greater security.

Page 7 underscores the need

for a different vision in arms export policy, a point reinforced by page 12.

Page 10 introduces the vision of artist Jill Gibbon, who creates satirical images to cut through the arms trade's "sham respectability."

And pages 8–9 show that the vision of removing the legitimacy gained by the arms trade through sponsorship of cultural and public institutions is fast becoming a reality.

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© Enzo Lapera/Flickr

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Image courtesy of Gallacher Memorial Library, Glasgow Caledonian University Special Collections and Archives

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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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# ARMS TO RENEWABLES: WORK FOR THE FUTURE

CAAT's Sarah Waldron introduces new research into highly-skilled manufacturing jobs that will be there in the future – and that create a future we might want to see.

When the UK government used September's NATO Summit as a glorified arms fair, Business Minister Matthew Hancock argued that: "This week shines a spotlight on the UK's thriving defence industry. As part of our long term economic plan, we are working closely with the defence sector to secure new investment, highly-skilled jobs and build a better and brighter future for Britain."

But if we really want to build a better and brighter future and secure highly-skilled jobs, we need to shift priorities.

## Security?

Pushing arms sales doesn't enhance security: it fuels conflict, supports repression and makes the world a more dangerous place. It is also failing to secure jobs. Despite huge spending on the military and on subsidising arms exports, the UK arms industry has been in long-term decline.

## Another vision

Real security involves tackling the causes of problems, and climate change is one of the biggest that we face. If we want a safer world, we must cut carbon emissions fast.

The UK is in a powerful position to play its part. Offshore wind power has amazing potential in the UK. We have the largest wind resources in Europe and already have as much offshore capacity installed as the rest of the world combined. We also have substantial wave and tidal resources.

## Better jobs

New research from CAAT shows that a move towards offshore

wind and marine energy could produce more jobs than the entire arms industry. These jobs would provide alternative employment for arms trade workers.

Like arms, the renewable energy sector is highly skilled and employs many of the same branches of engineering. Some companies already serve both industries. For example, Schleifring Systems, which CAAT exposed this summer for providing components for the Israeli tanks and drones used in Gaza, provides similar high-tech components for wind turbines.

**New research from CAAT shows that a move towards renewable energy could produce more jobs than the entire arms industry.**

There would also be appropriate work available in most areas where arms workers are located, with tens of thousands of supply chain jobs that could be located anywhere.

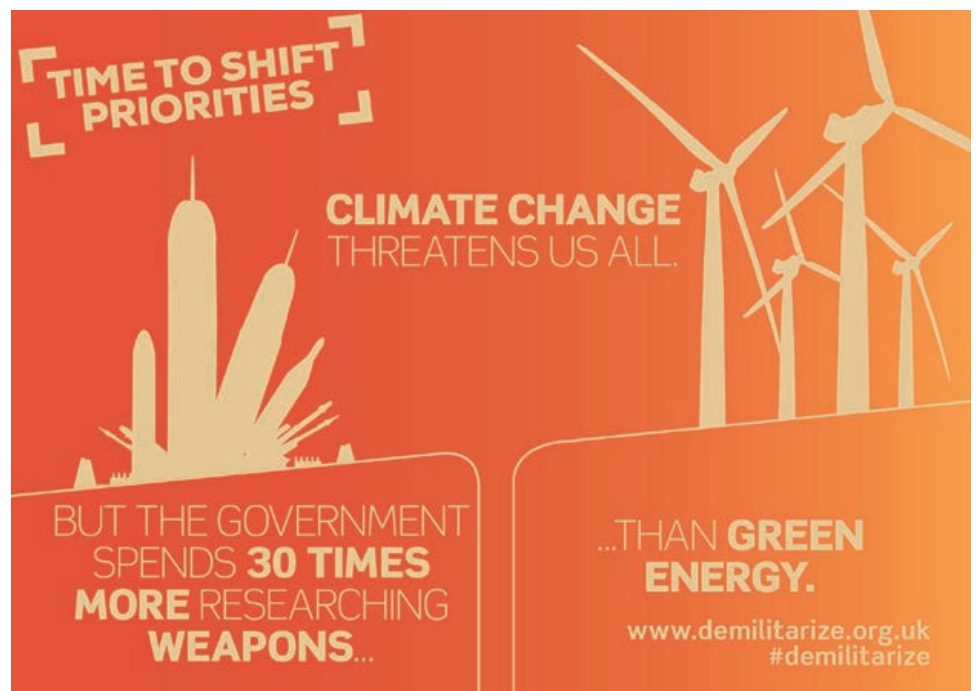
These would be better jobs for the workers and for all of us: jobs in an industry that is growing not declining, that creates a safer, rather than a more dangerous world.

## What is needed?

If we invest now the UK would be in a leading position in technologies that will be in high demand, with major export potential, and that will help other countries cut carbon emissions. But this potential won't be realised without action.

It needs investment and concerted UK government effort – like that devoted to the arms industry. It desperately needs highly-skilled engineers – like those currently working in the arms industry. And it needs all of us to make the Government shift priorities and create more and better jobs and a safer world for all.

Visit [caat.org.uk/arms-to-renewables](http://caat.org.uk/arms-to-renewables) for resources and ideas for taking action.



# ARMS TRADE SHORTS

## RUSSIA

Russian state-owned Rosoboronexport has said that Western sanctions, which include a ban on new arms sales to and purchases from Russia, will not affect weapons sales.

European action included the French decision – following on from months of pressure from Western allies – to temporarily suspend the handover of a warship for the Russian Navy. Hundreds of Russian sailors have already visited France to be trained on the ship.

**Agence France-Presse, 13/8/14;**

**Telegraph, 3/9/14; Financial Times, 4/9/14**



Russia has ordered two French Mistral class warships © Dominique Lenoir / Flickr

## GERMAN DIVERSIFICATION

Germany has said it will cut arms exports to countries outside of the European Union and NATO, and the country's economic minister has called on arms companies to consolidate with European peers and diversify into civil markets.

A board member of metalworkers' union IG Metall agreed that debate over conversion had evolved, saying: "It is important for us that employees, who are working on developing military and defence technologies, also have prospects to work on civilian products."

**DW.DE, 5/9/14; Reuters, 19/8/14**



Sigmar Gabriele, Germany's economic minister © blue-news.org / Flickr

## FOKKER FINED

A subsidiary of Dutch company Fokker is to forfeit \$21m – the value of US-made goods sold in violation of trade sanctions. The imposition of a forfeiture fine rather than criminal penalties and a higher cost has faced some criticism.

**Washington Post, 5/6/14**

## NATO SUMMIT

A UK government arms fair took place alongside September's NATO summit in Wales, although some companies were put off by the price tag, with up to £300,000 charged for the two-day exhibition. Others saw justification in the level of access to the military and politicians, which included prime ministers and presidents.

**Defense News, 4/9/14**

## INDIA

A UK government and industry trip to India in July saw the announcement of a £250m deal for MBDA air-to-air missiles for the Indian Air Force.

However, India will not be buying from helicopter firm AgustaWestland after its attorney general advised "blacklisting" the company over bribery allegations. Verdicts on these are due in October.

**Times, 8/7/14; Exarnews, 19/8/14**

# EASTERN EUROPE

In June, Washington announced plans to increase the US military presence in Eastern Europe. The European Reassurance Initiative includes \$1bn for regional allies feeling threatened by Russian intervention in Crimea.

A region-wide trend towards increased military spending includes Russia, which has also announced additions to its procurement list.

**Defense News, 7/6/14**

# ALGERIA

Germany has approved Rheinmetall's plans to build an armoured vehicle factory in Algeria.

Algeria is also developing capacity at sea, with its Navy receiving a new warship – complete with landing dock – from Italian shipyard Fincantieri.

**Defense News, 24/8/14; DefenceWeb, 8/9/14**

# BAE

BAE Systems is selling its South African division to state-owned Denel in a R855m deal.

Elsewhere, in the US BAE has been chosen to further develop a missile system for the military. The sole-source nature of the deal suggests further rehabilitation for BAE following on from its 2010 guilty plea in a US court over corruption and other issues.

BAE is also set to benefit from being the principal contractor on two potential Foreign Military Sales to Brazil approved by the US State Department.

**DefenceWeb, 11/8/14; Sky News, 2/7/14; Defense Daily, 13/6/14**

# LEBANON

France and Saudi Arabia are finalising a \$3bn deal to provide the Lebanese army with weapons, with the French President describing Lebanon as a “great but vulnerable country.”

**Middle East Monitor, 2/9/14**

# EXPORTS

German arms exports rose by 23% in 2013, driven by demand in the Middle East and Asia; Algeria was its biggest customer. Export orders for French arms saw an even higher increase – up 43% in 2013.

UK arms exports for 2013 were up by 11.4%.  
**Agence France-Presse, 11/6/14 & 10/9/14; UKTI, 8/7/14**

# CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS LEAGUE TABLE

Many of our leading institutions accept funding from the arms trade, or agree to host corporate events for it. CAAT asked some of the country's most popular cultural institutions about their links with the arms trade from 2010 to 2014. Our campaigning has already persuaded the National Gallery to end its arms trade sponsorship and the Natural History Museum to turn down a booking for Farnborough International. Find out about the others we need to lobby below.

	Number of arms sponsors	Number of events hosted
Ashmolean Museum	0	1
Barbican Centre	0	1
Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery	0	0
British Library	1	0
British Museum	3	?
Design Museum	?	?
Edinburgh Castle	0	2
Imperial War Museum London	5	5
Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum	0	0
Kew Gardens	0	1
Liverpool Museums	0	0
London Transport Museum	3	10
National Galleries of Scotland	0	1
National Gallery	2	6
National Museum Wales	0	0
National Museums Scotland	0	5
National Portrait Gallery	0	0
Natural History Museum	0	1
Oxford Uni. Museum of Natural History	0	0
Pitt Rivers Museum	?	?
Riverside Museum	2	4
Royal Academy of Arts	?	?
Royal Museums Greenwich	1	9
Royal Palaces	1	?
Saatchi Gallery	?	?
Science Museum	1	12
Somerset House	0	0
Southbank Centre	0	0
St Paul's Cathedral	?	1
Tate	1	4
Victoria and Albert Museum	1	2

● Bad practice ● Room for improvement ● Outstanding  
? Information not provided

For a list of the specific museums covered, see the CAAT website

# UNIVERSITIES NETWORK

## SO WHAT IS IT?

The Universities Network is a collective of enthusiastic individuals and groups at universities across the UK. Students and staff in higher education work together to campaign creatively on arms trade issues, with a particular focus on breaking ties between their institution and arms companies.

The arms trade quietly cuddles up to universities in three main ways, recruitment, research and investment, and the Universities Network challenges all three. We want arms companies out of our education system.



Students at Edinburgh University call for ethical investment

### Shifting priorities: arms to renewables

For the academic year 2014/15 we will be focusing on how universities can move away from propping up the deadly arms trade by shifting their support to the renewable energy sector instead. One way we'll be doing this is through our very exciting new photo petition (see picture, right). For more info contact [universities@caat.org.uk](mailto:universities@caat.org.uk).

### Take action

Last year was a blinding success. Actions across the country led to huge achievements, including kicking an arms company conference off campus in Bristol! We'll build on the success of last year and end the relationship between universities and the arms trade for good.

- Take part in the photo petition and share your pictures online
- Check out the wonderful new Universities Network website [universities.caat.org.uk](http://universities.caat.org.uk)
- Follow us on Facebook and Twitter @UniversityCAAT
- Come to the National Gathering and get inspired
- Sign up to the Universities Network mailing list
- Get in touch via [universities@caat.org.uk](mailto:universities@caat.org.uk) or 020 7281 0297

## HI FROM SAM

Hello! I'm Sam and I'm very excited to be CAAT's new Universities Network Coordinator. I spent lots of my time at university in Sheffield campaigning against the university's relationship with the arms trade so it's great to be supporting others to do the same.



I will be touring the country making sure everyone in the network has everything they need to challenge their university's links to the arms trade, so get in touch if you need anything. I'm looking forward to what is already set to be an action-packed year.

## JOIN CAAT'S COMMITTEE

CAAT has a number of vacancies on its Steering Committee which we're keen to fill with supporters who joined CAAT at least a year ago (by either subscribing to CAAT News, taking action or donating to our campaign), and would now like to offer a bit more in terms of time and experience. You don't need to have substantial knowledge of arms trade issues, just a passion for the campaign.

The CAAT Steering Committee comprises 14 members plus all staff. It has overall responsibility for the organisation, making decisions on policy, long-term planning and general guidance of the campaign. We meet four times a year in London, usually a Saturday in March, June, September and December. Travel expenses will be paid. Additional attendance at meetings may be required to review or recruit

staff, and attend CAAT's bi-annual National Gathering. The post would be for four years.

More information about the role can be found at: [caat.org.uk/about/steering-committee/](http://caat.org.uk/about/steering-committee/).

Would you consider standing or know someone you think should? Then please contact Claire on 020 7281 0297 or [office@caat.org.uk](mailto:office@caat.org.uk) for more info. The closing date for nominations is Monday 1 December.

CAAT's Andrew Smith and Sarah Waldron assess this summer's challenges to the UK's arms sales and military collaboration with Israel.

# ARMING ISRAEL



Campaigners occupied the roof of Israeli drones manufacturer Elbit Systems, shutting it down for two days.

The UK's arms export policy rarely comes under as much scrutiny as it did in the summer. As Israel launched its devastating attacks on Gaza, leaving more than 2,000 dead, over 500 of them children, challenges came from all sides. Thousands of people lobbied MPs, emailed ministers and took to the streets to call on the UK government to stop arming Israel. The fallout even saw Baroness Sayeeda Warsi, a Conservative peer and Foreign Office minister, resigning from the Government in opposition to its uncritical support for the bombardment of Gaza.

## The relationship

Since 2009 the UK has licensed almost £50 million of weapons to Israel. The relationship is two-way, with the UK spending millions every year on Israeli military exports and Israeli drone manufacturer Elbit Systems working with UK arms company Thales UK on a Ministry of Defence contract worth nearly £1 billion.

## Review

In August CAAT exposed the UK companies involved in supplying Israel, including those manufacturing components for the same equipment that Israel was using in its attacks on Gaza.

The UK government eventually announced a review of arms sales to Israel but did not suspend or revoke any of the existing licences, despite admitting that at least 12 were for equipment that might be being used in the attacks on Gaza. It said it would suspend licences if "significant hostilities" resumed – but when the ceasefire broke down nothing changed.

**UK arms export controls will never work while the focus of the Government is on promoting rather than controlling arms sales.**

## More of the same

Unfortunately, the situation is all too familiar. In 2009 the then foreign secretary, David Miliband, told Parliament that it was "almost certain" UK weapons had been used in Gaza – and in 2002 the Government approved the export of components for F-16 fighters being made by the US company Lockheed Martin and sold to Israel.

In September, CAAT launched the first stage of possible legal action against the UK government's failure to stop arms sales to Israel. We will keep you updated with progress.

## A failure of controls

Time and again the Government claims the UK operates some of the most "rigorous" arms export controls in the world (see [rigorousrepetition.tumblr.com](https://rigorousrepetition.tumblr.com)). But in reality it is at best a policy of "arms control by embarrassment," with the UK supplying weapons with little regard for the record of the buyer country and only revoking licences at times of crisis when it is already too late.

In the case of Israel even this has failed.

## Parliament

In July, Parliament's Committees on Arms Export Controls said: "The Government's arms export policy is essentially one of reacting to events and not taking sufficient account of the nature of the regimes concerned at the point when the decision is made to approve the export licence or not."

Nothing less than a fundamental re-evaluation of the UK's approach to arms sales is required. UK arms export controls will never work while the focus of the Government is on promoting rather than controlling arms sales.

Find your local arms companies and who they are supplying at [caat.org.uk/resources/mapping/](https://caat.org.uk/resources/mapping/).

# TALKING ABOUT LEGITIMACY

## ARMS DEALERS AT THE SCIENCE MUSEUM

An hour after the Science Museum closed its doors to the public for the day on 14 July, it opened them again: this time to arms dealers and military delegations attending the opening reception

**“Museums belong to everybody. They exist to serve the public. They should enhance the quality of life of everyone, both today and in the future.”**

Museums Association Code of Ethics

for Farnborough International. But the event didn't go to plan. By 7pm, over one hundred protesters had gathered outside to challenge the event.

### Protest

Dressed in white coats and goggles, and armed with creative slogans, “millilitres of titration not military occupation”, the action aimed to show that science should be about making life better, not taking it away.

Solidarity activists from Bahrain and Syria joined London Palestine Action, Stop the Arms Fair and CAAT campaigners for a vibrant action against the deadly business that was to take place at the reception. Democracy activists from Bahrain spotted the Bahraini delegation, and challenged them directly until they turned around and drove away. After an hour of navigating guests through the demonstration, the Museum



### SNAPSHOTS FROM FARNBOROUGH

When CAAT challenged the Science Museum over its plans to host a “welcome reception” for arms dealers attending Farnborough International in July, the Museum refused to cancel it, telling us it “treated this event as we would a booking from any other legitimate organisation.”

CAAT went along to see what

“legitimate” looked like. Although Farnborough is best known for its public airshow, in the days before it is home to an international arms fair, where the world's major weapons manufacturers woo military delegations from around the world. They are promoted and supported by the UK government.



Civil servants and military personnel show a delegation from Oman into BAE's exhibition area



# JT CY

Arms traders need public support to continue – and the prestige of using our public spaces is one of the most important ways they seek to normalise their business. When we shut them out, as we have done at the National Gallery, and now at the Natural History Museum, we are one step closer to shutting them down. Read more about the latest actions and how you can help keep up the momentum.

gave up, locked the doors and started to turn arms dealers away from the event.

## Making a difference

This matters: two years ago we campaigned to stop the Natural History Museum hosting arms dealers and it worked! The Museum confirmed that it had been asked to host this year's welcome reception for Farnborough International – and that it had refused.

The arms industry buys legitimacy when it hosts events in prestigious cultural institutions. When we stop them, we undermine that and make clear that it is not okay

to welcome arms dealers into a public institution.

It doesn't end here! Over 3000 people have written to the Science Museum and it will probably think twice before hosting an arms dealers' reception again. However, the museum receives ongoing sponsorship from Airbus, one of the world's largest arms companies. The deal buys this company, accused of corruption at the highest levels, "brand association" with the museum.

Please write to Mr Ian Blatchford, Director, The Science Museum, Exhibition Road, London, SW7 2DD to raise your concerns.

## SPOTLIGHT: BAE AT THE RIVERSIDE

The Riverside Museum is the new incarnation of the Glasgow Museum of Transport. This purpose-built museum opened in 2011, with hefty corporate sponsorship from arms company BAE Systems.

BAE is the third largest arms company in the world: it sells weapons indiscriminately and has faced numerous corruption investigations and fines. BAE paid £500k into the public appeal for funds to replace the existing transport museum. However, this was not a simple donation but a five-year sponsorship deal made with the museum. The deal was trumpeted in a highly publicised cheque presentation ceremony. By contrast, the red carpet was not rolled out for Glasgow City Council or the Heritage Lottery Fund, who together contributed £69m.

Rather than simply donating to a public appeal, BAE is seeking to appeal to the public.

To have your say, contact Councillor Archie Graham, Chair of Culture and Sport Glasgow, City Chambers, George Square, Glasgow, G2 1DU or [archie.graham@councillors.glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:archie.graham@councillors.glasgow.gov.uk).



**Our Dino demo worked!** Farnborough arms fair wanted to host its reception at the Natural History Museum this year, but was turned down.



Israeli arms companies were out in force, promoting "battle-tested" weaponry with slick videos of missile strikes and drone attacks, while outside, in the real world, the death toll in Gaza mounted.



Rosoboronexport, the Russian state's agency for arms exports advertised the weapons it has supplied to Syria, and invited customers into its private rooms to discuss more deals.

## TAKE ACTION

- See the league table on page 5 to find out about cultural institutions near you.
- Order our action guide to research or take action against arms company involvement in cultural institutions in your area – [outreach@caat.org.uk](mailto:outreach@caat.org.uk) 020 7281 0297

# WAR ART: DRAWING THE ARMS TRADE TODAY

Activist and artist Jill Gibbon spoke to CAAT's Kat Hobbs about her "anti-war" art.

When Jill Gibbon attended her first arms fair she found it easier than expected: "I literally called myself an 'official war artist' and was admitted ... In a way, anyone can get in: their main priority is getting punters through the door."

Her drawings are done on location and undercover, drawn "then and there, even when it is really chaotic." Her only disguise is smart business attire and an anonymous notebook.

Jill says: "If I was going to describe myself as a war artist, it would be in the tradition of Dada, especially George Grosz. That tradition of satire is effective at cutting through sham respectability and glamour".

War artists are typically seen as those on the ground when the conflict is actually taking place, such as John Singer Sargent. In his role as official war artist he created iconic images of injured soldiers during World War One. But Jill says this role can reinforce the impression that "wars spontaneously ignite abroad, which of course they don't. Of all the factors which inflame and ignite war, the arms trade is certainly one."



A pencil sketch with football, by John Singer Sargent  
© Imperial War Museum



From the Jill Gibbon series "arms trade alliances"

## Confusing weapons with commodities

Promotions at arms fairs are very much like any other trade exhibition: champagne, pretzels

**The biggest challenge when it is "all wrapped up" is "how to draw it, without merely reproducing the veneer of normality and respectability."**

and string quartets can feature alongside "made-to-measure" tank components.

Jill finds arms fairs both "normalised and made glamorous," with women mainly represented on stalls or draped across tanks – or as glamour models brandishing weaponry in calendars. Corporate gifts include foam bombs, sweets with the BAE Systems logo stamped through them and condoms promoting gas masks with the promise of "ultimate protection."

The biggest challenge when it is "all wrapped up as respectable" is "how to draw it, without merely reproducing this veneer of normality and respectability."

## A bit of an obsession

Jill first went to the UK's biggest arms fair, DSEI, in 2007. Initially, she intended to attend just once, but she keeps going back. One reason is "seeing how the arms trade adapts to political crises. For example, after the Arab Spring the 'less lethal' weaponry on display increased. I want to keep an eye on how it is adapting to the current global situation – and profiting from it." Jill describes her attendance as "activism as much as art."

**"I want to keep an eye on how the arms trade is adapting to the current global situation – and profiting from it."**

See more of Jill's work at [jillgibbon.co.uk](http://jillgibbon.co.uk). You can also explore the role of war artists during World War One at [armingallsides.org.uk](http://armingallsides.org.uk).

# ARMING ALL SIDES

CAAT's Kat Hobbs introduces work on the hidden history of the arms trade during WW1

Remembrance Sunday on 9 November prompts us to reflect that the arms trade today is just as focussed on profiteering, corruption and fuelling conflict as it was during World War One. This summer, volunteer researchers scoured the archives to uncover the hidden history of World War One, and the stories they found make fascinating reading. You can explore the results of their research at [armingallsides.org.uk](http://armingallsides.org.uk).

**Women across the country were playing an active role in building the peace movement.**

## Enduring trade

We think of the arms trade as a modern invention, with high-tech weaponry and international business. However, at the time of World War One arms companies were also selling their wares internationally – and with just as little regard for the people whom the weapons were turned on as we see today.

## Nobel Dynamite Trust

For instance, the Nobel Dynamite Trust, formed in 1886 to overcome fierce competition between dealers in dynamite, was one of the world's first multinational business ventures: a holding company comprised of three

British and four German explosives companies. The Trust loaned these companies capital to advance their businesses and distributed a percentage of the profits made back to the shareholders of the Trust. The British and German companies then sold explosives all over the world, thereby ensuring that German shareholders profited from the death of German soldiers, and British shareholders profited from the death of British troops for the first two years of the war.

## Opposition to war

But much like today, while government and business were conspiring to reap maximum profits from the war, peace activists and rebels across the UK were doing their best to stop them. Among them were the workers of Glasgow's Govan district, which became one of the most important munitions centres in the UK. It was a crucible of anti-war and anti-arms trade

agitation for much of the war, and earned the area the nickname "Red Clydeside."

As well as workers organising, women across the country were playing an active role in building the peace movement. Leading feminist Sylvia Pankhurst was regarded as such a threat to the Government's wartime policies that she was threatened with libel, banned from international travel, and denounced by Government ministers as a traitor.

## Learning and acting

It's vital that we use the World War One centenary to challenge the arms trade and militaristic solutions to international problems – just as the activists of the time did. To find out more, visit [armingallsides.org.uk](http://armingallsides.org.uk) and discover inspiring stories and important parallels. If you'd like to host a talk or workshop to share the project locally, get in touch with [outreach@caat.org.uk](mailto:outreach@caat.org.uk).



Helen Crawford with Methil Women's Communist Party, 1925. Courtesy of Gallacher Memorial Library, Glasgow Caledonian University Special Collections and Archives

Hello! I'm Matthew Burnett-Stuart and I'm thrilled to be working for CAAT this year as part of the Quaker Peacemaker scheme.

I will mainly focus on outreach work, mobilising CAAT supporters and spreading our anti-militarist message. I'm especially excited about engaging new audiences through the

Arming All Sides project and events related to the First World War. I will also be talking to trade unions about the benefits of shifting jobs from the arms industry into renewable energy. If you would like to speak to me about any of these issues please do not hesitate to contact me at [matt@caat.org.uk](mailto:matt@caat.org.uk).



# SHOULD THE UK BE ARMING THE KURDS?

People across the political spectrum have been rightfully horrified by IS's brutal and barbaric actions, but taking part in air strikes and sending UK arms into a conflict zone will only serve to make matters worse, write CAAT staff [Andrew Smith](#) and [Ann Feltham](#).

The news that the UK has given arms to Kurdish forces fighting against Islamic State (IS) and will be taking part in air strikes follows months of intense media speculation and political debate. By the time this piece is published UK bombs will have fallen on Iraq for the fourth time in only 25 years.

One of the reasons IS is so well armed is because it has weapons that were originally sold to the Iraqi government. Weapons have a long shelf-life and can easily change hands; after looting Iraqi army bases, IS fighters are reported to have access to US-made Humvees, M1 Abrams tanks and surface-to-air Stinger missiles. This is not a problem that is unique to Iraq. The Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 tragedy in Ukraine



A US-made Humvee abandoned by the Iraqi Army at Kirkuk airport. © Enno Lenze / Flickr

role, David Cameron and royals woo it with arms deals. It remains on the “priority list” for export promotion of the UK government’s arms sales agency, the UK Trade and Investment Defence and Security Organisation.

yet again. In the UK, thought is being given to a new National Security Strategy (NSS) due to be published in 2015. Already a parliamentary committee seeking to inform the process is asking questions about the UK’s national security priorities for the next twenty years and the UK’s place in the world.

CAAT will be responding to this parliamentary consultation, arguing that security needs to be disassociated from the military approach. The causes of insecurity, such as climate change and competition for resources, need to be addressed. However, a vital component of the NSS must be to put human rights at the centre of the UK’s foreign policy. This is not, as the parliamentary Committees on Arms Export Controls have consistently pointed out, compatible with promoting arms sales. The days of supporting, and selling arms to, repressive regimes, only, in some cases, to end up bombing them, must end.

Visit [caat.org.uk/arms-to-renewables](http://caat.org.uk/arms-to-renewables) to ask your MP to support a new approach to security that focuses on what will really build a safer world. Call the office if you’d prefer information by post.

## After looting Iraqi army bases, IS fighters are reported to have access to US-made Humvees, M1 Abrams tanks and surface-to-air Stinger missiles.

demonstrates what can happen when sophisticated weapons systems are introduced into a war zone.

Western policy towards allies in the region such as Qatar and Saudi Arabia needs greater scrutiny. While there is no suggestion that Saudi Arabia is actually running IS, and indeed at the time of writing it is joining the US “coalition of the willing” against it, it did strongly support the anti-Shia groups which IS emerged from.

Saudi Arabia itself is a highly repressive regime. According to Human Rights Watch, it beheaded 19 people between 4 and 20 August. Unlike the appalling killing of westerners by IS, these equally dreadful deaths did not make the headlines. However, far from condemning both Saudi Arabia’s human rights record and its regional

Arms companies don’t care who they sell their deadly wares to, as long as there is money in it for them. Governments are only too happy to support them in this. There is then a knee-jerk military response when something goes wrong. The arms companies win again with opportunities for more sales. BAE Systems’ share price, for example, rose in mid-September along with global tensions.

### What should be done?

Humanitarian assistance and support for refugees is an immediate imperative. However, the situation also demands a complete reconsideration of foreign policy so that we do not find ourselves in a similar situation

# CHRISTIAN ACTION ON THE ARMS TRADE

## ARMS DEALERS AT CHURCH HOUSE: NEVER AGAIN

In the space of three weeks this summer, Church House, home to the administrative headquarters of the Church of England, hosted two military conferences that were sponsored by some of the world's largest arms companies. The Church House conference centre is run by a charity that has the Archbishop of Canterbury as its president and council members including "representatives of national church institutions."

Hosting such events supports and legitimises the arms industry and the terrible destruction it causes. It helps sustain the status quo of huge military spending, at the cost of addressing real human needs.

Fellowship of Reconciliation, Pax Christi, CAAT Christian Network and other concerned



Christians held vigils during the events, singing hymns of peace and giving bible readings while arms dealers had coffee on the balcony above.

Hundreds of concerned Christians have already written to

the Archbishop of Canterbury.

**Please join them** in asking him to ensure that Church House conference centre never again hosts such events. His address is Archbishop Justin Welby, Lambeth Palace, London, SE1 7JU.

## ST PAUL'S HOSTED ARMS DEALERS' RECEPTION

It has recently emerged that St Paul's Cathedral hosted an arms dealers' reception during the huge London arms fair in September 2013. It would be hard to find a clearer example of weapons companies buying moral cover than them choosing this prestigious Church of England venue.

St Paul's Cathedral has provided details of the church's ethical investment policy, but it does not seem to have an ethical

policy regarding corporate events. The DSEI arms fair reception was booked by Rolls Royce, which is ranked as the 17th largest arms producer in the world.

**Please take action** to encourage the Cathedral to commit to refusing arms trade events and introducing an ethical policy. Email the Dean at [deanspa@stpaulscathedral.org.uk](mailto:deanspa@stpaulscathedral.org.uk), or write to The Very Reverend Dr David Ison, The Chapter House, St Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8AD.

## VIGIL AT FARNBOROUGH

Faith in action: Quakers held a meeting for worship outside July's Farnborough arms fair, which hosted Russian, Ukrainian and Israeli arms companies. Over 40 people attended, creating a visible presence for alternatives to militarism.



CAAT's Christian Network Day of Prayer on 7 September was a chance for hundreds of Christians across the UK to reflect with their communities on making peace. If you took part, please get in touch to let us know how it went and any suggestions for next year!

CAAT is always keen to hear from people of faith or other networks who would like to organise together against the arms trade. Get in touch if we can support you to take action in your faith community too.

# FUNDRAISING: GREAT NORTH RUN

Well done David! And thanks go to all of the people who sponsored him.

David Watson (pictured) ran in the Great North Run on Sunday 7 September. He crossed the finishing line of the world's biggest half-marathon (13.1 miles) in 2 hours and 8 seconds and managed to raise nearly £1,200 for CAAT.

David said: "When I put my name in the ballot back in February, I knew it was a big step outside my comfort zone. I'd never previously run so far, so I needed to put some training in. But actually, the training wasn't so hard. The run itself was brilliant, I had a great time. I got no blisters, only two sore knees!"

Taking part in a sponsored event is a great way to raise money for CAAT with the added bonus of setting yourself a new challenge. You could do a sponsored run, walk, cycle or swim, or something a bit more unusual like shaving your head or doing a skydive! CAAT can help promote your event and set up a sponsoring webpage, you just need the idea and determination.

If you're thinking of taking part in a sponsored event for CAAT then please contact our fundraiser on **020 7281 0297** or email [fundraising@caat.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@caat.org.uk).



## DSEI TRIAL UPDATE

The arms dealers trial (see CAAT News issue 233, page 14) is discontinued but the fight goes on. Here is an edited extract from [armsdealersontrial.wordpress.com](http://armsdealersontrial.wordpress.com).

Following a private meeting in July between lawyers for Arms Dealers On Trial and the Crown Prosecution Service, the private criminal prosecution of two arms companies has been discontinued. The companies concerned were Magforce International and Tianjin Myway International and allegations concerned promotion of torture weapons at the 2013 DSEI arms fair, contrary to UK

arms export laws. A court had previously granted permission to proceed with the private prosecution and a trial had been anticipated later this year.

Those who hoped for a prosecution are appalled that the case was discontinued. However, they still allege that the commercial trade of arms is facilitated and rewarded by the authorities and the Government.

**"We have always maintained that a wide range of strategies are necessary to oppose the arms fair. The DSEI arms fair returns to the Excel Centre in 2015. We will be there to stand against them and we will not rest until the arms fair has been shut down for good."** [armsdealersontrial.wordpress.com](http://armsdealersontrial.wordpress.com)

## THEY SAID IT

**"We have one of the most rigorous systems in the world for licensing arms."**

A Number 10 spokesperson responds on arms sales to Israel.

**"If I develop a product and want to test it in the field, I only have to go five or ten kilometers from my base and I can look and see what is happening with the equipment."**

Avner Benzaken of the Israeli army, Electronic Intifada, 18 September 2014.

**"For the more pragmatic who just want a solid return profile, [the arms trade] could be a strong performer in uncertain times."**

Steven Carroll, Thomson Reuters, 17 September 2014.

# OBITUARIES: ROY PROCKTER & NICHOLAS RUSSELL

Two of our committee stalwarts have died suddenly and prematurely of heart attacks, leaving those who knew them shocked and saddened. We will miss them.

**Roy Prockter**, who died in June, was on the CAAT Steering Committee throughout the 1990's and was a Trustee of CAAT's associated charity, TREAT, from 1996 until his death. An accountant who lived in the Clacton area, Roy worked for several peace and local organisations. To CAAT and TREAT he brought his invaluable financial knowledge and advice, providing one of those absolutely essential, but often unsung, services needed by any organisation.

Roy was a Quaker and one of the Peace Tax Seven, who went to court to argue for the right to conscientious objection to paying taxes for war. He was also a keen cyclist and tricyclist, enjoying real ale and, as his memorial gathering was told, yoga.

**Nicholas Russell** died in August. Just a couple of days earlier he had phoned the CAAT office to discuss Labour Conference motions.

Involved with CAAT since the late 1980s, Nick was on CAAT Steering Committee longer than anyone else. In the early days, he even travelled from Lancaster University to attend Steering Committee meetings and he remained a member of it until his death.

Very much someone who saw committee work and resolutions as the way to effect change, Nick made a positive difference in the disability and transport fields. Nick was also on the Labour Party National Policy Forum as well as CND and Labour Action for Peace committees, and he could feed information about opportunities and potentially helpful people from one organisation to another.

## TAKING ACTION ON THE ARMS TRADE

- **Find out** if a cultural institution near you is hosting arms dealers or taking their sponsorship. Check out the league table on page 5 and take action (p9).
- **Help** build a wave of support for our new Arms to Renewables campaign. Order campaign materials and postcards (p3).
- **Invite** a speaker to a local meeting to explore CAAT's "Arming all Sides" project on the arms trade in World War One (p11), or the Arms to Renewables campaign (p3).
- **Challenge** the Church of England venues that have hosted arms dealers (p13).
- **Come along** to the Stop the Arms Fair action gathering on 8 November in Friends House, Euston, London, 10.30am-5pm. See [stopthearmsfair.org.uk](http://stopthearmsfair.org.uk)



**Action works!** Arms dealers wanted to return to the Natural History Museum but were turned down after our action at their last event



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:

Postcode:

Tel:  Email:

### DONATION DETAILS

I wish to donate £\_\_\_\_\_ to CAAT (and enclose a cheque made out to CAAT or have completed my credit / debit 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.

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

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: