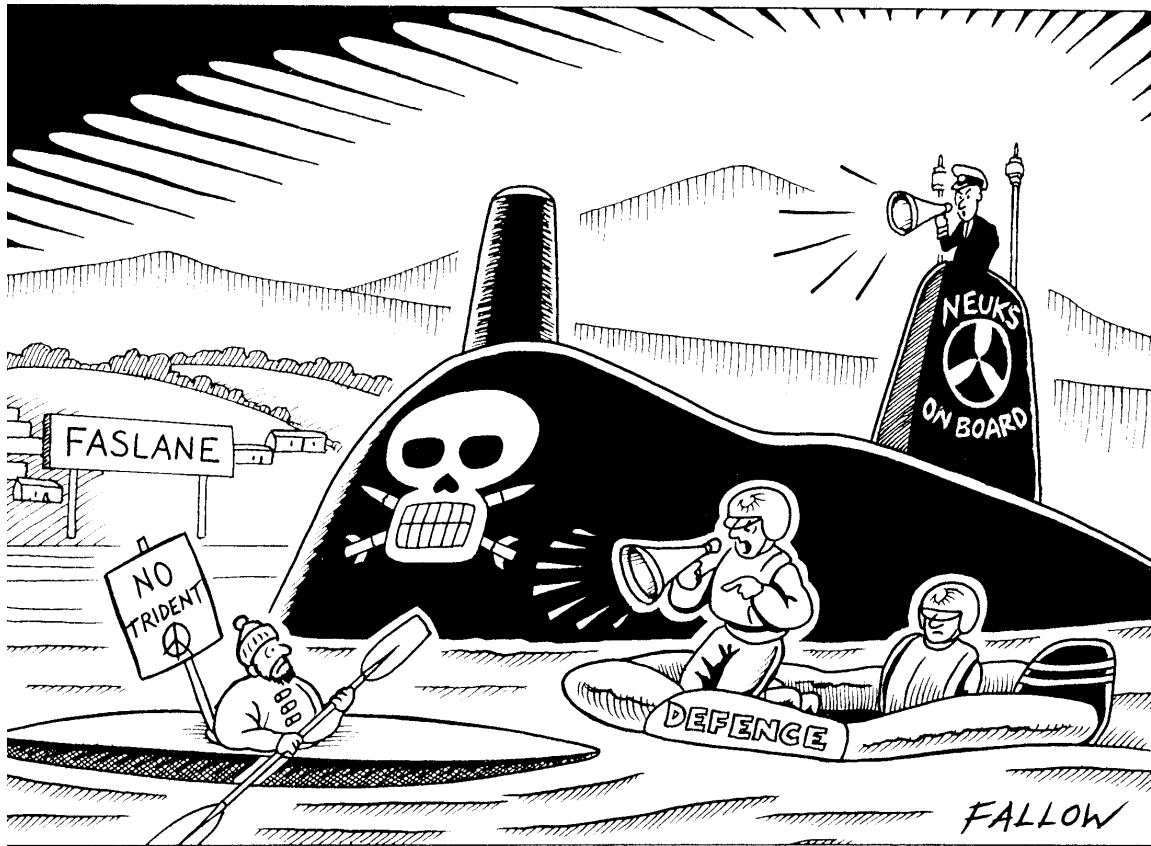


# PART 9: TEXTS OF GUIDELINES AND DOCUMENTS

Copies of all the documents in this section can be ordered from the Core Group and TP Office.



"Are you trying to get yourself killed?"



## 9.1 Pledge to Prevent Nuclear Crime



I am aware that the U.K. has signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1968, Article VI of which stated that each of the parties 'undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and to a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control'. More than thirty years have now passed and the U.K. still continues to deploy nuclear weapons and NATO is still a nuclear alliance containing three of the major nuclear powers. The Trident system is an escalation in the U.K.'s nuclear capability having three times the range, being far more accurate and being able to hit eight times as many targets as the Polaris system it replaces.

I am also aware that on 8th July 1996, the President of the International Court of Justice (which is the highest legal body of the United Nations), Mohammed Bedjaoui, stated, 'The nuclear weapon, the ultimate evil, destabilises humanitarian law which is the law of the lesser evil. The existence of nuclear weapons is therefore a challenge to the very existence of humanitarian law, not to mention their long-term effects of damage to the human environment, in respect to which the right to life must be exercised'. The Court confirmed that the Declaration of St.Petersburg, the Hague Conventions, the Nuremberg Principles, the Geneva Conventions, and the Genocide Convention all apply to nuclear weapons. It stated very clearly that the threat or use of nuclear weapons is generally contrary to international humanitarian law. The Court could find no lawful circumstance for the threat or use of nuclear weapons.

I believe that the Trident nuclear weapon system is illegal, dangerous, unjust, polluting, a terrible waste of resources, and deeply immoral. I think Trident poses a threat rather than a defence.

It is the duty of every citizen to uphold the law relating to nuclear weapons and under the Nuremberg Principles carefully, safely and peacefully to disarm any weapon system that is breaching humanitarian law. I am also aware that most national legal systems, including the U.K.'s and other NATO countries' legal systems, allow serious damage to be done to objects if the damage is done in the belief that this would prevent serious crime from taking place. I believe that the damage Trident Ploughshares activists intend to cause to the U.K. Trident system will stop the ongoing crime of threatening to use nuclear weapons contrary to humanitarian law.

As a global citizen with international, national and individual responsibility, I will endeavour peacefully, safely, openly and accountably to help to disarm the U.K. nuclear weapon system. I will do this by actively joining with others in the Trident Ploughshares Project. This means that until the U.K. Government guarantees to completely disarm the British Trident system, then I pledge either, personally to enter Faslane, Coulport and any other Trident related facility, or to help and support other Trident Ploughshares activists to enter these places, in order that I or others can dismantle the system in such a way that it can not be used to threaten or harm living beings.

Our acts of disarmament are and will be intended to stop ongoing criminal activities under well recognised principles of international law.

I pledge that I will harm no living being by any of my acts and pledge to be calm and peaceful at all times.

Signed: .....

Dated:.....

Name and address printed clearly:

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Please return this signed pledge as soon as possible to:  
Trident Ploughshares, 42-46 Bethel Street, Norwich, Norfolk, NR2 1NR



## 9.2 Individual Nonviolence and Safety Pledge

- 1 I am a member of ..... affinity group, have signed the Pledge to Prevent Nuclear Crime, am registered with Trident Ploughshares and have been through a minimum two-day nonviolence and safety workshop.
- 2 I will not engage in physical violence or verbal abuse toward any individual and will carry no weapons.
- 3 I will not bring or use any alcohol or drugs other than for medical purposes.
- 4 I will respect all the various agreements concerning the actions.
- 5 I will act safely at all times and act responsibly to ensure that no harm comes to any living being including myself.

Signed:.....

Dated:.....

Name and address printed clearly:

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Please return this signed pledge as soon as possible to:  
 Trident Ploughshares, 42-46 Bethel Street, Norwich, Norfolk, NR2 1NR



## 9.3 Nonviolence and Safety Workshop Booking Form

I have read the Trident Ploughshares Handbook and require nonviolence training with my affinity group in preparation for our involvement. (If you have no affinity group please say so, and we will try to fit you into one.)

|  |     |          |
|--|-----|----------|
| NAME   |     |          |
| ADDRESS  |     |          |
|  |     | POSTCODE |
| PHONE  | FAX | EMAIL    |
| AFFINITY GROUP NAME  |     |          |
| OTHER MEMBERS OF AFFINITY GROUP  |     |          |
| (if you are not yet part of an affinity group, please state)   |     |          |
| HOW LONG HAS YOUR AFFINITY GROUP BEEN ACTIVE?  |     |          |
| We would prefer our workshop to be in the  |     | area     |
| Preferred dates:   | 1.  |          |
|  | 2.  |          |
|  | 3.  |          |
| (workshops normally take place over two consecutive nights & days, beginning the evening of the first night) |     |          |

|                               |      |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Signature                     | Date |
| (on behalf of affinity group) |      |

**Please read the following notes carefully and copy them before sending the form:**

- Workshops will normally be arranged for two or more affinity groups at a time.
- It is important that ALL affinity group members attend for the full 2-day workshop.
- Every effort will be made to meet your date and location requirements, although this cannot be guaranteed.
- Responsibility for room hire, refreshments etc lies with the participants.
- Help will also be required with arrangements for the two workshop facilitators, eg transport organisation and costs and overnight accommodation.
- The cost of the workshop, including room hire, will be borne by the participants. The two facilitators will not be charging for their time. For advice about funding, finding suitable venues etc, please contact the Core Group.

Please answer the following questions for ALL members of your affinity group. Your answers will help us in the planning of your nonviolence training workshop.

**What issues have you been campaigning on?**

(tick for each affinity group member)

|                            |                          |                       |                          |                      |                          |               |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Nuclear weapons            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Arms trade            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Human rights         | <input type="checkbox"/> | Animal rights | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Nuclear energy             | <input type="checkbox"/> | Education             | <input type="checkbox"/> | Fair Trade           | <input type="checkbox"/> | Civil rights  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Homelessness               | <input type="checkbox"/> | Transport             | <input type="checkbox"/> | Trade union issues   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Poll tax      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Unemployment               | <input type="checkbox"/> | Biodiversity          | <input type="checkbox"/> | Prison reform        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Healthcare    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Genetic engineering        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Alternative economics | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (please state) | <input type="checkbox"/> | .....         |                          |
| Transnational corporations | <input type="checkbox"/> |                       |                          |                      |                          |               |                          |

**How long has each person been involved in campaigning work:**

(one tick for each affinity group member)

|              |             |           |
|--------------|-------------|-----------|
| Not till now | 0-2 years   | 2-5 years |
| 5-10 years   | 10-20 years | 20+ years |

**What have your contributions been?** (eg attendance at meetings, marches, letter-writing, newsletter, childminding, making the tea....). Answer for each group member.

**How many of you have participated in direct actions before?**

**When & where?**

**How many of you have had experience of direct action with an affinity group?**

**How many of you have had experience of direct action with THIS affinity group?**

**How many of you have had experience of nonviolence training (in any capacity)?**

**Please return this completed form to:**

Alison Crane, 36 Yelverton Ave, Weeping Cross, Stafford, ST17 0HE. ENGLAND. Tel: 01785 611768  
email: alison.crane@ntlworld.com

- You will receive a quick acknowledgement of your request.
- Arrangements will be made to put the workshop facilitators in touch with you as soon as possible.





## 9.5 Groups' Petition of Support for Trident Ploughshares



We the undersigned fully support all those who have signed the Pledge to Prevent Nuclear Crime and identified themselves as Trident Ploughshares activists. We believe that their peaceful and nonviolent attempts at disarming the Trident system are intended to stop ongoing criminal activities under well-recognised principles of international law.

We are aware that the U.K. signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1968, Article VI of which stated that each of the parties 'undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and to a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control'. Thirty years have now passed and the U.K. still continues the nuclear arms race and NATO is still a nuclear alliance containing three of the major nuclear powers. The Trident system is an escalation in the U.K.'s nuclear capability having three times the range, being far more accurate and being able to hit eight times as many targets as the Polaris system it replaces.

We are also aware that on 8th July 1996, the President of the International Court of Justice (which is the highest legal body of the United Nations), Mohammed Bedjaoui, stated, 'The nuclear weapon, the ultimate evil, destabilises humanitarian law which is the law of the lesser evil. The existence of nuclear weapons is therefore a challenge to the very

existence of humanitarian law, not to mention their long-term effects of damage to the human environment, in respect to which the right to life must be exercised'. The Court confirmed that the Declaration of St.Petersberg, the Hague Conventions, the Nuremberg Principles, the Geneva Conventions, and the Genocide Convention all apply to nuclear weapons. It stated very clearly that the threat or use of nuclear weapons is generally contrary to international humanitarian law. The Court could find no lawful circumstance for the threat or use of nuclear weapons.

We understand that it is the duty of every citizen to uphold the law relating to nuclear weapons and under the Nuremberg Principles carefully, safely and peacefully to disarm any nuclear weapon system that is breaching humanitarian law. These Trident Ploughshares activists are acting as fully responsible global citizens and we support their intentions to disarm the UK nuclear system peacefully, safely, openly and accountably.

We applaud the attempts of the Trident Ploughshares activists to urge the U.K. Government, NATO, and others in positions of political and military power, to guarantee to completely disarm the British Trident system. The Trident Ploughshares activists do not wish to have to do the disarmament themselves, however they are willing and ready to do it themselves if necessary and we support them in their intention.

| Name and address of Group<br>(printed clearly) |           | Amount of Donation<br>(made out to Trident Ploughshares) |
|--|-----------|--|
|  |           |  |
| Person signing on behalf of organisation       |           |  |
| Name   | Signature | Position/Status  |
|  |           |  |



## 9.6 Parliamentarians' Petition of Support for Trident Ploughshares



We the undersigned fully support all those who have signed the Pledge to Prevent Nuclear Crime and identified themselves as Trident Ploughshares activists. We believe that their peaceful and nonviolent attempts at disarming the Trident system are intended to stop ongoing criminal activities under well-recognised principles of international law.

We are aware that the U.K. signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1968, Article VI of which stated that each of the parties 'undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and to a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control'. Thirty years have now passed and the U.K. still continues the nuclear arms race and NATO is still a nuclear alliance containing three of the major nuclear powers. The Trident system is an escalation in the U.K.'s nuclear capability having three times the range, being far more accurate and being able to hit eight times as many targets as the Polaris system it replaces.

We are also aware that on 8th July 1996, the President of the International Court of Justice (which is the highest legal body of the United Nations), Mohammed Bedjaoui, stated, 'The nuclear weapon, the ultimate evil, destabilises humanitarian law which is the law of the lesser evil. The existence of nuclear weapons is therefore a challenge to the very

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We understand that it is the duty of every citizen to uphold the law relating to nuclear weapons and under the Nuremberg Principles carefully, safely and peacefully to disarm any nuclear weapon system that is breaching humanitarian law. These Trident Ploughshares activists are acting as fully responsible global citizens and we support their intentions to disarm the UK nuclear system peacefully, safely, openly and accountably.

We applaud the attempts of the Trident Ploughshares activists to urge the U.K. Government, NATO, and others in positions of political and military power, to guarantee to completely disarm the British Trident system. The Trident Ploughshares activists do not wish to have to do the disarmament themselves, however they are willing and ready to do it themselves if necessary and we support them in their intention.

|  |           |  |
|--|-----------|--|
| Name, Constituency and Country of Parliamentarian (MP, MEP etc.) |           | Amount of Donation<br>(made out to Trident Ploughshares) |
|  |           |  |
| Name   | Signature | Tick for more information                                |
|  |           |  |
| Address:   |           |  |
| PostCode   | Tel No.   |  |





## 9.7 Famous Peoples' Petition of Support for Trident Ploughshares



We the undersigned fully support all those who have signed the Pledge to Prevent Nuclear Crime and identified themselves as Trident Ploughshares activists. We believe that their peaceful and nonviolent attempts at disarming the Trident system are intended to stop ongoing criminal activities under well-recognised principles of international law.

We are aware that the U.K. signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1968, Article VI of which stated that each of the parties 'undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and to a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control'. Thirty years have now passed and the U.K. still continues the nuclear arms race and NATO is still a nuclear alliance containing three of the major nuclear powers. The Trident system is an escalation in the U.K.'s nuclear capability having three times the range, being far more accurate and being able to hit eight times as many targets as the Polaris system it replaces.

We are also aware that on 8th July 1996, the President of the International Court of Justice (which is the highest legal body of the United Nations), Mohammed Bedjaoui, stated, 'The nuclear weapon, the ultimate evil, destabilises humanitarian law which is the law of the lesser evil. The existence of nuclear weapons is therefore a challenge to the very

existence of humanitarian law, not to mention their long-term effects of damage to the human environment, in respect to which the right to life must be exercised'. The Court confirmed that the Declaration of St.Petersberg, the Hague Conventions, the Nuremberg Principles, the Geneva Conventions, and the Genocide Convention all apply to nuclear weapons. It stated very clearly that the threat or use of nuclear weapons is generally contrary to international humanitarian law. The Court could find no lawful circumstance for the threat or use of nuclear weapons.

We understand that it is the duty of every citizen to uphold the law relating to nuclear weapons and under the Nuremberg Principles carefully, safely and peacefully to disarm any nuclear weapon system that is breaching humanitarian law. These Trident Ploughshares activists are acting as fully responsible global citizens and we support their intentions to disarm the UK nuclear system peacefully, safely, openly and accountably.

We applaud the attempts of the Trident Ploughshares activists to urge the U.K. Government, NATO, and others in positions of political and military power, to guarantee to completely disarm the British Trident system. The Trident Ploughshares activists do not wish to have to do the disarmament themselves, however they are willing and ready to do it themselves if necessary and we support them in their intention.

| Known by the Public as:<br>(writer, musician, artist etc.) |           | Amount of Donation<br>(made out to Trident Ploughshares) |
|--|-----------|--|
|  |           |  |
| Name   | Signature | Tick for more information                                |
|  |           |  |
| Address:   |           |  |
| PostCode   |           | Tel No.  |



## 9.8 Academics' Petition of Support for Trident Ploughshares



We the undersigned fully support all those who have signed the Pledge to Prevent Nuclear Crime and identified themselves as Trident Ploughshares activists. We believe that their peaceful and nonviolent attempts at disarming the Trident system are intended to stop ongoing criminal activities under well-recognised principles of international law.

We are aware that the U.K. signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1968, Article VI of which stated that each of the parties 'undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and to a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control'. Thirty years have now passed and the U.K. still continues the nuclear arms race and NATO is still a nuclear alliance containing three of the major nuclear powers. The Trident system is an escalation in the U.K.'s nuclear capability having three times the range, being far more accurate and being able to hit eight times as many targets as the Polaris system it replaces.

We are also aware that on 8th July 1996, the President of the International Court of Justice (which is the highest legal body of the United Nations), Mohammed Bedjaoui, stated, 'The nuclear weapon, the ultimate evil, destabilises humanitarian law which is the law of the lesser evil. The existence of nuclear weapons is therefore a challenge to the very

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We understand that it is the duty of every citizen to uphold the law relating to nuclear weapons and under the Nuremberg Principles carefully, safely and peacefully to disarm any nuclear weapon system that is breaching humanitarian law. These Trident Ploughshares activists are acting as fully responsible global citizens and we support their intentions to disarm the UK nuclear system peacefully, safely, openly and accountably.

We applaud the attempts of the Trident Ploughshares activists to urge the U.K. Government, NATO, and others in positions of political and military power, to guarantee to completely disarm the British Trident system. The Trident Ploughshares activists do not wish to have to do the disarmament themselves, however they are willing and ready to do it themselves if necessary and we support them in their intention.

|            |                    |  |
|------------|--------------------|--|
| Name       | Signature          | Amount of Donation<br>(made out to Trident Ploughshares) |
|            |                    |  |
| Subject    | University/College | Status (Lecturer/Professor etc)                          |
|            |                    |  |
| Address:   |                    | Tick for more information                                |
| Post code: | Tel no:            |  |



## 9.9 Religious Leaders' Petition of Support for Trident Ploughshares



We the undersigned fully support all those who have signed the Pledge to Prevent Nuclear Crime and identified themselves as Trident Ploughshares activists. We believe that their peaceful and nonviolent attempts at disarming the Trident system are intended to stop ongoing criminal activities under well-recognised principles of international law.

We are aware that the U.K. signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1968, Article VI of which stated that each of the parties 'undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and to a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control'. Thirty years have now passed and the U.K. still continues the nuclear arms race and NATO is still a nuclear alliance containing three of the major nuclear powers. The Trident system is an escalation in the U.K.'s nuclear capability having three times the range, being far more accurate and being able to hit eight times as many targets as the Polaris system it replaces.

We are also aware that on 8th July 1996, the President of the International Court of Justice (which is the highest legal body of the United Nations), Mohammed Bedjaoui, stated, 'The nuclear weapon, the ultimate evil, destabilises humanitarian law which is the law of the lesser evil. The existence of nuclear weapons is therefore a challenge to the very

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We understand that it is the duty of every citizen to uphold the law relating to nuclear weapons and under the Nuremberg Principles carefully, safely and peacefully to disarm any nuclear weapon system that is breaching humanitarian law. These Trident Ploughshares activists are acting as fully responsible global citizens and we support their intentions to disarm the UK nuclear system peacefully, safely, openly and accountably.

We applaud the attempts of the Trident Ploughshares activists to urge the U.K. Government, NATO, and others in positions of political and military power, to guarantee to completely disarm the British Trident system. The Trident Ploughshares activists do not wish to have to do the disarmament themselves, however they are willing and ready to do it themselves if necessary and we support them in their intention.

| Name                           | Signature | Amount of Donation<br>(made out to Trident Ploughshares) |
|--------------------------------|-----------|--|
|                                |           |  |
| Professional title (eg Bishop) | Religion  | Tick for more information                                |
|                                |           |  |
| Address:                       |           |  |
| Post code:                     | Tel no:   |  |

## 9.10

# An Invitation to Join Trident Ploughshares

A mass nuclear ploughshares action focused mainly on Faslane and Coulport in Scotland, and on certain Trident-related sites in the U.K.

A **Ploughshares Action** is one in which we make a commitment to peace and disarmament by nonviolently, openly and accountably disabling a war machine or system so that it can no longer harm people. It is an enactment of the Biblical prophecies to 'beat swords into ploughshares' but is no longer purely a Christian or Jewish movement as it now embraces people from many belief systems. The underlying appeal is the universal call to peace, to abolish war and to find nonviolent ways to resolve our conflicts. It recognises that war is always an abuse of power and that threats to kill are deeply immoral.



The **Trident Ploughshares** project is part of the international peace movement that has been actively engaged in nuclear disarmament work ever since the first use of nuclear weapons in Hiroshima and Nagasaki over 50 years ago. As our part in the attempt to encourage a nuclear weapons free millennium, we will endeavour peacefully, openly and accountably to disarm the British nuclear Trident system. Our acts of disarmament are intended to stop ongoing criminal activity under well recognised principles of international law.

Over 170 international activists, organised into small, independent, support groups called 'affinity groups' of 3 to 15 people, have already signed a '**Pledge to Prevent Nuclear Crime**'. They are referred to as 'Pledgers'. Trident Ploughshares pledgers have publicly committed themselves to peacefully attempting to disarm the British Trident nuclear weapon system.

We first approached the Government in March 1998 asking them peacefully and responsibly to disarm the Trident submarines themselves in accordance with the many international agreements they have made. For instance, Article VI of the 1968 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) states, "Each of the Parties to the Treaty undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control."

We set up a group of independent advisors and formed a **Dialogue and Negotiation Team** who outlined a series of nine feasible and verifiable requests that would commit the government to a practical process of nuclear disarmament. There has been no constructive reply to these requests and we have been refused a meeting. However, the dialogue work will continue throughout the life of Trident Ploughshares.

**Liaison with Police and Security** has also been ongoing, open and conducted in a friendly manner. The Handbook, Video and the Internet site have been useful in explaining our philosophy and rationale. All of the various authorities have been given a full list of those who have signed the Pledge to Prevent Nuclear Crime which again emphasises our commitment to full openness and accountability for our actions. Updated material with the names of new Pledgers is sent regularly to the Prime Minister and others.

Trident Ploughshares was publicly launched on May 2nd 1998 in London, Edinburgh, Gothenburg, Gent and Hiroshima. Further letters have been sent to government officials and all 16 NATO Heads of State and Foreign Ministers have been approached. We continue the exchange of letters and are keeping the doors open for any dialogue and negotiation. We are making it clear that we would prefer the 'authorities' to disarm Trident and that we are only making our own attempts because they continue to prevaricate.

The first of the **Open Disarmament Actions** started in August 1998 when several hundred people attended the first two-week disarmament camp, which led to around 100 arrests. By the end of the camp nine people from different countries were on remand in Scotland and tens of cases were being heard in the local Helensburgh District Court. Since that time, there have been a number of high-profile courtroom trials which provided the opportunity to present experts in International Law to demonstrate the general illegality of all nuclear weapons. The most successful of these was the ground-breaking trial in Greenock in Scotland, in

October 1999, of the 'Loch Goil Three'. The trial ended when Sheriff Margaret Gimblett found Angie Zelter, Ellen Moxley and Ulla Roder not guilty of malicious damage to a Trident submarine testing station and uttered the immortal words:

"I have heard nothing which would make it seem to me that the accused acted with such criminal intent."

By acquitting them and by recognising that international law applies to Britain's nuclear deterrent, she opened up a huge crack in official complacency about our weapons of mass destruction.

At the trial of the 'Newbury Four' in England, in March 2000, the judge allowed Trident Ploughshares activists to present expert witnesses in their defence but



ultimately found the defendants guilty. The trial of Rosie and Rachel - from the 'Aldermaston Women Trash Trident' affinity group, who boarded and damaged the latest Trident nuclear submarine while it was still at Barrow, resulted in a hung jury in September 2000. Full details of all these trials can be found on the Trident Ploughshares website [www.tridentploughshares.org](http://www.tridentploughshares.org).

Each **Affinity Group** has to take part in a **Nonviolence and Safety Workshop** which is run by people trained by the Quaker-based Turning the Tide programme. This workshop helps individuals and groups to prepare themselves emotionally, physically and legally for their actions as well as clarifying the non-negotiable ground rules for those actions. These ground rules include total nonviolence, safety, openness and accountability. A Core Group member liaises with each group to check progress and give support and to ensure only responsible, totally committed nonviolent activists take part. We are dealing here with extremely dangerous and radioactive nuclear weapon systems and must ensure everyone's safety.

Some affinity groups are also committed to doing 'secret' disarmament actions whereby they do not inform anyone of their exact plans and dates, although they will of course be fully accountable and stand by their actions and explain them and take the consequences. All Trident-related sites can be the target of Ploughshares actions. Affinity groups may well do their follow-up actions and secret disarmament actions at the Trident related sites nearer to their homes, or if they are from abroad, at the NATO sites near them.

Although we have a good defence in law and we believe we are upholding the law, the courts may not agree with us. Each activist must understand that theoretically we may face **possible imprisonment of up to 10 years** if we are ultimately found 'guilty' of actual criminal damage or of conspiracy to commit massive criminal damage. Although the sentences in the Scottish courts have so far proved to be minor (most people have not been charged, and of the 40% of arrestees that have, they have mainly been admonished or given minor fines) we cannot rely on this continuing.

In any case, whether planning our actions for Scotland or England we have to be prepared for the maximum sentence. The maximum is 10 years. The whole moral and political strength of this action is to show just how many ordinary people are willing to make this personal sacrifice in order to disarm nuclear weapons. We must all be willing to face this possibility.

For those not willing to risk imprisonment, there are many essential active support roles that are just as important as the active disarmament roles and each affinity group needs both. There are also very many different disarmament actions with greater or lesser risks of imprisonment attached.

As this project is open and the 'authorities' know who we are and the dates for our open attempts, it is very hard to get near a Trident submarine and disarm it. However, even if we are arrested before we get near the bases - or whilst we are attempting to cut through the fences - we will not have failed because this project is also about disarming the public mind and persuading the Government to respond to popular opinion. It is the attempt and the intent that matters. Maybe hundreds of us, committed to disarming Trident ourselves, will persuade the British Government to do the disarmament themselves.

We have produced the 'Tri-denting It **Handbook** - an Open Guide to Trident Ploughshares'. This Handbook gives a fairly comprehensive overview of the philosophy, background and structure of Trident Ploughshares and also contains useful chapters on nuclear weapons inventories, the legal status of Trident, how groups work and advice on action, court and prison preparation, as well as ideas on how to disarm Trident.



It is advisable to read this thoroughly and also to view the 16 minute **video** entitled 'Tri-denting the Nuclear Conspiracy - Uphold International Law'. which gives a visual tour of Faslane and a summary of the nonviolence and safety ground rules.

Although many people taking part will be giving purely moral defences to their disarmament actions we have a very strong legal defence based upon the **World Court's Advisory Opinion** on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons (8th July 1996). There are now several written up examples of such legal defences that have been through the courts and which are available on our website [www.tridentploughshares.org/](http://www.tridentploughshares.org/) or from the TP Office, 42-46 Bethel Street, Norwich, NR2 1NR. There is also a permanent **Legal Support Team** able to support all of those appearing before the Scottish courts - and we are currently working on setting up a similar one to cover English court cases - it is stressed however, that each affinity group should be as autonomous and self-supporting as possible so that the campaign does not fall apart if there are mass arrests at any stage in the future.

If you are interested in taking part then please fill out the Response Form (on next page) and return it to the TP office in Norwich. We will then try to help you find an affinity group if you are not already part of a group or have no-one else in your area willing to join with you.

#### Help Fund Trident Ploughshares

The project is designed to be as financially self-sufficient as possible, which is why each activist is asked to donate £10 to an account called 'Trident Ploughshares'. The public are also being asked to donate funds to us. Even if you decide you do not wish to take an active part we would be grateful for donations.

### Response Form for Individual

Please complete this response form, ticking where appropriate and then return to Trident Ploughshares, c/o 42-46 Bethel St, Norwich, Norfolk, NR2 1NR, UK. Please be aware that filling in this form could open you up to charges of conspiracy and if you are worried about this then please contact the core group for a face to face confidential meeting.

1. NAME: .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

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TEL: ..... FAX: ..... E-MAIL: .....

2. I am interested in being a Trident Ploughshares activist: YES  NO

3. I have my own affinity group YES  NO

If YES, this affinity group consists of  people who will become Trident Ploughshares activists with me.  
*put number in group*

If NO, I will try and create an affinity group in my locality YES  NO

or

I would like you to put me into an affinity group YES  NO

4. If you want us to put you in an affinity group then please state anything about your age, sex, interests, or any personal details that you think are relevant to placing you in a suitable affinity group.

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5. I would like to volunteer to help in the following ways:-

general mobilisation and outreach YES

press work YES

fund-raising YES

Please specify here any other offers of help you would like to make: .....

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6. I would like to give a donation now of £..... (cheques made out to 'Trident Ploughshares' and sent with this response form). Each activist is asked to donate £10 if they can afford it.

7. I would like you to send me ..... (put number required) leaflets that I will distribute.

8. Please feel free to make any comments or suggestions, in this space, about Trident Ploughshares.

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