

NONVIOLENT NEWS

Nonviolence and campaigning news from **INNATE**



Number 40

Belfast

3rd July 1996

JFK VISIT NOT OK

The Campaign Against US Foreign Policy includes a number of different organisations (among them the Green Party, AFri, Irish Justice and Peace Group, Irish-Nicaragua Support Group, Cuba Solidarity Campaign) who are currently objecting to the visit of the USA aircraft carrier, the John F Kennedy, on a 'goodwill' visit to Dublin Bay. During the Gulf War this ship launched heavy bombing attacks on Baghdad resulting in the deaths of thousands of civilians. Various state-connected organisations (National Lottery, Bord Fáilte) have been involved in the visit; the ship will be anchored off Dun Laoghaire from 2 - 6 July; one protest will take place at the ferry terminal (where visitors will be ferried out from) on 4th July. The visit, and enthusiasm for it in some quarters, seems very strange for a state still militarily 'neutral'. Part of the criticism of the visit would be its propaganda value as part of an effort to get the Republic to joining the 'Partnership for Peace' and NATO by the back door. Contact: The Campaign Against US Foreign Policy, 10 Upper Camden Street, Dublin 2; phone Con Maxwell at 01 - 848 4307 or Colm O Caomhánaigh at 01 - 473 1456. [Source: Party Green Newsletter 70]

PARADE AND PROTEST

As the 'marching season' got underway in earnest in the North, a detailed study has been launched which has already received a fair amount of publicity; "Parade and Protest; a discussion of parading disputes in Northern Ireland" by Neil Jarman and Dominic Bryan, published by the Centre for the Study of Conflict. This is a very useful study of the main issues, their significance in the contemporary situation, attitudes and perceptions, and ways forward (e.g. looking at a commission on parading, and the possibility of a tribunal on individual parades). ISBN 1 85923 048 2. 168 pages. Available from bookshops price £10, or at the same price, post free, from; The Centre for the Study of Conflict, University of Ulster, Coleraine BT52 1SA (Phone 01265 - 324886/324165; Fax 01265 - 324917).

ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY FOR NORTH

Northern Ireland Environment Link, the networking body for voluntary organisations in the environmental field, published its Environmental Strategy for Northern Ireland in mid-May. Environmental sustainability is the key concept in the report which presents 290 (!) recommendations to bring vision to reality. Copies of a 4-page summary are available free of charge on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope; copies of the full report (500 pages) are £12 plus £5 post and packing. Northern Ireland Environment Link, 47a Botanic Avenue, Belfast BT7 1JL. Phone 01232 - 314944; Fax 01232 - 311558.

PEACE STUDIES AT SAOR-OLLSCOIL

The prospectus for Saor-Ollscoil na hÉireann (Free University of Ireland) is now available including the Peace Studies course (Coordinator; Sean English. Lecturers; Mary O'Callaghan, John Cullen, Elizabeth Cleary, Hilda Mac Lochlainn). The course (Weds eve.) includes the study of genocide, Ireland's neutrality and the Irish contribution to UN peacekeeping; the central approach of the course is to look at the philosophy of peace and of the individuals who have promoted it. The general aim includes developing a critical awareness of the causes of war and conflict. Saor-Ollscoil is a charitable trust set up to provide third level education to degree standard for mature students. Saor-Ollscoil na hÉireann, 55 Prussia Street, Dublin 7. Ph 01 - 8683368.

MUSTARD SEED REVISITED

It's 20 years since the Mustard Seed 'alternatives gathering' organised by the SCM took place at Glenree (is it really that long since I slept under the reception counter there?! - Ed). A group associated with Glenree is looking at a possible successor event (themes; the Third Sector, the common civil society, local economy, healing process, renewal, focus etc). There's an exploratory gathering regarding this 'Forum for the Future' at the Glenree Centre, Co Wicklow on 12 - 13 July. Contact Mark Crosbie and Brian Rogers at the Glenree Offices, 19 - 23 Exchequer Street, Dublin 2 (Ph 01 - 662 0355 / 679 7148), if you're interested in going (estimated cost £20) or just plain interested. [Source: Common Ground, May-June]

Nonviolent News is produced at least 10 times a year by INNATE; an Irish Network for Nonviolent Action Training and Education, 16 Ravenedene Park, Belfast BT6 0DA. Phone/Fax 01232 - 647105; your news welcome. There'll be an August issue if the material received justifies producing an issue (deadline 29th July); otherwise the next issue will be September, deadline 1st September.

CAJ; FAIR EMPLOYMENT

CAJ's latest report appeared in June, *Fair Employment for All*, which is their formal submission to the Standing Advisory Commission on Human Rights' review of the 1989 fair employment legislation in Northern Ireland. The 60 page report examines the operation of the legislation and institutions which have been established to ensure fairness in the labour market and makes extensive recommendations. It details the importance of government making a more public commitment to fair employment - in word and deed - and in the skewing of resources (via active TSN and PAFT measures) to those sectors of the population particularly disadvantaged. Copies of the report (£3.50 plus 70p postage/packing per copy), and a free summary of the report, are available.

In recent months the CAJ has made important submissions to the UN on issues of racial discrimination, torture and ill-treatment, and general human rights concerns. Its major report from last year, *Human Rights: The Agenda for Change*, is still being widely distributed. With politicians and people unable to agree about 'the big picture', CAJ in this report urges them to turn their attention to discussing how human rights can be protected in whatever constitutional framework is eventually agreed. A full list of publications, membership forms, and the annual report are available on request from CAJ (Committee on the Administration of Justice), 45/47 Donegall Street, Belfast BT1 2FG. Phone 01232 - 232394; Fax 01232 - 333522.

PRINCE CHARLES DECIDES AGAINST APOLOGISING

The Bloody Sunday Justice Campaign in Derry has released the text of faxes between it and Prince Charles' private secretary, during a visit by the prince to Northern Ireland. The fax on behalf of Prince Charles (Colonel-in-Chief of the Parachute Regiment who perpetrated the killings of Bloody Sunday in 1972) pointed out the suffering of his own family and his identity with the suffering of all who have been killed or injured but went on "*He believes, nevertheless, that dwelling on past tragedies will do nothing to bring the peace and reconciliation which all decent people are seeking*". In its reply, the Bloody Sunday Campaign pointed out that "*What differentiates Bloody Sunday from all other atrocities is the fact that the blame was effectively shifted onto the victims*" through the Widgery tribunal. Bloody Sunday Justice Campaign, 1 West End Park, Derry, BT48 9JF. Phone 01504 - 268846; Fax 01504 - 266453.

CHRISTIAN NONVIOLENCE FAST

People are invited to participate in the 40 day period of prayer and fasting for the truth of Christian nonviolence, beginning on 1st July and ending on 9th August (Hiroshima Day). Initiated by Fr Charlie McCarthy, the Christian Nonviolence Movement invites your participation, in the way most suitable to you. A leaflet explaining more about the background and the possibilities is available on request. Christian Nonviolence Movement, 224 Lisburn Road, Belfast BT9 6GE. Phone 01232 - 663465.

PEACE WALK; London - Dublin - Belfast

From 6th July to 28th August a peace walk over this route takes place initiated by Nipponzan Myohoji, a Japanese Buddhist order dedicated to prayer and action for nonviolence and peace. The walk is open to all who supports its aims (prayer for victims, learning from history and practising nonviolence, generating a positive force, involving different people, providing space for reflection). The route in Britain travels via Oxford and Cardiff to Pembroke (arriving 28th July) and, in Ireland, from Rosslare on 29th July via Wexford, Enniscorthy, Gorey, Arklow, Wicklow, Greystones, Dun Laoghaire, Dublin, Ballyboghil, Drogheda, Dunleer, Dundalk, Newtownhamilton, Armagh, Ballygawley, Omagh, Strabane, L'Derry, Limavady, Coleraine, Bushmills, Ballycastle, Cushendall, Carnlough, Larne, Carrickfergus and Belfast, with the ending ceremony in Belfast on 28th July. Participation (accompanying, helping with sleeping space and food, publicity) is welcome. Contact addresses: Nipponzan Myohoji (Sr Astrid), Willen, Milton Keynes MK15 0BA, ph 01908 - 663652 or Danny Thompson, National Peace Council, 88 Islington High Street, London N1 8EG, ph 0171 - 3545200, fax 3540033.

CHURCH AND PEACE CONFERENCE

The Church and Peace English-language conference takes place from 20 - 22 September in Rydal Hall, Ambleside, England on the topic of National identity and Christian peacemaking. Speakers include Helen Steven from Scotland, Katl and Cili Simonyi from Hungary and Alan Pleydell, Britain. Fee is £65. Church and Peace, c/o 4 The Square, Clun, Shropshire SY7 8JA, England.

BALKAN PEACE TEAM

The Balkan Peace Team (BPT) does human rights and nonviolent support work in two, possibly soon three, parts of the former Yugoslavia. The BPT is always looking for prospective volunteers (need to speak English, learn a Balkan language, offer a year's service); one current volunteer is Sharon Snyder, in Zagreb, formerly working with PACE in Belfast, and Cara Gibney from Belfast is due to go in November. Contact the BPT International Office, Marlenwall 9, D - 32423 Minden, Germany. Ph +49 571 29456; Fax 23019, email also.