



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND)

The Prime Minister has heard from more than one source, but particularly from Mr John Major MP, that CND are making a major investment in properties in the neighbourhood of Molesworth as a base for their activities there. In particular, the Prime Minister has been told that a small brick-built shrine, known as an "Eirene" has recently been dedicated in the curtilage of Molesworth by the Bishop of Huntingdon. It is also reported, although this has not been confirmed, that CND are negotiating for a house at Clopton.

Brf
The Prime Minister has asked me to find out from you whether you have any access to information about these activities and in particular about the sources from which the substantial investment involved is being financed.

25 January 1985



Prime Minister

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You ~~will~~ remember asking me to find out whether Sir Robert Armstrong knew who was financing CND's activities at Molesworth. The attached is his answer, though it does not answer the question where CND get their money from.

Ref. A085/404

MR BUTLER

Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

In response to your minute of 25 January I attach a copy of a letter which I have received from the Director General of the Security Service.

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ROBERT ARMSTRONG

6 February 1985

SECRET

To draft

Correspondence to this address must be under double cover. The outer envelope should be addressed to
The Secretary PO Box 500 London SW1P 1XH and not to any individual.



**PO Box 500
London SW1P 1XH**

Telephone 01-388 3232 ext.
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L602-12/DG

5 February 1985

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FILE No.

Dear Robert,

Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament
(CND)

In your letter of 28 January you asked if we had any information about CND activities at Molesworth referred to in Robin Butler's minute of 25 January.

2. Our understanding is that anti-nuclear protest activities at Molesworth have hitherto not been organised by CND, but have been concentrated around two "peace" camps. One, called the "People's Peace Camp" at Clopton, was set up three years ago; and the other, known as the "Rainbow Fields Village" (which is on Ministry of Defence land at Brington) was set up last summer after a "Harvest for the Hungry" demonstration on the site. Unlike at Greenham, neither camp is exclusively feminist, but both are populated by floating groups of Quakers, and peace and ecology campaigners. Although individual members of subversive organisations have from time to time been involved with both the camps, neither owes its foundation or its continued existence to the support of any subversive group. Nor, as far as we can tell from overt sources, has CND itself as an organisation been involved in the formation or financing of either camp.

Sir Robert Armstrong GCB CVO
Cabinet Office

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3. CND involvement at Molesworth is about to increase, however. During the latter part of 1984 CND members in East Anglia, particularly those associated with the organisation "Action 84", were pressing CND to back the Molesworth "peace" campaign. A leading figure in this was Jimmy JOHNS, a former member of the (Trotskyist) Socialist Workers Party and one of the founders of "Action 84", who sits on CND's Projects Committee, which plans its future campaigns. As a result of this pressure, CND has decided to make Molesworth the focus of its campaigning in 1985. £20,000 has been set aside to finance a major demonstration culminating in a rally at Molesworth on Easter Monday. The rally will probably be well attended. The intention of CND now is to hinder any construction work at the site.

4. This is all by way of background. We ourselves had no knowledge of the house purchases referred to in Robin Butler's minute enclosed with your letter, but following your letter have obtained some information from the two police forces concerned. A crude structure used as a chapel has indeed been constructed by peace campers out of rubble on a site which may have been that of the former RAF chapel but is now within the campers' Rainbow Fields Village. The campers call the chapel "Eirene" after the Greek word for peace. The building has no roof but was dedicated (for religious services) by the Bishop of Huntingdon in September 1984. The structure, as well as the Rainbow Fields camp, is on land which is to be developed as part of the new base. In addition there has also been some interest shown, but not by CND, in purchasing a house in Clopton. The house was vacated and put on the market in December by its owner. At the end of December its Quaker caretaker received a letter from a member of the executive committee of the Gandhi Foundation. The writer understood that the owner of the house was anxious to sell it to someone connected with the peace movement and stated that the Gandhi Foundation might be interested in buying it. The house is no longer on the market, but the police do not know whether or not it has been sold.

Further information I have received from John Major is that the house was previously owned by a man called Lowe, a CND sympathiser. The Quaker caretaker is a man called Milne-Wallace, who is looking after the house with his wife. The member of the Executive committee of the Gandhi Foundation is thought to be Michael Lawler, a well-known CND sympathiser.

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5. Neither we nor the local police know of any other prospective purchases of property in the area by peace campaigners in general or CND in particular, and we doubt that CND itself is currently in the market for such property. Certainly there is in its most recently published accounts no indication of such an intention. While the Campaign does have an annual income approaching £750,000 and could, if it chose, buy property, it could not do so without abandoning other established areas of activity or cutting back on full-time staff. We are aware of no evidence that they are planning to do either.

6. We have no information about the funding of the Gandhi Foundation.

Yours ever,
J L Jones
J L Jones

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References
Policies of Bases
Militar
Feb 83

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

The Prime Minister has read with interest the letter from the Director General of the Security Service which was attached to your minute of 6 February (A085/404), and was grateful for it.

FERB

7 February 1985

SECRET AND PERSONAL

MS