

TAKE ACTION

As a individual:

Use a bank that invests ethically. You can change gradually and say why.

Find out more about your pension fund. Many allow you to specify how your money is invested.

Talk to people about these issues. Is there a company involved with nuclear weapons in your area? If so, use this information in a letter to your local paper. Write to the company.

As a Church member:

Persuade your Parish or Diocese to use ethical banks.

Make the case with your local congregation.

Hold a prayer vigil.

Write an article for your church newsletter.

The Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is a specialist section of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. CCND seeks to put forward the disarmament message in the light of the Gospel in all churches.

Christian CND works in Churches and other Faith Communities encouraging them to see campaigning for nuclear disarmament as part of their Faith commitment. It engages with the government of the day and makes public statements on this subject.

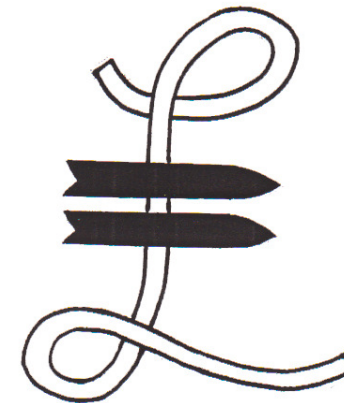
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NUCLEAR WEAPONS and the MONEY MAKERS



Making Money from the Bomb

Most anti-nuclear campaigners focus on the political decisions taken by governments, but there is a very powerful lobby whose financial interests lie in the continuation of nuclear weapons programmes. A large proportion of their profits comes from manufacture and maintenance of weapons systems, investment and shareholding in the manufacturing companies. Banks make money from lending to them.

Manufacturers Although this is an international business, this leaflet focuses on those UK companies where influence may be exerted. The main manufacturers include Babcock International, BAE Systems and Rolls Royce who have started the Future Submarines project to develop *Successor*, a new class of submarine for the British Navy to be armed with Trident nuclear ballistic missiles. The other two UK firms who are most closely involved are the Redhall Group and Serco. The Redhall group carries out mechanical and electrical engineering activities at the Atomic Weapons Establishments at Aldermaston and Burghfield, (the facility for assembling and disassembling nuclear warheads.) Serco has a one third share in the joint venture AWE-ML which manages Aldermaston. The AWE's involvement covers the entire life cycle of the Trident missiles. The other partners in this venture are the US companies, Lockheed Martin and Jacobs Engineering.

Lenders and Investors These manufacturers are bank-rolled by a number of British financial institutions. RBS, one of the main lenders, has made a loan of \$80million. Shareholders include RBS, Lloyds TSB, Barclays, Prudential, Aviva, Standard Life and Legal and General. Many pension funds are involved, eg. The Universities' Superannuation Scheme and numbers of others.

Can You Take on Corporate Giants and Win?

It is possible to persuade these massive corporations to withdraw from involvement with nuclear weapons. They have many other commercial interests too, most of them legitimate and even praiseworthy.

Back in the 1980s an international grassroots campaign persuaded General Electric in the US to end its connection with nuclear weapons production.

Pressure was put on GE by boycotting its other products and many kinds of publicity, which had a major effect on public opinion. It took several years but achieved its result. With enough pressure, companies can change.

Kellie Louailler, the Executive Director of Corporate Accountability International, formerly 'Infact', the organising group of this campaign, has this advice: *"This isn't a numbers game: big business will always have more resources than campaigners. What we have at the core of it all is righteous truth that puts people's lives (public health and human rights), environmental safety and democracy, ahead of corporate greed.*

Think and act with boldness; the stakes are high enough to ask people to do what might seem impossible. Be smart, be strategic, have a laser focus, be clear about what you are campaigning to achieve –and let your adversary know what is required.. Dig in for the long haul. Keep your friends close and your adversaries closer...there are people within these corporations making decisions: know them, expose them and call on them to change. With enough pressure, they will."

Information from "Don't Bank on the Bomb" a new 180 page report from ICAN. Downloadable on www.dontbankonthebomb.com