

The Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is a specialist section of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. It seeks to put forward CND's message in the light of the Gospel in churches of all denominations.

Christian CND continues to work in Churches and other Faith Communities encouraging them to see work for nuclear disarmament as part of their Faith commitment, to engage with the government of the day and make public statements on this subject.

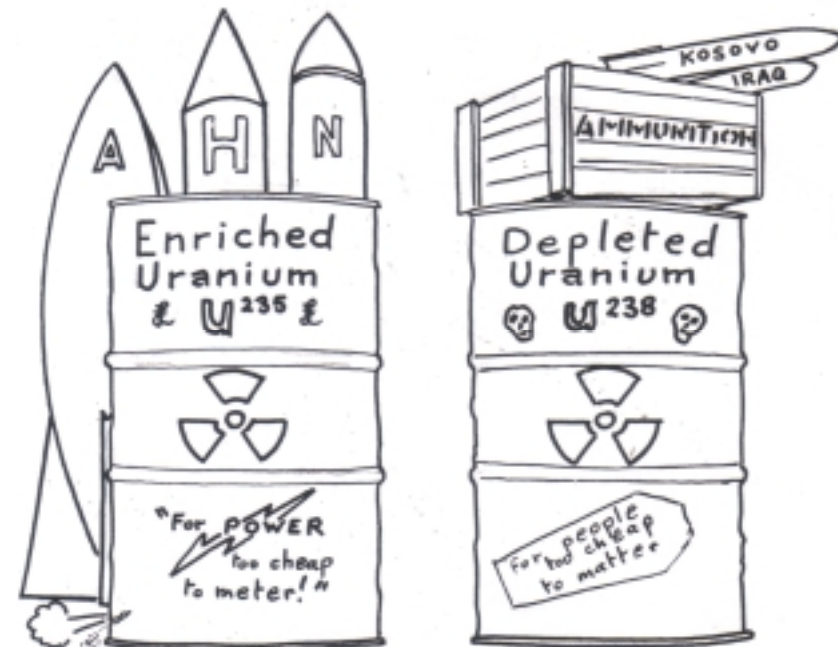
As part of its aim to dialogue with decision makers, it holds an annual walk visiting the London embassies of Nuclear Weapons States, the New Agenda Coalition and other relevant nations. In 2010 this also incorporated interviews with representatives of 13 of these embassies.

Conferences and day schools are arranged on both the theology and politics of nuclear disarmament in solidarity with other Faith Communities. Liturgies and demonstrations are held at significant sites.

CCND also helps schools with their curriculum requirements on War and Peace

*Christian CND* 020 7700 4200  
*Mordechai Vanunu House, 162 Holloway Rd. London N7 8DQ*  
[christians@cnduk.org](mailto:christians@cnduk.org) <http://ccnd.gn.apc.org>

## NUCLEAR WEAPONS And THE ENVIRONMENT



PRODUCTS OF  
THE SEPARATION PROCESS

*The future of humankind is present today within the bodies of living people, animals and plants - the whole seedbearing biosphere. This living biosystem... has evolved slowly into a relatively stable dynamic equilibrium with predictable interactions between plants and animals, between microscopic and macroscopic life, between environmental pollutants and human health. Changes in the environment disturb this balance in two ways: first, by altering the carefully evolved seed by randomly damaging it, and second by altering the habitat... to which the seed and/or organism has been adapted, making life for future generations more difficult or even impossible. (Dr. Rosalie Bertell in "No Immediate Danger")*

In 1945, one small (by the standards of today's weapons) atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima killing 140,000 people and condemning thousands more Hibakusha (survivors) to a lifetime of ill health.

**OUR NUCLEAR WEAPONS ARE KILLING PEOPLE TODAY!**  
At every stage in their manufacture, transport or storage, radiation is released into the environment. There is no safe level of radiation. Governments lay down 'permissible levels', the level at which society and the economy can cope with the extra cases of cancer or birth defects caused by damage to the human body.

### **Mining**

The nuclear chain begins with the mining of uranium, the only natural radioactive element and the raw material for the manufacture of nuclear warheads.

Most deposits of uranium ore are found where indigenous people live. The exploitation of these people in Indian lands in USA and Canada, Aboriginal lands in Australia, and areas of southern Africa have been particularly disgraceful. Not only have some of these populations been

displaced to make way for mining operations, but workers have been employed in 'slave labour' conditions which have resulted in damage to their health and a much reduced lifespan.

### **Transportation**

The uranium ore is then transported to factories by land, sea or air, to be made into fuel rods for nuclear reactors or prepared for enrichment for nuclear weapons.

### **Nuclear Fission**

Splitting the uranium atoms in nuclear reactors releases energy which can be used to make steam to drive turbines. It also changes some of the uranium atoms into plutonium, a highly fissile man-made element which is one of the materials used in nuclear warheads. These warheads are made in AWE Aldermaston or nearby Burghfield and then taken by road to be placed in the Trident submarines in Faslane in Scotland.

### **Nuclear Waste**

All these processes result in the creation of nuclear waste which must be stored for many years, sometimes thousands, before it has lost the ability to damage our world and that which lives in it.

*Further information on all nuclear issues from [www.reachingcriticalwill.org](http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org)*