



TRI-DENTING IT HANDBOOK

An Open Guide to Trident Ploughshares

3rd Edition 2001

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3rd Edition, January 2001

Introduction	pages 1-4
PART 1	Overview of Trident Ploughshares pages 5-14
1.1 Aims	1.6 Background History and Philosophy of the Ploughshares Movement to Date
1.2 Several Good Reasons for Disarming Trident	1.7 Chronology and Succinct Summary of the Anti-Nuclear Weapons Campaign to Date
1.3 General Overview of Trident Ploughshares	References and Acknowledgements
1.4 Timetable for Actions	
1.5 Why Nonviolent Action and Why This Action Now?	
PART 2	Structure of Trident Ploughshares pages 15-26
2.1 Overall Structure	2.6 Affinity Groups
2.1.1 Core Group	2.6.1 Nonviolence & Safety Workshops
2.1.2 Co-operation at Camps	2.6.2 Process of the Group
2.2 Bank Account	2.6.3 Consensus Decision Making
2.3 Nonviolence and Safety Guidelines	2.6.4 Tools for Small Group Work
2.4 Joint Responsibility	2.6.5 Outline Programme for Affinity Groups
2.5 Ploughshares Activists/Individual Pledgers	2.6.6 Affinity Group Commitment
	References and Acknowledgements
PART 3	Dialogue With The State pages 27-49
3.1 Why Dialogue?	3.3 Dialogue with the Police
3.2 Summary of Dialogue with the Government and the Military	3.4 "I Hope This is Helpful"
	References and Acknowledgements
PART 4	The Story So Far pages 51-69
References and Acknowledgements	
PART 5	Practical Trident Disarmament pages 71-86
5.1 Background Information on Trident, Faslane and Coulport	5.3.1 What are AWE Aldermaston and Burghfield?
5.2 How to Safely Disarm a Trident Submarine	5.3.2 Where are They?
5.2.1 Some General Safety Considerations	5.3.3 Some Ideas for Actions
5.2.2 Ideas for Disarmament	5.4 Other Trident Related Sites
5.3 Background Information on Aldermaston and Burghfield	References and Acknowledgements

PART 6 Status of Nuclear Weapons pages 87-118

- | | |
|---|--|
| 6.1 Background to the State of Nuclear Weapons in the World | 6.5 The Use of British Trident in War |
| 6.2 Inventories of Nuclear Weapons | 6.6 The Effects of Nuclear Weapons |
| 6.3 The British Nuclear Arsenal | 6.7 The Criminality of British Trident |
| 6.4 British Nuclear Defence Policy | 6.8 Multi-cultural and Religious Background to Issues of Peace, War and Humanitarian Law |
| | References and Acknowledgements |

PART 7 Legal Briefings and Guide to Court and Prisons pages 119-143

- | | |
|--|--|
| 7.1 Introduction | 7.5 Outline Skeleton Defence |
| 7.2 Getting Arrested and Processed | 7.6 Trident Ploughshares Cases Using International Law |
| 7.2.1 Procedure in Scotland | 7.7 Options Open to You |
| 7.2.2 Procedure in England and Wales | 7.7.1 In Court |
| 7.2.3 Possible Charges in Scotland | 7.7.2 Fines and Imprisonment |
| 7.2.4 Possible Charges in England and Wales | 7.7.3 Dealing with the Bailiffs |
| 7.2.5 Consequences - what could happen to you eventually | 7.7.4 Useful Court Addresses |
| 7.2.6 Notes for Non-British Ploughshares Activists | 7.8 Guide to Prisons and How to Cope |
| 7.3 Scottish and English Legal Systems and Likely Process Through the Courts | 7.8.1 Preparation |
| 7.3.1 Scottish Courts | 7.8.2 Useful Prison Addresses |
| 7.3.2 English Courts | 7.8.3 Some Reflections on Prison Life. |
| 7.4 Summary of Legal Proceedings against Trident Ploughshares Activists | 7.9 Glossary of Legal Terms |
| | References and Acknowledgements |

PART 8 Trident Ploughshares in the Public Eye pages 145-152

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 8.1 Media Issues | References and Acknowledgements |
| 8.2 Some Notes About Media Work | |

PART 9 Texts of Guidelines and Documents pages 153-166

- | | |
|---|--|
| 9.1 Pledge to Prevent Nuclear Crime | 9.6 Parliamentarians' Petition of Support |
| 9.2 Individual Nonviolence and Safety Pledge | 9.7 Famous Peoples' Petition of Support |
| 9.3 Nonviolence and Safety Workshop Booking Form | 9.8 Academics' Petition of Support |
| 9.4 Individuals' Petition of Support for Trident Ploughshares | 9.9 Religious Leaders' Petition of Support |
| 9.5 Groups' Petition of Support | 9.10 Invitation to Join Trident Ploughshares |
| | References and Acknowledgements |

PART 10 Useful Addresses and Resources pages 167-174

- | | |
|---|---|
| 10.1 Useful Addresses | 10.2.2 A Sample Letter to Your Favourite Policy Maker |
| 10.2 Resources | 10.2.3 Information about Nuclear Accidents |
| 10.2.1 Useful Facts, Figures and Diagrams | References and Acknowledgements |
| Trident Ploughshares Pledgers List | |

INTRODUCTION

This Handbook is for anybody who wants to take part in Trident Ploughshares. It provides detailed information on the agreed structure and ground rules of Trident Ploughshares so that people can decide if this is the kind of campaign they wish to join. It also contains the basic documents that activists will be asked to sign and which form the legal background to our actions.

We need hundreds of committed people willing to take part, so we hope you will find this resource empowering. The Handbook has been written in several sections and each section is printed in a different colour for easy use. You should read all of the Handbook but bear in mind that some of it is essential and some is more for background and reference purposes. For instance, it is essential that you understand the nonviolence and safety guidelines in Part 2.3 but you may not be particularly interested in the inventories of nuclear weapons in Part 6.2. If there is any information that you require that for some reason is not in the Handbook then please contact the Core Group who will try to help you.

The most important document in the Handbook is probably the Pledge to Prevent Nuclear Crime. This is the document that every Trident Ploughshares activist signs. These Pledges are sent to the Prime Minister at regular intervals as new people join in. The Pledge can be found in Part 9.1. It is also useful to use in court to prove your intent and motivation.

The contents of this 3rd edition of the Handbook have been agreed by a Core Group of organisers (see Part 2.1.1) and with feedback from a large number of other people who are noted at the end of each section.

The first two editions of this handbook were written and edited by Angie Zelter who shamelessly copied and borrowed from all of the texts referred to at the end of each section. This edition has been revised by her with the addition of several entirely new parts written by other TP pledgers. These sections are credited accordingly. Where there are whole sections not credited, this is because Angie is wholly responsible. The illustrations, photos and cartoons have been reproduced without the permission of the various artists so as to protect them against any possible conspiracy charges. We hope they will not mind. The front illustration, in particular, was 'appropriated' from Emily Johns. The writers and references used are detailed at the end of each section where you will also find some suggestions for further reading where appropriate. Many friends and helpers corrected, edited and helped in various ways.

Thanks to all of them. Especial thanks to Joe Button and Rachel Boyd for their design, desktop publishing, editing and printing help.

The responsibility for the contents of the Handbook lies entirely with Angie. She tried to be as accurate as possible but no doubt errors have slipped in and she and the Core Group apologise in advance for them. Please let them know of any errors so they can be corrected in any future editions. We would also like suggestions on improvements or additions.

Many of the books referred to can be borrowed from the Commonweal Collection or they may be purchased from The Friends Book Centre, or from Housmans Bookshop. Trident Ploughshares also have copies of many of the references listed which can be photocopied. The World Court Project can be contacted for any of the ICJ documents. Addresses are in Section 10.1. Some of the references referred to can be found on our website at: <http://www.gn.apc.org/tp2000/>. The complete Handbook can also be downloaded from the website.

Here is a simple summary of the contents of the various sections of the Handbook

- Part 1 is an overview of Trident Ploughshares within the context of 50 years of peace movement activities;
- Part 2 includes the structure and financing of Trident Ploughshares, the ground rules and how to work and support each other in an affinity group;
- Part 3 gives information about the negotiation and dialogue aspects of the work of Trident Ploughshares;
- Part 4 tells the story so far and gives a summary of the disarmament actions up to September 2000;
- Part 5 gives some practical background information with maps and diagrams of Trident, Faslane, Coulport, Aldermaston and Burghfield with some ideas on how to disarm the Trident system;
- Part 6 gives technical information about nuclear weapons inventories, the effects of nuclear weapons and their legal and ethical standing;
- Part 7 is the legal section with a guide to the kinds of charges you may face, how to defend yourselves in court, advice on how to prepare yourselves for imprisonment and current arrest/fine/imprisonment statistics;
- Part 8 contains a summary of the press coverage we have received so far;
- Part 9 contains the various documents, texts and guidelines referred to throughout the Handbook. There will be separate copies of

these available for you to fill out when appropriate, which you can get from the office or Core Group. We thought it might be useful for you to have permanent copies in the Handbook, which you can photocopy as you wish;

- Part 10 gives some useful addresses and resources.

This Handbook is a guide only. It is bound to contain mistakes, misinterpretations and omissions. Please bear this in mind and use it as an aid not as an authoritative textbook. We hope you will find it useful.

