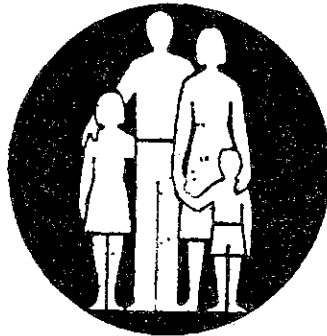


EXD-1980-12-LT

Exeter CND produced 40,000 copies of this leaflet in December 1980 and they were delivered to every home in Exeter and some of the nearby villages.

**ESSENTIAL
INFORMATION**

NUCLEAR WAR AND YOU



Please read very carefully.

**Your family's survival may
depend on the action you take**

Have you understood the new nuclear situation?

Until now the main nuclear missiles held by both East and West have all been of the ballistic type — in other words, rockets that have to be fired to a great height before they can reach their targets.

This height makes them easy to detect by radar Early Warning Systems, and so any country attacked by them has time to launch its own nuclear missiles and hit back.

Because of this, neither side has dared to launch a nuclear attack.

This is what is meant by nuclear deterrence.

Well - what has changed?

In January 1980 the British Government took an extremely important decision — to abandon the old policy of nuclear deterrence and change to plans which include a possible surprise nuclear attack on the Soviet Union.

The reason this change can be made is that our American allies have developed a missile of an entirely new, nonballistic type — a type that the Russians do not yet have, and have so far declined to develop! This is the Cruise missile.

We have agreed to accept 160 Cruise missiles into this country. They will be entirely under U.S. control. After their arrival in 1982-3 you may catch the odd glimpse of them, as they will be driven around the English countryside on lorries during periods of international tension.

The new and powerful feature of the Cruise missile is that it flies very close to the ground, carrying nuclear warheads to precise targets in enemy territory without being picked up on radar screens.

In his Directive No. 59 to the Pentagon in July

1980, President Carter laid down that the missiles are to be aimed at missile bases in Russia so that Soviet missiles can be destroyed at once in a surprise attack before they can be used to hit back.

What about the Soviet nuclear submarines - couldn't they hit back?

The Government have not overlooked this. For instance, we have allowed our American allies to set up an anti-submarine warfare base at Brawdy in Pembrokeshire, with detection cables and hydrophones extending far out into the Atlantic Ocean, so that the Soviet nuclear submarines can be pinpointed and destroyed at the same time as the Cruise attack is launched.

But surely some Soviet missiles will be missed?

Unfortunately, yes. A pre-programmed missile like Cruise will be successful against the fixed-site Soviet missile bases, but will not be able to knock out mobile missiles. These are all of the type known as SS-20.

The SS-20's, however, have a range of no more than 3000 miles, and so cannot reach America.

Western military planners are confident, therefore, that the nuclear war following a Cruise attack will be only a "theatre nuclear war".

This means that the USA will be largely untouched, and the Soviet nuclear counterattack will be strictly limited to the complete destruction of Britain and any other Western European country used as a base to launch the surprise attack.

The decision whether and when to launch such an attack will be in the hands of the new President of the United States, Mr Ronald Reagan.

Consequences for people in and around Exeter.

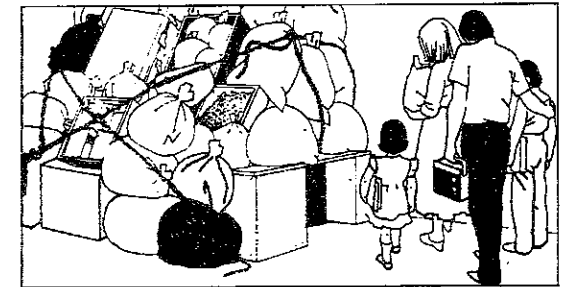
Regrettably, the protection measures already recommended in the Government's recent public information leaflet *Protect and Survive* (see the picture below) won't be much good to people living in and around cities like Exeter, which are expected to be hit by nuclear warheads of up to 3 megatons.

Just one 3-megaton bomb has 230 times the power of the bomb that destroyed the much larger city of Hiroshima in 1945.

So Exeter and the surrounding villages will first be flattened by the blast and then burnt up in the fire storm that follows.

It would be unreasonable, therefore, to expect to survive this in a home-made shelter, or in any of the expensive shelters now on offer from certain companies.

The Government estimates that in all-out nuclear war 41 million Britons — out of 59 million — will die almost immediately. These must include most of the people of Exeter and its surroundings, except for those important enough to have places in the Government's deep bunkers.



So what can you do?

You might think that these new policies are unwise, or even dangerous to the point of madness. You would not be alone.

The people of Holland, Belgium, Denmark and Norway, all loyal members of the Western Alliance, have wisely refused to have Cruise missiles on their soil — they, at least, will not be the targets in the inevitable Soviet counterattack!

There is only one way to make quite certain that the new plan cannot be put into operation, and that is to **keep Cruise missiles out of Britain as well!**

There is still time, but very little, to avoid the nuclear holocaust.

You can play your part by joining with hundreds of other concerned Exeter citizens already campaigning against the suicidal new policies.

Please fill in the form below and return it to Mrs Rita Thomson, 19 Thornton Hill, Exeter EX4 4NN.



I do not want this country to be the launch pad for a nuclear war.

- I/we wish to join the Exeter Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, and enclose my/our subscription(s) (£2, or £1 for senior citizens, claimants, students, or under-18's).
- I do not wish to join, but gladly enclose £ to help with your campaign costs.
- I would like to find out more about the campaign.

NAME(S)
ADDRESS
.
.
TEL



(Please tick the appropriate box. Cheques or postal orders should be made payable to Exeter Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. If you wish to join, or just find out more about us, you will be put in touch with a member who lives in your neighbourhood.)

A Public Information leaflet prepared for the people of Exeter

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