

Aldermaston-London 1963



Good Friday: March assembled at Aldermaston. An estimated 11,000 walked to Reading. "Spies for Peace" pamphlet published.

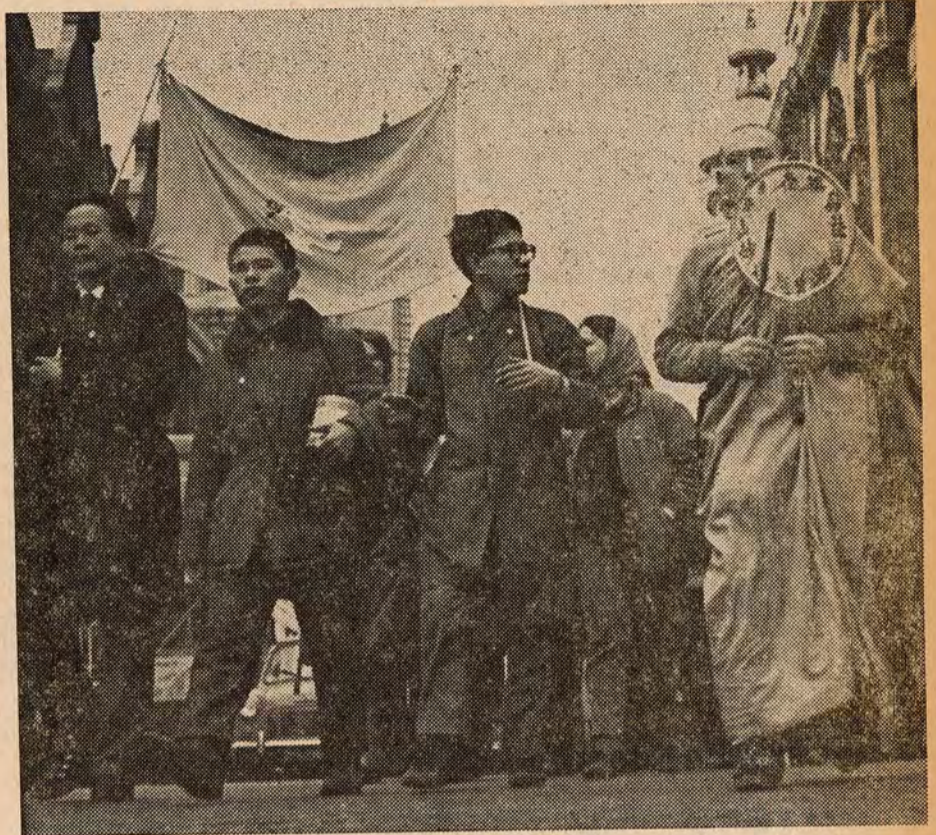
Easter Saturday: Longest day's march, estimates of number of marchers varied from 10,000 to 17,000. Demonstration at secret RSG organised by Peter Cadogan. About 1,000 demonstrators and 40 police in the grounds.

Easter Sunday: From Slough to Brentford, via Windsor. Magna Carta signed at Runnymede at mid-day. Rained all afternoon. Back page of "Sanity" torn off because it revealed whereabouts of secret RSG.

Easter Monday: About 30,000 marching. Police "arrest" hundreds of "spy" leaflets and bundle them into a shopping basket. After Hyde Park, some of the demonstrators occupy full width of road. Clashes with police near Victoria and in Whitehall. 22 arrested. Final rally estimated at 70,000. 690 tins of milk for Algeria handed in.

Above: at Runnymede
Above right: The Hiroshima-Auschwitz pilgrims (photos: Mick Taylor)
Right: arrest of the leaflets

NEXT WEEK IN PEACE NEWS
News and pictures of the international Easter marches



Greek march gaining support despite ban

The Greek Government's ban on the Marathon to Athens march organised by the Bertrand Russell Committee of 100, and due to be held next Sunday, April 21, is causing the Government considerable embarrassment.

John Chambers writes:
There is feverish activity here in Greece concerning the march. All the papers are carrying reports about it and the arrival of the British delegation has had an enormous impact. Initially the Government denounced the Bertrand Russell Committee of 100 as a Communist-inspired organisation. They are now changing their tune a little and it is now called a Communist-front organisation. They still prohibit the march but say we can hold meetings, which we intend to do. Somebody has printed leaflets in the name of the organisation quoting

Khrushchev saying that "peace will bring victory to Communism and this is why we want you to march." This leaflet has been disowned by the Committee.

The Committee has gained support from town councils, trade unions, actors and actresses, student organisations, from several academicians and the two Greek popular composers, Hadzandakis and Theodorakis. The main opposition party, the Centre Party, together with ex-Prime Minister Gonatas and all the parties to the left of the Government, support the committee and will join the march. This is the first movement in Greece ever to gain such support from all political parties.

There are also delegations from Austria, Cyprus, France, Italy and Denmark coming to Marathon for the march.

The Greek Resistance hero Manolis Glezos, in an interview with *Peace News*, said in London last week:

"The Greek Youth Society for Nuclear Disarmament and the Bertrand Russell Committee of 100 have stirred up a big peace movement in Greece. The immediate expression of this movement is the march from Marathon to Athens - a peace marathon. The initiative is particularly valuable and will remind all other nations of the fight against barbarism that took place at Marathon 25 centuries ago. The Greek Government has banned the march, and by the ban the purposes of the march have been to some extent fulfilled. It has exposed the government and shown that all nations must struggle for the restoration of liberty in Greece."

In London Tony Smythe and Devi Prasad, the secretaries of the War Resisters' International, have sent a letter to the Greek Ambassador protesting at the ban. Further protests may be sent to the Greek Embassy, 51 Upper Brook Street, London, W.1.

Two Everyman III crew members missing

Raymond Messenger and Lorna Gallagher, two volunteer crew members, are missing from the *Everyman III*. They are believed to have been drowned.

They had come ashore near Margate to land a third crew member, Julian Harrop, last Thursday around noon, after contrary winds prevented *Everyman III* making

Ramsgate where the vessel is to be sold.

The two planned to return to *Everyman III* for the night and to pick Julian Harrop up again on Friday morning.

When Julian Harrop returned to the beach the next day the dinghy was not there to meet him and there was no sign of anyone aboard *Everyman III*, which was moored off shore.

After searching the area Julian Harrop notified the coastguards, who alerted the air-sea search and rescue services. Their search has now been called off. Prevailing winds, the police said on Tuesday, would have driven the dinghy into the North Sea.

Raymond Messenger, a design engineer, was a member of the World Peace Brigade crew which took *Everyman III* on a voyage to Leningrad last autumn to protest against Soviet nuclear tests. He had earlier given up work on Blue Steel missiles and joined the Committee of 100.

Lorna Gallagher, a nurse, had volunteered with Julian Harrop to help Ray Messenger take the boat from Rochester to Ramsgate.

Radio greetings

On March 29 and 30 Watford YCND held a 24-hour vigil outside the Conservative Party headquarters in Watford in protest against the money being spent on armaments. At about 2 a.m. on Saturday morning a member of the vigil phoned up the London office of Radio Luxembourg to request a record. There was no one in, so he tried the Luxembourg office. This cost 8s 4d, but within half an hour the record was played over the air, and the disc jockey announced that some CND vigilers had asked him to play it; he passed on their good wishes to all CND groups in Europe.

Milk for Algeria

More than 6,500 tins of powdered milk were collected from Aldermaston marchers in Hyde Park on Easter Monday. The 20 oz. Cow and Gate tins ("Food for Royal Babies") will be taken to Algeria by War on Want.

Costing 6s 3d each, the tins total more than £2,000 in value. In addition to this War on Want is buying a further £1,000 worth of dried milk in bulk.

The milk is being kept in the crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral until Friday when War on Want will ship it to Algeria. A token consignment is also being sent by means of the French pacifist group, Action Civique Non-Violente, who will be making a similar collection in the near future.

On arrival in Algeria the milk will be distributed by Croisante Rouge, the equivalent of the Red Cross.