



cnd cymru

campaign for nuclear disarmament/yr ymgyrch dros ddiarfogi niwclear
press release

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Welsh Campaigners Condemn Pendine Missile Tests

CND Cymru has joined others campaigning to stop the arms race in space, in roundly condemning the testing of three 'penetrator missiles' which were fired into a sand bunker at the Qinetiq-run Missile testing centre at Pendine, Carmarthenshire.

These tests now make Wales a prime testing ground for "dual use" weapons for bunker buster applications and technologies to be used to further the arms race in space. This test in Wales is disguised as a Moon test but as NASA has long said, everything carried out by 'space exploration' organisations; every technology they create is for "dual use", meaning they will serve as a space weapons system as well.

Peter Truss, one of those responsible for the testing of the missiles at Pendine, is reported as saying: "... with the increase in technology that we can apply to these problems, all sorts of possibilities open up,".

In 2002, another penetrator, bunker busting bomb was to be tested at Pendine, in advance of the invasion of Iraq, but the tests were called off after objections by local people and anti-war protestors.

If a 'penetrator missile' could be aimed at a point on another planet, it is only time before such a missile will be fired to non-compliant 'adversaries' to earth from military space stations.

Jill Gough, CND Cymru National Secretary said today:

" We humans just don't seem to learn. It was the 'space race' in the 1950s and 60s that fuelled and helped develop the cold war arms race. At a time when we are allegedly having to live with increasingly scarce natural resources and with pollution, poverty, war and injustice, we are instead researching and learning new ways to deliver misery and destruction to life on earth and even to other planets."

"Is this what we want in Wales - to be part of the problem, or to be part of the solution?"

*More information about the tests: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/7438270.stm>

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