

## WOMEN ALL OUT FOR PEACE

May 24<sup>th</sup> - International Women's Day for Disarmament.

After the success of the December 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> actions, women from Greenham Common Women's Peace Camp together with other women's Peace Groups throughout Britain and Europe are calling for a women's day of action for Peace on May the 24<sup>th</sup>

We are asking all women everywhere — women in paid employment, unemployed women, women working in the home, women students, etc, to leave their normal jobs for the day and to take nonviolent direct action and other forms of creative and imaginative action against the siting of nuclear weapons in Europe. Actions on this day can range in type from pickets and blockades of nuclear bases and local construction companies engaged in work on nuclear installations to silent vigils in town centres to simply meeting together as groups of women to discuss our feelings about nuclear weapons/ show slides and videos/put on exhibitions.

Why is May 24<sup>th</sup> a women's day of action?

Women constitute over half the population and occupy many (mostly low paid and unpaid) vital jobs in our society. By withdrawing our labour for a day or part of a day and taking positive actions for peace we will make a powerful statement about our opposition to all weapons of mass destruction whilst at the same time drawing the links between low pay, unemployment, the cuts and the increasing amounts of money being spent on nuclear weapons. As the urgency of the situation increases (cruise missiles are scheduled to arrive in Britain this year) it is important that everyone who opposes this madness can make their voices heard. A women's day of action is important because it will give women the confidence to act and the realisation that we do have the power to change things.

In order to make this Day of Action successful we need to have the support of men. Men are asked to take supportive strike action and

to organise creches in workplaces and look after children at home so that women can be free to take action. Men can also help by fundraising and by working to make this an official day of action within their unions.

### What the Unions can do.

To make this an effective day of action working women need to know that they can leave their jobs for the whole or part of the day without fear of redundancy or loss of pay. We need the backing of the Trade Unions to make this an official day of Action for Peace. Unions who have policies in favour of unilateral disarmament should make resolutions in support of this. Below is a list of positive things your union can do to support May 24<sup>th</sup>:-

Send for the information pack about May 24<sup>th</sup> which includes a model resolution, a list of regional contacts and a blacklist of construction companies working at Greenham.

Write to your regional contact asking for speakers for your union branch meeting / regional meeting / annual conference / trades council.

Trade Unionists and Labour M.P.'s have suggested that the Peoples March for Jobs should become the Peoples March for Peace and Jobs and be brought forward to coincide with May 24<sup>th</sup>. Build support for this idea within your union.

Fundraising and donations. Each Regional Coordinating Group is to have a bank account into which cheques can be paid; get in touch with your area coordinator for details.

Perhaps you have room to make a free or cheap office space (a room with a desk and a phone!) available to the Regional Coordinating Group in your area?

For further information about May 24<sup>th</sup> Women's Day of Action for Peace please contact:-

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