



Campaign *for the* Accountability of American Bases

News & Appeal Issue

No. 31: May/June 2006

Dear friends

Tony Blair says Guantanamo Bay is 'an anomaly'. Guantanamo Bay is a disgrace - as are all the other torture camps round the world. The Attorney General has called for this obscene place to close. Torture happens there. If the people incarcerated there have done terrible acts then they should be brought to trial and due legal process begun. This is how a civilized society should operate; for if crimes are committed people must be brought to account. But Guantanamo Bay goes on. The soldiers no doubt would say that they are 'only taking orders'. Their actions are also observed by people who stand by.....and they too stay silent.

The seeds of Guantanamo Bay are wherever the US military go it seems ... and their mighty power protects them. What happened at USAF Croughton (see inside) is a tiny example of this – the end of this road is Guantanamo Bay.

There are so many things that are going on in the world that are deeply concerning. At the American base at Menwith Hill the US authorities continue to try to secure the base – more and more razor wire, weld mesh fencing and CCTV cameras in place - an act of vandalism and the militarization of the wonderful Dales by a Visiting Force. All our security is put at risk by the presence of US bases and no amount of 'security' will stop the determined to penetrate this apparent fortress if moved to do so.

The frenzied Labour Government has brought in a raft of legislation. The new Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 links peaceful protestors

with terrorists. What will future generations make of all this?



NSA Menwith Hill – a 'designated' base

This will be familiar to many who receive this newsletter, but every Tuesday evening at Menwith Hill there is a demonstration organized by CAAB. We have been there for over five years despite a huge struggle to uphold the right to protest and the right to be there. We are asked "But why do you do it – what difference does it make – sometimes only one or two people come?" We do it probably for one of the reasons why Brian Haw has stayed in Parliament Square since the illegal invasion of Iraq in 2003. We are there to demonstrate to the people who work on the base (even though sometimes there is one only person there) – WE OPPOSE WHAT YOU ARE DOING. We have to speak out and peacefully express the rage and outrage...for to stay silent is to collude.

*Come to Menwith Hill – 4 July 2006 -
'Independence FROM America'*

A Summer Ball

Your invitation is on the back page!

AROUND THE BASES

NSA/USAF MENWITH HILL (near Harrogate, North Yorkshire)

‘Designated bases’ list: Menwith Hill included: In a worrying trend by the Labour government, the new Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 came into force on 1 April 2006. This draconian new law binds peaceful protestors with terrorists and was ‘made’ in five days over the Christmas period last year. SOCAP is delegated legislation (Statutory Instrument) which the Labour government has been using more and more. This means that it does not come before Parliament to be debated and scrutinized.

SOCAP makes trespass a criminal offence. There is no ‘intention’ built in and the penalty is a maximum fine of £5,000 and/or a custodial sentence of 51 weeks. A penalty of a year would bring such an offence as ‘triable either way’ ie. a choice of a case being heard in the Magistrates’ Court or Crown Court before a Jury. Section 2(2) defines the ‘outer perimeter of the protection provided for the site’ and section 2(3) says ‘the line referred to [above] shall be determined on the assumption that every gate, door or other barrier across a way through a fence, wall or other obstacle is closed’.

At the moment there is no defence if charged, unless the person charged was not aware of the base being named as one of the ‘designated list’ of bases. CAAB is researching the making of this law with the help of students from the College of Law in York. We are always interested in revealing unsafe law and so changing the law.

Arrest under SOCAP: On 1 April 2006 Sylvia Boyes and Helen John (Menwith Hill Womens Campaign) were arrested under this Act after they walked into Menwith Hill, carrying a hammer, small bolt cutter and banners. They also carried statements denouncing US military policy and expressing their support for people of Diego Garcia and the Chagos Islands. They were detained for 12 hours at Harrogate Police Station and bailed to appear at a later date. They have now been bailed twice (to attend again 31 May 2006) while the Attorney General decides whether to charge or not. The story was widely reported in the media.

There are 13 bases named in the list. Eight bases are US bases and are all the bases that CAAB has regularly given attention to. The ‘designated list’ can be found on the STOP PRESS page of the CAAB website: www.caab.org.uk

Developments: The base is now completely enclosed by the extended weld mesh fence (topped with coils of razor wire and soon-to-be alarmed fence). New CCTV cameras at close intervals are now in place.

Another radome is in the process of construction very near to the two Space Based Infra Red System radomes. Planning permission was granted some time ago. Major refurbishment is going on (Project ‘Phoenix’) in the inner operations area.

Space Surveillance and Tracking System: (SSTS): The SSTS program was intended to provide space-based acquisition, tracking, and discrimination of incoming ballistic targets, consisting of the reentry vehicles (RVs) released by enemy missiles after their rocket engines have shut down. The system would have used long-wave infrared sensors to identify the RVs, which would have a significantly higher infrared signature than the cold background of space. However, the SSTS proved too large and too expensive to deploy in numbers sufficient to provide adequate coverage. As a result, this program has since been superseded by the much smaller and significantly less expensive [SBIRS-High](#) and [SBIRS-Low](#) platforms. [*Federation of American Scientists*] *There are two SBIRS radomes at Menwith Hill*

Several useful websites with up-to-date information and analysis about the complexities of the American Missile Defense System can be found on the following websites:
British and American Information Council (BASIC): www.basicint.org
Federation of American Scientists: www.fas.org
Official Missile Defense website: www.acq.osd.mil/mda.mdalink/html/mdalink.html
Global Network Against Nuclear Weapons and Power
in Space: www.space4peace.org

Emergency war supplemental hides millions: WASHINGTON, Feb. 20 (UPI) - Buried in the \$72.4 billion emergency supplemental appropriation bill for the war on terror is nearly half a billion dollars worth of military construction.

The bulk of the \$485 million requested will go "to fund various military construction projects to support U.S. troops in Iraq and Afghanistan," according to the supplemental. "The requested funds," the document goes on, "will provide force protection measures, enhanced airfield operations and safety, power distribution, water treatment and distribution infrastructure, operational facilities and improved logistics, and associated planning and design efforts."

But the supplemental also includes \$35 million new money for the expansion of the National Security Agency's top secret listening post at **Menwith Hill in Yorkshire, England**, and authority to spend \$700 million appropriated in previous years for construction or expansion of NSA facilities in Augusta, Ga., and Kuna, Hawaii.

<http://www.upi.com/SecurityTerrorism/view.php?StoryID=2...>

Planning Applications since last newsletter:

- 1) 6.500.178.B.CROWND - Provision of 6 x three-seat benches [16.02.06]
- 2) 6.90.171.F.CROWND - Alteration to vehicular access and road (sewage farm) [16.02.06]
- 3) 6.90.171.G.CROWND - Installation of side door to Building 24 (Fire Station) [16.02.06]
- 4) 6.90.171.H.CROWND - Single storey extension to Building 17 (amenities) [16.02.06]
- 5) 6.90.354.A.CROWND - Formation of footpath around Building 35 (Commissary) and Building 633 (BX) [16.02.06]
- 6) 6.91.247.A.CROWND - Formation of footbridge across drainage ditch [16.02.06]
- 7) 6.90.171.I.CROWND - Replace dwellings 103, 105, 107 and 109 with car park [16.2.06]
- 8) 6.500.178.C.CROWND - Scoreboard for the sports field [26.04.06]
- 9) 6.90.155.C.CROWND - Erection of benches and formation of footpath to rear of building (Station library) [24.5.06]
- 10) 6.60.333.A.CROWND - Erection of 2 dog kennels, fencing, formation of paving area and drainage works at Nessfield entrance gate [24.5.06]
- 11) 6.500.66.B.CROWND - Detached training building (timber on hard-standing for respirator testing - near sports field track [24.5.06]
- 12) 6.90.262.C.CROWND - Provision of cable tray from antenna field to building 36D [24.5.06]
- 13) 6.90.171.4.CROWND - Erection of 8 lamp posts at main entrance and public car park [24.5.06]
- 14) 6.90.262.7.CROWND - Replacement of building 36 [24.5.06]

Monitoring the Planning Office is one important way of finding out what developments are going on at US bases. Because of this work, CAAB found out about the arrival of the American Missile Defense System ("Star Wars") at Menwith Hill and Fylingdales in 1996/7. If anyone is interested in doing this work around US bases near you please let us know. We will willingly help you.

Review of Military Land Byelaws: For over 18 years, Lindis has been involved in trying to reveal unsafe Military Land Byelaws round the country but particularly at US bases. The first set of byelaws at Menwith Hill were eventually declared invalid and repealed (DPP v Percy and another (John Bugg) QBD LJ Woolf and Pill 1992). Helen John and Anne Lee challenged the second set of byelaws but the High Court overturned the Crabtree decision.

There have been some important chances to challenge 'RAF Menwith Hill' byelaws but two years ago a serious mistake by a solicitor put paid to

a Judicial Review. Lindis is still working on a possible action.

Now the MOD are going to review a long list of byelaws with the intention of bringing in new byelaws. It is a cynical and deceitful manipulation of the truth about the status of various byelaws 'in force' - including Menwith Hill and Fylingdales. The information can be found on: <http://www.defence-estates.mod.uk/byelaws/Internet/Intro.htm> or on CAAB website. CAAB is monitoring this website for any proposals and plans to bring in new byelaws at Menwith Hill and Fylingdales as well as any byelaws around US bases on the list of byelaws under review. The first byelaws to be replaced are at AWE Aldermaston.

Court: Anni Rainbow was found guilty of the offence of s.69 'aggravated trespass' (Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994) in November 2004. She appealed this decision and the case is part-heard in Leeds Crown Court. This is because a hearing in which the Defence raised the question of whether the area of the car park is part of the highway, had to be adjourned. The validity of the 'yellow line' across the Main entrance will also be challenged.

The hearing had to be taken out of the List because Anni was admitted to hospital. She is now out but not fit enough yet for the resumption of the appeal.

Summoned: Lindis received a summons on 25 May 2006 (dated 19 May) to appear at Harrogate Magistrates' Court on 6 June 2006 for allegedly obstructing the highway at Menwith Hill on 31 January 2006.

Discontinued: A charge of s.69 (as above) in July last year and arising out of an incident at the weekly CAAB demonstration was discontinued by the CPS against Lindis. She applied to Harrogate Magistrates' Court for the case to be revived. The CPS again offered no evidence and she was awarded costs. In another case last year when Lindis was arrested and 'reported with a view to prosecution' for allegedly obstructing the highway at Steeplebush gate the case was also not proceeded with.

The Ministry of Defence Police Agency have pursued a pattern of arresting, de-arresting, detaining and charging (Home office police on the evidence given by the MDPA) over the years (many under the invalid Military Land byelaws). Cases have been dropped by the CPS probably because there was no possibility of a realistic prosecution or apparently 'not in the public interest'. CAAB is to meet with the Professional Standards Department (MDPA) at

Wethersfield to raise some of the issues surrounding of understanding of the law by some officers.

Demonstrations: Annual 'Independence FROM America' demonstration – 'the Menwith Ball' Tuesday 4 July 2006_12-4/5 ish. We are very fortunate this year that the folk singer Tom Neilson will be coming from the US especially for this demonstration. He has a website which will give you a taste of his political music www.tomneilsonshapes.com – more details nearer to the time as to speakers etc – refer to CAAB website.

[Your invitation is on the back page!](#)

The weekly Tuesday evening demonstration held outside the Main entrance to Menwith Hill continues between 6 and 8 pm. The MDPA are getting increasingly unpleasant, petty and it is a struggle to uphold the right to protest - see CAAB report page on website. A meeting is planned for 21 June 2006 between CAAB, North Yorkshire Police and the Ministry of Defence Police Agency concerning the policing of the demonstrations.

Example: At the CAAB demonstration on 16 May 2006, Sergeant Manning (MDPA) insisted that the US upside down flags on bamboo poles (that CAAB has used as a political symbol for several years – see Judgements page on CAAB website) could not be placed on the grass verge opposite the main entrance to Menwith Hill. He said that he was 'acting as an agent of the farmer' and as the grass verge belonged to the farmer, if we did place the flags he would remove them and possibly Lindis might be arrested.

Two legal matters immediately emerged. The land in dispute is part of the highway and the MDPA can only act as agents of the 'landowner' if he/she has specifically requested this – *a civil matter*. Lindis has written to Steve Love (Chief Constable MDPA) with a copy to David Long (Superintendent MDPA at Menwith Hill) and Sharon Taylor (Chief Superintendent MDPA – Professional Standards Department).

In the meantime Menwith Hill continues to be a threat to all our security because of the roles it plays on the US world wide stage.

'RAF' FYLINGDALES **(near Pickering, North Yorkshire)**

Planning Applications since last newsletter:

There have been no new planning applications.

Freedom to worship: At the Quaker Meeting for Worship on 4 March this year, Lindis was the only person to attend. The weather was bad and it had been snowing. Having had bail conditions imposed

(see next item) she was fully aware of the conditions. Meeting for worship was interrupted about half way through by two MDPA officers who said that if Lindis was present 'a minute past one o'clock' she would be arrested. Lindis was careful to make sure that she did leave but at about three minutes to one the two MDPA officers returned to say that she was under arrest for breaching the bail conditions. She insisted that she was not as Meeting for Worship did not end until 1 pm. They did not pursue the 'arrest'. Lindis contacted Hull and Pickering Monthly meeting who took the matter up with the RAF authorities who said that the MDPA would be spoken to and this would not happen again. No apology was given to Lindis.

Over the years we have had a continual struggle to maintain the right to worship at Fylingdales and Menwith Hill and have had to go back and forth to the courts to vary bail conditions.

Fiasco of 'aggravated trespass' arrest: Lindis was arrested on 7 January 2006 for deliberately breaching a purported section 69 'warning' not to return to Fylingdales for 3 months. She was on the public footpath at the time. She was determined to bring this to court. Also over the years the MDPA have been using s.69 as a form of bail conditions.

It took the MDPA 4 hours to arrest Lindis after they said she would be 'reported with a view to prosecution' when she walked in on the main approach road – even though she had already been 'warned' and was in clear breach of the 'warning'. She was then 'evicted' by 5 MDPA officers and turned away many times. Lindis came back again and again to get this into the court but the many MDPA officers involved refused to arrest her (under instructions). She was finally arrested, denied bail and held in Scarborough Police Station over the weekend. Bail conditions were imposed by Scarborough Magistrates' Court which meant that she could not demonstrate or attend the Quaker Meeting for Worship.

In one of the statements submitted to the court by PC Thomas Philipson (MDPA), he said "...I informed PERCY should I injure myself whilst removing her from the moor land I would take appropriate action against her [*civil action*]...on one occasion when lifting PERCY I fell down a hole resulting in me getting wet from the foot to the knee." PC Joseph Grech (MDPA) said "After a quick search by other officers I carried out an open area search with Police Dog Noah, but due to the dangerous terrain and weather conditions it was fast becoming hazardous for us to continue the search as our last remaining torch had failed'....." A District Judge was to be

appointed to hear the case (several legal arguments involved) but the CPS suddenly dropped the case. This was probably because the s.69 warning was not valid but more importantly PC Sheppard (arresting officer) submitted a purported copy of the 'warning' to the court – knowing that it was not a copy of the original 'warning'.

[Please note: the MDPA had an immediate remedy when Lindis stepped on to the moor at Fylingdales ie arrest for breach of purported s.69 'warning'. This is what she expected to happen. That it went on for four hours was entirely of the MDPA's making and ineptitude. It is another example of how the MDPA have manipulated and abused the law over many years.]

USAF LAKENHEATH (near Brandon, Suffolk)

New 48th Fighter Wing Vice Commander – February 2006: 48th Fighter Wing Vice Commander says:

'.....As we settle in at RAF Lakenheath, I see great changes on base. There are empty fields replaced with buildings, decaying buildings transformed into great places to work, new roads and one-ways that have changed direction. Nevertheless, even with all of these changes, some things remain constant: the fantastic local community, the great people that work here and the wing's exciting mission.

48th Fighter Wing - MISSION STATEMENT

'Ready to provide responsive combat air power, support and services to meet our nation's and allies' international objectives - anytime, anywhere, whatever needs done'

[It is thought that U.S.A.F. Lakenheath hosts an estimated 110 freefall B61 nuclear bombs and the base continues to play a crucial role in the illegal invasion of Iraq].

Boeing opens training center: ST. LOUIS (The Boeing Company) - The U.S. Air Force has taken the next step toward its vision of a Distributed Mission Operations capability with the opening of a new Boeing F- 15C Mission Training Center that allows Air Force pilots in flight simulators at one location, to train with pilots at other locations, potentially thousands of miles away. The facility at RAF Lakenheath gives the Air Force enhanced simulator training as a realistic supplement to flight training.

In order to facilitate allied forces training, the United States and United Kingdom governments are in negotiations to link the AF Research Labs and DMO network in the U.S. to the planned United Kingdom Ministry of Defence's mission training through the Distributed Mission Simulation demonstrator

facility, RAF Waddington, Lincolnshire, due to open late summer 2006.

The new Lakenheath facility joins four other Boeing-operated F-15C Mission training centers, located at Eglin AFB, Fla., Langley AFB, Va., Elmendorf AFB, Alaska and Kadena AB, Japan. The total DMO program will eventually incorporate most AF weapons systems, to include the F-16, A-10, C-17 and F-15E. Future growth could include U.S. Army, Navy and Marine Corps weapons systems. *[Jet 48 - 10 February 2006]*

Family support center grand opening: The new \$5.9 million project family support center, American Red Cross and Women, Infant and Child Care combined facility opened on 6 April 2006. It finished ahead of schedule and was built under the auspices of the Defence Estates (British) who act on behalf of their American 'clients'.

Demonstration organized by Lakenheath Action Group: Tuesday 4th July: 'Independence from America' demonstration and party at the Deep Space Tracking Center and Near Space Facility at Feltwell - 6pm onwards - Peacemakers' Ball with Cabaret *[Please note – message from LAG - date may be changed to match the big U.S.A.F. party if they have it on a weekend.]*

JAC MOLESWORTH and USAF CROUGHTON (near Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire Brackley, Northants)

Peace at JAC Molesworth and violence again at USAF Croughton: Lindis was researching the US Joint Analysis Center at Molesworth on Saturday 18 February 2006. This base has recently been selected for an additional role as a NATO Intelligence Center which is scheduled for completion within the next year. The new NATO facility, according to *Pravda*, is designed to facilitate intelligence exchange between NATO member states and is to 'become the next milestone in the transformation of the Alliance following the new threats posed by the 21st century.'

Lindis walked into the base by the main gate. She was accompanied by a US military personnel - Kenneth Macgregor who was very courteous, and there was no confrontation or violence from the Americans on base. PC Staniforth and colleague eventually arrived from USAF Alconbury and purported to issue her with a 'warning'.

Lindis went on to USAF Croughton. She entered the base (at the highest level she was a civil trespasser)

and was seen by an American who apparently alerted the US military personnel. What followed after that is shocking. Despite identifying herself and saying that she would leave, Lindis was violently thrown to the ground and yelled at by Frank Macdonald (Airman First Class USAF). She was handcuffed with her hands behind her back while he sat on her with his full weight. She was then picked up by several US personnel and taken to the grass where she was left - face down and still handcuffed. Her right hand sustained a cut.

Two Ministry of Defence Police Agency (MDPA) officers - PC Barry Athawes and Kenneth Woodhouse eventually arrived. Lindis pleaded with them to take control of the situation and take the handcuffs off. The 10-12 Americans were clearly in control and would not let the MDPA take off the handcuffs or allow them to take control of this violent attack on Lindis. One of the Americans roughly pushed one of the MDPA away. The two MDPA did not intervene but allowed the violence to continue.

Lindis was 'body' searched by Marcela Vasquez (USAF). The search was well beyond the boundaries of a search as laid down in this country. Meanwhile the two MDPA officers stood by - apparently powerless (or so they chose) while this assault took place. She was forced into a waiting MDPA car and eventually driven to the main entrance to the base, escorted by the Americans who were in firm control. At no time did Lindis show any violence in response.

At the main entrance she was issued with an alleged s.69 'warning' ('aggravated trespass' - CJPOA 1994) by PC Ken Woodhouse (MDPA). She was further assaulted by Frank Macdonald (USAF) while the MDPA looked on. Lindis immediately came back into the base - determined that this case should come to court - so being in breach of the alleged 'warning'. She was eventually arrested by PC Ken Woodhouse (MDPA) who took instructions every step of the way from Sergeant Eileen McAdam (MDPA). Lindis was taken to Banbury Police Station and was later charged with allegedly breaching the s.69 'warning'.

During her detention Lindis was examined by Dr Turnbull - a police surgeon. Lindis suffered a serious injury - a facial palsy - as the result of the Frank Macdonald (USAF) putting continued pressure on the carotid nerve of her neck. Dr Turnbull confirmed that she had suffered a facial palsy due to the excessive pressure used by Frank Macdonald (USAF). Fingerprints and photographs were taken by force by Northampton Police and the MDPA.

Lindis was eventually released after bail with conditions were imposed by Sergeant Kirby (Northampton Police) in consultation with PC Murray (MDPA). The bail conditions were:

1. Not to enter within the perimeter of RAF Croughton.
2. You will remain indoors at 19 Bellfield Avenue, Hull, HU8 9DS between the hours of 22:00hrs and 0600hrs and make yourself available on request to a Police Officer.

Lindis met with Inspector Tom Brookes (Northampton Police) after she was released to make a complaint about being assaulted by the Americans. He refused to take her complaint. She later wrote to Peter Maddison (Chief Constable - Northampton Police). *[PLEASE NOTE: What happened to Lindis is a classic example of how the American personnel on US bases act. They are in firm control and occupation and the Ministry of Defence Police Agency, who are paid for and under the operational control of the US authorities, stand by and watch crimes being committed. Lindis has been in correspondence with John Prescott's office (Deputy Prime Minister and Lindis's member of Parliament seeking his help.)*

At the last hearing at Towcester Magistrates' Court on 5 May 2006 (and because we are having difficulties obtaining documents) a direction was given by Towcester Magistrates that disclosure must be served by 19 May 2006. The documents were not served.

A pretrial review is fixed for 14 July in front of a District Judge (to be appointed). The actual trial will not take place until 9 – 14 November at a court to be arranged.

Later, a demonstration by CAAB took place for about 2 hours at the main entrance to USAF Croughton. There were a significant number of expressions of support from drivers of cars coming in and out of the base.

Among other roles, the USAF Croughton Defense Satellite Communications System provides high-capacity communications capability in support of peacetime, contingency and wartime operations.

USAF FAIRFORD

(near Letchlade, Gloucestershire)

Decision of the House of Lords: The appeal to the House of Lords involving Margaret Jones and others was not successful – see CAAB website on the Judgments page. All defendants will now face a trial.

Lindis was part of this action in the High Court London, but the legal team and Lindis decided not to continue to the House of Lords.

Pending bombing of Iran: This base will play a key role if there is conflict. As Paul Rogers said in his article entitled 'the Countdown to War' on 6 April 2006 – Oxford Research Group)

The critical requirement of avoiding aircrew casualties or prisoners means that a key component of US action would be a strong dependence on [the B-2 long-range stealth-bomber](#). This plane can carry sixteen individually-targeted, highly accurate bombs; thus, a single aircraft can attack sixteen separate targets in just one operation. The basing of the B-2 far from the region is useful in preserving secrecy, but the plane's dependence on specialised servicing equipment to maintain its "stealth" radar-avoidance ability puts the only four bases worldwide where these are available at an absolute premium.

These four bases are in the United States itself, Guam (Pacific), Diego Garcia (Indian Ocean), and [RAF Fairford](#) (Gloucestershire, England). The stealth support facilities already available in the first three locations were joined by Fairford, a major United States air force (Usaf) standby base, in December 2004. This serves as a forward operating facility, especially for heavy bombers such as the B-1B, the B-2 and the B-52. In the approach to the Iraq war, Usaf's 457th air expeditionary wing was based at [Fairford](#); fourteen B-52s flew in from Minot (North Dakota) and deployed there for seven weeks while conducting more than a hundred bombing sorties over Iraq.

Fairford underwent a major two-year development and reconstruction programme, completed in May 2002. Another building project started barely a year later to equip the base with a specialised hangar to accommodate the B-2; the fifteen months since its it came into operation have seen occasional visits by individual planes (the B-2's immense costs and specialised facilities means that only twenty-one have been built and perhaps only fifteen can be deployed at any one time).

Also see [Fairford](#) website on List of US Bases on CAAB website – this website monitors any activity at Fairford.

Royal International Air Tattoo (RIAT) 2006:
This event will be held on 12 – 14 July 2006

SELECTION OF PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (not many PQs because of the Easter break)

Q: Norman Baker: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence what the cost of (a) weld mesh fencing (b) razor wire, (c) CCTV cameras and (d) other security measures at RAF Menwith Hill was in 2004-

2005: and who is responsible for such funding. [50810]

A: Mr Ingram: *Physical security measures such as the weld mesh fencing, razor wire and CCTV cameras at RAF Menwith Hill are funded by the US authorities. The cost data is not held by the Ministry of Defence. [27.2.2006]*

Q: Mr Ellwood: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence which units are based in Diego Garcia [54199]

A: Mr Ingram: *The United Kingdom's military presence on Diego Garcia comprises one joint command of 41 personnel, reporting to Commander British Forces, British Indian Territory. [27.2.2006]*

Q: Harry Cohen: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence when the last occasion was on which ministers in his Department discussed missile defence with counterparts in other countries; what aspects were discussed; and if he will make a statement. [62484]

A: John Reid: *Defence Ministers have had no recent bilateral discussions on missile defence. Government Ministers attended the NATO Heads of State and Government Summit in June 2004 which directed that work on theatre ballistic missile defence should be taken forward by NATO. Subsequent meetings of NATO Defence Ministers have noted progress reports on theatre and territorial missile defence without substantive discussion. [18 Apr 2006 : Column 10W]*

Q: Mr. Moore: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence whether the Human Rights Act 1988 applies at UK bases used by United States forces, including bases in UK Overseas Territories. [62243]

A: Mr. Ingram: *The Human Rights Act 1998 does apply at bases made available to the United States Visiting Force (USVF) in the UK. However, whether the Act applies in any specific case will depend on whether the acts of a public authority are being challenged. The USVF is not a public authority under the Act.*

The Human Rights Act does not apply to UK overseas territories. The European Convention on Human Rights applies to UK overseas territories if Her Majesty's Government notifies the Secretary General of the European Council. Remedies for any breach of the Convention would be provided under local law or before the European Court of Human Rights.

Q: Nick Harvey: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence pursuant to the answer of 30 March 2006, Official Report, column 1154W, on missile defence, what the conclusions were of the NATO Feasibility Study into options for Alliance missile defence. [65955]

A: John Reid: *The NATO Missile Defence Feasibility Study is classified and the disclosure of its conclusions would, or would be likely to, prejudice the capability, effectiveness or security of UK armed forces or our Allies. A number of options are considered in the study, based on a range of assumptions and the expected performance of potential Alliance missile defence capabilities. NATO will now review those assumptions and decide how to take the work forward. [27 Apr 2006: Column 1273W.]*

GOOD NEWS!

The High Court case was won! The Chagossian islanders of Diego Garcia can return – see CAAB website.

TALKS, WORKSHOPS AND INTERVIEW

Talks: Carlton Hill Friends Meeting House

Some of the interviews to press/media:

Sky TV (re ASBOs), 'Stars and Stripes' (European Edition), Yorkshire Post, Yorkshire Evening Post, interviewed for Morning Star, BBC Radio York, BBC Radio Leeds, ITV 'My Yorkshire' programme, interview with Japanese reporter, helped various media studies students.....

SHAKING THE BUCKET

Thank you so much to everyone who has given so generously in support of the work of CAAB.

2006 QUAKER MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

USAF Menwith Hill: Saturdays (even months) - **2006** - 3 June; 5 Aug; 7 Oct and 2 Dec - from 2pm - 3pm outside the Main Entrance.

Contact for Menwith Hill: Anni: 01943 466405 or Lindis: 01482 702033

'RAF' Fylingdales: Saturdays (odd months) - **2006** - 1 July; 2 Sept and 4 Nov - from 12pm - 1pm outside the Approach Road Entrance at Fylingdales, Near Pickering, North Yorkshire Moors. **Contact** for Fylingdales: Phone 01964 550410 email Chrisfellowes1@aol.com

USAF Croughton: Contact Rachel and Paul Milling email: paul@milling.freemove.co.uk

USAF Fairford: Contact: Sue Fleming - 01285 641340

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PLEASE NOTE: The CAAB newsletter gives a taste of the work we do and the information we have gathered please refer to CAAB website: www.caab.org.uk

*You are cordially invited
to the Annual demonstration
'Independence FROM America'*

*Tuesday 4 July 2006 12md-4/5ish
A Summer Ball
at the American base
at Menwith Hill*

*RSVP to: Colonel Gill US Base Commander
NSA Menwith Hill Harrogate HG3 2RG*

So please get your 'glad rags' on!

..... With love and peace

Anni and Lindis