

URENCO = NUKILLER POWER

= NUKILLER WEAPONS

URENCO is a British-Dutch-German consortium which operates uranium enrichment plants at Capenhurst in Cheshire and Almelo in Holland. Ten years ago, on March 4 1970, the three countries signed the Treaty of Almelo to set up the URENCO consortium. This treaty will almost certainly be automatically renewed on March 4, just 3 days away, unless one of the countries concerned objects to the continuance of URENCO. This is unlikely.

The public have never been consulted over either the initial signing or the renewal of the treaty. The treaty was not even discussed in Parliament before it came into force in 1971.

URENCO is associated with several stages of the nuclear fuel cycle:-

1. Much of the uranium used at the URENCO plant is mined illegally in Namibia.
2. The plants produce fuel for nuclear reactors, which continue to cause cancers and leukaemia from radiation leakage. The uranium is enriched to 2-3% Uranium-235 for electricity production, but the existing technology at the plants could easily be modified to produce 90% enriched uranium, suitable for weapons use.
3. Pakistan is already developing its own enrichment technology which it can use to make bombs. This technology was 'stolen' from URENCO.
4. Brazil will also probably test a nuclear weapon this year. It has also agreed to supply plutonium to Iraq for its weapons. Meanwhile, production of enriched uranium for Brazil has already begun at Capenhurst - there is no guarantee that this uranium will not end up in a Brazilian or Iraqi bomb.
5. URENCO continues to market this aggressive technology, thus accelerating the risk of nuclear proliferation. Its customers include countries which have not signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The pickets today at the Dutch and German embassies have been called because we object to the continuance of URENCO because of the threat it poses to human health and world peace.

This leaflet has been produced by the Stop URENCO Alliance,

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