

ALTERNATIVE DEFENCE COMMISSION ARCHIVE : collection description

*A Commonweal Archive
Special Collections, J.B. Priestley Library*

Reference code

GB 0532 CWL ADC.

Title

Alternative Defence Commission Archive.

Dates

1980-1988.

Level of description

Fonds.

Extent

34 boxes.

Name of creators

Alternative Defence Commission

Administrative/biographical history

The Alternative Defence Commission was an independent group set up in October 1980 to explore the range of defence options that would be open to Britain if it abandoned nuclear weapons and refused to have such weapons based on its territory. Members of the group included politicians, academics, trade unionists, churchmen and journalists. The Commission was co-sponsored by the Lansbury House Trust Fund and the School of Peace Studies at the University of Bradford. The Commission produced two major reports, "Defence without the Bomb" (Taylor and Francis, 1983) and "The Politics of Alternative

Defence" (Paladin, 1987), as well as a number of Supplementary Papers. The Commission was wound up in 1987.

Immediate source of acquisition

Donated to Commonweal in 1988 by Michael Randle, Co-ordinator of the Commission.

Scope and content

Records of the Commission: internal and external correspondence, meeting papers, draft publications, background information, press cuttings.

Access conditions

Available to researchers, by appointment. Access to archive material is subject to preservation requirements and must also conform to the restrictions of the Data Protection Act and any other appropriate legislation.

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Language of material

English.

Finding aids

Brief handlist.

Note

The Co-ordinator of the Commission was Michael Randle, the Chair was Paul Rogers, both of Peace Studies at the University of Bradford.

Archivist's note

Described by John Brooker.

Rules or conventions

ISAD(G) 2nd ed.

Date(s) of description

July 2005.

Indexing

Subjects

Great Britain – Military policy

Nuclear disarmament

Arms control.

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