

Letter from CND to the BBC 31 January 2006

31 January 2006

The Editor
“Today Programme”
BBC Radio
TV Centre
Wood Lane
London W12 7RT

Dear Editor,

Once more (7:15 am on 31.01.06) the Today programme ran an item about Iran’s NPT violations without any mention of the major breach by all the declared nuclear weapons states of a major provision of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Article VI of the treaty requires the nuclear weapon signatories “to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to the cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament...” That obligation to negotiate abolition was reinforced by the International Court of Justice advisory opinion of July 1996.

Iran may or may not be in breach of an agreement made under the Treaty and subsequent to it.

The nuclear weapons states are in breach of a major requirement of the treaty itself. No negotiations aimed at abolition are in progress and suggestions that they shall start have been strongly resisted. If Iran is culpable, so to a much more serious degree is this country.

We would like to know as soon as possible if you are willing to run an item making these points.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Hudson
CND Chair

Bruce Kent
CND Vice President