

# Letters about Trident in the Sevenoaks Chronicle

21 July 2016

## ■ TRIDENT

### Bomb threat's a war crime

YOUR readers may remember that our group are seeking a citizen's prosecution of the Secretary of State for Defence for conspiring to commit a war crime.

The threat to use nuclear weapons is a war crime, but successive governments have refused to accept this obvious truth.

Our prosecution requires the consent of the Attorney General

but he has been sitting on his hands for the past five months.

We asked Michael Fallon to intervene but he chose not to, although he probably has had other things on his mind of late.

On Monday the renewal of Trident was debated in Parliament and most MPs voted in ignorance of the legal truth about Trident.

It's something that the Attorney General could have avoided, but again, chose not to.

According to Michael Fallon the Government's case that Trident is lawful is based on a Government statement sent to the International Court of Justice in 1996 asking the Court not to publish an advisory opinion on the legality of nuclear weapons.

The court did not accept the statement and published an advisory opinion stating that it had no doubt that humanitarian law applied to the threat or use of nuclear weapons.

So we have a Government "dodgy dossier" and an Attorney General acting in a far from satisfactory way.

Our lawmakers are incapable of learning lessons from the Chilcot Report.

The Iraq war created millions of victims, but this catastrophe would seem as nothing if Trident was ever used, by accident or design.

**Jim Pragnell**

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