Sources for the Study of Sheffield and the Cold War, 1945 - 1991
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Front Cover Illustrations:

Detail from BC TV docudrama, *Threads*, 1984
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: DVD 125*)

Sheffield Peace Week flier, 1987
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: Miscellaneous Papers folder 3*)

Detail from a leaflet issued to the public giving instructions of what to do in the event of a nuclear attack, Women’s Voluntary Service for Civil Defence, 1960s
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 4426 S*)

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Introduction

This booklet lists sources available within Sheffield Libraries Archives and Information for the study of the Cold War which began at the end of the Second World War in 1945 and ended in 1991 with the collapse of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR).

It is not a detailed history of international relations during that period; it merely points the reader who wishes to carry out their own research into the part played by Sheffield and South Yorkshire in this global ‘conflict’ to what is available within Sheffield Libraries and Archives.

The Cold War was largely a stand-off between the Capitalist West and Communist East. Both sides developed nuclear weapons in the 1940s and over subsequent decades amassed stockpiles of ever more powerful and accurate weapons. Response from governments was initially based on observation posts across the country and warning systems to alert the population that enemy aircraft were approaching. However, by the early 1950s, with the development of the hydrogen bomb (massively more powerful than an atomic bomb) and missile technology, local observation posts became redundant.

Government action switched from observation to deterrence and information for the public on what to do in the event of a nuclear strike.

The country was divided into Home Defence Regions; Sheffield was in the North region (region No. 2) with a ‘war room’ at Leeds. Later, within the Home Defence Regions there were to be Regional Seats of Government (RSGs) headed by a Cabinet Minister. For Region 2 this was initially at Imphal Barracks in York but was later switched to the more remote Shipton.

Later still, the North region was divided into two sub-regional control centres (north and south) - Bempton on the Yorkshire coast, and Conisbrough near Doncaster. A final reorganisation took place in the 1980s. RSGs (now to be called Regional Government Headquarters (RGHQ) were established. The base for Region 2 was at Hexham.

Local authorities were deemed County Main, County Standby and District Controls. In the 1970s there were 47 County Mains and 333 District Controls. Local authorities were required to construct emergency bunkers, and affix warning sirens to public buildings. By the 1980s Emergency Planning Officers had to be appointed and plans for civil defence in time of nuclear war had to be drawn up.

The 1980s witnessed a growing awareness of the nuclear threat, probably due to the publication of the Government’s Protect and Survive booklet in 1980 and the arrival of nuclear weapons in Britain three years later. The issue entered popular culture with Frankie Goes to Hollywood’s ‘Two Tribes’ pop record, Raymond Briggs ‘When the Wind Blows’ animated film and the BBC Docudrama ‘Threads’ which was based in Sheffield.

Outside of their civil defence obligations, some local authorities, including Sheffield City Council and South Yorkshire County Council, developed anti-nuclear policies. Both became ‘nuclear free zones’ attempting to block any transport of nuclear weapons. Peace Officers were employed to promote peace and international relations rather than engage in what some saw as futile civil defence plans which would be of limited use in the event of the complete destruction of society if a nuclear strike occurred. It wasn’t until the late 1980s and the collapse of the USSR in 1991 that the threat of an east / west nuclear war of unimaginable proportions eased.

Locally there are many documents, books, maps and photographs of civil defence plans and anti-nuclear activity that vividly illustrate the part played by Sheffield City Council and South Yorkshire County Council, campaign groups and individuals in a period of our history where the very existence of society was under threat from annihilation.
## Timeline showing key dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 1945</td>
<td>Atomic bombs used by the USA against Japan at Nagasaki and Hiroshima.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 1946</td>
<td>Winston Churchill refers to an ‘iron curtain [which] has descended across the continent’.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1947</td>
<td>The term ‘Cold War’ first used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>Civil Defence Act established the Civil Defence Corps to oversee headquarters, rescue, warden, welfare and ambulance services for the local authority (becoming operational in 1950). The Auxiliary Fire Service (AFS) was also established by the Act providing for fire services other than those run by local authorities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>The second World Peace Conference held in Sheffield. Pablo Picasso was one of the delegates. It was soon moved to Warsaw in Poland when the British Government refused visas to delegates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950s - 1960s</td>
<td>Women’s Voluntary Service (WVS) provided talks to women on civil defence measures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>Plans were put in place for regional war rooms. Region 2 (NE) was centred around Leeds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>The Industrial Civil Defence Service (ICDS) was established. Firms employing more than 200 workers formed such corps to provide first aid and freighting services, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952</td>
<td>All county and county borough councils were required to prepare bomb proof main and subordinate civil defence control centres. Initially Sheffield City Council provided the ‘Main’ centre, though it later transferred to South Yorkshire County Council and then later still to the South Yorkshire Fire Service.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952</td>
<td>Britain tests its first atomic bomb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>With the development of the Hydrogen bomb the use of offensive and defensive aircraft became obsolete. The focus now switched to deterrence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>Government exercise based on an attack on Sheffield (see The National Archives HO 322/191).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14-15 Apr 1953</td>
<td>Emergency Feeding Study - one involved Sheffield and Rotherham and an ‘A’ bomb centred over St Philip’s church, Penistone / Infirmary Road (see The National Archives HO 322/194).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 1954</td>
<td>Coventry City Council became the first local authority to opt out of co-ordinating and supporting the Civil Defence Corps as ‘a waste of public time and money’.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>Regional war rooms became Regional Seats of Government. These would have up to 300 staff. Region 2 was to be based at Easingwold in North Yorkshire (and later York Castle).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>Sheffield twinned with the industrial city of Stalino in the USSR (later renamed Donetsk).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 1956</td>
<td>Sheffield Civil Defence nuclear attack exercise held.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr / May 1957</td>
<td><em>Exercise Zeta</em> studied the problems in clearing the Z Zone surrounding Sheffield (see The National Archives HO 322/185).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>RAF Finningley near Doncaster was reopened as a V-Bomber base (Vulcan Bombers were aeroplanes that carried Britain’s own nuclear bombs).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Event</td>
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<tr>
<td>--------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>The Campaign for Nuclear Defence (CND) established in the UK.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. 1960</td>
<td>There were approximately 1,500 ROC underground observation posts across the country (approx. 8 miles apart) including one at what is now Abbeydale Golf Course. These 8 person bunkers contained radiation measuring equipment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 1963</td>
<td>‘Advising the Householder on Protection against Nuclear Attack’ was published mainly for use by the Civil Defence Corps. It was the first such publication in the UK and formed the basis of the later ‘Protect and Survive’ booklet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 1962</td>
<td>Fallex ’62 NATO exercise carried out.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>The BBC film, <em>The War Game</em>, was produced though not widely broadcast.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Civil Defence Corps abolished. The main focus was on deterrence and state survival rather than general population survival from a nuclear exchange.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>County Councils were required to establish two protected bunkers: County Main and County Standby (in case the County Main was destroyed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid 1970s</td>
<td>Across the country there were approximately 7,000 sirens installed on public buildings - police and fire stations, local authority buildings etc. These would provide a ‘four minute warning’ of a missile attack.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td><em>Protect and Survive</em> booklet produced but not made widely available until 1980.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Anti-nuclear Campaign (ANC) established in Sheffield.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>A Regional Government HQ was to be established at Hexham and Shipton.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 1979</td>
<td>UK government decided to modernise its nuclear arsenal, deciding to base cruise missiles at Greenham Common in Berkshire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>District councils and public utilities were required to build emergency bunkers to complement the county structure. Many were never completed. However, the National Grid National Emergency Control Centre and the north eastern region peacetime control centre is at Beacon Hill, Leeds. Yorkshire Water Authority built 10 emergency controls in its region, including one in Sheffield.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1980</td>
<td>Government’s <em>Protect and Survive</em> booklet published more widely, advising householders on what to do in the event of a nuclear attack. Public information films with the same title were also produced. It was so derided that a planned revision for 1986 was abandoned.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 1980</td>
<td>South Yorkshire County Council was the first local authority to declare itself ‘nuclear free’.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 1980</td>
<td>Major national civil defence exercise, Square Leg, undertaken. In South Yorkshire it envisaged two nuclear strikes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 1980</td>
<td>Sheffield City Council declared itself a nuclear free zone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Local authorities were required to appoint Emergency Planning Officers (EPO).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981/2</td>
<td>Demonstrations at Greenham Common.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Clarke, Michael and Marjorie Mowlam, *Debate on Disarmament* (Routledge, 1982) (page 8)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31 Dec 1981</td>
<td>120 local authorities had declared themselves ‘nuclear free’.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. 1982</td>
<td>Sheffield City Council appointed a Nuclear Free Zone officer (Jim Coleman) in its Central Policy Unit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 1982</td>
<td>A new ‘home guard’ to help in crises announced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>‘When the Wind Blows’ by Raymond Briggs released.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 1982</td>
<td>Sheffield City Council and Donetsk sign a declaration for peace and for the removal of fear and the threat of nuclear annihilation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Local authorities were ordered to draw up civil defence plans for nuclear war.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 1983</td>
<td>Cruise missiles arrived in the UK.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>US President Reagan launched Strategic Defence Initiative (known as ‘star wars’).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Frankie Goes to Hollywood ‘Two Tribes’ [USA and USSR] becomes the top selling pop single in the UK.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Competition for ‘peace murals’ in launched in Sheffield.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 1984</td>
<td>BBC TV docudrama, Threads, broadcast.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 1985</td>
<td>BBC TV drama, The War Game, broadcast (20 years after it was made).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985 - 1991</td>
<td>Significant talks between the USA and USSR to reduce their weapon stockpiles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>US President Reagan and USSR President Gorbachev resolved to remove all short and medium range missiles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul 1989</td>
<td>Sheffield hosted the bi-annual UK-USSR twinning conference.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>USSR withdrew control over central and east European countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep - Oct 1989</td>
<td>Brightfire civil defence exercise.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>USSR dissolved.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>ROC stood down.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992 onwards</td>
<td>Most local authority bunkers became civil contingency emergency planning centres.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Sheffield City Council withdraws from ‘Nuclear Free Local Authorities’.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A selection of images from the collections at Sheffield Archives and Local Studies Library

County Council Leader Councillor Roy Travers says "We are opening our emergency planning facilities to make the public aware of the futility of so called war preparation. I want people to know just how slim their chances of survival are. There is no way you can defend yourself with brown paper and hiding under tables."

Soviet map of Sheffield, 1977 (Sheffield Local Studies: S 35 S); Jobs & services: not bombs & missiles, 1980s (Sheffield Local Studies: MP 2884 M); Detail from a leaflet issued to the public giving instructions of what to do in the event of a nuclear attack, Women's Voluntary Service for Civil Defence, 1960s (Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 4426 S); Anti-American fler, 1980s (Sheffield Local Studies: MP 2845 S); (Sheffield Local Studies: MP 3728 M); nuclear free zone opens defence HQ (South Yorkshire County Council, 1982) (Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 3728 M); Sheffield Peace Week fler, 1987 (Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP folder 3); You and the Bomb, c. 1981 (Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP folder 3) and Sheffield Anti-Nuclear campaign fler, 1980s (Sheffield Local Studies: MP 3727 M)
List of documents, books, photographs and other items available at Sheffield Libraries, Archives and Information

Newspaper reports, etc.

Relevant articles and features may appear in local newspapers. The main titles available at Sheffield Local Studies Library for the 20th century are: Sheffield Daily Telegraph, 1855 - 1986; Sheffield Telegraph (weekly) 1989 - date; and the Star 1873 - date.

The Local Studies Library local newspaper cuttings collection will include articles about nuclear weapons, nuclear disarmament, etc (Sheffield Local Studies Library: microfiche).

The Sheffield Star ran a series of reports on The Bomb and You on 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th October 1980.

Archives of some national newspapers are available online, notably The Times (http://archive.timesonline.co.uk) and The Guardian (http://archive.guardian.co.uk).

General Works

A search of the Sheffield Library catalogue for terms such as anti-nuclear, civil defence, nuclear war etc. reveals a number of titles from the 1950s onwards, for example:

Brandon, Ruth, The Burning Question: the Anti-nuclear Movement Since 1945 (Heinemann, 1987) (Sheffield Reference and Information Library: 341.67)

O’Brien, T. H., Civil Defence (HMSO, 1955) (Sheffield Reference and Information Library: 940.544)


Nuclear Weapons (Home Office, 1974) (Sheffield Reference and Information Library: 358.39)

Civil Defence Circulars, 1950s (Civil Defence Department) (Sheffield Reference and Information Library: 355.232 F)

War Plan UK: the Truth About Civil Defence in Britain (Burnett, 1982) (Sheffield Local Studies Library: 355.232)

Poole, Robert, Target North-West: Civil Defence and Nuclear War in Region 10 (Richardson Institute for Conflict and Peace Research, 1982) (Sheffield Reference and Information Library: 341.67)

CND Archives 1958-1980, and Pamphlets and Serials 1958-80 (microfilms) (Harvester Primary Social Sources: 3 The Left in Britain, Pt.5; Section 2) (Sheffield Reference and Information Library)
Minnion, John, *The CND Story: the First 25 Years in the Words of the People Involved* (Allison and Busby, 1983)  
*(Sheffield Central Library Store: 341.67)*

Higgins, Hugh *The Cold War* (Heinemann, 1974)  
*(Sheffield Reference and Information Library: 327.1)*

**Civil Defence / Emergency Planning**

*(Civil Defence in South Yorkshire)*  
*(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 909.82 S)*

Sheffield City Council, Civil Defence Committee signed minutes, 1951 - 1967 and requisition book, 1951 - 1963  
*(Sheffield Archives: CA-CDW; copies also available at CA-CDC; SY341; CA627; CA673 and FSM/24/2).*

Sheffield City Council, Civil Defence Department files, 1949 - 1971  
*(Sheffield Archives: CA674)*

Sheffield City Council minutes, reference to a donation to the Women’s Voluntary Services for Civil Defence, 1958 - 1959  
*(Sheffield Archives: CA-MIN/96 page 306)*

Sheffield civil defence recruitment film (*Sheffield is Calling You*) from the 1950s which refers to the possibility of a nuclear attack is available via YouTube  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=21gfZmSA-qE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=21gfZmSA-qE)

Yorkshire Film Archive has a number of civil defence films including ‘Civil Defence West Park’, 1962 (no. 4071) which shows a Yorkshire Civil Defence rally in Hull, including Sheffield volunteers at a fallout information display [www.yorkshirefilmarchive.com](http://www.yorkshirefilmarchive.com)

Photograph of civil defence exercises in Surrey Street, 1950s  
*(Sheffield Local Studies Library: Picture Sheffield: s22874)*

Photograph of Civil Defence Inspection of Mobile Column, Barkers Pool, 19 Oct 1954  
*(Sheffield Archives: LD2479/1 p.89)*

Photograph of Civil Defence Exhibition, Central Library, 1956  
*(Sheffield Local Studies Library: Picture Sheffield: s26275, s26276 and s26277)*

Photographs of ROC monitoring station, [Abbeydale Gold Course], 2012  
*(Sheffield Local Studies Library: Picture Sheffield: c04159-c04164)*

Sheffield City Council minutes reference to the abolition of the Civil Defence Committee, 1967 - 1968  
*(Sheffield Archives: CA-MIN/10 page 5)*

Sheffield City Council Policy Committee, references to civil defence / emergency planning, including, for instance, establishment of new county borough control centre, proposals to stand down of civil defence services, etc., c. 1966 - 1969  
*(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/3)*

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Sheffield City Council Policy Committee, reference to Association of Civil Defence Officers conference and revenue estimates for civil defence, c. 1969 - 1971
(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/4)

Sheffield City Council Policy Committee, reference to the disposal of former trophies of the Civil Defence Corps, c. 1971 - 1973
(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/5)

Sheffield City Council Policy Committee, reference to South Yorkshire County Council war emergency planning, 1976 - 1977
(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/9)

(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/12)

(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/13)

Sheffield City Council Policy Committee, reference to war emergency planning, 1981/2
(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/14)

Sheffield City Council Policy Committee, references to Government proposals regarding civil defence, and conference on nuclear attacks, 1982/3
(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/15)

Sheffield City Council Policy Committee references to Civil Defence (General Local Authority Functions) regulations 1983 and Civil Defence (Grant) (amendment) regulations 1983; Civil Defence Research Project and Nuclear Winter and Civil Defence conference, 1984
(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/17)

Sheffield City Council Policy Committee, references to civil defence, planning assumption study and a civil defence research project, 1984 - 1985
(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/18)

Sheffield City Council Policy Committee, reference to Civil defence planning assumption study, 1985/6
(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/19)

Sheffield City Council Policy Committee, reference to the Government’s public information campaign on civil defence, 1987
(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/24)

Sheffield City Council Policy Committee, references to the Home Office video, ‘When Disaster Strikes’ and also a copy of the Sheffield and District labour Party manifesto which includes references to civil defence, 1987
(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/25a part 2)

Sheffield City Council Policy Committee, includes the minutes of the Nuclear Free Zone Working Party which refer to the cancellation of the national civil defence exercise ‘Hard Rock’ and other matters, 1989
(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/43 Appendix B Policy Review sub-committee (Policy) minutes of 31 Jan 1989)
Sheffield City Council Policy Committee, includes a resolution and a report regarding a letter received from the South Yorkshire Fire and Civil Defence Authority seeking information on wartime emergency planning, 1990
(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/59 minutes of 31 Jul 1990 and Report KK)

Sheffield City Council Policy Committee includes references to the Home Office consultation on emergency planning / civil defence in metropolitan areas, 1991 - 1992
(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/72 minutes of 22 Oct 1991 and Report AA and CA-POL/75 minutes of Jan 1992)

(Sheffield Archives: CA-EHS)

South Yorkshire County Council Policy Committee (responsible for emergency planning) minutes, 1974 - 1986
(Sheffield Archives: SYCC-MIN)

South Yorkshire and Nuclear War: information for the public in the county of South Yorkshire (South Yorkshire County Council, 1984)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 341.672 SST)

Kemp, Stewart, Police War Duties (South Yorkshire Fire and Civil Defence Authority. Emergency Planning Unit, 1988)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 355.28 SSTQ)

Kemp, Stewart, Planning Assumptions Study - Police War Duties (South Yorkshire Fire and Civil Defence Authority. 1988)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 355.28 SSTQ)

(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 355.28 SSTQ)

South Yorkshire Fire and Civil Defence Authority provisional war plans, 1988 - 1989
No. 1 collection and distribution of information in war
No. 2 control and co-ordination of action in war
No. 2 Planning area 2: control and coordination
No. 3 wartime public advice service
No. 4 provision of wartime shelter
No. 5 rescue in war (provisional)
No. 6 accommodation and care of the homeless in war
No. 7 environmental health in war
No. 8 disposal of human remains in war
No. 9 emergency feeding and food control
No. 10 provision of works services in war
No. 11A essential services (crisis location)
No. 12 wartime volunteer scheme
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 355.28 SSTQ)

Transition to War: NATO mobilisation and emergency powers: the implications for civil defence and local government. Planning validation report, no. 3 (South Yorkshire County Council, 1989)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 355.28 SSTQ)
Civil Defence liaison directory (2 vols) (South Yorkshire Fire and Civil Defence Authority, Emergency Planning Unit, 1989)  
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 355.28 SSTQ)

Legislation directory (South Yorkshire Fire and Civil Defence Authority. Emergency Planning Unit, 1980)  
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 355.28 SSTQ)

South Yorkshire Fire and Civil Defence Authority meetings referring to the establishment of an emergency planning unit, staff, war plan, emergency feeding exercise and nuclear facilities, etc., 1986 - 1990  
(Sheffield Archives: SYJA)

South Yorkshire Police Authority, reference to war duties, 1988 - 1989  
(Sheffield Archives: SYJA/2/2/16a)

Sheffield City Council planning applications:
- Riveland Valley Road, Sheffield, extension for civil defence purposes, c. 1951  
  (Sheffield Archives: CA206/38355)
- Eyre Lane and Surrey Street, Sheffield, Civil Defence Committee new civil defence headquarters, 1951  
  (Sheffield Archives: CA206/43561)
- Abbeydale Hall, Abbeydale Road South, Sheffield, Civil Defence Committee Civil Defence Main Control Centre, 1953  
  (Sheffield Archives: CA206/44831)
- Coulston Street, Spring Street and Lore Lane, Sheffield Civil Defence Committee civil defence rescue training headquarters and technical training establishment. 1958  
  (Sheffield Archives: CA206/49697 and CA206/49729)

Sheffield, St Mary, Beighton - civil defence siren (includes drawing of a typical siren installation), 1988  
(Sheffield Archives: DIOC/FAC/2248)

Sheffield City Council, Housing Management Committee minutes, refer to the installation of air raid sirens and telephones for civil defence purposes on Council estates, release from requisition for air raid shelters, staff volunteers for industrial civil defence units, 1959 - 1962  
(Sheffield Archives: CA-HMC/2/1)

Sheffield City Council, Education Department Civil Defence Emergency Feeding Scheme 1964-1969  
(Sheffield Archives: CA762)

Sheffield City Fire Brigade, civil defence requisitions book, 1951 - 1963  
(Sheffield Archives: SY341/C2/2)

Association of Metropolitan Councils (AMC) Civil Defence Sub-committee minutes, etc, 1952 - 1964  
(Sheffield Archives: CA437)

Papers and photographs of an individual member of the ARP and Civil Defence Committees, 1938 - 1957  
(Sheffield Archives: MD7348)
Leaflets issued to the public giving instructions of what to do in the event of a nuclear attack in response to the cold war, (Women's Voluntary Service for Civil Defence, 1960s)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 4426 S)

Sheffield Civil Defence Headquarters newsletters, nos. 53 and 54, Aug and Dec 1966
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 1612 M)

Civil Defence Corps Sheffield Division Newsletter, Dec 1967
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 1544 S)

Details of new Civil Defence HQ, Coulston Street, Sheffield in Quality of Sheffield, vol. 5 no. 9, Sep 1958 (page 36)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 380 SQ)

Account of opening of new Civil Defence training centre, Sheffield in Quality of Sheffield, vol. 6 no. 5, May 1959 (page 34)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 380 SQ)

Photograph of Nuclear Survival Shelters Ltd., 1980s
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: photograph G6 31 Main)

Sheffield Area National Hospital Service Reserve minutes, papers and circulars, 1953 - 1968
(Sheffield Archives: NHS37/3 and NHS27/8)

United Sheffield Hospitals Civil Defence Committee minutes, 1950 - 1959; Sheffield Area National Hospital Service Reserve Committee minutes, 1960
(Sheffield Archives: NHS28/2/5/1)

National Hospital Service Reserve, Sheffield Area, Civil Defence Committee minutes, 24 Feb 1959
(Sheffield Archives: NHS27/8/1)

North Sheffield Hospital Area Civil Defence Committee, minutes, 18 Feb 1960
(Sheffield Archives: NHS37/3/1)

Sheffield Regional Hospital Board Civil Defence Committee minutes, 1950 - 1964
(Sheffield Archives: NHS27/2/6)

Copy correspondence between the United Sheffield Hospitals and Jessop Hospital and papers including lists of equipment at hospital; 'Organisation of Hospital Services in Wartime' issued by Sheffield Regional Hospital Board, 1959; memorandum about Blood Transfusion Service in wartime, 1959; Civil Defence training courses and equipment; 'Scheme for Major Peacetime Emergencies' produced by Sheffield City, 1969
(Sheffield Archives: NHS12/1/5/3/1)

Notices produced by the Ministry of Health concerning arrangements for the National Hospital Service Reserve, civil defence arrangements at hospitals and operational control; Royal Warrant instituting the Civil Defence Long Service Medal, with explanatory memorandum, 1957 - 1961
(Sheffield Archives: NHS37/3/4)
Letters sent from Sheffield Regional Hospital Board concerning civil defence and the operational control of hospital services in war time, including schedules of accommodation and facilities at hospitals, 1961 - 1963
(Sheffield Archives: NHS37/3/2)

Plans to disperse all health personnel in the event of a nuclear strike in Sheffield Free Press, Dec 1981
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 072.74 SF)

Firth-Brown Ltd, correspondence and papers concerning Civil Defence in Industry and Commerce and Industrial Civil Defence offices, 1945 - 1963
(Sheffield Archives: X306/1/7/4/11)

Account of Exercise Fidelis in Quality of Sheffield, Mar 1955 (page 25)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 380 SQ)

Yorkshire Water Authority: civil defence slides, 1960s
(Sheffield Archives: YWA/12/3 Box 3)

Civil Defence Manual for Water Undertakers issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, 1960s
(Sheffield Archives: YWA/14/14);

Civil defence: proceedings of a conference of the Water Authorities Mutual Aid Organisation, 1965
(Sheffield Archives: YWA/14/14a)

Sheffield Chamber of Commerce correspondence regarding Civil Defence and Industrial Emergency Services, 1973 - 1975
(Sheffield Archives: LD2391)

Sheffield Galleries and Museums Trust, Civil Defence ARP file, 1952
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BBC Radio Sheffield, discussion of the emergency measures that would be used by the Government in case of the development of war, 1980s  
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BBC Radio Sheffield interview with Tony Benn regarding nuclear defence, 1980s  
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BBC Radio Sheffield interview with Parish Councillor Birkby who wants information on civil defence precautions in the event of a nuclear attack, 1980s  
(Sheffield Archives: SY425 8003/13 band 2)

BBC Radio Sheffield discussion with new Civil Defence regulations, nuclear free zones, etc., 1980s  
(Sheffield Archives: SY425 8304/10 band 1)

BBC Radio Sheffield discussion with Cllr Roger Barton who opposes plans for civil defence  
(Sheffield Archives: SY425 8607/5 bands 2 and 4), 1980s

For a list of ‘nuclear bunkers’ see http://www.subbrit.org.uk/category/civil-defence

There are two former regional seats of government (RSG) or ‘Nuclear Bunkers’ remaining which are open to the public

- Hack Green (Cheshire) www.hackgreen.co.uk
- Kelvedon Hatch (Essex) www.secretnuclearbunker.com

There are numerous former nuclear control centres / nuclear bunkers visitor attractions, the nearest being at York www.english-heritage.org.uk/daysout/properties/york-cold-war-bunker

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Nuclear Free Zones

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(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/15)

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Sheffield City Council Policy Committee, references to nuclear free zone local authorities conferences, the Nuclear Free Zone Working Party and the National Steering Committee of Nuclear Free Zones, 1984 - 1985
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(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/21)

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(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/25a part 2 and CA-POL/35 appendix L: Policy Review sub-Committee (Policy) Committee, 10 May 1988)

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(Sheffield Archives: CA-POL/35 appendix A: Police and Community Safety Panel, 9 May 1988)

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BBC radio Sheffield interview - Cllr Jack Brown says South Yorkshire County Council is opposed to an exercise to show the effects of nuclear war, 1980s
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[http://tinyurl.com/c29bvq3](http://tinyurl.com/c29bvq3), [http://tinyurl.com/clv9uad](http://tinyurl.com/clv9uad) and [http://tinyurl.com/bu5wbcp](http://tinyurl.com/bu5wbcp))

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Sheffield City Council and Donetsk (USSR) declaration for peace and for the removal of fear and the threat of nuclear annihilation, 1982
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Sheffield City Council Policy Committee, reference to joint peace delegation from Stara Zagora, Bulgaria, Sheffield Peace Shop, City Library Peace Collection, a report on peace education, etc., 1983
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Sheffield Peace Forum, minutes and papers, c. 1981 - 2009 (Sheffield Archives: X588)

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Poems for Peace: Sheffield CND invites you to a literary evening to be held in honour of the winners of the first national peace poetry competition (Sheffield CND, 1980s)  
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CND national chairman talks of the national conference in Sheffield, links between Sheffield and Donetsk, etc., 1980s
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National Union of Teachers (NUT) turns down a motion to join CND. Sheffield teacher and newly appointed Peace Officer explains the decision, 1980s
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Peace/Anti Nuclear contacts in the Sheffield area, 1980s
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Sheffield City Council, resolution as to protest against testing of nuclear weapons, 1957/8
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County Liaison Committee on Anti-Nuclear Matters (established 1983) copy minutes and papers (includes leaflet ‘South Yorkshire and Nuclear War’), 1983 - 1985
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http://dscalm.warwick.ac.uk/DServe/dserve.exe?dsqIni=Dserve.ini&dsqApp=Archive&dsqDb=Catalog&dsqCmd=NaviTree.tcl&dsqField=RefNo&dsqItem=CLA

Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament archives are at the British Library of Political and Economic Science (ref. CND) www2.lse.ac.uk/library/archive/Home.aspx

Records of the Yorkshire and Humberside CND branch are at the Wakefield Branch of West Yorkshire Archives (ref. HND) www.archives.wyjs.org.uk/

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**Library, archive and museum collections held elsewhere**

The national register of Archives (NRA) contains information on the nature and location of manuscripts and historical records that relate to British history
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/nra/default.asp

The Access to Archives online database (A2A) contains catalogues describing archives held locally in England and Wales www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a

The Archives Hub contains catalogues describing archives held in universities and colleges in the UK www.archiveshub.ac.uk/mar04.shtml

The National Archives (TNA) holds records of central government departments and agencies, including the War office, Ministry of Defence, Home Office etc. www.nationalarchives.gov.uk. You can view elements of the Protect and Survive film here:
http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/films/1964to1979/filmpage_warnings.htm and
http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/films/1964to1979/filmpage_casualties.htm

National Cold War exhibition at RAF Cosford www.nationalcoldwarexhibition.org
Sheffield Archives and Local Studies services collect and preserve original records and printed material relating to Sheffield and the surrounding area.

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www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a

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