

## Subject: NZ adds pressure on Britain to condemn N-tests

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**Note:** (Updates with pressure on UK and Bolger, Le Blanc comments)

WELLINGTON, Oct 2 (Reuter) - New Zealand protested to France over its second nuclear blast in the South Pacific on Monday and stepped up pressure on Britain to join international condemnation of the tests.

Foreign Minister Don McKinnon summoned French ambassador Jacques Le Blanc and kept him waiting for 10 minutes before delivering the latest in a series of angry protests.

Prime Minister Jim Bolger said France should be suspended as a dialogue partner of the 16-nation South Pacific Forum and he expected other forum members to back that view.

"New Zealanders are outraged that once again France is thumbing its nose at world opinion," he said in a statement.

In a television interview, Bolger also turned up the heat on Britain, which has refused to speak out against French testing and faces diplomatic isolation at a Commonwealth summit in Auckland early next month.

"I have no doubt that the Commonwealth will want to express strong condemnation of the tests by both France and China... I

would hope that the British government, that Prime Minister John Major, will join the Commonwealth heads in that resolution in condemning nuclear testing wherever it happens," he said.

New Zealand, which has close traditional ties with Britain, has made no secret that it feels let down by London's silence.

Britain says the tests are a matter for the French, and has denied media reports that it is receiving data from them.

"As well as calling in the French ambassador, the government must also call in the British High Commissioner and demand an explanation as to why the United Kingdom will not condemn France's actions," said Clive Matthewson, leader of the centrist United New Zealand party.

France said the test, the second in its current series of six to eight blasts, was designed "to guarantee the future safety and viability" of its nuclear arsenal.

Le Blanc, also interviewed on television, denied Paris was turning a deaf ear to world opinion. "France does not ignore the world. No nuclear power has done so much in expressing its understanding," he said.

The blast had an explosive power of less than 110 kilotonnes of TNT, according to the French defence ministry, and was some five times more powerful than the previous one last month.

That, in turn, was roughly equivalent to the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, in 1945.

Warwick Smith, of Wellington's Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences, said Monday's test was equivalent to an earthquake measuring 5.9 on the Richter scale and was among the most powerful ever conducted by France.

"It would be one of their largest -- probably among the four or five largest shots of their whole testing programme," he told Reuters.

New Zealand has been among the most vociferous opponents of France's decision to end a three-year moratorium and conduct the underground tests on Mururoa and Fangataufa atolls.

Wellington tried unsuccessfully last month to persuade the International Court of Justice in the Hague to reopen a 22-year-old legal case against French testing. It recalled its ambassador to France after the first test on September 5.

## Subject: Thousands Protest French Tests

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**Newsgroups:** clari.tw.nuclear,clari.world.europe.france,clari.world.top  
**Distribution:** clari.apo  
**Subject:** Thousands Protest French Tests  
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PARIS (AP) -- About 20,000 protesters across France demanded an end to French nuclear tests Saturday before the government detonates a second, even more powerful nuclear blast in the South Pacific.

Under banners reading "For a Denuclearized Pacific" and "Give Peace a Chance," over 6,000 of demonstrators in Paris marched from the Place de la Republique to the Place de la Bastille.

Greenpeace-France sponsored a truck pulling an imitation H-bomb. Delegations from French Polynesia, Britain, Belgium and Germany also took part in the Paris march.

In Toulouse, up to 3,000 people marched. Smaller demonstrations were held elsewhere in France, drawing several hundred people each for what was billed as National Anti-Nuclear Action Day.

The second in a series of up to eight underground nuclear tests announced by President Jacques Chirac in June is considered imminent.

The tests break a three-year moratorium declared by France and followed by the United States, Britain and Russia. Riots in Tahiti

History

Abeurle 0900  
 Gebu 1100  
 Bealok 1230-1300  
 Choyay 1400  
 Ulongd  
 Kalamang 1500  
 Lalpoo 1530

What happened in Bealok

Reasons for Bealok

Problems & response -

Bealok - 'I have to go so please be the best'

Tropical cyclone + wave  
 did not start '12 by do stuff  
 island - for visitors would do + dwellers  
 coral damage - fish → poisoning

Chum

Need for - cyber link ...  
 - safety -  
 by new gear - TA 75 / TASM

5 Sep - 20 Oct  
 20 Oct - 11 Oct  
 27 Oct - 6 Oct  
 21 Nov

Crab 60-100 - di  
 crab - 6 m  
 boat, covered in 92 by redwood.

Robbed - redwood

in case also all consider

Wick  
 NZ - Ostop antibodies  
 ② F by 10/0'

a deni club is exploded -

68 - Fa 11 Nov -  
 11 Oct 6 pm  
 - about 20 m - off 1/2  
 Lot - 1960 Ag (58/15)  
 Ag ind 62 → 1960

# EU stays on course for monetary union

I've stopped Euro dreamers, Major claims... Oh no you haven't, says rest of Europe

**Anthony Bevins**  
Majorca

JOHN MAJOR believes the deep Tory wounds over Europe could be healed after this weekend's European Union summit at Majorca, and he claimed the other EU leaders now accepted his view that Europe could no longer march in step on every single issue.

Despite his optimism, the other leaders announced their determination to proceed with monetary union on schedule by 1999.

The summit, billed by the host Spanish Prime Minister, Felipe Gonzalez, as 'designed to recover a certain family spirit among ourselves,' was intended not so much to decide the future of Europe as to ease the rising tensions.

For John Major, facing the

stern test of next month's Tory party conference, it was important for giving him the leeway to claim back in England that Europe was now accepting his more pragmatic and sceptical approach to monetary union.

Speaking after the summit ended yesterday afternoon, the Prime Minister said that if six members created a single currency in 1999—and he said he would be 'dumbfounded' if there were many more—the Union would then become a different creature.

'The concept that 15, or 19, or 27 countries could move together on a broad front, at a united pace, in the same way, at the same time, with the same objectives, simply isn't economically or politically credible.' For Germany's Chancellor Kohl, in contrast, the summit gave full backing to his country's view that mone-

etary union should go ahead as planned and — just as important for the suspicious Germans — that the terms for enrolment would not be eased.

For President Chirac of

France, the summit's main importance was to keep him from a public roasting over his decision to renew nuclear testing. He announced at the summit that he enjoyed the support of

Britain, Germany and Portugal for the tests. Greenpeace's attempt to draw the attention of the summit with a demonstration by ships in the harbour attracted little attention from

the leaders. To John Major's obvious relief, President Chirac has now in part replaced him as the object of European trepidation.

In that sense this was a summit where everyone pursued his domestic agenda.

John Major was able within a day and a half to fit in three separate meetings with the Irish Prime Minister, John Bruton, to try to smooth over the differences between the two on the peace process.

Answering Sinn Fein president Gerry Adams's frequent hints that the peace process might collapse into violence, the Prime Minister demanded: 'Who is going to be violent? Mr Adams says it will slip back into violence?'

'Whose violence will it be? It doesn't have to slip back into violence. That's a matter that is in Mr Adams's hands,

**Q. Do you support or oppose the French government's nuclear tests on Mururoa atoll?**

	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Euro-Average	6	81	13
Austria	2	92	6
Germany	3	89	8
Britain	3	76	21
France	30	47	23
Netherlands	1	89	10
Sweden	1	92	7
Belgium	3	78	14
Spain	2	82	16
Italy	3	85	12

Source: MORI

## Public says No to nuclear tests

A NEW poll reveals deep opposition across Europe to French nuclear tests at Mururoa Atoll in the Pacific, (writes Bob Worcester). The MORI poll, commissioned by Greenpeace, shows only 6 per cent of all Europeans approve of the tests, with 81 per cent opposed. Even in France only 30 per cent approve, with 47 per cent opposed.

The poll shows that there is doubt throughout the continent that nuclear weapons are necessary any longer. Only 15 per cent of people in

the nine countries polled agree that 'nuclear weapons are still necessary', with fewer than half of the French, 44 per cent, agreeing that they are, and 39 per cent in disagreement. In Britain, Europe's other nuclear power, 50 per cent think nuclear weapons unnecessary, with less than a third — 32 per cent — saying the bomb is still needed.

The telephone poll was carried out by MORI between 9 September and 19 September, with a total sample size of 8,289.

# Defiant French to unleash bigger nuclear explosion

23/9/95

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

FRANCE is preparing to carry out the second of its nuclear tests within the next ten days despite worldwide opposition, a senior French politician said yesterday.

The comment by Jacques Baumel, vice-president of the National Assembly's defence committee, came as the International Court of Justice in The Hague ruled against an application from New Zealand to have the test programme declared illegal on environmental grounds.

Sources in Paris suggested that the next test could be almost eight times as powerful as the one that provoked an international outrage at the beginning of the month. The

trial, designed to complete the development of a new missile for French submarines, will give off an energy of 150 kilotonnes, compared with 20 kilotonnes — the same as Hiroshima — the sources said.

Preparations for the trial are under way, with the French radio station, France Info, claiming that it will be carried out at the Fangataufa atoll, a few miles from the main test site at Mururoa in the South Pacific. Speaking in Paris, the normally well-informed M Baumel said the test would be held within eight to ten days, and possibly sooner.

French officials are concerned that opposition to the nuclear programme will rise

in proportion to the force of the explosion, reinforcing France's isolation on the international stage. But with President Chirac having staked his credibility on a series of tests that he says is vital for his country's security in the next century, Paris has little option but to press ahead and hope that the storm dies down.

The French Government believes that, once it has completed the 150-kilotonne trial, the biggest of the six to eight planned explosions, the protest movement will start to lose impetus. With Greenpeace attacked as unwieldy and unrepresentative by a series of articles and television documentaries in France, some ministers are convinced that the tide is turning their way.

Their hopes were fuelled by the International Court's judgment. France was accused by New Zealand of breaking international law with its insistence on carrying out trials that Wellington says will have serious ecological consequences. In a ruling anticipated by most jurists, the court found that there was no case to answer. Last night Hervé de Charette, the French Foreign Minister, hailed the court's verdict as a victory for good sense.

## UN attack on tests watered down

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

MORE than 100 nations of the United Nations nuclear watchdog agency adopted a resolution yesterday expressing grave concern over the resumption of nuclear testing.

But the nuclear weapons states — America, China, France and Britain — argued that the annual conference of the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency was not the forum for such a resolution. The wording had been watered down from the draft resolution text which wanted the conference to "deplore" the resumption of testing. The resolution also said a halt to nuclear testing would contribute to a conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty, being negotiated under UN auspices in Geneva.

New Zealand and Australia said yesterday that they were disappointed but not surprised by the International

Court of Justice's rejection of Wellington's case against French nuclear testing.

Jim Bolger, the New Zealand Prime Minister, said France should take no comfort from the decision, adding that Wellington would continue to press France to stop nuclear testing in the Pacific. In Canberra, a spokesman for Paul Keating, the Australian Prime Minister, echoed Mr Bolger's sentiments.

Australia and other Pacific nations are pushing for a UN General Assembly resolution that would condemn France and China for testing nuclear bombs and demand they stop. □ Tokyo: A chill in relations between Tokyo and Paris over French nuclear tests thawed a little yesterday when Jean-Bernard Ouvrieu, the French Ambassador, met Yohei Kono, the Japanese Foreign Minister.



De Charette: acclaimed "victory for good sense"

# FRANCE PLANS A-BOMB TESTS

## SOUTH PACIFIC PARADISE UNDER THREAT

The French government plans to explode 8 atom bombs in the South Pacific between September 1995 and April 1996. These tests are a threat to the environment and they put at risk the health of the local population. They also undermine moves to reduce the number of atomic bombs around the world today.

*notes -  
Mr. L. S. ... 3-6/6/68  
200-300m ...  
50% ...  
30 mls*

## MORUROA

The explosions will take place at Moruroa Atoll. This is part of a chain of small islands in French Polynesia, the most populated of which is Tahiti. The atoll is composed of coral on the site of an extinct volcano. It is 9 kms wide and 25 kms long. General De Gaulle selected Moruroa as the site where France would test nuclear weapons 30 years ago. Each test involves detonating an atom bomb. De Gaulle said: "In order to thank French Polynesia for its faithful attachment to France, I have decided to set up the nuclear weapons centre there." Many of the local people are not grateful for this nuclear menace in their midst.

A total of 168 atom bombs have been detonated at this small atoll. The first 41 tests were carried out in the atmosphere. A further 127 tests have been carried out underground in shafts drilled into the sea bed.

*atm - 41 (150-200m)  
Moruroa - 120 under - 67*

## A POISONED ISLAND

Jacques Cousteau, the underwater explorer, has carried out research into the effects of nuclear testing at Moruroa. He said that the tests were accelerating the ageing of the coral reef. They have caused fissures in the seabed through which radioactive material has dispersed into the sea. Cousteau described the atoll as "a very poor site for storing nuclear waste".

It has been estimated that there may be 20 kgs of plutonium in the lagoon at Moruroa. Plutonium remains radioactive for thousands of years and the smallest particle can cause cancer. Radioactive Caesium-134 has been detected in plankton during sampling by independent scientists 19 kms from the atoll. The scientists calculated that this material had come from underground nuclear tests.

## A DIARY OF DISASTERS

11th September 1966

General De Gaulle visited Moruroa to watch one of the first series of atomic explosions. On the first day the test was postponed because the wind was blowing in the wrong direction. On the second day the wind was still blowing in the wrong direction and the test was to be postponed again, but De Gaulle was in a hurry to leave, he said "I have to go, so please blow the bomb" - and they did. Radiation was scattered towards Western Samoa, Fiji and the Cook islands. These early tests in the atmosphere resulted in the greatest damage to the environment.

9th July 1979

There was an explosion in a bunker which contained plutonium. Two workers were killed and four others were badly contaminated. Plutonium was scattered across the atoll.

25th July 1979

An atom bomb was being lowered down a shaft for an underground test when it got stuck half-way down. It was detonated & exploded with a power equal to 150,000 tons of TNT. This caused a massive layer of limestone and coral to break off the edge of the reef. The material fell into the lagoon and produced a tidal wave which washed over the atoll. Ten soldiers were injured.

20th November 1980

Moruroa was hit by a cyclone. The storm swept radioactive waste into the sea. After the cyclone workers were told not to go onto the beach.

10th July 1985

The Greenpeace ship Rainbow Warrior was about to sail to Moruroa to protest against nuclear tests. It was moored at Auckland Harbour when a team of French secret service agents placed explosives alongside the ship's hull. The ship sank and Fernando Pereira was killed. Two of the agents were arrested and imprisoned for a short time, but when they returned to France they were received as heroes.

## THE VICTIMS

Many of those who live on islands near Moruroa are convinced that their own health and the health of their children has suffered because of the nuclear explosions. Many have become ill and some have died from eating poisoned fish. Seafood is their staple diet.

There are many more cases of cancer and of deformities among children than before the atom bombs came. Local people employed on the nuclear site are particularly at risk, as are their children. It is impossible to find out exactly how many adults and children have suffered because the French government keeps the records secret.

## THE UNDERGROUND BOMB

The new tests will all be carried out underground. A 2 metre shaft is drilled down to a depth of around 600 metres. The atom bomb is lowered to the bottom, the shaft is filled in and then the bomb is detonated. The tests will be carried out in the lagoon in the centre of the atoll.

When the atom bomb explodes the temperature in the shaft will rise to 100,000 ° C. A huge crater will be produced 60 - 80 metres across. The blast will fracture the rock. Radioactive waste will slowly leak through these cracks into the sea.

## THE NEW ROUND OF DESTRUCTION

Eight tests are scheduled to be carried out between September 1995 and April 1996. The first test is of a TN-75 nuclear warhead. It is like the British Trident warhead and is 8 times more destructive than the bomb which destroyed Hiroshima.

The 2nd & 3rd tests are of a fission device, which act as the trigger for a larger nuclear warhead. The remaining 5 tests are for a new nuclear warhead for the ASLP air-launched long-range missile. These tests will also be used to assess whether the design of a nuclear bomb can be tested using computer simulation.

## CHINESE NUCLEAR TESTS

China has conducted two nuclear tests this year, the most recent on 16th August. Campaigning continues against Chinese as well as French testing. Members of CND were arrested earlier this year during a protest at the Chinese Embassy in London.

## THE QUEST FOR A GLOBAL TEST BAN

In May 1995 a major international conference took place in New York with the intention of preventing more countries from acquiring nuclear weapons. A comprehensive ban on testing nuclear weapons would help to achieve this aim. The participants, including France, agreed to show the "utmost restraint" with regard to nuclear testing.

Efforts to achieve agreement have been undermined by France and China. While France has said that they will agree to a comprehensive test ban after the current series of tests are completed, this assurance is not watertight. The French government have also said that they will always retain the right to carry out even more tests if they feel this is necessary to prove the safety and reliability of their nuclear bombs.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP -

#### Boycott French Goods

A worldwide boycott of French goods and services is taking place to put pressure on the French government. Why not try New Zealand, Australian or South African wine instead of French. Ask your friends and neighbours to sign a petition opposing French nuclear testing and supporting the boycott.

#### Join the protests

A protest is held every Friday at 10 am at the French Consulate, 11 Randolph Crescent, Edinburgh.

If a test takes place at Moruroa then a demonstration will take place at 7.00 pm in the evening immediately following the first test, at the French Consulate in Edinburgh.

#### Write to object

Write to protest about French nuclear testing to President Jacques Chirac, Palais de l'Elysee, 55-57 Rue de Faubourg Ste Honoree, Paris 75008, France.

Write to protest about Chinese nuclear testing to the Chinese Embassy, 31 - 49 Portland Place, London, W1N 3AH.

Write to John Major, your MP and your MEP asking what they are doing to protest about French and Chinese nuclear testing.