

argued that the Govern- shipyard, are in diffi- leaders, Mr. Mick McGahey, Mr Huga-

ate forecast ment's blunderbuss culty."

Russian factory ships share Shetland's Z-berth 'secret'

31 8 89 GH

FIFTY-SIX Eastern Bloc klondykers, factory ships which buy, store and process herring from British fishing boats, are moored on all but one of the five Shetland Isles anchorages designated for British nuclear submarines in an emergency.

This emerged as a copy of Scotspeccsafe, the Scottish Special Safety Scheme devised by the Royal Navy for anchoring nuclear submarines in an emergency, went on display in Lerwick library for the first time.

It reveals that four locations — two in Breiwick

Bay, one in Bressay Sound, halfway between Lerwick and the Maryfield Hotel, and one behind the island of Bressay — have been designated Z-berths for nuclear vessels.

The other Z-berth is in Dales Voc, near a deep-water oil rig repair base which has never been used.

All the anchorages are near Lerwick and fall within the jurisdiction of the local harbour trust.

The one copy of Scotspeccsafe in the library can be examined by the public, photocopied or

transcribed, said a library spokesman.

There are hundreds of Russian, Polish, and East German seamen, in Lerwick each day on shore leave from the 56 klondykers anchored off the harbour.

There is nothing to stop any of the seamen entering the library and asking to examine the Scotspeccsafe document.

Meanwhile, the Soviet and Eastern Bloc ships remain at anchor on the spots where nuclear submarines could arrive in an emergency — only to find dozens of potential enemy

vessels occupying their anchorages.

"There's no such emergency at the moment so they would really be the normal people to occupy these anchorages," said a Royal Navy spokesman.

"Should such an emergency arise, we would have to ask them to leave."

Asked if this would be a polite request, the spokesman replied: "I think so."

Yesterday, Shetland Islands Council, which has a non-nuclear policy, issued a statement which said the Navy was aware of the council's non-nuclear position

PERFORMANCE AND UNC