

NUCLEAR SECURITY COUNCIL

INFORMATIVE NOTE ON THE VISIT OF TECHNICIANS OF THE CSN TO THE
NAVAL BASE OF GIBRALTAR AND NUCLEAR SUBMARINE *TIRELESS*

MADRID, 4 OF NOVEMBER OF 2000

The day 3 of November two technicians of the CSN visited during 4 hours the nuclear submarine *Tireless* and the wharf of the naval base of Gibraltar in which he is berthed. The visit was decided by the mixed technical group Hispanic Briton, created for the pursuit of the repair according to agreement of the respective governments, in the course of the meeting held in the morning of same day 3. By representing Spanish part they compose this group of the ministries of Outer Subjects and Defense, the Main directorate of Civil Protection and the Infrastructure Direction for the Pursuit of Situations of Crisis of Presidency of the Government. In addition, in this group they participate technical in the CSN, like independent organism that advises to the Government.

On the part of the CSN they attended the general assistant director of engineering and the general assistant director of emergencies. The visit was accompanied by the president of the Nuclear Regulating Panel of the British Navy (NRP) and was received by the military person in charge of the base, the head of the organization of nuclear security of the same one and by the captain of the submarine.

During the visit, the technicians had opportunity to know direct form the operation of the systems of control of accesses, physical protection, management of remainders and protection against fires. Also, the facilities and auxiliary laboratories qualified specifically for the repair were visited. All of them located in the mooring wharf.

In the interior of the submarine, access to all the areas nonrestricted of same, in the concrete one was had the systems of protection against fires, the aids, the control room of navigation and systems related to the Plan of emergency of the submarine and the communications with the outside.

Military restrictions prevented the access to the enclosure where it is located the nuclear reactor and to the Control Panel of the same one; for that reason, it has not been possible to verify, of direct form, the parameters of the reactor.

The visit also has allowed to know the organization established to make the administrative and technical repair, and procedures related to the security of the reactor.

In a meeting maintained at the end of the visit, on the part of the people in charge of the submarine explanations on the parameters of the reactor became and delivery became of registries that guarantee the capacity of refrigeration of the same one.

On visit insisted to authorities British interest of which technicians of the CSN attend the accomplishment of the tests of verification of the suitability of the repair, which they are due to make before the beginning of the submarine, in agreement with already showed by this CSN the past day 2.

The CSN considers that this visit, although of limited reach as already were anticipated, has had the utility to verify in-situ the operation of some systems, as well as the practices and the organization of the British Navy to face this repair.

The CSN will continue participating in the meetings of the mixed group and analyzing the technical information and of security that receives from the Regulating Panel of the British Navy according to the established program.

This Advice esteem that the new data obtained during the visit allow to reinforce their previous conclusions on the conditions of security of the submarine and do not introduce any element that modifies the results of the valuations on the state of security of the reactor. In addition, the CSN esteem that this first visit contributes to improve the collaboration with the regulating authority military Briton (NRP).