

ALBA: COMUNN CEILTEACH  
BREIZH: KEVRE KELTIEK  
CYMRU: UNDEB CELTAIDD

ÉIRE: CONRADH CEILTEACH  
KERNOW: KESUNYANS KELTEK  
MANNIN: COMMEEYS CELTIAGH



# CELTIC LEAGUE

1/5/89

## CELTIC LEAGUE MILITARY MONITORING

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PRESS INFORMATION.....

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### NO 'GLASNOST' BENEATH THE WAVES.

Despite the apparent sincerity of Soviet disarmament propaganda as epitomised by the attached article (Observer 30/4/89) the reality seems less rosy.

The Soviets have just completed a massive construction of Submarine facilities in the Kola region of North Region, on the Arctic ocean. The ability and capacity of these new bases will far outstrip the minimal demilitarization afforded by the retirement of some elderly 'GOLF' class SSBNs from the Baltic.

In addition the development accomadates the new Soviet naval strategy and includes support facilities and air bases to support Soviet sub. operations in the N. Atlantic & Continental Shelf. It should also be borne in mind that the build up on the Kola - one of the most massive military concentrations in the past twenty years - has proceeded alongside Soviet pronouncements about a new military realism.

Perhaps what is more revealing about Soviet intent is that despite the alleged 'Glasnost' the Soviet Union remains the only State who consistently refuse to respond to requests from the League for info. about their attitude to demilitarization of the comparatively shallow and congested sea areas such as the Irish & Celtic seas.

Also despite evidence of a strong Soviet Submarine prescence on the Continental Shelf the Soviets have never been found accountable for one of the many accidents which have been catalogued.

IT MAY WELL BE 'OPEN/NESS' **IN** EUROPE (ON THE SURFACE) BUT BENEATH THE WAVES THE SOVIET MILITARY MACHINE IS STILL A CLOSED BOOK.

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*J.B. Moffatt*  
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J.B. MOFFATT.

(SEE ATTACHMENTS)

Macaroni to roll off Soviet production lines instead of tanks

30/4/89

# Gorbachov retreat on Baltic N-subs

IAN MATHER ■ Stockholm

PRESIDENT Mikhail Gorbachov intends to scrap some nuclear submarines and withdraw more tanks and troops unilaterally. The initiative comes as Mrs Thatcher meets Chancellor Helmut Kohl in the West German village of Deidesheim today in a battle of wills over Mr Kohl's call for superpower negotiations on short-range nuclear missiles. All Soviet nuclear missile submarines based in the Baltic will be dismantled, and substantial numbers of troops and tanks in the bordering area sent home, the Soviet leader has told a visit-

ing Scandinavian Minister. The new Gorbachov initiative in a highly sensitive region comes when neighbouring Baltic states have been expressing fears that Soviet forces now leaving Hungary and East Germany might be redeployed further north. The Golf-class vessels, to be scrapped and not replaced, are the only four nuclear submarines now based in the Baltic. Although elderly, they cause concern because of the 1400-kilometre-range SS-N-5 ballistic nuclear missiles they carry. The missiles would be able to reach Britain from the Baltic.



Where the N-subs roam

The Russians have already cut the number of Golfs in the Baltic to four by scrapping two, and Gorbachov has privately assured the Baltic states that the subma-

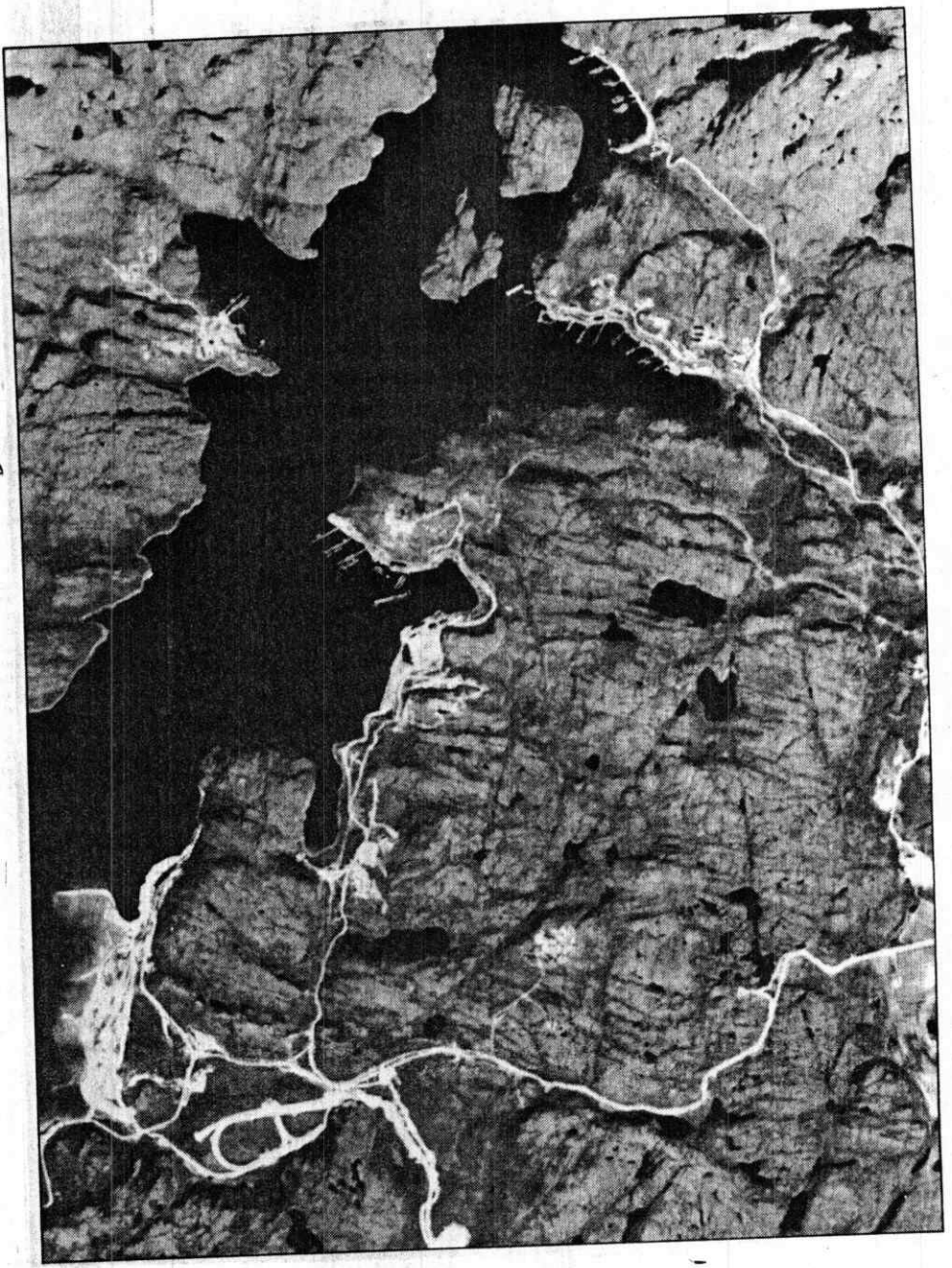
rines no longer carry nuclear missiles 'on a day to day basis', Swedish government sources say. Although no nuclear missile submarines will be based there, the Baltic will not become nuclear-free. Nato and Soviet armed nuclear submarines and surface ships can still enter because it is an international sea. Gorbachov also said the Russians would cut numbers of troops in the Leningrad Military District by 20,000 men, an estimated 10 per cent of the region's total, and scrap 700 tanks. The scrapping of the tanks and submarines will not reduce Soviet military capability to a signifi-

cant extent, but forms part of a policy to produce a smaller, more efficient armed force. Finland and Sweden had expressed fears of a build-up of troops in the Baltic region. 'It has been called the sausage syndrome,' said Carl Aberg, chairman of the Swedish defence ministry's review body. 'If you squeeze a sausage in the middle it gets bigger at the ends.' Gorbachov also told the visiting Minister, apparently seriously, that one tank manufacturing factory would change to producing macaroni.

## THE FICTION.



KOLA BASES INCL. AIR BASES AND SUPPORT FACILITIES.



THE SOVIETS NEW MASSIVE COMPLEX AT ZAPADNAYA LITSA ON THE KOLA