

SHORT SERMON 17 - 19 NOVEMBER 1997

Meeting at Faslane Peace Camp on 1st September 1997 attended by campers plus John Ainslie, Brian Quail, Jane Tallents, Jim Chestnut.

Ideas discussed as follows:

Set up an alternative incident room at Faslane Peace Camp with maps which would keep an up to date account of what was going on in the exercise with "experts" available to make comments. Experts could be John Large (John to contact), William Peden (Jane to contact), Mike Townsley (John to contact), Dr Norman Clark (forensic psychologist in Ayr CND).

Produce a report along the lines - "nuclear weapons are still here and still dangerous". With lists of actual incidents and how the MoD responded or failed to respond (John), details of problems with Swiftsure class submarines. Particular problems of visiting overseas subs.

Potassium Iodate Tablets - best taken *before* an accident or within one hour of an accident, failing which within 5 hours of an accident. It is well established that these would have made a real difference after Chernobyl. There is also a health risk in taking too many tablets. MoD recognise need to distribute around base - actual requirement would be over wider area. Could go to police stations and ask for PITs.

People in other areas. Accident could affect any part of Scotland, and England, Ireland and further afield. Z berths in UK particularly vulnerable (Jane to contact people near Z berths).

Could have a balloon release. Large balloon filled with helium would go a long way. Could have message on balloons asking for reply. Could try to follow a large balloon across country ?

Wind direction. MoD may impose artificial exercise weather if the wind is blowing a way which doesn't suit their plans. Could use smoke to show real wind direction.

People to approach:

SEPA (ask Mike Townsley to do this)

Fire Brigade (ask Tony to contact FBU)

Significance of Scottish Parliament - could a Scottish Parliament do anything ?

CLYDEPUBSAF - current version should be available in Helensburgh library.

Eleanor Steel is Argyll & Bute Emergency Planning Officer (Jim to contact)

Kevin Owen in Devonport may have more information (John to contact)

SNP (Brian to contact)

Argyll and Clyde Health Board will be involved. Short Sermon 1991 involved Vale of Leven Hospital and Glasgow Royal Infirmary.

Schools - try to get schools to think more about how it would affect them (Kenneth)

General - we could:

- a. emphasise how an actual accident could be much worse
- b. emphasise that the exercise is taking place at all and what the MoD is doing - especially dramatic photos, monitoring for radiation miles from Faslane ...
- c. emphasise everything which goes wrong in the exercise
- d. disrupt the exercise

(not all alternatives)

Press -

ask Louise Edge, CND press officer to be in Faslane.

In Short Sermon 1991 Greenpeace held a press conference before the exercise with John Large, the MoD gave statements saying how Greenpeace was exaggerating things. The MoD did not involve the press during the exercise, but held a press conference after the exercise to tell the media what had happened.

The MoD will probably not want the media there - but could ask them to come along and control what they saw.

We want to be able to offer the media vantage points from which they can see what is really going on, and detailed information on what is actually happening.

EXERCISE SHORT SERMON 17TH NOVEMBER

The scenario is that a submarine reactor is facing meltdown, there are three days to bring it under control. Newspaper reports say a 'fully armed nuclear submarine' will be involved. Both Vanguard and Victorious were in accident exercises before they became operational so it is possible that Vigilant will be used. Navy News says that 'play within the base will be total'.

Previously the base has excluded the press from exercises and held a press conference when it all over to say how well it all went!
There has been limited co-operation from local authorities, but this is the first time that Argyll and Bute Council will be involved.

Ideas for campaigning

Publish a report to include:

Safety information on reactors and weapons

Catalogue of incidents when emergency plans have not been put into operation

Set up an incident room at the camp:

Run our own predictions for their scenario

Have on-going information for the press and take them to places to see/photograph the base

Balloon release to simulate how far radiation would go.

Campaigning in other areas:

Activity at Z berths - local press, asking for iodate tabs

Ask people to phone in to A&B Council, Scottish Office etc

Information to gather / contacts to make

Get copy of latest CLYDEPUBSAFE - Jim

Gather info from other exercises and lessons learnt

List of previous incidents

Contact:

John Large - John

Mike Townsley - John (discuss contact with SEPA)

William / Louise - Jane

A&B Emergency Planning (Eleanor Steel) - Jim Campbell Cameron - Jane

Devonport - Kevin Owen - John

Contacts at all the Z berths - Jane

FBU - Tony?

Health Unions - Tony?

SNP - Brian

Rose Harvie / VoL - Jane

Local Health Board??? School Boards??

Norman Clarke - Psychiatrist involved in Hunterston exercise

SHORT SERMON	INFORMATION	ACTION	FOLLOW UP
Informed (SEPA, FSU etc)	Report	Invite to Incident Room Invite to comment	Write out own evaluation and distribute Ask questions of authorities etc
MEDIA	Report Press releases	Invite to Incident Room Take to see exercise Interviews	Follow up Press release to cover RN Results of balloon release.
PUBLIC	Leaflets local & Z berths	Volunteers for monitoring Leafletting here & Z berths. phone/writes A & B Scottish Office MPs Visit police Sta - Lodge Talks	SEND letters to Papers including all local to Z berths. Public meeting?