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NUKE FEAR ON THE CLYDE

A CHERNOBYL-type disaster could take place on the Clyde, it was claimed today.

Scottish CND claim Faslane are unfit for sea and the group warn sailors' lives are at risk. The claims were made at Cracking Under Pressure, SCND administrator John Ainslie said: "There is a serious defect which affects the reactors.

"The measures taken to adjust this problem have been inadequate.

"Polaris subs have been used on operational patrols when, on safety grounds, they should have been kept in port."

EXPLODE

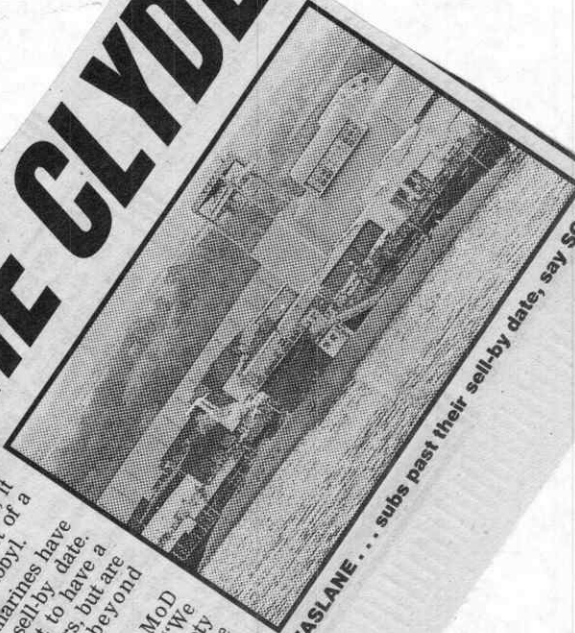
According to the report, fractures have been found in the primary cooling circuit of submarine reactors. The group warns radio-active coolant could leak from the cracks.

CND spokesman, Rev

Hugh Rennie, said: "If one of the reactors went up, it would have the effect of a small-scale Chernobyl."

"These submarines have passed their sell-by date. They are meant to have a lifetime of 20 years but are being pushed beyond that."

However, an MoD spokesman said today: "We have very stringent safety standards and to say we are operating submarines in an unsafe state is totally incorrect."



FASLANE... subs past their sell-by date, say SCND