

Helensburgh Advertiser 26th Feb

WHAT A RELIEF!

The final stretch of the new Northern Access Road to Coulport was opened by the Property Services Agency last Thursday.

The second phase of the road which links Peaton Hill to Coulport, was opened to all traffic by RNAD Coulport Superintendent, Mr David Naismith.

At the same time the first phase of the road, from the A814 Whistlefield Roundabout to Peaton Hill became available to the public for the first time.

The 7.8 km road can be used by the public travelling to and from the Rosneath Peninsula, and Ministry of Defence traffic to the existing Coulport Depot.

Said a PSA spokesman: "It relieves the B833 of most MoD traffic, including the majority of the Coulport coaches, and provides an easy route from the Rosneath Peninsula to the A814 and Garelochhead."

Welcoming the opening, PSA Director of Works Mr Gordon Duguid said: "This road is very good news for two important groups of people. For those living near the B833 on the Rosneath Peninsula, it pro-

vides a welcome relief from MoD traffic travelling to Coulport as well as an excellent new route to Garelochhead, Helensburgh and the A814."

Mr Duguid said that the road also provides easier access for RNAD Coulport workers.

The first phase of the Northern Access Road has been in use by construction traffic since September 1987, when PSA's Chief Executive Sir Gordon Manzie, performed the opening ceremony.

"It has already provided welcome relief to the people of Rahane and Mambeg. Now the whole of the Peninsula community should feel the same relief," said Mr Duguid.

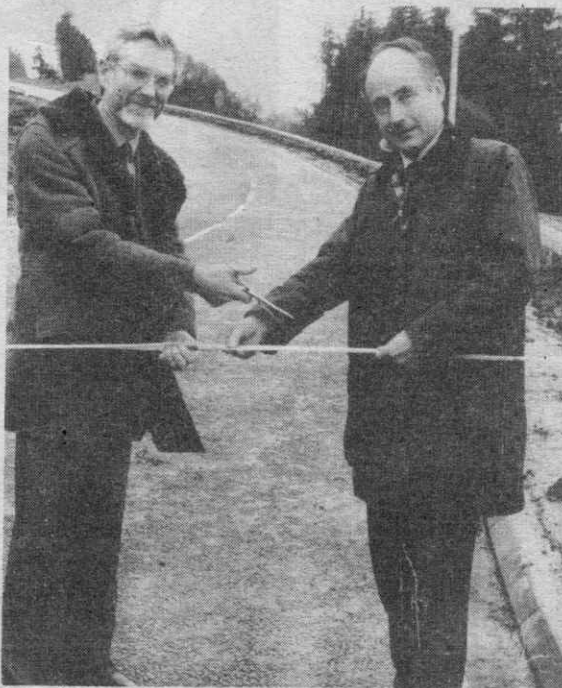
The Northern Access Road links into the public Garelochhead Bypass at the Whistlefield roundabout on the A814. The bypass relieves the village of Garelochhead, rejoins the A814 at Faslane and provides access to the private Glen Fruin Road.

The road network forms part of a £600 million construction programme being undertaken by the PSA on behalf of the Ministry of Defence for the development of the Base.

Development work began in 1985 and is expected to be nearing completion in four years time.



Mr David Naismith, Royal Naval Armaments Depot Coulport Superintendent opens the Northern Access Road Phase II assisted by Property Services Agency Coulport development manager Mr Graham Dillaway.



Royal Naval Armaments Depot Coulport Superintendent Mr David Naismith opens the final phase of the Northern Access Road at Coulport assisted by Property Services Agency Director of Works Mr Gordon Duguid.

PLOUGHING ON

The Property Services Agency will be ploughing on regardless this winter to keep the Glen Fruin and Northern Access roads open to construction traffic.

Instrumental in keeping traffic on the move will be the new Unimog snowplough and gritters operated in turn by specially trained PSA drivers.

PSA District Works Officer Mr Bill Laurenson will keep in constant touch with weather forecasters to make sure roads are kept open round the clock.

A team of drivers will be on call to jump into the driving seat of the new snowplough and two machines adapted for gritting.

"The Unimog, with its 32 gears and four wheel drive, will be earning its keep as a snowplough in winter, but by detaching its plough and adding other attachments it can be used by the District Works Office for a number of tasks from digging ditches, grass cutting and ploughing, to acting as a generator", said a PSA spokesman.