

Status: U
Return-Path: Pdig@aol.com
Delivered-To: aa226@dial.pipex.com
Received: (qmail 26088 invoked by uid 5014); 23 Oct 1997 19:27:04 -0000
Delivered-To: d#-cndscot@dial.pipex.com
Received: (qmail 26073 invoked from network); 23 Oct 1997 19:27:03 -0000
Received: from emout04.mx.aol.com (HELO emout04.mail.aol.com) (198.81.11.95)
by depot.dial.pipex.com with SMTP; 23 Oct 1997 19:27:03 -0000
Received: (from root@localhost)
by emout04.mail.aol.com (8.7.6/8.7.3/AOL-2.0.0)
id PAA26904;
Thu, 23 Oct 1997 15:26:06 -0400 (EDT)
Date: Thu, 23 Oct 1997 15:26:06 -0400 (EDT)
From: Pdig@aol.com
Message-ID: <971023152529_340194930@emout04.mail.aol.com>
To: MSomCND@aol.com, antiatom@twics.com, frances@cecs.ed.ac.uk,
JAMIESON@afb.ssc.ed.ac.uk, rtss@mcb.net, nipdimac@gn.apc.org,
gmdcnd@gn.apc.org, cworth@mono.ins.co.uk, cnd@gn.apc.org,
cndscot@dial.pipex.com, cndyorks@gn.apc.org, aa226@dial.pipex.com,
nfznc@gn.apc.org
Subject: Plymouth nuclear emergency plans

Tuesday 20th October 1997

Nuclear Plans or Whitehall Farce

At a community liason meeting at Devonport, Plymouth, the Navy outlined their latest plans to counter a nuclear accident at the nuclear submarine base and refit yard. Sited right next to tens of thousands of houses, the nuclear dockyard is in the middle of the most populated area south west of Bristol. Any release of radiation would have devastating consequences for the inhabitants and environment.

Yet the Navy now plan to reduce emergency resources to a much smaller area of the city using as few resources as possible. Twelve months ago the Navy stated that a small army of 200 'military personnel' would be on hand to deliver thyroid cancer blocking Potassium Iodate Tablets in the event of an accident. Now the Base Safety Officer told the meeting that fifty sailors wearing paper face masks will be "nominated" (sic) to run round the city streets posting tablets and leaflets.

City councillors at the meeting were shocked by the haphazard plans and doubted if many inhabitants would even be able to read the complicated leaflets. When asked if the tablet distributors would wear their paper face masks all the time, the Navy replied, " only if and when a release of radiation occurred, and then they will be warned by sounding the dockyard emergency siren a second time". Unfortunately, residents have been told that hearing a second siren would signal the all clear!

DIG asked about evacuation. The Navy said it was the responsibility of the local authority. The local authority replied it was the police's job to organsie evacuation. The police inspector at the meeting had no comment!

A respected local community leader told news reporters present at the meeting that the plans resembled a Whitehall farce.

A full transcript of notes taken at the meeting is available from DIG (post or e.mail) on request.

Kevin Owen
Plymouth nuclear Dump Information Group, UK