

viding the service to 25,000 tenants in multi-storey blocks already capable of receiving cable television.

than 100 face court appearances today.

The deal is expected to be approved by the municipal

advantage of dispensing with the multitude of satellite dishes which have mushroomed throughout the city.

of viewers all over the world, operates independently of the satellite stations. It provides satellite channels to 25,000 homes throughout the UK,

It pays their programme into have rents

Safety data sought on nuclear sub repair risks

By Alan Dron

RUMBLINGS of discontent among the workers at Rosyth and Faslane handling repairs on Britain's ageing nuclear submarines have led to a union seeking safety reassurances from the Ministry of Defence.

A deadline of 30 September has been set by the Transport and General Workers' Union for more information from the MoD on the possible risks that might be faced by workers undertaking such work.

Research was published last year on links between radia-

to a minimum the amounts of radiation picked up by workers, notably an investment in robotic machinery that allows work to be handled remotely, and proper rotation of staff, to ensure that none breaches safety limits.

Attempts have been made to seek more information from the MoD on the nature of work required on the propulsion systems of docked nuclear submarines and what this will mean for workers going into the reactor compartment.

Jack Dromey, the Transport and General Workers' Union national secretary who represents defence workers, yesterday repeated the union's deadline for the MoD to reveal more information about the repairs on the Polaris fleet.

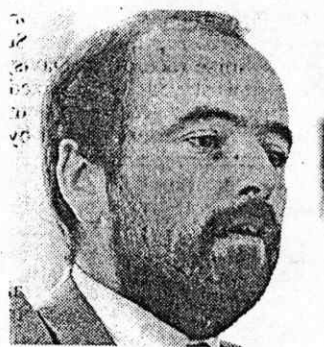
This work had been "shrouded in secrecy, with workers and their trade unions in the dark as to the full extent of the risk posed to those doing the work.

"That must end by 30 September or we will tell our members to err on the side of caution and protect themselves and their children."

Any cutback on work done by civilian staff would have a serious effect on repair programmes, as the navy does not have the skilled staff necessary to handle the task.

An MoD spokesman said last night that it was aware of the 30 September deadline. "We will have to wait and see how things develop," he said. "Our position is, and always has been, that safety is the first thing we consider and part of the policy of ensuring good safe practice is that the workforce are informed at all times.

"We would never compromise the safety of our workforce for operational reasons."



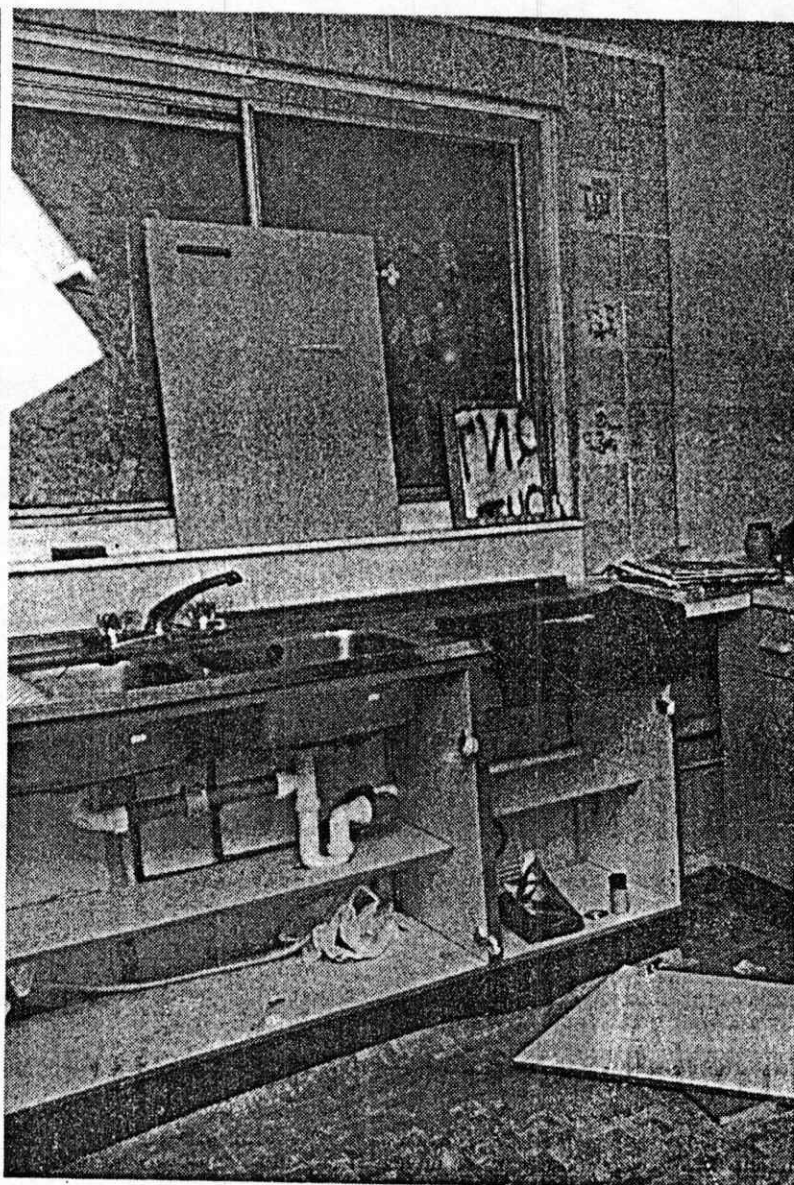
Jack Dromey: 'Workers in the dark about risk'

tion and the possibility of childhood leukaemia being passed on by workers in nuclear-related industries to their offspring.

This led to a recommendation that the safe annual limit of radiation be cut. However, union representatives are not satisfied that work on the Polaris vessels can be tackled without exposing staff to unacceptably high doses.

It is understood that a particular problem in recent weeks has been reports from workers detached to the Clyde Submarine Base at Faslane that they have received doses of up to six millisieverts, more than half the new recommended limit, in just five days.

There are ways of reducing



No place like home: A chink of natural light is all that brightens Mandy Hughes's council flat

Hidden cost of living

By James Meek

THIS is life in Scotland's capital in 1991. Mandy Hughes's council flat has been broken into 18 times. She and her daughter Susan, five, have been sleeping here at night, without electricity, behind boarded-up windows, in a flat stripped bare of furniture and carpets and daubed with graffiti.

With the wiring ripped out by vandals, there is no light — Ms Hughes has one electric torch — no heat and no means of cooking. Walls and doors have been staved in, a hole punched in the washbasin and fixtures ripped from the walls: even light switches and the battery from the smoke detector have been stolen.

Ms Hughes, 26, says it took her nine years to build up the furnishings for her home. It took five months of break-ins

for them to disappear: television, video, cooker, tumble-drier, hi-fi, fridge freezer, microwave, computer, Susan's toys. The insurance lapsed when Ms Hughes's small business went bust.

"I'm a bloody nervous wreck in this house," she said. "At first it was well, it's a telly and a video, we can cope with that, they can be replaced. The second, third, fourth, fifth time, the damage is in you."

These are the Clovenstone Park "gully" flats in Wester Hailes, on the edge of Edinburgh. Once a popular area — the leader of the district council, Mark Lazarowicz, lives there — Clovenstone is falling victim with appalling speed to a seemingly unstoppable disease.

The symptoms are the hard-board squares popping into glassless windowframes along the gullies and desperate

efforts to get from house opposite Mandy Hughes's (door locks). demolition, two years.

Many of the flats are now empty because of the council's offer to move out of the flat outside.

She is engaged, but all too familiar with the council's list game, and is more experienced in resisting slipping the council might lessen the big improve.

She has not taken the boards over knowing that simply be asked for a not get one