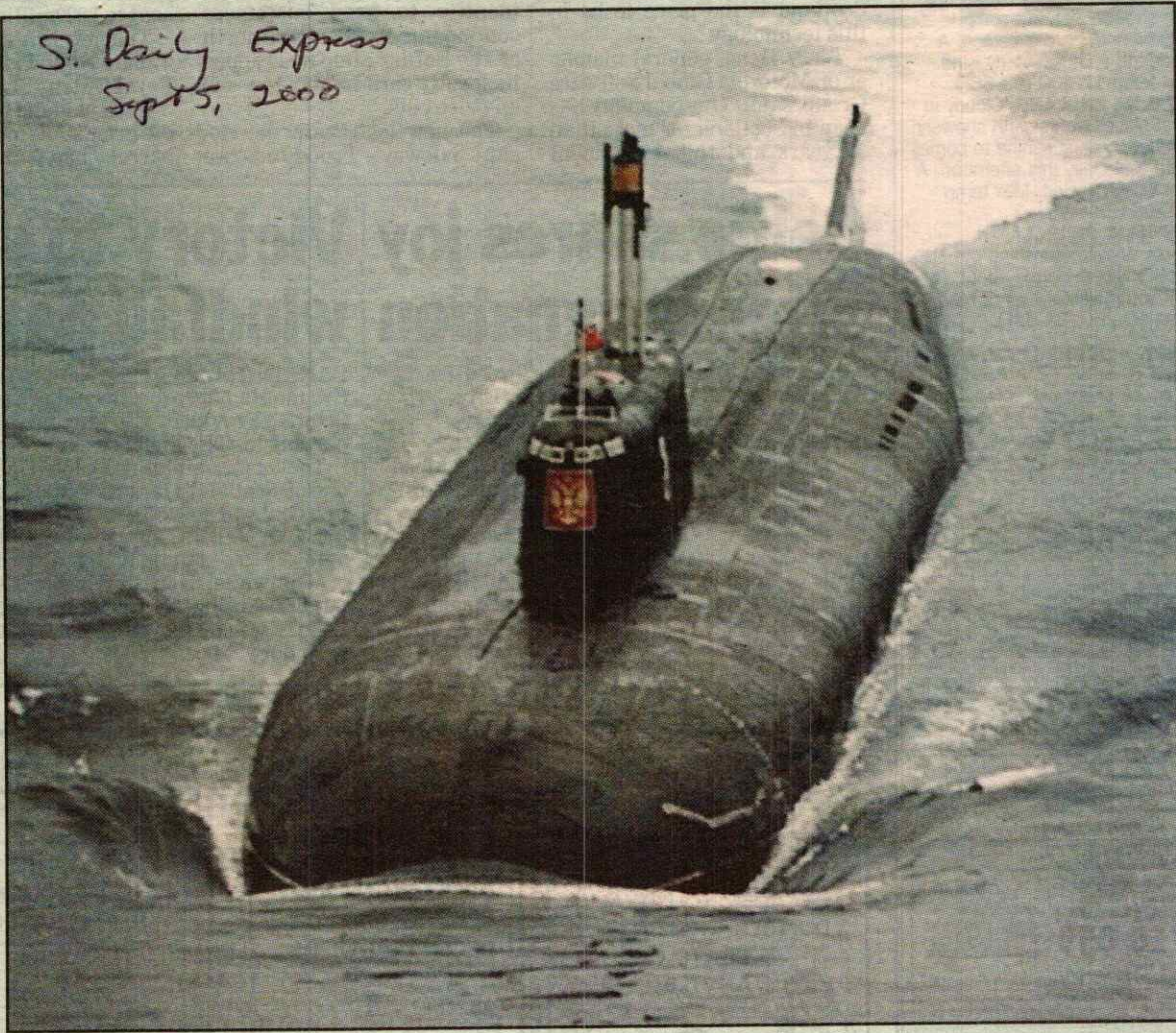


S. Daily Express
Sept 5, 2000



Mystery of Faslane link to 'Kursk crash sub'

EXCLUSIVE BY WILL STEWART AND DEREK LAMBIE

AN American nuclear submarine which the Russians blame for the Kursk disaster was secretly repaired in Scotland, it was claimed yesterday.

Russia is pointing the finger of blame at the USS Toledo, which left the Faslane Naval Base at Helensburgh, Dunbartonshire, early yesterday.

Sources in Moscow say the country's intelligence service tracked the vessel to the base shortly after the disaster, which claimed the lives of 118 Russian submariners in the Barents Sea last month.

Ministry of Defence officials yesterday confirmed the Toledo had been berthed at the base for a week but insisted it was

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