

SUB BASE TALK OVER ATOM SCARE

DEFENCE officials met nuclear submarine maintenance workers yesterday amid child cancer fears.

Thirty Navy and civilian workers at the Faslane sub base were called in front of the senior naval medical officer.

The contents of the Gardner report - which claims a possible link

between leukaemia and fathers who work in the nuclear industry - was explained.

But there was no mention of the advice given by the doctor in charge of Sellafield's nuclear power plant workers on Wednesday.

Dr Roger Berry said: "If you're worried about leukaemia, don't have a family."

The Ministry of Defence refused to give any more details on the meeting.

But a spokesman said: "The maintenance

department head decided to allay unnecessary fears following publication of the Gardner report."

The meeting was open to the workers and their wives. But the MoD said no wives took up the offer.

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MP's ANGRY NUCLEAR REACTION

Dumbarton MP John McFall claimed the MOD has "something to hide" after their recent refusal to provide information on radiation exposure at the Clyde Submarine Base.

The Labour MP, who is a member of the defence select Committee challenged Archie Hamilton, Minister of State, to provide information in the number of people at the Base who have been subjected to a total exposure of more than 10 millisieverts over a period of six months in each of the last ten years.

But his demand was

sive to collate the information.

"If they have the information, then providing a few facts and figures can hardly be all that expensive," claimed Mr McFall.

And he stated that the refusal was either an expression of contempt for public opinion or a sign that they were worried about the possible reaction that might take place if the public were made fully aware of the facts.

"It makes me suspicious that they have something to hide," he said.

He added that it may be that the MOD do not have the information at hand because they have not done enough over the years to ensure that there are adequate methods of monitoring radiation exposure.

"I certainly do not intend to take no for an answer on this issue," said Mr McFall,