

9/11/00

# Solent Coalition Against Nuclear Ships

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30<sup>th</sup> October 2000

Dear Friends

On 26<sup>th</sup> October we formalised an organisation of local environmental and peace groups as Solent Coalition Against Nuclear Ships (SCANS). We have a membership of around forty, and expect this to grow.

Our task is to ensure that no more nuclear powered submarines use Southampton Docks. Please will you help us by signing and sending the enclosed letters, or writing similar letters in your own words. If you can first copy and forward letters to your friends and group members, the campaign can spread. If you can publish the information in your newsletter, we can forward the text by e-mail. Please send us a copy of any reply you receive.

SCANS and a local resident have taken legal advice and have a court case on hold at the moment pending a hearing in January 2001 of the AWE Aldermaston judicial review. However, we have asked our solicitor to write to the City Council in the light of the reactor failure of HMS Tireless in Gibraltar, regarding the Council's failure to take seriously our concerns and for putting us at unnecessary risk this year in March and July when HMS Splendid used the docks. (We are not using the innocuous word "visit").

It is important that as many people as possible are seen to make the connection between the situation in Gibraltar and Southampton. Now that the media and general public have been alerted to the dangers of nuclear powered submarines, we hope that our concerns will be recognised and respected.

Yours hopefully

*PP Tanya*

Nina Lambert  
Secretary



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**SCANS MEMBERSHIP FORM**

If you wish to receive news of this (hopefully short) campaign, please send this slip to SCANS, c/o 30 Westwood Road, Southampton, SO17 1DN. Please enclose stamps or a donation to SCANS.

NAME..... GROUP .....

ADDRESS .....

..... Tel:.....

..... e-mail: .....

To:  
Naval Base Commander  
Semaphore Tower  
HM Naval Base  
Portsmouth  
Hants PO1 3LT

Address: .....

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Date.....

Dear Sir

### **Nuclear Powered Submarines' use of Southampton Docks**

I am writing to express my concern about the use of Southampton Docks for nuclear powered submarines.

HMS Tireless is one of seven Trafalgar Class submarines that included HMS Splendid that was regrettably welcomed into the Docks by Southampton City Council twice this year. The Tireless has been stranded in the Gibraltar Z Berth for five months, where the Navy are contemplating trying to repair cracks of several centimetres in its reactor primary cooling system. Such is the Navy's concern about the potential danger of such cracks, that all Trafalgar Class boats have now been withdrawn from service for reactor checks.

As a local resident, I consider this is very serious news. Firstly my fear of a reactor accident during the past use of our docks by these submarines has proved to be well founded. Secondly, if such cracks had been discovered whilst a boat was berthed here, Southampton would have found itself in the same predicament as Gibraltar, in that a temporary berth would have turned into an emergency nuclear reactor repair site.

It is inappropriate for a nuclear reactor to be brought into the busy commercial docks in the middle of the city against the wishes of its citizens. Clearly the risks are too great for any further port calls to be contemplated. Please will you assure me that there will be no more use of Southampton Docks by nuclear powered submarines.

Yours faithfully

To:

Chief Executive  
City of Southampton  
Civic Centre  
Southampton SO14 7LY

Address: .....

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Date.....

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