PEC. 20 JAN 1990

to a riddle

MYSTERY last night surrounded the sudden return of a naval sub from a routine trip.

The sub left Faslane on Sunday, January 14, for an anticipated 10-day long stint.
But just four days later it was back at the base amid reports of a problem.

And crew members' families were warned: "Don't panic."

Refused

Base bosses issued instructions for the relatives to be contacted by telephone and told: "Everything is OK.."

Last night an MOD spokesman in London refused to discuss operational movements of the Navy's subs but he said: "Programmes are constantly changing - there's nothing unusual in that.

"It's normal to contact families to alert them of any changes so arrangements can be made.

"I'm not aware of problems."