

Glasgow Herald

Anti-nuclear protest over war exercise

ANTI-NUCLEAR protesters, led by Labour MEP for Mid-Scotland and Fife Mr Alex Falconer, yesterday picketed 19 Royal Observer Corps monitoring posts in the constituency, which were being used as part of a United Kingdom nuclear war game exercise.

A spokesman for the UK Warning and Monitoring Organisation, which staged yesterday's WARMON 11 exercises, said they were routine operations simulating and monitoring the local effects of radioactive fallout. There are 217 ROC monitoring posts in Scotland, which double as nuclear bunkers, and an estimated 10,000 people were involved in yesterday's exercises throughout the UK.

After visits to the monitoring posts at Cupar and Perth, Mr Falconer arrived at Kippen in Stirlingshire, where the bunker is situated just a few miles from the home of Defence Secretary Mr George Younger.

Three ROC personnel were manning the post, but all questions were referred to the section controller of the Scottish UKWMO in Dundee, Mr G.J.G. Halford.



Mr Alex Falconer: Exercises a sham

Mr Falconer said: "We are not knocking the work done by the volunteers, but we believe the whole exercise is a sham. It is based on the delusion that there is any chance of most of the population surviving a nuclear war."

Mr Halford said later that the exercises had been "fairly satisfactory". The next series of exercises is scheduled for November 1, when the protesters will again picket the monitoring posts.

Owner sought

Police are hunting the owner of £5000 worth of jewellery found on a patch of waste ground in Gloucester.

Scotsman.

Monday, October 12, 1987

NEWS IN BRIEF

No entry to bunker for MEP

A SCOTS Euro MP was refused admission to an underground bunker during a civil defence exercise yesterday.

Mr Alex Falconer, MEP for Mid-Scotland and Fife, together with groups of supporters, visited bunkers at Cupar, Braco and Kippen involved in the nationwide exercise Warmon 2. In wartime, they would be used to monitor the spread of fallout from nuclear explosions.

Mr Falconer, who is an active member of CND said he had asked the Royal Observer Corp member in charge of the Kippen bunker if he could enter it, only to be met with a point-blank refusal.

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