

Scientists Against Nuclear Arms

Scottish Group

P R E S S C O N F E R E N C E - 23/9/82

The Basis for the Calculations in the 'HARD LUCK' Exercise

- * SANA have based their computer calculations on the best available scientific data - published US Government information
- * SANA are seeking to provide the basis for informed debate, avoiding the errors and false assumptions that the Home Office Scientific Advisory Branch generally make
- * THE AIM of 'HARD LUCK' is to demonstrate what even a limited nuclear attack on Britain would really mean

Summary of 'HARD LUCK' Scenario for Scotland

- 54 bombs fall in Scotland (0.15 - 5 Megatons; air, ground & water bursts)
- Targets chosen:
 - 1) major nuclear weapon facilities
 - 2) major command & communication centres
 - 3) large military airfields, naval bases, army barracks
 - 4) large civil airfields & ports
 - 5) some military/industrial factories, etc
- Targets omitted: many other likely targets were not included, and not all the available nuclear weapons were assumed to be used (e.g. ICBMs omitted)

Summary of Effects on Scotland

	<u>Population (1971 census)</u>	<u>Deaths*</u>	<u>% killed*</u>
SCOTLAND	5 228 963	3 478 533	67
Strathclyde	2 575 000	2 075 208	80
Central	263 000	78 146	30
Lothian	745 600	536 490	72
Fife	327 000	285 282	87
Tayside	398 000	223 553	56
Borders	98 500	306	0.3
Grampian	438 600	253 148	58
Highland	175 500	5 720	3
Dumfries & Galloway	143 000	14 962	10
Orkney & Shetland	34 000	44	0.1
Western Isles	30 000	5 674	19

* Note - includes only the prompt effects of the nuclear bombs directly killing people by the heat flash, blast and nuclear radiation

- * Does not include:
- a) longer-term effects of radiation
 - b) catastrophic effects of dispersing the long-lived radio-isotopes present in nuclear power stations
 - c) disrupted & contaminated water & food supplies
 - d) disease, exposure & destruction of medical facilities
 - e) dislocated industrial & agricultural base
 - f) fires
 - g) flooding

For further information: contact David Simmons, Department of Molecular Biology, Edinburgh University - Tel: 031-667 1081 ext 2719