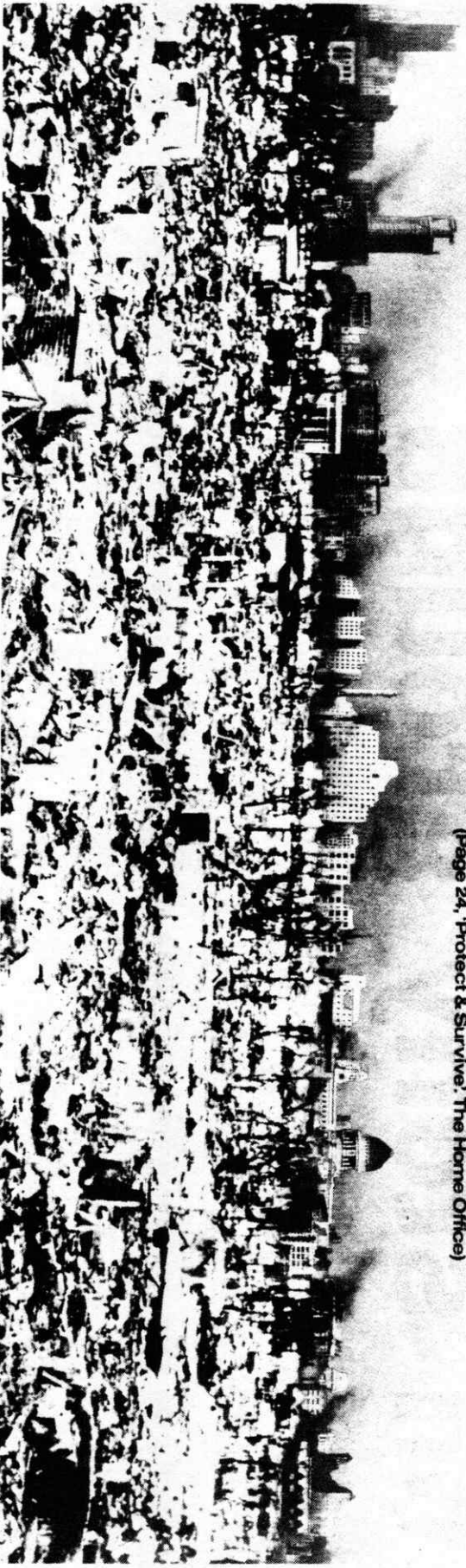


"On hearing the all-clear... you may resume normal activities."

(Page 24, 'Protect & Survive: The Home Office')



LONDON AFTER THE BOMB: The stark realities of a nuclear holocaust are brought home in the GLC's giant poster.

Civil defence 'a cynical fraud'

GLC launches drive to expose Tory lies

By BILL WAINWRIGHT
A MASSIVE campaign to expose the "lies and deceit of the government" on civil defence and the horrific effects of nuclear war was launched yesterday at a cost of £250,000.

A major aim is to press the government to reveal vital information about civil defence and the scale of nuclear deaths and destruction it is accused of suppressing.

Launching the Greater London Council's campaign, Simon Turney, who chairs the council's public services committee, said government civil defence policy had nothing to do with public safety. It was a "fabric of lies and de-

ceit and a cynical fraud," designed to lull people into believing that nuclear war was survivable. The GLC had a duty to expose this in the interests of the people of London.

Mr. Turney said the GLC had pointed out "many times" to the government that it had provided "wholly inadequate information" which would be required for any civil defence planning.

Their response to the GLC's questions had been "bland and evasive, failing to give us the required information."

Mr. Turney revealed that the GLC had met three successive ministers at the Home Office.

Other highlights of the campaign include 180 giant 20 by 10-foot posters of a nuclear-devastated London on which is ironed a superimposed Home Office advice: "On hearing the all-clear, you may resume normal activities."

Some 500 smaller-scale posters with a similar message are also going up on London hoardings, and there are to be full-page press advertisements in national and the main local London newspapers.

As a result of the government's failure to provide information needed on the likely effects of a nuclear attack on London, the GLC has commissioned a "Greater London Area War Risk Study."

This is composed of British and US military strategists, physicists, disaster relief experts, and other specialists. The commission's report will be published by March next year.

Leak reveals US plans for aid to contras

ATTEMPTS to use direct US military force against Nicaragua have been postponed for the time being, according to a White House document leaked yesterday.

The document, quoted in yesterday's New York Times, is a "top secret" report on the Reagan administration's support for the terrorist gangs of "contras" based in Honduras.

It calls for the size of the terrorist forces to be increased by 15,000 men to put more pressure on the Nicaraguan government.

Military force "must realistically be recognised as an eventual option, given our stakes in the region, if other policy alternatives fail," the report is quoted as saying.

"Assistance provided to the Nicaraguan democratic opposition will be structured so as to increase the size and effectiveness of its insurgent forces to a point where their pressure convinces the Sandinista leadership that it has no alternative but to pursue a course of moderation," the report said.

President Reagan yesterday threatened more serious trouble in Central America if Congress failed to approve 14 million dollars in aid to the "contras."

Continuing his drive for congressional approval of the funds, Mr. Reagan told leaders of his Republican party at a White House meeting that the Sandinista rulers of Nicaragua were avowed Marxists "and they are exporting subversion and revolution throughout Central America."

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