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NALGO to support members quitting nuclear war drill

Morning Star Reporter

TOWN HALL workers who refuse to participate in the government's nuclear war exercise Hardrock this October have been promised the full backing of their union, NALGO.

The promise is contained in a circular from general secretary Geoffrey Drain together with a copy of the union's policy that nuclear civil defence exercises "only serve to heighten the risk of disaster."

NALGO members are likely to be crucial to the success or failure of Hardrock which will typically involve council departments including press and publicity, education, fire, housing and social services.

Many council parks departments are also to be asked to play a role by rehearsing the mass burial of nuclear war victims.

Already a third of the county councils in Britain have announced they will have nothing to do with Hardrock, the civil defence stage of which opens on October 29.

Few details are known about the military stage of the exercise, which runs from October 19 to 29, and which includes a two-day "conventional bombing phase" in an apparent bid to encourage the involvement of anti-nuclear councils.

However, on past form, it is

'No foreign bases'

Labour's new general secretary Jim Mortimer, yesterday won thunderous applause from the NGA printworkers' conference in Eastbourne when he declared, "there will be no foreign bases on British soil" under a future Labour government.

likely to include rounding up "subversives" and anti-sabotage measures, as well as the mobilisation of entire security services.

An information pack on Operation Hardrock is now available from CND at 11 Goodwin Street, London N1, price 75p including postage.

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