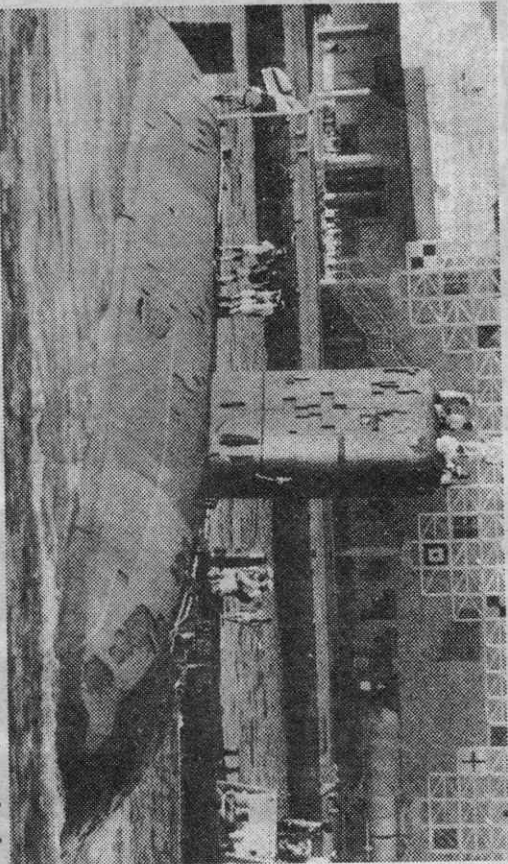


HMS SUB-STANDARD



DANGER SUB: HMS Sceptre which leaked radioactive waste in a dock

FAMILIES were warned they could be in deadly peril yesterday after a Navy submarine leaked radioactive waste.

Shocked neighbours were put on alert as contaminated water spilled out of HMS Sceptre in Devonport dockyard, Plymouth.

The Defence Ministry have ordered all Britain's 20 nuclear subs in for checks on a "technical fault."

Sceptre was thought to be undergoing safety checks.

Risk

Yesterday city council chief Tom Savery demanded reassurances on NUCLEAR DISASTERS safety procedures. And environmental pressure group Greenpeace claimed that fami-

Nuclear waste spills into dock

By ANGELA BOON

lies living nearby face a daily risk.

Spokeswoman Janet Convery said: "These vessels are like floating nuclear power stations."

"They present a constant danger with the threat that they will leak radiation."

"It appears that the coolant aboard Sceptre was being changed in a similar manner to a car having an oil change. "The bilges are often

pumped out after such an incident and the water may have contained radioactive waste."

She added: "The normal running of a nuclear reactor aboard a nuclear submarine results in radioactivity being released. It is a major danger."

But a Navy spokesman said: "The leak was very minor. There was no risk to the workforce and no radioactivity escaped into the atmosphere."

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FURY AT NUKE SUB 'LIES

MINISTRY of Defence chiefs torpedoed claims yesterday that one of their nuclear submarines had been crippled by "radioactive rust".

An angry MOD spokesman in London dismissed the story in a Glasgow Sunday newspaper as "rubbish". It was alleged that a major fault had developed during the £100 million refit

of HMS Valiant at Rosyth dockyard in Fife.

It was also claimed that had the sub gone to sea with the badly corroded pipes, there would have been a major risk of a nuclear accident.

The spokesman fumed: "It is all rubbish." "There is no problem with radioactivity aboard HMS Valiant."

PARLIAMENTS

GLASGOW HERALD FR

Warning on Scots unrest

A FORMER Tory Minister told the Lords last night there could be civil unrest in Scotland unless the Government looked at ways of giving the Scots more say in their own affairs.

The warning — after the SNP's resurgence in the Govan by-election — came during the Queen's Speech debate from the Earl of Perth, a former Colonial Minister of State who now sits on the cross benches.

He said the Scots were asking for more control of their economy and home affairs. "This is not a flash in the pan. It just won't go away."

"If we don't make a move now, I am fearful civil disobedience may raise its ugly head," he said.

He told Ministers: "I suggest a working party should be set up with terms to examine how