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From: Scottish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

To:Newsdesk

Serious concern about nuclear reactor on Kursk

Scottish CND has produced an initial report on the nuclear aspects of the accident onboard the Kursk and this gives rise to serious concern.

Recent information suggests that the detonation of one torpedo triggered the detonation of several torpedoes in the bow of the submarine. The external damage was sufficient to sink the vessel. Most of the blast will have gone backwards and caused massive damage inside the submarine, making it unlikely that any message saying that the reactor was shut down could have been transmitted. It is also possible that the blast could have damaged the reactor itself and triggered fires in the aft of the Kursk.

The reactor in Kursk probably contains around 5 times the nuclear material on a British Trafalgar class submarine. Because it is in much more shallow water than the other 5 nuclear submarines on the seabed then the dangers to the food chain are greater.

Scottish CND has carried out research into nuclear submarine problems for over a decade and was recently advising local people in Gibraltar about the proposed repair there of HMS Tireless.

The report is at:

www.cndscot.dial.pipex.com/news/000817a.html

For further information contact:

John Ainslie, Administrator, Scottish CND 0141 423 1222