

*cdp to see
4/14/85*MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1Telephone 01-~~3307822~~ 218 2111/3

MO 18/1/4L

10th October 1985

Dear Mark,

As you will know, plans for the development of the Clyde Submarine Base are going ahead, following the decision by the Secretary of State for Scotland last March on the outline Notice of Proposed Development. The Defence Secretary has asked me to inform you of a related matter.

Associated with the development, we see a need to close two stretches of public road which no longer serve a useful purpose (you may find it helpful to refer to the attached plan on which the roads concerned are coloured blue). These roads will become increasingly busy with contractors' traffic as work gets under way, and powers are available under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1972 (read with the Land Powers (Defence) Act 1958) for closure on the grounds that this is necessary for the land to be used efficiently for defence purposes without danger to the public. An additional and important benefit of closure would be to remove public roads which are of security concern because of their proximity to sensitive areas (and could be used by CND and others to disrupt the work when it is in full swing).

We shall, therefore, be asking the Secretary of State for Scotland to close the roads. The proposed closure will need to be advertised and if a local or statutory authority objects, a public inquiry is obligatory. Although the issue is a narrow one, there will obviously be opportunities for protestors to gain attention, especially as they were denied any such opportunity last year when the Secretary of State for Scotland decided to deal with objections by written representations. But careful preparation and attention to public relations on our part should limit the effect, and Ministers here have accepted that the closure of these roads is necessary, both on security grounds and because of the construction activity associated with the development of the base.

Officials are now working on the papers to be put to the Scottish Office seeking closure. We shall ensure that an agreed press brief is available before the proposed closure is made public.

M Addison Esq
No 10 Downing Street



I am sending copies of this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Secretaries of State for Scotland and the Environment and to the Private Secretary to the Lord Advocate.

*Yours ever,
Jeremy Wright*

(J S WRIGHT)



MOD ARMY
(Fernicaffry Farm)

COVE AND KILCREGGAN, GARELOCHHEAD
ROSNEATH AND ARROCHAR WARD

STRATHCLYDE
REGIONAL COUNCIL

MOD
(ex Forestry Commission)

MOD
(ex Harland)

MOD NAVY
COULPORT
TRIDENT BASE

FASLANE

NOT MOD

Gare Loch

Garelochhead

Marnbeg

Rahane

Tom Sallier

Coulport

Garelochhead Forest

Barr nan Caber

Faslane Bar

Faslane Pier

Carban Point
Dear

Loch

