

MANAGEMENT IN CONFIDENCE

1A
23

LOOSE MINUTE

H(W) 760/87

3 February 1989

Sec(FS)/A: P R Whiteway, Esq

Copy to:
DGR/SUBS 11
AD Science (NUC) 1

file 131/1/13

DISPOSAL OF DECOMMISSIONED NUCLEAR SUBMARINES

Reference: Sec(FS)/A's LM D/Sec(FS)/24/3/1/1 dated 1 February 1989.

1. In response to the reference, a preliminary study has been made of the United Kingdom's internal waters, which satisfy the requirements laid down in paragraph 4.
2. The only areas that may be suitable are to be found to the eastward of the straight baseline system encompassing the Outer Hebrides from Cape Wrath to the Mull of Kintyre. Within this area, there are several sites with depths in excess of 200m that lie outside the main shipping routes and are within sight of land.
3. The areas identified have been marked on the enclosed Admiralty chart 2635, on which I have also shown the straight baselines. Of the six areas, numbers 3 and 6 appear to be the most favourable, although it is appreciated that area 6 is already extensively used by submarines.
4. If this policy is adopted, a detailed study of the bathymetry, tidal regime and bottom conditions will be required. Some or all of this data may already be available for some of the areas. The Hydrographer should be consulted at an early stage to enable these studies to be carried out and further surveys planned if required.
5. If a site is chosen within the United Kingdom's internal waters, a permanently prohibited area could be established and, if necessary, marked by buoys. At the very least, a fishing and anchorage prohibited area would be required.
6. I look forward to the decision in due course. If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me again.

Carleton

C M CARLETON
Lieutenant Commander, RN
Territorial Waters Officer

LN 823 6360 LN

Enclosure: British Admiralty Chart 2635. Sec (FS) only

CONFIDENTIAL

MANAGEMENT IN CONFIDENCE

c44/8