Nuclear weapons convoys: A public safety risk?

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Nukewatch UK
nukewatch.org.uk
Nuclear Warhead Convoy Routes
### FOI Request: Convoy safety incidents 2007-12

#### 70 incidents:
- **56 Engineering Incidents.**
- **14 Operational Incidents.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description &amp; Cause</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ROAD</td>
<td>Mar-08</td>
<td>Convoy Route changed to avoid Road Traffic Collision (RTC)</td>
<td>Minor delay to planned operation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROAD</td>
<td>Apr-08</td>
<td>Anti Nuclear Demonstrator interference en-route and at Staging Post.</td>
<td>Minor delays - no arrests.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROAD</td>
<td>Jul-08</td>
<td>Convoy Support Vehicle (CSV) stopped to assist at scene of RTC not involving Convoy Assets.</td>
<td>CSV rejoined convoy at next Rest Break.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROAD</td>
<td>Jan-09</td>
<td>Route diversion due to severe weather conditions.</td>
<td>Shorter route utilised - convoy arrived early.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROAD</td>
<td>Jul-09</td>
<td>MDP Traffic Unit stopped to assist at scene of RTC not involving Convoy Assets.</td>
<td>No impact.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROAD</td>
<td>Oct-09</td>
<td>Convoy delayed start time - adverse weather conditions.</td>
<td>Minor delay to planned operation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROAD</td>
<td>Dec-09</td>
<td>Convoy delayed on route due to poor weather conditions.</td>
<td>Minor delay to planned operation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROAD</td>
<td>Jul-10</td>
<td>Convoy unintentionally off route - Escort Commander error.</td>
<td>Convoy stopped - route to rejoin approved carriageway identified, and convoy cleared to proceed. Minor delay - 45 minutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROAD</td>
<td>Mar-11</td>
<td>Route diversion due to severe traffic ahead.</td>
<td>Minor delay to planned operation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROAD</td>
<td>Jul-11</td>
<td>Convoy Route changed to avoid RTC.</td>
<td>Minor delay to planned operation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROAD</td>
<td>Mar-12</td>
<td>Route diversion due to road works.</td>
<td>Minor delay to planned operation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROAD</td>
<td>Route diversion due to proximity of low flying at MoD establishment.</td>
<td>No impact.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROAD</td>
<td>Oct-12</td>
<td>Convoy Route changed to avoid RTC.</td>
<td>Minor delay to planned operation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROAD</td>
<td>Dec-12</td>
<td>Convoy stopped to assist at scene of RTC not involving Convoy Assets (road ahead blocked by RTC). Assistance rendered by Convoy Medics and Fire Crews.</td>
<td>Significant delay leading to additional Crew rest break being required. Convoy continued without further incident after unscheduled break.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
25 July 2011:
Convoy command vehicle breakdown, M6, Cheshire.
- “Sudden and dramatic loss of power”.
- Two lanes of M6 coned off causing long delays.
FOI Request: Convoy safety incidents 2007-12

July 2010:
Convoy “strayed unintentionally off route”.

January 2012:
Gun port flap on escort vehicle “opened inadvertently”.

July 2012:
Manhole cover collapsed under escort vehicle.
Serious accident on M74 involving military convoy. Motorway closed in both directions due to vehicle fire.

09 05: Both directions at J5. Military vehicles involved in two separate incidents.
A deadly cloud of radioactive dust was expected to shift overnight putting thousands more residents at risk.

Hundreds of families have already been evacuated, and parents told to abandon their children in school—but the nightmare was set to escalate today as Met Office chiefs warned the lethal plutonium cloud would spread across Glasgow.

A giant plume of smoke began billowing into the air within seconds of a horror smash on the busy M74 yesterday morning. The crash happened when a lorry carrying across the northbound carriageway, plunged through the central reservation and jack-knifed—piercing a large hole in the side of an MOD vehicle carrying a Trident nuclear warhead.

Two people were feared dead and many more were injured in the accident which brought traffic chaos.

As the dust cloud grew, police warned of a risk of radioactive particles being carried downwind and urged parents to leave their children in school rather than risk leaving the house to collect them.

Residents were also ordered to shut doors and windows and shut down air conditioning systems.

Authorities were tight-lipped about the accident as armed marines patrolled the scene to the east of the city and officers in biological protection suits set up a decontamination area.

All movement of weapons convoys has now been banned pending an investigation, said the Nuclear Accident Response Organisation.

Citizens last night told how warnings of such a catastrophic incident had been “ignored” and said the MOD now had “blood on their hands.”
FOI Request: SNM convoy safety

November 2010:
- Convoy forced to return to base by slipping clutch.

November 2011:
- Minor fuel leak.

November 2012:
- Delay caused by alternator failure.
Have you seen this truck?

It carries Trident nuclear warheads on UK roads...

www.nukewatch.org.uk
Thank you

NukeWatch

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