



www.nukewatch.org.uk

Warhead convoy movements summary 2014

The log below is based principally on observations by Nukewatchers, but complemented by deduction as to the purpose of each convoy journey and whether or not warheads were carried.

Nukewatch considers that during 2014 at least three loaded convoys travelled between the Coulport nuclear arms depot in Scotland and the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) at Burghfield in Berkshire, and two loaded convoys travelled in the opposite direction. We estimate that between two and twelve nuclear warheads were dispatched to AWE and between two and eight warheads returned to Coulport. Our best guess is that nine warheads were dispatched to AWE and six were returned to Coulport.

It must be stressed that this is an estimate and that convoy journeys will have taken place that Nukewatch was unable to monitor. The overall picture of convoy movements during the year represents a similar level of activity than over the last year and is consistent with general observations over the past three to four years. The level of convoy activity continues to remain consistent with the baseline necessary to allow the movement of nuclear weapons for maintenance and surveillance purposes, with a slow rate of return of warheads to AWE for decommissioning.

Convoy exercise activities are also thought to have taken place frequently throughout the year. This is a higher number of exercises than in recent previous years, and may be the result of training required to introduce new convoy personnel members or escort arrangements, or preparation for an increase in the tempo of convoy operations over the months ahead.

Special Nuclear Materials convoys

No Special Nuclear Materials convoys with High Security Vehicles were observed by Nukewatch during 2014. This does not mean that no such convoys travelled during the year – just that none were sighted by Nukewatch.

IF YOU SEE A CONVOY PLEASE RING ONE OF THESE NUKEWATCH NUMBERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE:

South: 0845 45 88 364

North: 0845 45 88 365

Mobile: 07796 226 488

Mobile: 07790 409 339

We need to know what you saw, when you saw it, where, and what direction the convoy vehicles were travelling in.

For more information please see the Nukewatch website at www.nukewatch.org.uk

NUKEWATCH
2014 Truck Cargo Heavy Duty (TCHD) Warhead Convoy Log

| Trip purpose | Date Out | Date In | From | To | Load | No trucks | Route |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|---------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Exercise | Tues 21.01.14 | ? | AWE Aldermaston | ? | Unladen | ? | M40 ¹ |
| | ? | ? | ? | AWE Aldermaston | Unladen | ? | |
| | Tues 28.01.14? | Tues 28.01.14 | AWE Aldermaston | AWE Burghfield | Unladen | 4 | |
| | Tues 28.01.14 | Wed 29.01.14 | AWE Burghfield | RNAD Coulport | Unladen | 4 | M40 M6 M74 A82 |
| 3 Return Trident | Fri 31.01.14 | Sat 01.02.14 | RNAD Coulport | AWE Burghfield | Loaded | 4 | M80 M74 M6 |
| | Mon 03.02.14 | Mon 03.02.14 | AWE Burghfield | AWE Aldermaston | Unladen | 4 | |
| | Mon 03.03.14 | Mon 03.03.14 | AWE Aldermaston | AWE Burghfield | Unladen | ? | |
| Exercise | Mon 03.03.14 | ? | AWE Burghfield | ? | Unladen | ? | |
| | ? | ? | ? | AWE Aldermaston | Unladen | ? | |
| | Fri 28.03.14 | Fri 28.03.14 | AWE Aldermaston | AWE Burghfield | Unladen | 4 | |
| 3 Trident up | Sat 29.03.14? | Sun 30.03.14? | AWE Burghfield | RNAD Coulport | Loaded | 4 | A1 M |
| 3 Return Trident | Tues 01.04.14 | Wed 02.04.14 | RNAD Coulport | AWE Burghfield | Loaded | 4 | M69 M40 |
| | Thurs 03.04.14 | Thurs 03.04.14 | AWE Burghfield | AWE Aldermaston | Unladen | 4 | |
| Exercise | ? | ? | AWE Aldermaston | ? | Unladen | 3 | |
| | ? | Thurs 24.04.14 | ? | AWE Aldermaston | Unladen | 3 | M40 A34 ¹ |
| | Thurs 12.06.14 | Thurs 12.06.14 | AWE Aldermaston | AWE Burghfield | Unladen | 4 | |
| Exercise | Mon 16.06.14 | ? | AWE Burghfield | ? | Unladen | 4 | |
| | ? | Fri 20.06.14 | ? | AWE Aldermaston ² | Unladen | 4 | |
| | Tues 08.07.14 | Tues 08.07.14 | AWE Aldermaston | AWE Burghfield | Unladen | 4 | |
| 3 Trident up | Thurs 10.07.14 | Fri 11.07.14 | AWE Burghfield | RNAD Coulport | Loaded | 4 | M40 M69 M1 M18 M74 |
| 3 Return Trident | Mon 14.07.14? | Tues 15.07.14 | RNAD Coulport | AWE Burghfield | Loaded | 4 | M6 |
| | Thurs 17.07.14 | Thurs 17.07.14 | AWE Burghfield | AWE Aldermaston | Unladen | 4 | |
| | Thurs 02.10.14 | Thurs 02.10.14 | AWE Aldermaston | AWE Burghfield | Unladen | ? | |
| Exercise | Fri 03.10.14 | ? | AWE Burghfield | ? | Unladen | ? | |

| Trip purpose | Date Out | Date In | From | To | Load | No trucks | Route |
|--------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------------|
| | ? | Mon 06.10.14 | ? | AWE Burghfield | Unladen | ? | |
| | Tues 07.10.14 | ? | AWE Burghfield | AWE Aldermaston | Unladen | ? | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | Fri 07.11.14 | Fri 07.11.14 | AWE Aldermaston | AWE Burghfield | Unladen | 3? | |
| Exercise | Sun 09.11.14 | ? | AWE Burghfield | ? | Unladen | 3? | M40 |
| | ? | Mon 10.11.14 | ? | AWE Burghfield | Unladen | 3? | |
| | Tues 11.11.14 | Tues 11.11.14 | AWE Burghfield | AWE Aldermaston | Unladen | 3? | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Exercise | Wed 12.11.14 | ? | AWE Aldermaston | ? | Unladen | ? | M6 ¹ |
| | ? | Thurs 13.11.14 | ? | AWE Aldermaston ¹ | Unladen | ? | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Exercise | ? | ? | AWE Aldermaston | ? | Unladen | ? | |
| | ? | Thurs 20.11.14 | ? | AWE Aldermaston | Unladen | ? | |

Notes:

¹ Sightings reported by members of the public.

² Return journey made as individual vehicles, not travelling in convoy.