

Scottish nuke base could stay UK territory

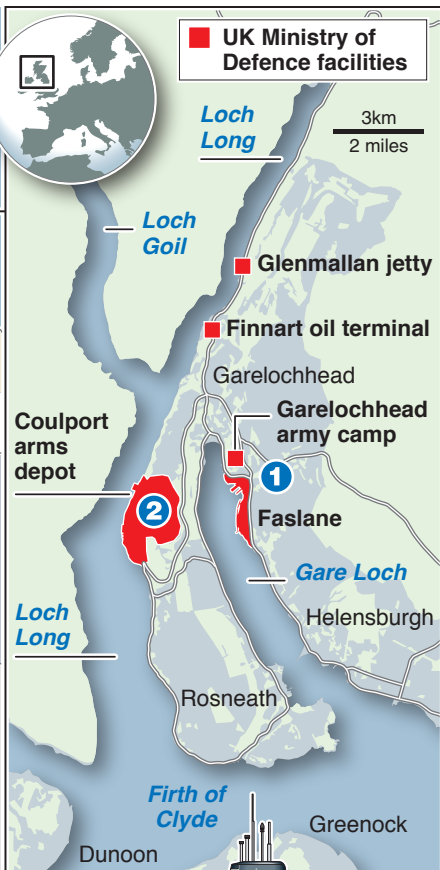
The Ministry of Defence is studying plans to keep the Faslane naval base – home to Britain's nuclear-armed submarines – as UK territory should there be a yes vote on Scottish independence in 2014



HMNB Clyde: Naval base spread over two main sites

1 Faslane: Serves as home base to Britain's fleet of four **Vanguard-class** nuclear-powered submarines – armed with **Trident** nuclear missiles – as well as conventionally-armed nuclear submarines and other navy vessels

2 Coulport arms depot: Stores Trident missiles in reinforced concrete bunkers set into hillside. Docks for nuclear submarines – used for loading and unloading weapons – situated below bunkers. Facility also stores conventional weapons



HMS Vanguard: Nuclear-powered submarine fitted with four torpedo tubes and 16 Trident missiles carrying up to 192 warheads. Speed 25 knots