

About the explosion at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant

From Kyiv, UKGB
Secret, Urgent

On April 26, at 1:25 a.m., an explosion and fire occurred on the premises of Unit 4 during scheduled maintenance and testing of turbogenerators No.7 and No.8. The fire spread to the roof of Unit 3. The explosion destroyed the roof of reactor of the Unit 4 and the turbine hall.

There were 17 workers on duty at the time of the accident. Nine of them were hospitalized, four of whom are in serious condition, one is in intensive care. The fire has been contained.

Presumably, due to a rupture in the main circulation circuit, contaminated water was released onto the station's territory.

The radiation level within the station is 720–900 $\mu\text{Sv/hr}$; in Pripyat, it is 144–504 $\mu\text{Sv/hr}$.

Due to the accident, Unit 3 has been shut down (Units 1 and 2 are operating normally). The station has been cordoned off.

An investigative team, led by Deputy Head of the KGB, Colonel G.A. Sivets, has arrived at the scene.

We are monitoring the situation in Pripyat and surrounding areas.

We will report further on the cause of the explosion and the results of the investigation.

Head of the UKGB of the Ukrainian SSR for the city of Kyiv and the Kyiv region

Major General L.V. Bykhov