

On the progress of the investigation into the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant accident

April 30, 1986

Secret

According to the radiation monitoring service, as of 6:00 AM on April 30, 1986, radiation levels in the accident zone were up to 36,000 $\mu\text{Sv/hr}$, with 2,160–3,600 $\mu\text{Sv/hr}$ in some areas of Pripyat.

Over the past 24 hours, there was a south-easterly wind, with speeds of up to 10 meters per second. Helicopters continued to backfill the accident site with a mixture of sand, boron, and lead. As a result, the combustion in the reactor has been contained, and the visible burn area is 60 cm in size. The backfilling operation continues.

The government commission decided to evacuate additional residents from the Polesie, Chernobyl, and Ivankov districts. 230 people were relocated from the village of Buryakovka in the Chernobyl district to the village of Krasny Posyolok in the same district. In the city and at the nuclear power plant, the work of plant personnel, power supply, communications, decontamination, public order, and security personnel has been organised on a rotational basis.

According to a report from a trusted source, at 6:00 PM, an unknown individual claiming to be a correspondent for the American newspaper The New York Times attempted to contact the sanitary and epidemiological station and the district executive committee via a long-distance telephone call to inquire about the situation at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant. Representatives from a Swedish newspaper and the Japanese embassy took similar actions. Measures have been taken to prevent information leaks.

Radiation levels directly above the reactor are gradually decreasing. While they were 3,000,000 $\mu\text{Sv/hr}$ on April 29, today they are already 2,000,000 $\mu\text{Sv/hr}$.

Yesterday, the government commission heard reports from members of the working group on the causes of the incident. According to scientists and specialists, it can be concluded with some certainty that the reactor “ran away” (an uncontrolled chain reaction occurred). Further calculations will be required to determine the causes of this event. We are taking steps to promptly verify this theory.

The Kyiv City Police Station intercepted a document (letter) addressed to the village of Mirnoye in the Altai Krai, from N.I. Litvinenko, a resident of Pripyat, sent to the specified address before the Chernobyl accident. The author reports that "... my fourth unit has been taken out of service for repairs, and the seventh machine there is facing major repairs, the repair deadline has been cut by 10 days, so contractors will work on May 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, and 10." The author is identified.

The situation in the city and evacuation areas is normal and under control.

An investigative task force, including personnel from the 6th Directorate and the Investigative Department of the KGB of the USSR, in cooperation with the Prosecutor's Office and the police, continues to investigate the theories put forward.

Head of the 6th Directorate of the KGB of the USSR
Lieutenant General F.A. Shcherbak