

On inadequacies in the organisation of the use of military personnel involved in the elimination of the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant

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To the Chairperson of the USSR Committee of State Security [KGB]

A significant number of military personnel and reservists have been involved in the operation, in accordance with a decision by the authorities to eliminate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant. There are currently 43 military units working in the accident zone, with over 31,000 persons overall.

The intelligence shows that these personnel are not being used effectively. At the beginning of August out of more than 31,000 military personnel, only 14,620 persons (46%) were involved in the work.

On July 31st, August 1st and 2nd of this year, out of 3,225 military personnel from the 25th Chemical Defence Brigade (Kiev Military District), 953 persons participated in the work (less than 30%); out of 3,055 persons from the 26th Chemical Defence Brigade from the same District, 45% (1,394 persons) participated in the work. In the remaining audited units (the 2185th Pipeline Battalion, the 136th Bridge and Roadway Engineering Regiment), only 1 to 5% of the staff was involved in the work.

There are considerable failures in the organisation of labour by six military construction units (more than 3,200 persons), which arrived into the accident zone between June 28th and July 4th of this year. There is no evidence of these units being prepared for the necessary work, they also do not have the necessary building materials or equipment/tools. The military units were sent to work under the directions from different organisations, but there is a lack of oversight by the leadership of these organisations. As a result, qualified military builders are being used as auxiliary forces.

This situation has a clear negative impact on the morale and the political climate in military units, as well as on the state of military discipline, leading to discipline breaches, and, in some cases, to criminal offenses.

In a number of cases, many military personnel, mainly the reservists, express their failure to understand the current situation and, sometimes, an overall resentment, in letters to relatives and friends (see attached document) [[attachment is not available](#)].

The above could also complicate the operational situation, as some politically alienated individuals are trying to interpret these failures negatively.

In consideration of what has been described above, we consider it expedient to take measures towards a more effective use of Soviet Army personnel involved in the emergency work at

the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, through the USSR Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Medium Machine Building, and the Ministry of Energy, based on the volume of work and deadlines for its completion.

Reporting for your decision.

Chair of the Ukrainian KGB