US SPENT FUEL TEAM

TO: CHERIE FITZGERALD DOE 202-586-2323
FROM: US SPENT FUEL TEAM
DATE: 5 SEPTEMBER

US SPENT FUEL TEAM ARRIVED SAFELY AT NYONBYON NUCLEAR SITE ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 3 AND BEGAN WORK LABOR DAY SEPTEMBER 4. ALL 29 CRATES SHIPPED AT THE END OF AUGUST, PLUS TWO CRATES SHIPPED IN EARLY AUGUST AND THE FOUR VENTILATORS ARRIVED AT NYONBYON BY MONDAY. THIS WAS A MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENT SINCE EXTREMELY HEAVY RAINS THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF AUGUST CAUSED SERIOUS DAMAGE TO THE DIRT ROAD LEADING TO THE NUCLEAR CENTER. IN FACT, THE BRIDGE ON THE MAIN ROAD JUST BEFORE THE GUESTS HOUSE HAD BEEN WASHED OUT AND HAS YET TO BE REPLACED. WE AND ALL OTHER TRAFFIC MUST FORD THE SMALL RIVER AT THAT POINT. FOUR CRATES HAD RECEIVED MINOR DAMAGE, ANOTHER LARGE CRATE HAD SPLINTERED BUT ITS CONTENTS WERE NOT DAMAGED. THE CRATE WITH THE HOSES HAD BEEN DAMAGED FIRST DURING UNLOADING IN CHINA AND APPEARED TO HAVE RECEIVED FURTHER DAMAGE LATER. ALL EQUIPMENT WAS UNCRATED ON MONDAY WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF FOUR LABORERS, A FORKLIFT AND OPERATOR PROVIDED BY THE DPRK SIDE WITHOUT COST. PRELIMINARY INSPECTION OF THE EQUIPMENT INDICATED NONE HAD SUSTAINED SERIOUS DAMAGE. SOME HOSES HOWEVER APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN DAMAGED, BUT CENTEC IS WORKING TO GET A REPLACEMENT PARTS TO NYONBYON BY NEXT MONDAY.

WE ARE MAKING RELATIVELY STEADY PROGRESS. BY TUESDAY AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 5, ALL WATER TREATMENT EQUIPMENT HAD BEEN ARRANGED WITHIN THE WATER TREATMENT BUILDING. SPARES AND VARIOUS SUPPLIES HAD BEEN PLACED IN STORAGE AND THE CHILLER AND GENERATORS HAD BEEN INSPECTED.

THE CHILLER IS OPERATING PROPERLY AND HAS FURTHER REDUCED THE WATER TEMPERATURE IN THE SPENT FUEL STORAGE BASIN TO 52 DEGREES "F" THE WATER REMAINS A MURKY GREEN AND THE FUEL BASKETS ARE NOT VISIBLE, BUT THE BUBBLING IS NOTICABLY LESS THAT IN JUNE. COOL WEATHER HAS ARRIVED AND THIS SHOULD FURTHER LOWER THE WATER TEMPERATURE IN THE BASIN. THE GENERATORS ARE OPERATING WITHOUT PROBLEMS.
WE HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO WORK AT THE
SITE ON SEPTEMBER 9 AND 10. SEPTEMBER 9 IS A NATIONAL HOLIDAY,
FOUNDING OF THE NATION DAY. IT IS ALSO THE MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL
HOLIDAYS TO KOREANS - CHUSOK. THE DAY'S SONS VISIT THE GRAVES OF
THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS TO PAY THEIR RESPECT. TO
COMPENSATE FOR THE TIME LOST TO WORK, WE HAVE ARRANGED TO EAT
OUR LUNCH AT THE SITE. THIS WILL ELIMINATE THE HOUR-ROUND TRIP
JOURNEY BETWEEN THE WORK SITE AND GUEST HOUSE.

PRIOR TO DEPARTING BEIJING WE LEARNED FROM NIKKO COMPANY THAT
THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WILL CHARGE $100 US PER MULTIPLE ENTRY
VISA. THIS IS A STANDARD FEE. NIKKO ASKS THAT ALL APPLICANTS PAY
THIS FEE. PLEASE ADVISE APPLICANTS ABOUT THIS. ALSO DPRK ATOMIC
ENERGY BUREAU IS ANXIOUSLY Awaiting NOTIFICATION OF NAMES AND
ITINERARIES FOR TEAM MEMBERS NEXT SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN THE
DPRK. PLEASE ADVISE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF THIS AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE.

NAC SHOULD PLAN TO SEND AS MUCH EQUIPMENT AS POSSIBLE ON THE
NEXT CHARTERED AIR KORYO PLANE. THIS SHIPMENT WILL LEAVE SAN
FRANCISCO ON 13 OR 14 SEPTEMBER. A SIZEABLE CEMENT FOUNDATION
HAS BEEN BUILT BY THE DPRK TO BE USED AS A GENERATOR PAD. IT HAS ROOM
FOR ALL FOR GENERATORS. WE WILL SEND EXACT DIMENSIONS AND
LOCATION IN A FUTURE FAX. NAC SHOULD PLAN TO USE THIS LOCATION
AND PROCURE A METAL BUILDING SUCH AS CENTEC HAS TO PROTECT THEIR
GENERATORS.

KEN QUINONES AND I (TOM GRIM) ARE DOING FINE. WE ARE IN GOOD
HEALTH. PLEASE CONTACT OUR WIVES AND LET THEM KNOW WE LOVE
THEM AND MISS THEM

KATIE GRIM
JULIE QUINONES

THE FAX MACHINE HERE IS TURNED OFF AT NIGHT SO DO NOT ATTEMPT TO
SEND US INFORMATION LATER THAN 0900 EASTERN STANDARD TIME.

THE NUMBERS HERE ARE: PHONE 950-2-814423
                FAX 950-2-814473

PLEASE GIVE THEM A TRY.