

Minister of Atomic Energy
of the Russian Federation

To: President of the Russian
Federation
B. N. Yeltsin

07.30.1993 No. 011654

Esteemed Boris Nikolaevich!

I am informing you that as a result of the failure to implement paragraph 3 of your Directive No. 88-rps from 28 February 1992, as of August 1, the Russian Federal Nuclear Centers VNIIEF – Arzamas-16 – and VNIITF – Chelyabinsk-70 – accumulated debt of 9.5 billion rubles; [tk: what's relationship of this phrase with previous one?] salaries for July have not been paid.

To normalize the financial situation at the Nuclear Centers it is necessary to urgently disburse resources from the budget, during the first days of August, to cover the debt of 9.5 billion rubles and to disburse 6 billion rubles every month from budget resources to pay salaries at the rate of 10 times the minimum wage, [tk: relationship of next phrase to previous?] and indexation [inflation adjustment] of material expenses.

The steps undertaken by the Minatom of Russia in order to sign a contract with the U.S. Department of Energy to sell [highly] enriched uranium and to receive 240 million dollars for it [tk: as soon as?] already in 1993, and thus the opportunity for independent resolution of the issue of additional financing for the Nuclear Centers, are being blocked by the [actions of] the Finance Ministry of Russia regarding the above-mentioned contracts.

I am asking for your instructions on the issues presented above.

V.N. Mikhailov

[Source: National Security Archive Nunn-Lugar Collection, obtained from the State Archive of the Russian Federation (GARF)]

Translated by Svetlana Savranskaya for the National Security Archive