

Protocol #1

Session of the CC CPSU Politburo Operational Group on issues related to the elimination of the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl NPS [nuclear power station]

April 29, 1986

Present:

Members of the Politburo of the CC CPSU: comrades N.I. Ryzhkov, E.K. Ligachev
V.I. Vorotnikov, V.M. Chebrikov

Candidate members of the Politburo of the CC CPSU: comrades V.I. Dolgikh, S.L. Sokolov

Minister of Internal Affairs of the USSR: comrade A.V. Vlasov

Invited to the meeting:

Secretaries of the CC CPSU: comrades A.F. Dobrynin, V.A. Medvedev, A.N. Yakovlev

Head of the Department of Heavy Industry and Energy of the CC CPSU: comrade I.P. Yastrebov

President of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR: comrade A.P. Aleksandrov

First Deputy Minister of Defense: comrade S.F. Akhromeev

Head of the Civil Defense Forces of the USSR: comrade A.G. Altunin

Minister of Health of the USSR: comrade S.P. Burenkov

Chairman of the State Committee for Hydrometeorology: comrade Y.A. Israel

First Deputy Minister of Medium Machine Building: comrade A.M. Petrosyants

Minister of Medium Machine Building: comrade E.P. Slavsky

Minister of Higher and Secondary Special Education of the USSR: comrade G.A. Yagodin

Deputy Minister of Railways: comrade V.N. Ginko

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR: comrade A.G. Kovalev

Head of the VPO “SoyuzAtomEnergo” of the Ministry of Energy and Electrification of the USSR: comrade. G.A. Veretennikov

Head of the 16 Main Directorate of the Ministry of Medium Machine Building: comrade. E.V. Kulikov

Deputy Head of the Department of Heavy Industry and Energy of the CC of the CPSU: comrade. V.M. Frolyshev

1. On the situation resulting from the accident in the 4th power block of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant.
Take note of Comrade Dolgikh’s information on this specific issue
2. On the radiation situation at Chernobyl NPS, in the village of the power station, and in surrounding areas.
Take note of Comrade Israel’s report on this issue. Order Comrade Israel to put together clear and reliable information about the radiation levels in individual territories, fly out immediately to the area of the accident for adoption of practical measures.
3. On the organization of medical services for people in areas of radioactive contamination.
Bring Comrade Burenkov’s attention to serious weaknesses in the organization of medical services for evacuees from the accident area and the provision of necessary medical care. Order Comrade Burenkov to fly out to the site immediately to take exhaustive measures to fundamentally improve all of this work.
4. On the participation of civil defense units in work eliminating the consequences of the accident.
Bring Comrade Altunin’s attention to the lack of a clear program of action for implementation of a comprehensive set of measures in connection with the accident at the Chernobyl NPS. Demand that Civil Defense urgently develop and implement the necessary actions to eliminate the consequences of the accident.
5. On the evacuation of people from the city of Pripyat.
Take note of Comrade Vlasov’s report on this issue. Note the clear organization of the work on evacuating the population and locating it in new districts.
6. On the occurrence of the exit of a group of passengers from a train in the district of the restricted area.
Bring Comrade Ginko’s attention to the need for strict observance by the services of the Ministry of Railways of the established procedure for transport of people by rail in the restricted area in the district of the Chernobyl NPP.

7. On the deployment of a brigade of Chemical Defense Troops.

Take note of Comrade Akhromeyev's report on this issue. The Defense Ministry is to ensure the deployment of the brigade as soon as possible.

8. On the allocation of 10,000 army food rations to transfer them to the evacuated population.

Instruct Comrade Akhromeyev to find a way to allot 10,000 food rations from the army's reserves to evacuated populations.

9. On potential causes of the accident at the Chernobyl NPS.

Take note of this information. Comrade Aleksandrov, with the assistance of the Ministry of Energy of the USSR, the Ministry of Medium Machine Building, the State Committee for Nuclear Energy Safety, scientists, and specialists, should continue work on ascertaining the causes of the accident, in order to prevent similar occurrences in the future.

10. On government reports.

Approve the text of the Government Report for publication in print. Approve the text of information to the leaders of a number of capitalist countries about the accident at Chernobyl NPS and the measures taken to eliminate the consequences. Approve the text of information to the leaders of a number of socialist countries on the progress of eliminating the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl NPS.

[Source: Alla Yaroshinskaya, *Chernobyl: Sovershenno Sekretno* (Moscow: Drugie Berega, 1992)]

Translated by Sarah Dunn for the National Security Archive

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