

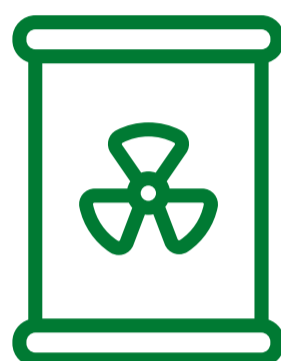
ICONIC MOMENTS IN FOREIGN POLICY: CHERNOBYL



The disastrous meltdown in the 4th reactor of the Chernobyl (Chornobyl) Atomic Electrical Station occurred on April 26th, 1986. The explosion, which took place in the Kyiv region of Ukraine, led to several immediate deaths and injuries as well as later contamination from widespread and long-lasting radiation levels in the surrounding areas. The government, who failed to inform the public of the true scope of radiation damage for years after the accident, took several steps to identify possible affected populations and reduce the contamination.

ADDRESS TO UKRAINIAN COMMUNIST PARTY

Feb. 2, 1967 - Address by V.V. Shcherbytsky, Head of the Council of Ministers of Ukrainian SSR, to the Central Committee of the Ukrainian Communist Party confirming the site for the construction of the 2000mW 'Central Ukrainian Nuclear Power Plant' near the village Kopachi, Chornobyl district, Kyiv region. View the report at: <https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/208400>.

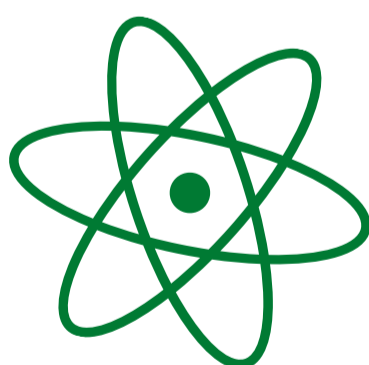
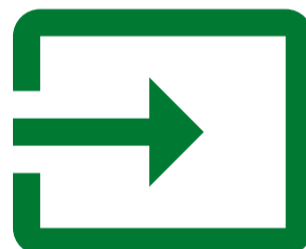


'CONCERNING THE ACCIDENT'

April 26, 1986 - The Soviet Minister of Power and Electrification A.N. Makukhin reports on an explosion and fire at the Chernobyl Atomic Power Station in Ukraine. The Soviet Ministry of Health has determined that "it is not required to take special measures, including the evacuation of the population from the city." Read the report at: <https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/115341>.

REPORT BY CHERNOBYL DIRECTOR

April 26, 1986 - A brief report of the facts of the accident by V.P. Bryukhanov, Director of Chernobyl NPP under the title 'On the Accidednat at V.I. Lenin Chernobyl NPP' included details such as: the death of one unnamed person, Hospitalization of 34, including 9 firemen, disappearance of the chief reactor operator Khodemchuk. Followed by reporting radiation levels in the aftermath of the accident. View the report at: <https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/208405>.



CONTAINED RADIATION

May 2, 1986 - The report by Lieut. Col. Aksenov, Deputy Head of the 6th Department of the KGB Administration, titled 'Notice of Emergency Incident,' describes levels of radiation in the immediate area, populations which may have been affected, and steps which have been taken in the first few days following the incident. View the report at: <https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/134300>.

CONTAMINATED ENVIRONMENT AND FOOD PRODUCTS

August 15, 1986 - The report memo to Comrade A.P. Liashko concerning 'Inspection of Contaminated Environment and Food Products' refers to the multifaceted work of ministries and departments of the USSR in the aftermath of the Chernobyl accident and recommends numerous new ways to reduce environmental, food, and water contamination. Read the memo at: <https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/208400>.



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