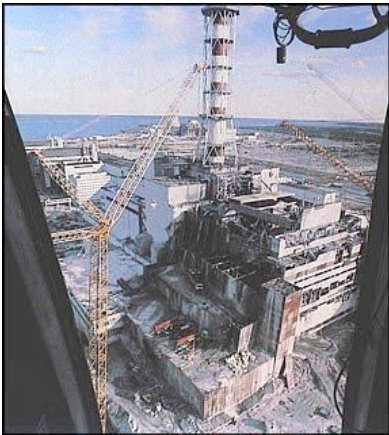


On 26th April 1986 scientists are doing a test on a reactor of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Station. The engineers shut down the emergency safety system in order to do their test. Suddenly an unexpected chain reaction takes place in the reactor's core.



The scientists are nervous. They make mistake after mistake. Within one hour everything is out of control. The reactor is overheated. This blasts the 1000-ton steel-and-concrete lid through the roof of the station. A cloud of hot radioactive steam and gas escapes in the atmosphere.

The wind blows the radioactive particles across the Ukraine and as far north as Norway, thousands of kilometres away. The government in Moscow keeps silent. They don't warn their people. They don't warn their neighbours.

Scientists of a nuclear power station in Sweden notice a large increase in radioactivity. At first they think of an incident in their

own station. Then the officials in Moscow say: „An accident has taken place... Measures are being taken to eliminate the consequences.... A government commission has been set up.“

Nobody says the simple, horrible truth: The open reactor is still burning. It is still sending dangerous radiation into the world. The engineers have no idea how to stop it. Thirty people die in the accident.

Finally the reactor is contained. Thousands of men, women and children living in Chernobyl die of cancer. Birth defects are highly above normal.

| |
|---|
| emergency: Not... |
| chain reaction: Kettenreaktion |
| core: Kern, Mitte, Herz.. |
| steel: Stahl |
| concrete: Beton |
| lid: Deckel |
| increase: Zunahme |
| incident: Zwischenfall |
| measure: Maß, Maßnahme |
| eliminate: wegschaffen |
| radiation: Strahlung |
| to contain: eindämmen, einpacken |
| cancer: Krebs |
| above: über |

Translate:

- Der Reaktor ist noch nicht unter Kontrolle.
- Macht diesen Test nicht. wieder!
- Er ist überhaupt nicht nervös.
- Warum warnt ihr die Leute nicht?
- Sie sagen uns die Wahrheit nicht.
- Der Reaktor brennt nicht mehr.
- Dies ist nicht normal.
- Sie wissen nicht, was es ist.
- Ich denke nicht an einen Unfall.