

Handwritten: kind thank

OPSCC SUBJECT MASTER

Handwritten: 2

(2)

Message to you from Pineda on ENERGY Policy PTA

Commander on safety in civil nuclear installations. Quite sensitive

Unofficial translation

MESSAGE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE

and practical - with a bit at the end on a

M.S.GORBACHYOV

PRIME MINISTER'S

TO PRIME MINISTER

PERSONAL MESSAGE

Comprehensive ICR Ban. All pers know that a CDP 4/6

M.THATCHER

SERIAL No: T104B/86

message on this subject has been delivered.

Speaking on the television on 14 May I emphasized those main conclusions that, in our opinion, can be made following the Chernobyl accident. Today I would like to share some additional considerations on this matter with you.

It is quite obvious that it is necessary on a practical basis and without delay to start creating an international regime of safe development of nuclear power engineering. Such a regime would be aimed at minimizing absolutely the possibility of the peaceful atom harming people. Securing a reliable and danger-free development of nuclear power engineering should become a universal international obligation of each separate state and of all the states together.

Preliminary steps in this direction, including those in the IAEA, have already been taken. Various considerations and proposals are being made by individual states. We are studying them attentively.

I shall make a following reservation at once: we are not laying claim to ready recipes. In all 152 accidents at nuclear power stations accompanied by leaks of radioactivity have been registered in the world. So, a number of states have experience in this field, building on which an international nuclear security regime should be developed.

Of course, the first thing that is needed is an early warning system in case of accidents and faults at nuclear power stations, when these are accompanied by leaks of radioactivity. The question of receiving data on possible deviations of natural radioactivity levels is connected with the warning system.

It is beyond the powers of many states to cope with an accident with their own forces and means. That is why, in our opinion, a well adjusted international mechanism to secure the earliest mutual assistance in dangerous situations should be an important component of the international regime of safe development of nuclear power engineering. Both the IAEA and the World health organization could be included into this mechanism. Alongside those states on the

territory of which the accident has taken place other states too should take part in liquidating its consequences in case an appeal for assistance is made to them.

The question arises on the international legal form of agreements on the warning system and assistance mechanism. We think that the corresponding obligations of the states could be set forth and recorded in a special international convention or conventions. The Soviet side is now thinking over all these questions and will put forward its considerations on this matter which will take into account other states' proposals.

Some states, while agreeing with such a solution of the problem make a point that pending the conclusion of the convention, already in June a decision should be taken on the earliest creation within the IAEA of a notification system in case of a nuclear accident. Well, the sooner we are able to take the necessary measures, even if they are of a preliminary and provisional character, the better.

At the same time the main task, in our opinion, is to take prophylactic measures, which would secure non-occurrence of accidents. This aim would be served by providing the IAEA with information on causes of accidents within a short and practically feasible period of time. Such information would be studied by appropriate experts with a view to assist the IAEA member-states in taking this experience into account in order to further enhance the security of nuclear power engineering.

One should go even further and develop recommendations within the IAEA on security of nuclear power stations, to strengthen national and, in necessary cases, international control over compliance with them in all the states. It could be also possible to arrange the co-operation under the IAEA aegis of countries, occupying leading positions in the field of nuclear power engineering in order to create an economical and reliable reactor of a new generation with an enhanced, in comparison with the existing ones, degree of operation security.

One has to take into consideration the fact that the problem of material, moral and psychological damage in case of accidents at nuclear power stations and installations has not been sufficiently worked out ^{on} an international basis. We think that a legal system should be established in this matter, attempts should be excluded to use nuclear accidents for increasing tension and mistrust in interstate relations.

I think that in many aspects the problem of standardizing admissible radiation levels, existing in various countries, deserves attention.

One should not also lose sight of such aspect of nuclear security as prevention of nuclear terrorism. The facts of deliberate damaging of nuclear engineering enterprises which have taken place in the West cannot but cause concern. For example 32 such cases were registered in the USA in 1974-1984. 10 attacks on various nuclear installations were carried out in Europe in 1966-1977. The inadequacy of measures to prevent embezzlement of highly enriched fission materials is also attracting attention. The list of possibilities which could be used by terrorists is far from being exhausted by the above mentioned. I think that in the light of all this the necessity has become imminent to develop a reliable system of measures to prevent nuclear terrorism in all its manifestations.

In order to set up an international regime of safe development of nuclear power engineering we can use what is already available in this field in different international organisations - IAEA, World Health Organisation, UNEP, World meteorological Organisation and, finally, in the UN. It is necessary to place all this on a solid basis of wide international cooperation.

Apparently the IAEA will be the main link in this system. Therefore it would be useful to enhance the role and possibilities of this agency. It seems that this would require the broadening of its financial and material capabilities. This problem could be resolved, for instance, by means of allocating obligatory special-purpose contributions by the interested member-states of the agency. It is also worth considering the setting up in the IAEA of a specialised fund for emergency assistance in cases of nuclear accidents to those countries which could need it.

On May 14 I have already spoken out in favour of convening a highly authoritative specialised international conference in Vienna under the auspices of the IAEA to discuss this entire complex of questions.

I would like to inform you that we are undertaking practical measures to improve the work of the State Committee of the USSR

for the supervision over the safe conduct of work in the nuclear power engineering. We intend to stimulate its links with appropriate international organisations as well as with similar national bodies with the aim of exchanging experience in the field of control over safe development of nuclear power engineering.

I would also like to add that we are conducting a comprehensive analysis of the state of affairs in nuclear power engineering, additional measures are being worked out and will be implemented in order to increase the safety of nuclear power plants, bearing in mind the conclusions drawn from the accident at the Chernobyl NE

I would like to stress once more - the lessons drawn from this accident should serve the whole mankind. What happened in Chernobyl is a serious reminder of those sinister forces, which the energy of the atom contains. If an accident at a peaceful nuclear power plant turned into a misfortune, one can imagine what tragic consequences to all mankind the use of nuclear weapons, which exist for the purpose of destruction and annihilation, would lead to.

The nuclear-space era demands from the leaders of all countries of the world new political thinking and new policies. The programme of complete liquidation of nuclear weapons and the creation of a comprehensive system of international security, put forward by us, answers to these inexorably strict requirements.

genie! !
 Right after the creation of nuclear weapons the best minds pondered over how to contain the nuclear jinnee. And in the meantime the nuclear arms race accelerated. So where is the key, the crucial link with the aid of which the nuclear problem can be resolved? The cessation of nuclear tests could be the first practical step leading to nuclear disarmament. We attach special importance to this measure because being rather effective, it is simple from the point of view of its practical realization. It is only necessary not to conduct nuclear tests, - naturally under strict control. This measure should at long last become a reality of international life.

By extending the unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions the Soviet Union has in fact given them up for a whole year. We believe that such an extended period of time should be more than enough for the American side to comprehensively evaluate the

situation and take reciprocal steps which would enable to stop the nuclear tests on a bilateral basis.

Considering the urgent character of the question of stopping nuclear tests I have once again confirmed my proposal to President Reagan to meet without delay and to agree on a ban on nuclear tests

Both these tasks - ensuring the safety of the peaceful use of nuclear energy and ridding our planet of nuclear weapons - demand wide international cooperation, the pooling of efforts of all states and first of all the nuclear ones, international organization and public forces which are interested in creating a comprehensive and reliable system of international security. This is the task of both, - all states taken together and each one in particular. We call upon you to make your contribution to this important cause, the implementation of which is required by the interests of preserving the human civilization.

May 31, 1986