

Chernobyl (Mini-) Vocabulary

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1:23:45

Content: to accept or make do with something, rather than taking further action or making more demands

Stack: 1. a vertical duct or waste pipe 2. a tall chimney or group of chimneys arranged together

Dosimeter: an instrument for measuring the amount of radiation absorbed by somebody or something, often fixed in a working area or worn by personnel who might be exposed to radiation

Feedwater: water added to a boiler to replace that lost during operation

Please Remain Calm

Flux: 1. constant change and instability 2. the rate of flow of something such as energy, particles, or fluid volume across or onto a given area

Bubbler: a device for bubbling gas through a liquid

Sluice: an artificial channel for a flow of water that is controlled by a valve or gate

Open Wide, O Earth

Latency: the state or condition of being present or existing, but in an underdeveloped or unexpressed form

Aplastic anemia: severe anemia in which the capacity of bone marrow cells to generate red blood cells is diminished. The condition can be congenital or it can be caused by exposure to radiation, toxic chemicals, or drugs.

Sortie: a mission flown by a combat aircraft

The Happiness of All Mankind

Motor pool: a number of motor vehicles kept by an organization for use as needed by its personnel

Void coefficient (of reactivity): a number that can be used to estimate how much the reactivity of a nuclear reactor changes as voids (typically steam bubbles) form in the reactor moderator or coolant

Stoop: to do something reluctantly and with the attitude of somebody who considers such action unworthy

Vichnaya Pamyat

Immutable: not changing or not able to be changed

Indictment: a formal accusation of a serious crime, presented to a grand jury

All of: as much as (often used ironically of an amount or quantity considered small by the speaker)

Prime: 1. to make something ready for use, or become ready for use 2. to put liquid in something such as a pump or carburetor in order to get it started

Inconsequential: of little or no importance

Scram: 1. to get out or leave quickly 2. to shut down a nuclear reactor rapidly in an emergency, or be shut down rapidly

Remand: to return a prisoner or accused person to custody, or arrange for somebody to be released on bail when a court case is adjourned

Fail-safe: a device or procedure designed to switch equipment or a system to a safe condition if there is a fault or failure