

U.N. IN ACTION

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THE LEGACY OF CHERNOBYL: PEOPLE AND PLACES

<u>VIDEO</u> <u>AUDIO</u>

NARRATION

LIBRARY SHOTS OF PRYPAT.
ABANDONED AND DECAYING
HOUSES.

The ghost town of Prypat was abandoned by its citizens after the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in 1986. High radiation levels made it uninhabitable for centuries to come. (11")

AN ELDERLY COUPLE: NASTYA AND NIKOLAI, PICKING UP VEGETABLES, WALKING INTO THE HUT, EATING.

Grandma Nastya and Grandad Nikolai live in their little hut in the midst of the 'exclusion zone', an area declared unfit for living. They were relocated after the accident but eventually returned home, joining the ranks of a few others unable to cope with life elsewhere. (17")

VIEWS OF SLAVUTICH. ALEXEI AND TATYANA AT HOME WITH DAUGHTERS To replace the abandoned town, Slavutich was built as a new settlement some 40 kilometres from the nuclear power plant. Here, Alexei and Tatyana raise their two daughters. (12.5")

CHERNOBYL FORUM MEETING

While debate on Chernobyl continues, a report compiled by affected countries and eight UN agencies in September 2005 drew conclusions still valid today. (10")

CROWDED STREET IN KIEV.
LIBRARY SHOTS OF THE INITIAL
CLEAN-UP OPERATION

The report predicted that the final death toll attributed to radiation could reach four thousand. Fewer than fifty deaths were related to acute radiation exposure, all among personnel who took part in the initial clean-up operation. Michael Repacholi, of the World Health Organization explains: (21")

MICHAEL REPACHOLI, COORDINATOR FOR HEALTH ISSUES (WHO), ON CAMERA "Well I think it tells people what the numbers really are, there is no speculation in that. There is some uncertainty in the values but it is very close around the four thousand mark for cancer deaths and other speculations are just not valid." (16")

TEENAGERS TREATED FOR THYROID GLAND CANCER

In addition, some four thousand cases of thyroid gland cancer have been recorded since the Chernobyl disaster, mostly among children who were up to age eighteen at the time of the accident. However, the survival rate among those affected with the disease has been almost 99%. (16.5")

SMALL TOWN: PEOPLE AT LEISURE / ABANDONED FACTORY.

Also of concern was a lack of employment opportunities in the affected areas. Louisa Vinton, of the UN Development Programme. (8.5")

LOUISA COORDINATOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC (UNDP), ON CAMERA VINTON, FOR ISSUES "And what we advocate at the national level – policies we really advocate in all three of the countries generally – policies that encourage investment, policies that encourage formation of

small businesses particularly in the areas of small family agricultural businesses" (14")

ABANDONED HOUSES / COWS GRAZING ON PASTURES / SMALL PACK OF WILD HORSES.

While some areas remain off-limits, the majority of previously contaminated lands are now safe for living and cultivation. Nature is healing its wounds and wildlife is finally able to bloom once again. (16.5)

UN LOGO

This report was prepared by Vadim Mouchkin for the United Nations.