April 2, 1968 AEC 907/30

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

STATUS REPORT ON THULE CRASH 107046

Note by the Secretary

The Assistant General Manager for Military Application has requested that his attached memorandum of April 1, 1968, with attachment, be circulated for the information of the Commission. Preceding status reports are in the Record, Secretariat.

W. B. McCool
Secretary

DISTRIBUTION	NO. OF COPIES
Secretary	7
Chairman Seaborg	4
Commissioner Ramey	1
Commissioner Tape	1
Commissioner Johnson	1
Commissioner	1
General Manager	2
Deputy Gen. Mgr.	1
Asst. Gen. Mgr.	1
Exec. Asst. to GM	1
Asst. GM for Admin.	1
Asst. GM for IA	1
Asst. GM for MA	1
Asst. GM for Operations	1
Asst. GM for R&D	1
General Counsel	1
Biology and Medicine	1
Classification	1
Congr. Relations	2
Controller	1
Inspection	1
International Affairs	1
Military Application	1
Operational Safety	1
Public Information	1

US DOE ARCHIVES
326 U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
RG
Collection DOS McCraw
Box 17 Job 820
Folder MHS 3-9 Thule Incident (1968) APRIL - MAY

MEDICINE, HEALTH & SAFETY - 3-9 - Thule Incident

90

UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D C 20545

April 1, 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR CHAIRMAN SEABORG
COMMISSIONER RAMEY
COMMISSIONER TAPE
COMMISSIONER JOHNSON

SUBJECT: B-52 CRASH AT THULE AIR BASE, GREENLAND

This is the eighth in a series of status reports to the Commission on the Thule B-52 accident situation. The seventh report in this series was the quotation of the Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force, teletype which set forth the text of the "Gentlemen's Agreement" reached during the Danish/U.S. meeting of March 18-19 in Washington, D.C. Paragraphs 9 and 10 of the "Gentlemen's Agreement" made reference to ecological program and shoreline surveillance plans to be furnished under separate cover. The referenced plans have now been received and are reproduced for the information of the Commission as attachment to this memorandum.

It has been confirmed by Dr. H. D. Bruner, Division of Biology and Medicine, who was among the participants with Danish representatives in formulating the plans, that the attached plans represent the total monitoring of the Thule accident environment that is desired at this time by the Danish Government. These plans would be extended and elaborated upon only if the discovery of significant contamination levels were to dictate a requirement to do so.

DOE ARCHIVES

Edward B. Giller
Brigadier General, USAF
Assistant General Manager
for Military Application

Attachment:
Thule Environmental Investigation
Program, Summer of 1968

91

Risø, March 14, 1968

Thule Environmental Investigation
Program, Summer of 1968

1. Samples for Plutonium Analysis

Samples will be collected of the following primary media: sea water, sea bottom, zooplankton and mussels. These samples will be collected in two zones, zone I enclosed by a circle with its center at the site of impact and radius 1 km, and zone II comprising Bylot Sund and Wolstenholme Fjord.

In zone I the following numbers of samples will be taken: 4 sea water samples, 10 bottom samples, 4 plankton samples and 12 mussel samples.

In zone II will be taken: 12 sea water samples, 12 bottom samples, 12 plankton samples and 12 mussel samples.

In addition the following secondary samples will be collected from the area as a whole:

9 samples of seals' faeces (walrus, bearded seal and harp seal)
9 samples of birds' faeces (common eider, long-tailed duck, little auk)
6 samples of wing snail
3 samples of seaweed
3 samples of lichen (from Narssarssuk)
5 samples of eiderdown
3 samples of fish (polar cod).

DOE ARCHIVES

2. Survey of Coast Lines

The coast from Uvdle to Cape Atholl and the coasts of Saunders Island, Wolstenholme Island, Eider Islands and Dalrymple Rock will be searched for debris. A suitable procedure has to be established.

Further surveys (e.g. of the northern coast of Wolstenholme Fjord) will depend on the wind conditions following the ice melting.