

Analysis from a trained Chemical Expert:

Yep. would have been pretty simple to neutralize the threats described below by containment / encapsulation. Might have required a few days effort, but definitely worth the cost. I wonder what genius decided to ignore the abnormally 'high' readings as an error? It's not surprising the uninitiated would refuse to believe it existed until they were neck deep in the stuff, and then try to down-play the mistake.

Yellow cake would read very hot and pose inhalation threats as well as contaminating everything it touched. Only a few people in the Army are certified to deal with un-encased, open radiation sources like that (I was one). That the Soviets would train with it is both outrageous and unremarkable - they always liked exposing their men to "real" combat conditions - it's why they had such high training casualties (and so many veterans with health issues they refused to acknowledge as "their responsibility"). Russians who advised caution in training were dismissed as alarmists and their careers were truncated.

Sorry, I didn't know about your cancer, or Dave's. I knew the Soviets were haphazard with the stuff, but did not know that the Pentagon would be so casual about it with our guys. A little engineer effort could have prevented most of that exposure and probably saved Dave. It's easy to see they didn't even check the place out - just sent you guys in without even basic precautions. I wouldn't occupy any former Soviet facility without checking for N, B or C contamination - they just didn't play well with others. You can find similar stories from former Soviet bloc states where they were forced to abandon bases: ripped out everything they could steal (even wiring and plumbing fixtures) and then trashed the place - soil and all. The Hungarians had a nightmare to clean up and I expect the Poles and Czechs could tell the same tales. They didn't make much of a stink about it because they were just glad to see them leave.

CLASSIFICATION:UNCLASSIFIED

I was talking with SES-2 Mr Curtis Bowling and his Staff. Mr Bowling is the lead for the OSD overseas environmental compliance and sustainability programs.

Is all this being tracked by MEDCON and the VA to ensure you all are taken care of properly?

-----Original Message-----

From:
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2012 12:56 PM
To:
Subject: FW: FW: K2 Uzbekistan/Base Camp (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

See below for some of the old info I had about K2. I forgot to ask you what kind of meeting were you in where they were discussing this? Was it a USACE thing?

----- Original Message -----
From:

To: Roberson, Robert N CSM USAR 63RD RRC <robie.roberson@usar.army.mil>; Lee, Susan COL USAR 63RD RRC <Susan.Glennlee@usar.army.mil>; Lund, Gene E Mr USAR 63RD RRC G4 <gene.lund@usar.army.mil>; Olson, Robert; Olson, Robert A COL USAR 311TH ESC <rob.olson@usar.army.mil>; Dennis, Ben H MAJ USAR 311TH ESC G1 <ben.dennis@usar.army.mil>
Cc: Canoll, David LTC USAR 63RD RRC <david.canoll@usar.army.mil>; Mogan, Steven H Mr USAR 63RD RRC <steven.mogan@usar.army.mil>
Sent: Tue Dec 30 17:26:01 2008
Subject: RE: K2 Ubeskistan/Base Camp (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

653rd Command team,
See below. The intent is to get this info to those soldiers who were with the 164th CSG in Uzbekistan at camp K2. The links provide additional medical info. Major Dennis assist 653rd with identifying any soldiers within 311th who were part of this lift or who we can contact in other units.

COL Young

-----Original Message-----

From: Roberson, Robert N CSM USAR 63RD RRC
Sent: Tuesday, December 30, 2008 4:44 PM
To: Lee, Susan COL USAR 63RD RRC; Young, John B COL USAR 311TH ESC; Lund, Gene E Mr USAR 63RD RRC G4
Cc: Canoll, David LTC USAR 63RD RRC; Mogan, Steven H Mr USAR 63RD RRC
Subject: Re: K2 Ubeskistan/Base Camp

HOOAH ma'am!!!

Just coming down the mountains. I'll ensure dissemination. I've also included CSM Lund.

Hope ALL enjoyed the Christmas Holidays, and have a safe New Year celebration.

CSM
PMA!!!
Sent via BB

----- Original Message -----

From: Lee, Susan COL USAR 63RD RRC
To: Young, John B COL USAR 311TH ESC
Cc: Canoll, David LTC USAR 63RD RRC; Roberson, Robert N CSM USAR 63RD RRC; Mogan, Steven H Mr USAR 63RD RRC
Sent: Tue Dec 30 18:41:03 2008
Subject: FW: K2 Ubeskistan/Base Camp

Below received from MG Casella asking that I pass it on. I have deleted some of the non-pertinent info.

COL Young please ensure message is transmitted to all members of the 164th that this effects.

CSM Roberson please assist.

VR
Susan G. Lee
COL, GS
Chief of Staff
(562) 795-2508

972-2508 (dsn)
(562) 795-2697 (SGS)
susan.glennlee@us.army.mil

----- Original Message -----

From: Lawrence Holland <lawrence.holland@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: Fw: K2 Ubeskastan/Base Camp

MG/BG/GO's can each of you work with your staff to see if you can get this information to the Members of the 164th CSG that went to K2 in May 2002 to Dec 2002? This is important for their current and future health.

They also have links to other web sites or POCs to call if they have questions.

To all I am working with the Defense health Board to get information on 3 other sites that had concern and USAR personnel may have been in the areas.

CSM(RET) Larry Holland

> From: Postlewaite, Craig, CIV, OASD(HA)/TMA

> These links provide information related to the environmental concerns
> at K2.

> If we need more detail we can get form CHPPM. Please let us know if
> we can assit further.

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> <http://www.pdhealth.mil/clinicians/downloads/CIS.02-09-09a.K-2-Provide>

> < <http://www.pdhealth.mil/clinicians/downloads/CIS.02-09-09a.K-2-Provid>

> e>

> r.pdf

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> <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/facility/khanabad.htm>

> < <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/facility/khanabad.htm>>

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> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Kilpatrick, Michael, SES, OASD(HA)

> > Subject: Re: K2 Ubeskastan/Base Camp

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> I know there were issues with the bunkers and the machines used to
> test inside them. Again, the details are fuzzy to me, but I'll get
> the specifics to you Monday when I can "touch" the documents. Concern

> was high, and I think some tools to measure for dangerous agents were
> not used properly and some erroneous results (measurements high) were
> recorded. It is then hard for troops to believe there was an error!
> We need results and comments from the folks who did the testing. We
> can get that and will provide it to you.

> -----

> Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld

>

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Lawrence Holland <lawrence.holland@sbcglobal.net>

> Subject: Re: K2 Ubeskastan/Base Camp

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> Sir, This is consistant with what I remember but we also had 2 CHIPPAN

> reviews and one was of the open water pound on the K2 Base itself. We
> also lived in the Jet Fighter Bunkers for sometime, without knowing it

> could be a problem. This was the Log base Camp and the Home of the
> 164th CSG and the other support Units.

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: "Kilpatrick, Michael, SES, OASD(HA)"

> Subject: Re: K2 Ubeskastan/Base Camp

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>> K2 was very early on. The base was at the site of a former Russian
base.

>> I'm not crystal clear on details, but will provide Monday the 29th.

>> When the US wanted to extend the area for housing, testing of soil

>> was done and intell was reviewed. Seems the Soviets had a chemical

>> training facility at the end of the airstrip and did vehicle decon

>> there. Soil testing did not reveal any persistent chem warfare

agents.

>> In digging down, though they did find some yellow-cake uranium

>> (initial step toward enrichment processing). The area was filled back

>> in, cordoned off and no housing was put there. The troops there at

>> the time had threat assessment briefings, but it didn't continue for

>> those coming after. I believe the Army Center for Health Promotion

>> and Preventive Medicine (CHPPM) should have all this on their web
site.

>> I'll

> send links Mon. Hope this answers the concern!

>> -----

>> Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld

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>> In the meeting with the DHB this past week some discussion from Dr.

>> Clements and other was about the Chippan study done for K2 UBK.

>> I was the base CSM for 30K Troops. None of my Units nor my records

>> ever received any information pertaining to what was found? How do I

>> get this and from Whom?

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