

"I have already said, that the nuclear-powered fleet is good, where it is difficult to bunker fuel. Three-four years without bunkering - this is good. Or let us remember the year 1984, when there was an early winter in the Arctic and a caravan of ships got stuck. Only the "Sibir'" and the "Arctic" could get it out, or else it would have perished. This alone justified the construction of powerful ice-breakers.

"The accident at Chernobyl' occurred as a result of an error of the maintenance personnel. The same thing could probably happen in the fleet, somebody could overlook something, could become confused, and...

"Could this lead to a Chernobyl'? It is necessary to state that very much depends on the personnel. The Americans, before the accident at Three Mile Island in 1979, had also given little attention to the human factors. Only afterward did they look at the role of the operator, because it was the operators who had brought the reactor to the emergency situation. In essence, Chernobyl' and Three Mile Island were accidents of the same order, only the consequences were different. There everything was limited by the extent of the protective shell, and in our case, due to the absence of a protective shell on the PBMK reactors, radiation was scattered over a rather large territory.

Thus, the Americans began to study man-machine interaction. They began to examine the arrangements of the panels, so that the information that was given to man was not in generalized form, but in detail, and only that information, which is necessary at a specific time. The modern panels require a very high level of qualifications, so that