

Communist Party of the Soviet Union
Kiev Oblast Committee of
the Ukrainian Communist Party
April 12, 1989

[to the] Central Committee of the CPSU

The Kyiv oblast committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine informs you that there has been an attempt to create a new independent organization, the so-called "Society of the Participants of the Elimination of the Consequences of the Accident at the Chernobyl NPS," uniting citizens of the USSR. in the city of Chernobyl of Kyiv oblast.

In the fall of 1988, an initiative group was formed at the production association "Kombinat" of the Ministry of Atomic Energy of the USSR for the establishment of a council for veterans of the elimination of the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl NPS. This group was headed by Grigory Fedorovich Lepin, born in 1931, a member of the CPSU, Doctor of technical sciences, who previously worked as a teacher at the Belarusian Polytechnic Institute, and who arrived at the Chernobyl power station in November of 1986 to participate in the elimination of the consequences of the accident. Since January of 1987 he worked as a head foreman of the decontamination department of the special enterprise 'Complex' of the production association "Kombinat" of the Ministry of Atomic Energy of the USSR.

Comrade G.F. Lepin was disciplined by the party three times before. In 1961, the Kramatorsk city committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine moved downgraded him from being member of the CPSU to being party candidate; in 1970 the same party committee expelled him from the ranks of the CPSU, and then reinstated his party membership by the decision of the Party Control Committee of the Central Committee of the CPSU with strict reprimand. In 1983 he was again expelled from the party by the party committee of the Belarusian Polytechnic Institute, and in October 1988, the Kyiv Regional Committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine reinstated his membership of the CPSU with a declaration of a reprimand recorded in his registration card- for violation of party discipline, which manifested in departure to a new place

of work without withdrawing from [local] party records and the demonstrated immaturity regarding the matter of membership in the CPSU.

In December of 1988, the party committee of the production association “Kombinat” considered the application of the initiative group about founding a council of veterans of the elimination of the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl NPS. In the adopted resolution, Comrade G.F. Lepin was advised to examine the possibility of establishing such councils in subsections of the production association “Kombinat.” Due to the fact that the party committee did not this issue seriously, did not monitor the fulfillment of the approved decision, the initiative group moved away from the idea of a volunteer council of veterans in the framework of the production association “Kombinat” and drew up the principles for founding the Society for the Participants of the Elimination of the Consequences of the Accident at the Chernobyl NPS.

On March 24, 1989, the draft Charter of the Society for the Participants of the Elimination of the Consequences of the Accident at the Chernobyl NPS was published in the local newspaper “Labor Watch” of the production association “Kombinat.” There also was an announcement about the up-coming founding conference of the Society on April 8th in the city of Chernobyl.

Analysis of the draft charter of the Society indicates that its members, while recognizing the leadership of the CPSU, are striving to obtain social benefits for citizens affected as a result of the accident at the Chernobyl NPS, to provide them all kinds of assistance in solving social welfare problems, and in improving medical care. With this aim in view, it intends to organize the registration of members of the Society and people affected as a result of the accident, to create a network of primary organizations on the industrial and territorial basis, not only in the 30-kilometer zone, but also in other regions of the country. The highest governing body of the Society is the conference, which convenes once a year in the city of Chernobyl or in Kyiv. In the period between conferences, the Society is led by a council, which exercises effective oversight of the effectiveness of the work to eliminate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl NPS, including oversight of the use of funds disbursed for these purposes.

On April 4, 1989, the bureau of the Slavutyich City Committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine, having considered the question of the establishment of the Society for the Participants of the Elimination of the Consequences of the Accident at the Chernobyl NPS, declared its creation inexpedient, due to the lack of support for this idea in the labor collectives, among the

communists and the public of the city of Slavutych and the Chernobyl NPS. Further, the Executive Committee of the Ivankiv District Council of People's Deputies did not authorize the holding of the founding conference of the Society on April 8th in the city of Chernobyl, due to the late receipt of the application. The conference did not take place on that day, no antisocial demonstrations were registered.

Secretary of the Oblast Committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine
G. Revenko

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Translated by Sarah Dunn for the National Security Archive

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