

Chernobyl Explosion

Pripyat is a city. It's in northern Ukraine. It used to have 50,000 people. But something bad happened. The Chernobyl nuclear power plant exploded. Workers messed up. They were testing how the plant would work if it lost power. They ran the plant at low power. They didn't follow safety rules. This made the power unstable. The power surged. Heat increased. Gas tubes blew up. Gas mixed with water. Water boiled. Steam exploded. Fire burned for 9 days.

This happened in 1986. **Radiation** was released into the air. This is bad energy. It's poisonous. Many people died. They were burned. They got sick.



Pripyat will be unsafe for at least 24,000 years.

