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World news

Global fears on nuclear safety

The Guardian, Saturday October 2 1999

Jonathan Watts in Tokaimura and Paul Brown

Nuclear powers around the world yesterday ordered safety checks on their own atomic plants in an attempt to reassure the public that a disaster similar to the one in Japan could not happen elsewhere. In Britain it emerged that, even before the accident, inspectors had been ordered into nuclear power stations, including Sellafield in Cumbria, because of fears that safety (...)

Nuclear powers around the...own atomic plants in an...before the accident, inspectors (...)

From the Guardian

Nuclear reaction

The Guardian, Saturday October 2 1999

The accident in Japan (Nuclear blast triggers crisis, October 1) illustrates again the dangers of nuclear power, particularly in countries where nuclear energy is intertwined with the development of nuclear arms. Significantly, Japan has recently changed its constitution to allow it to conform to US demands to modify its military status. Incidents in this country are of (...)

The accident in Japan (Nuclear blast triggers...of nuclear power, particularly in...from the plant. If (...)

World news

Assurances given little credence

The Guardian, Saturday October 2 1999

Martin Woollacott in Tokyo

The confusion and panic which marked the first hours after the Tokaimura nuclear accident yesterday gave way to bland official assurances that most of the area around the plant is now safe. But such promises are unlikely to calm the fears of ordinary Japanese or even sway more expert opinion. The uranium, even if it is no longer in a critical state, has been dealt with in a (...)

(...)the Tokaimura nuclear accident yesterday gave...around the plant is now...country's power. Tokaimura, (...)

World news

Political fallout deals blow to Sellafield

The Guardian, Saturday October 2 1999

Paul Brown, Environment Correspondent

The fallout from the Japanese nuclear disaster could severely damage British Nuclear Fuels' (BNFL) business interests and increase UK safety concerns that have already prompted a 13-strong inspection team to visit the Sellafield plant after a series of "incidents". Sellafield is Britain's biggest yen earner because of its reprocessing of spent fuel from Japanese reactors, but (...)

(...)the Japanese nuclear disaster could...the Sellafield plant after a...worst nuclear accident had come...to nuclear power in (...)

World news

The day they blew the roof off corners that led to critical mass

The Guardian, Saturday October 2 1999
Jonathan Watts in Tokaimura

Nobody knows what was going on in the minds of Hisashi Ouchi, Masato Shinohara and Yutaka Yokokawa when they made the childishly simple mistake that triggered the worst nuclear accident in Japanese history. When they turned up for work on Thursday morning, they were expecting a day like any other. Their small, private-run plant in Tokaimura was considered a relatively low (...)

(...)the worst nuclear accident in Japanese...private-run plant in Tokaimura...the huge power generators (...)

World news

Nuclear blast triggers crisis

The Guardian, Friday October 1 1999
Jonathan Watts in Tokyo and Paul Brown

The world's worst nuclear accident since Chernobyl rocked Japan yesterday after an explosion took place at a nuclear fuel plant, threatening 300,000 people living within a six-mile radius of the disaster. When the plant was evacuated radiation levels were reported 2km from the site to be 15,000 times the normal level. Early this morning the state's governor said that the (...)

(...)world's worst nuclear accident since Chernobyl rocked...a nuclear fuel plant, threatening (...)

World news

Japan nuclear accident sends three to hospital

guardian.co.uk, Thursday September 30 1999
Mark Tran

Japan's beleaguered nuclear power industry suffered another setback today after a radiation leak at a uranium-processing facility sent three workers to hospital. The latest nuclear mishap occurred in Tokaimura, 70 miles north-east of Tokyo. Three workers were hospitalised and local schools were ordered to keep their students indoors. Two of the three were nauseous and had (...)

(...)students inside. Accidents have plagued the Japanese nuclear power industry, undermining public faith in the security of the country's atomic plants. In (...)

World news

Japan's worst ever nuclear accident

guardian.co.uk, Thursday September 30 1999
Mark Tran and Sheila Pulham

Japan's worst nuclear accident ever today left three people critically ill, drove 150 others from their homes and shut down trains in a northeastern province after workers mistakenly set off an atomic reaction at a uranium-processing plant. The radiation leak, the latest in a series of nuclear accidents that have plagued Japan's nuclear industry, occurred in Tokaimura, 70 (...)

(...)in a nuclear accident. The workers had been mixing uranium with nitric acid to make fuel for a nuclear power plant. But they (...)

UK news

Japan launches inquiry into BNFL

The Guardian, Wednesday September 15 1999
Jonathan Watts in Tokyo and Paul Brown in London

The credibility of British Nuclear Fuels was called into question by its biggest customer yesterday as Japan launched an emergency investigation into the safety standards at the company's Sellafield plant. With a controversial nuclear shipment from the plant due to arrive in Japan next week, the inquiry could not come at a more embarrassing time for BNFL, Britain's biggest (...)

(...)credibility of British Nuclear Fuels was called...company's Sellafield plant. With a controversial...site," Kansai Electric Power company (KEPC) (...)

Environment

Renewable energy and you

guardian.co.uk, Friday September 10 1999
Casper Henderson

You don't have to live in treehouse with a solar panel on top or an earthen dwelling powered by a small wind generator to take part in Britain's renewable energy movement. Any of a dozen or more of the mainstream regional electricity companies will sell you "green" energy, generated from renewable sources such as wind power, directly through the National Grid (for details (...))

(...)renewable sources such as wind power, directly through the National Grid...from gas generation and from nuclear power. Nukes now supply (...)

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[World news](#) (137)

[Environment](#) (128)

[UK news](#) (111)

[Environment - Nuclear power](#) (111)

[Business](#) (97)

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