

NEEM 2007

SITREP no. 4, Sunday 22. July 2007.

This SITREP covers the period 16. July to 22. July, inclusive.

Movement of personnel:

No movement of personnel by air.

Movement of Cargo:

No movement of cargo by air.

Camp activities:

The heavy vehicles have been maintained. Both have got new main drive belts. Drilling equipment has been readied. The four heavy sledges have been loaded with traverse and NEEM equipment. All radar systems have been set up and work well. The only setback encountered was damage to the German radar antennas due to the power output from the Kansas radar. The antennas were exchanged.

Monday, two people on two snow mobiles set off to Summit (300 km away) to pick up a drum of engine oil for the tracked vehicles. They returned Tuesday after spending 15 hours on snow mobile. We thank our American colleagues for their kind assistance.

During the week there have been several issues with the setting up of the Kansas radar. Departure from NGRIP was delayed to insure good radar operation. This radar system is important for the site selection of the NEEM deep drilling site.

Friday at 5 PM the radar was operational.

Saturday at 18.15 the traverse departed NGRIP.

The traverse is organized in the following way: The center of the traverse consists of the two Flexmobil tracked vehicles with heavy sledges and a snowmobile with Nansen sledges and drilling equipment. The Kansas radar team drive a Toyota on Matrax with the antennae on a separate sled along a parallel line. One person drives a snow mobile with Nansen sledges for GPS strain net in the area around the traverse. The German radar team drives a snow mobile with Nansen sledges with an accumulation radar at least 10 km away from the Kansas radar.

All satellite teams report to the main traverse by satellite telephone on a regular schedule, and everybody sleeps in camp at night.

Sunday evening the traverse was 52 km from NGRIP. Due to the cold nights, the traverse will operate by day.

The NGRIP main dome has served the team well as shelter and power supply. The main generator has been running providing heat and power during the day. At departure, the main dome was sealed, and the Alpine snowmobiles and the Caterpillar placed in the old Lucht garage. A depot of 32 drums of Jet A-1 has been set on the old

NGRIP apron. An inventory of the garage was done before it was closed. This way, we have secured the assets at NGRIP in case the planned second traverse does not go to NGRIP this year. Alternatively, a traverse may go to NGRIP next year.

Scientific activities:

The GPS reference station at NGRIP has been taken down again.

Both radar teams and GPS strain net operate to satisfaction.

During the traverse the phone +8816 41439864 will be monitored most of the day.

Weather:

-5 C to - 21 C, in the beginning of the week overcast, later clear blue sky, little or no wind. visibility good, but some ice fog during night.

NEEM personnel at NGRIP: 0

NEEM personnel on traverse: 9

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