

NEEM - SITREP no. 4, Sunday 17 May 2009.

This SITREP covers the period May 11 - 17, 2009 (inclusive).

Movement of personnel:

- May 11: Anna Sturevik Storm (S), from CPH to SFJ by Air Greenland.
Louise Albershardt (US), Kristina Dahnert (US), from Schenectady to SFJ by 109th LC-130.
- May 12: Henry Rufli (CH), Mathias Bigler (CH), Simon Schüpbach (CH), Sepp Kipfstuhl (D), Christian Panton (DK), H.C. Steen-Larsen (DK), Marianne Benn (DK), Sigfus Johann Johnsen (DK), Bo Vinther (DK), Peter Sperlich (DK), Nobuhiko Azuma (J), from CPH to SFJ by Air Greenland.
- May 14: Hans Christian Florian (GRL) from NEEM to Thule to SFJ by the 109th.
- May 15: Hans Christian Florian (GRL) from Thule to Kangerlussuaq by 109th.
- May 16: Hans Christian Florian (GRL) from Kangerlussuaq to Nuuk by Air Greenland.

Movement of Cargo:

The following shipments have arrived in SFJ:

- 33 pieces, 1975 kg from Bern, AWB 117-23273062
- 02pieces, 19 kg from Cph, AWB 631.26200285
- 10pieces, 161 kg from Cph, AWB bill 631.26200296

Activities:

One of the main issues in the beginning of the week was to make ready the aircraft fuel pump and to prepare the skiway in order to have it upgraded to heavier loads. First arrival did not turn out satisfactory for the pilots but second and third was fine and the skiway was finally upgraded. During the week we had three 109th arriving, one with cargo and two with fuel, which means that we now have fuel for two months - that is all in all about 19.000 liter.

We received the new winch motor and winch control from last year and lowered it into the drill trench with crane. Firstly it did not work and it was discovered that it was due to three cracked resistors. After replacing the resistors and finding the right settings for the new motor the winch control worked.

Later on during the week the drillers performed a pull test to 1.8 tonnes with success. The winch worked and the drills attachment to the cable held.

After having cleaned the hole some 100 m down by removing debris from drilling last year, the first ice core was drilled on Friday. Drilling with the HT drill down to 102,35 m (~111 m below 2008 surface).

Monday the short HF radio and Yagi quarter wavelength antenna – 17m long - was set up.

Indoor shelves and tables were made for the kitchen and new water taps mounted. Also the laundry machine was installed and electrical supply to the main dome upgraded. Carpenter work was carried out in the drill trench as well.

Weather at NEEM:

Variable from overcast to blue sky, haze and fog, - 36 C to -8 C, 5-38 knots mainly from S and SSE to E. Visibility: 200 m – to unrestricted. Snow and blowing snow. Blizzard started Wednesday and strong winds dominant the rest of week.

NEEM camp population: 10.

Kangerlussuaq Activities: Busy week buying spare parts and goods in Kangerlussuaq and ordering from Cph. Sorting cargo and building pallets with goods to be sent by the next planes. First three field members arrived Monday and another ten on Tuesday. Departure was scheduled to Thursday; but due to weather and technical problems with the plane, the flight had to be postponed to Monday 18th of May.

Weather in Kangerlussuaq: (SFJ), in the beginning of the week rather cloudy and cold. End of week very sunny and high temperatures. Temperatures between +15 and -7 C and snow is now only to be seen on hill sides facing North.

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