

## **NEEM - SITREP no. 14, Sunday July 27, 2008.**

This SITREP covers the period July 21 – July 27, 2008 (inclusive).

### **Movement of personnel:**

- 21st July: Trine Dahl-Jensen(DK) and Thomas Stocker(CH) from CPH to SFJ by SAS/Air Greenland.
- 21<sup>st</sup> July: Sverrir Hilmarsson(IS), Lars Berg Larsen(DK) and Anders Svensson(DK) to NGRIP from NEEM by traverse.
- 23rd July: Trine Dahl-Jensen(DK), Thomas Stocker(CH), Jens Peter Rövekamp (CH-TV), Laurin Merz(CH-TV) and Ramon ORZA(CH-TV) from SFJ to NEEM by 109<sup>th</sup> LC-130.
- 23rd July: Dennis Vistisen(DK), Henrik Bundgaard(DK), Henning Thing(DK), Mark Curran(AUS) and Christian Morel(F) from NEEM to SFJ by 109<sup>th</sup> LC-130.
- 25<sup>th</sup> July: Dennis Vistisen(DK), Henrik Bundgaard(DK) and Christian Morel(F) from SFJ to CPH by SAS/Air Greenland.

### **Movement of Cargo:**

- 20<sup>th</sup> July: 500 kg food and 1100 kg Kansas radar equipment from Schenectady to SFJ by 109<sup>th</sup>.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> July: 300 kg spare parts from CPH to SFJ by Air Greenland
- 23<sup>rd</sup> July: 10,687 kg timber, drill fluid, Viessmann panels, spare parts from SFJ to NEEM by 109<sup>th</sup> LC-130.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> July: 900 kg pallets, ice core samples from NEEM to SFJ by 109<sup>th</sup> LC-130.

### **Camp Activities:**

Construction work has been going on in camp the whole week. A big move has been completed so that Garage 1 now serves as carpenters workshop and storage and Garage 2 is vehicle maintenance workshop. With the arrival of the final parts for the Viessmann cabins, the drillers workshop could be completed. The base for the deep drill has been installed and excavation of the 8 meter deep inclined trench has reached 5.5 meter. Both trenches are now receiving the finishing touches with cleaning out of excessive snow, and construction of the shelving system in the core storage is in progress. The main dome has running water with sinks, dishwasher, toilets and laundry machines working. Work in the main dome continues with the mounting of shelves and railings for stairs. On the dome exterior the rubber cover is being put into place as winds this week allowed for work on the outside.

Several vehicles received maintenance this week, including our Toyota which got a new set of Matrax belts. The Toyota is now ready to receive the Kansas radar group next week.

The traverse arrived at NGRIP on Monday at 13:30. They found everything in good condition. They used the NGRIP main dome as shelter and managed to start the old generator. On Thursday the traverse had loaded up fuel, vehicles and other items and began the return trip to NEEM on Friday. Sunday evening the traverse

was 50 km from NEEM, and they will arrive at NEEM Monday morning. Average cruising speed has been 12 km/h, both empty and laden.

### **Drilling:**

In the drill trench construction work for the installation of the main drill is in progress. At the firn air sampling sites, the DK shallow drill has been doing parallel drilling. The U.S. gas sampling program is completed: Hole/core depth 75 m. The European team continued sampling on Sunday at 75.75 m. A third core is being drilled to supply two other research programs with air/ice (Röckmann and Wagenbach)

### **Science:**

**The U.S. firn air program has been successfully completed, and the European program is close to completion.**

The shallow cores (S2, European hole) and (S3, U.S. hole) have been processed in the science trench. Both have been sampled at 2.5 cm resolution for stable isotopes. The ECM profiles have shown the 1783 AD Laki Eruption in both cores at 70.2 m and 70.6 m respectively. For comparison the Laki eruption was found in the NEEM main hole (S1) at 69.7 m and in the NEEM 2007 shallow core at 69.2 m.

The Seismic station set up in 2007 has been retrieved from the 3 m pit. It had recorded data from August 6, 2007 to October 5, 2007. Now the seismic station has been moved to a cage inside the science trench and restarted.

### **Weather:**

Weather all week has been windy, with winds at 6 – 12 m/s from SE and SW. Temperatures from -4 C to -17 C. Some days with overcast and snow, other days with blue sky. Considering the wind speeds, the amounts of drifting snow have been limited. The plane on Wednesday landed in rather strong winds, but the wind direction was along the skiway which was an advantage.

**Camp population:** 29, on traverse 3

In Kangerlussuaq, weather has been mostly dry and warm up to 18 C. But this last week we've had two days of rainy weather, which is the first rain in 50 days.

NEEM Field operations office,

Jørgen Peder Steffensen