NEEM - SITREP no. 11, Sunday 10. July 2011

This SITREP covers the period July 04 – July 10, 2011 (inclusive).

Movement of personnel:

- July 5 Erik Warming (DK) from Kangerlussuaq (SFJ) to Copenhagen (CPH) by Air Greenland.
- July 9 Her Majesty the Queen, His Royal Highness the Prince, Henning Fode, Christian Eugen-Olsen, Ane Vibeke Foss, Lars Anker Grunewald (all DK), Kuupik Kleist, Mikaela Engell, Niels Nyvang (all GL) from Thule Air Base to NEEM and from NEEM to Thule Air Base by Nordlandair.

Movement of cargo:

- July 4964 kg ice core boxes from Kangerlussuaq (SFJ) to LGGE (20 colli) by AirGreenland AWB 6310185 919 6 (AirCargo), and AirFrance AWB 057-5756 7576.
- July 5 Received 164 kg box with dead weights for drill, and delivered to Royal Danish Air Force (RDAF).
- July 6 Equipment for HMQ and HRHP and 7 other people, 120 kg of dead weights for drill moved from Kangerlussuaq (SFJ) to Thule Air Base with Royal Danish Air Force (RDAF) DA 168.
- July 7120 kg of dead weights moved from Thule Air Base to NEEM camp for airdrop over NEEM
Camp by RDAF DA168.
- July 08 Received 221.2 kg of cargo (11+4 colli) from Tokyo to Kangerlussuaq (SFJ) AWB 117-2659-3630 and AWB 117-2659-3626. 280 kg cargo (6 colli) with Picarro instruments from Kangerlussuaq (SFJ) to Copenhagen (CPH) by AirGreenland AWB 631 0185 933 6.

Activities:

This week has been an exciting week at NEEM with drilling in the deep borehole, an airdrop by the Danish Air Force, and finally the Royal visit on Saturday. The weather has been good in camp during the week, and the skiway has been thoroughly groomed. The camp had prepared the Royal visit in the weekend and were looking forward to receive Her Majesty the Queen, His Royal Highness the Prince, and their party. The weather changed towards the weekend, with snow and wind, and the visit was reduced to a three hour stay in the camp on Saturday. On Thursday, the Danish Air Force made an airdrop to the camp by two dead weights for the rock drill. The weights were delayed and did not make it at the late June flight, and were needed for the rock drill.

Skiway:

The skiway has been thoroughly groomed in order to remove the undulations and improve the skiway. Four working days has been used to groom in three rounds: zigzag grooming with beam, straight grooming with beam, straight grooming with thiller. The skiway is much better, undulations are reduced/gone and the skiway is hard and fine. It is ready for the flight period next week.

Drilling:

This week we started drilling in the deep hole with the 1 inch rock drill. The first core consisted of very coarse grain ice, and it was not clear whether it was refrozen water droplets or 'rotten' deep ice sheet ice. The second core drilled on Tuesday contained a bottom piece of very impurity rich ice that could be the layer we could not penetrate last year. Wednesday the Hans Tausen drill was used with new cutters, and a 37 cm core was drilled with several silty bands. The 1 inch borehole was seen in the upper 5-6 cm where the ice core came up in pieces. A second ice core of 37 cm was retrieved on Thursday. Friday the rock drill was lowered into the hole, but at the base the drill would not rotate due to high friction in the drill. At the surface it was clear that the bore hole was flooded with water to about 60 cm above the bottom of the hole. The camera has been lowered down for observations of the bed. The rock drill was tried again with one dead weight mounted, but no core was retrieved. It is possible that the drill is at the bedrock.

Loggers depth: 2538.10 m

Drilled this week: 74 cm of ice core.

Science:

The CFA team has been packing the equipment down. Water vapour has been measured by the PICARRO instrument at the water vapour station. Temperature measurements have been completed in the S1 borehole.

Weather at NEEM:

The weather this week has been clear but windy until the weekend. Saturday the weather changed to low clouds and increasing wind and later snow fall that continued Sunday.

Temperatures between -4 C (day) to -15 C (night) and wind speeds at 0-12 knots, increasing to 8-16 knots from SW to SSW on Sunday.

NEEM camp population: 16

NEEM iridium numbers:

Primary no.: +8816 777 04 766 Tel.: +299 84 11 51 Mobile: +299 52 41 25 Kangerlussuaq/SFJ iridium number: +8816 214 42402

Kangerlussuaq Activities:

Shipped cargo and ice boxes to Europe. Shipped polar equipment and cargo to Thule. Unpacked retro cargo from NEEM in last flight period. Packed clothes for DV visits and the Royal visit. Checked survival kits, checked tents and made list of needed supplements for both. Arrange airdrop over NEEM Camp with the Royal Danish Airforce. Ordered food for the coming flight period, and prepared for DV visit in the coming week. Small repair of the cooling system on the Ford.

Weather in Kangerlussuaq/SFJ:

Niice weather until the weekend. Sunny with temperatures up to 20 C, but from the weekend clouds and showers and temperatures at 15C. Mosquito level high to moderate.

NEEM Field Operations office, Christine Hvidberg and Bo Hvidberg