Dear B

Let me see what I have retained from the work we did yesterday on different types of nuclear power stations.

I seem to remember that we started off talking about early French nuclear stations but I do not recall how you described these technically. Maybe you actually skipped giving me any form of technical description. You certainly did say that this early French technology was less advanced than the pressurised water US system.

I do not think you went in detail into how the Russian disaster happened though you did say that Chernobyl happened because the technical people decided on an experiment which is something that should never be tried in a nuclear plant.

I do not have any clear recollection of to what this experiment consisted off.

Maybe at this point I had drifted off as I was very tired in late afternoon yesterday.

Much better today.

In the case of Three Mile Island the problem was that the pressurised water was leaking and no one realised where this was happening.....the result was that the primary cooling system largely drained without anybody being any the wiser.

The big plus from this catastrophic accident is that, since then, all nuclear plants worldwide have installed measurement gauges right round the primary cooling circuit. Hopefully this means that a similar accident is now highly unlikely.

Warmly yours,

Mario