Third mile island accident

Third mile island accident was a nuclear accident that took place in 1979. It was the worst nuclear accident that took place in the nuclear power industry in United States. The accident was a human based accident since it was due to negligence of the operators at the time the accident took place (Three Mile Island: A Nuclear Crisis in Historical Perspective, 2010). It began with the failure of a non-nuclear system. The system was a coolant and due to the generation of the excess heat the nuclear reactor air in the coolant began to escape. The operators at the plant did not recognize this anomaly until it was too late. The operators lacked enough training since one of the operators noticed the failure but thought it was caused by the excess pressure since he thought there was too much water in the coolant.

Failure of one of the reactors caused the disaster.
The nuclear accident led to release of radioactive elements to the atmosphere and these affected those around in detrimental ways. The response was immediate when the operators realized what had happened. Due to the emergency being declared, many people were evacuated from the surroundings and this led to the saving of many lives that were in peril. Reaction time was prompt and saved many lives. Due to the accident, many reforms were made in the nuclear industry to curb a repeat of the nuclear disaster. After the accident, there were numerous protests by activists that forced the government to relocate nuclear plants to places far from the neighborhoods. The INPO was also formed after the accident to avert a repeat of the accident. The institution aims at promoting the highest levels of security when dealing with nuclear reactors.
Hurricane Katrina

Hurricane Katrina was one of the deadliest hurricanes in human history and the most expensive in terms of injuries and loss of wealth that resulted. Close to two thousand people died in the hurricane and a cost of over one hundred billion US dollars (Tarshis, 2011). The hurricane originated in the Bahamas before it reached New Orleans and Florida. When the authorities noticed the possibility of danger, they alerted all residents but many people did not take caution of the warning. As it went through the Gulf of Mexico, it increased in surge due to the warm weather and reached to speeds that had not been experienced in decades. Most people at the shores were not prepared for a hurricane with that intensity. Houses were built without the thought that such a disaster would ever hit the cost. For this reason, many houses were swept to sea and suffering was witnessed by the locals to a great extent.

Satellite image of Hurricane Katrina on August 28, 2010. NOAA, NASA, SSEC.
The response was slow since evacuation of the hundreds of thousands of people who lived around the Coast was not possible. Death for many was therefore imminent as the hurricane hit the coast. The federal government was also reluctant to alert the local of the hurricane that would hit them (Daniels, Kettl, & Kunreut, 2010). They delayed since they thought the hurricane would pass over sea without hitting the coastline. Certain shelter systems have been made along the coastlines to avoid a repeat of the same. Emergency response teams have been trained not to make any assumptions of any kind if there is a danger that is out there at sea. Residents have also been educated that in terms of a disaster, they should leave behind their personal belongings as many people died while trying to salvage their personal items.

Katrina Floodwaters 10 days after the storm.
References

