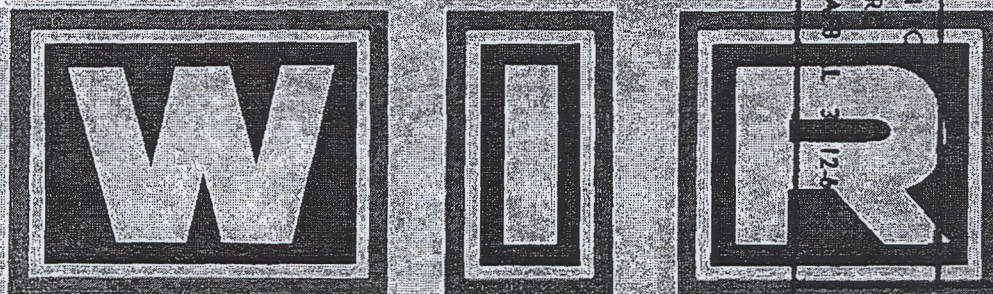


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Issue No. 20/65, 14 May 1965

## The WIR in Brief

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### Space

ORBITAL CHANGE OF MOLENYA 1 CONFIRMED BY SPASUR AND SPADATS  
Orbit slightly overcorrected. Inflight correction new for  
Soviets.  
COSMOS 66 THE SOVIETS' 5th PHOTORECCE SATELLITE FOR 1965  
Equipment for other missions may also be carried.  
LUNIK 5 IS SOVIETS' 14th MOON SHOT  
Analysis of event not possible at this writing.  
US's SAMOS TO BE SHOT DOWN EVENTUALLY, SAYS SOVIET AF CHIEF  
Says it will meet fate of U-2.

Portion identified  
as non-responsive  
to the appeal

NOTE: PAGES 22, 23, 26, 27, 30, 31, 34, 35, and 36 OF THIS ISSUE ARE BLANK.

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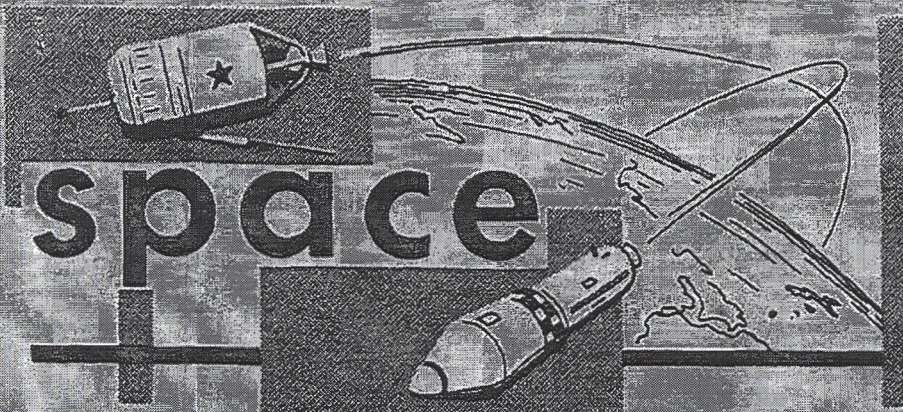
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significant  
intelligence  
on space  
developments  
and trends

#### Orbital Change of Molniya 1 Confirmed by SPASUR and SPADATS

The TASS announcement of 4 May that the Soviets had adjusted the orbit of their first communications satellite, Molniya 1, has been confirmed by SPADATS. The change appears to have been made at about 1110-1120Z, 2 May.

SPADATS radars failed to detect Molniya 1 on Revolutions 21 or 22, but the SPASUR fence registered a hit at 1130Z, on Orbit 22, some 27 minutes later than the predicted time. Using new look-angles derived from the SPASUR data, SPADATS radars reacquired Molniya on Revolution 25.

The Soviets may have overcorrected the orbit slightly. Molniya's original orbit had a period of 707 minutes; 11 minutes faster than optimum, the orbit was drifting eastward about 5 degrees per day. Now that the orbit has been changed to 720.55 minutes, it is drifting westward 1.4 degrees per day. The Soviets may, when the orbit reaches an optimum location, make another adjustment.

SPADATS' estimates of Molniya's orbital parameters:

|             | <u>New Orbit</u>             | <u>Original Orbit</u>        |
|-------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Inclination | 65.27 degrees                | 65 degrees                   |
| Period      | 720.55 minutes               | 707 minutes                  |
| Apogee      | 39,962.5 km<br>(22,000 n.m.) | 39,380 km<br>(21,265.2 n.m.) |
| Perigee     | 530.1 km<br>(286 n.m.)       | 500 km<br>(268.4 n.m.)       |

The relative success of the orbital change, though it was much less sophisticated than the maneuvers which the US used to put its Syncoms and Early Bird into synchronous orbits, may be something of an achievement for the Soviets. They may now be overcoming the difficulties which they have had in the past with in-space ignition of rocket staging.

(For more on Molniya, see last week's WIR.)

(SPADATS; SPASUR; TASS; NORAD)

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# Cosmos 66 the Soviets' 5th Photorecce Satellite for 1965

Cosmos 66, which the Soviets launched from Tyuratam at about 0850Z, 7 May, is believed to be a photoreconnaissance vehicle, as apparently were 4 other Cosmoses launched earlier this year (nos. 52, 59, 64, and 65). These vehicles may also carry other equipment for performing additional missions.

Orbital parameters as follows have been announced for this vehicle:

|             | By SPADATS               | By TASS                |
|-------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Inclination | 64.96 degrees            | 65 degrees             |
| Period      | 89.3 minutes             | 89.3 minutes           |
| Apogee      | 286.3 km<br>(154 n.m.)   | 291 km<br>(156.5 n.m.) |
| Perigee     | 197.8 km<br>(106.5 n.m.) | 197 km<br>(106 n.m.)   |

Cosmos 66 was launched by the SS-6 ICBM booster-sustainer and injected into orbit by the light Lunik upper stage. If events follow the pattern adhered to since mid-1964, Cosmos 66 will be de-orbited on 15 May after nearly 8 days in orbit, on Revolution 126, 127, or 128.

(SPADATS; TASS; NORAD)

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## Lunik 5 is the Soviets' 14th Moon Shot

The Soviets launched Lunik 5 from Tyuratam at about 0750Z, 9 May, in an announced attempt to soft-land an instrumented package on the Moon. This is the Soviets 14th known lunar launch.

An analysis of the event is not possible at this writing, for the WIR goes to press very briefly after Lunik 5 is scheduled to touch down on the Moon. (Such an analysis will appear in a future WIR.)

(SPADATS; TASS; various ELINT sensors; NORAD)

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## US's Samos to Be Shot Down Eventually, Says Soviet AF Chief

Marshal Vershinin, Commander-in-Chief of the Soviet Army Air Forces, became visibly upset in a recent discussion of





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the US's Samos satellite program with the US Army Attache in Moscow.

Vershinin declared that he knew full well that the Samos mission is one of "pure espionage" and said that the "fate of the U-2 awaits Samos in due time." He obviously was referring to the U-2 which was brought down over the USSR 5 years ago.

Possibly to add substance to his threat, he remarked that he had been living at Kubinka (35 miles west-southwest of Moscow) for the last two years while working on a special Air Forces "project." A large structure which may be a phased-array radar for detecting and tracking satellites and missiles was photographed near Kubinka in the spring of 1964. Given the CANUKUS nickname DOG HOUSE, this facility, which takes the shape of an inverted "V", is about 300 feet high and 300 feet long. (Photo on page 32.)

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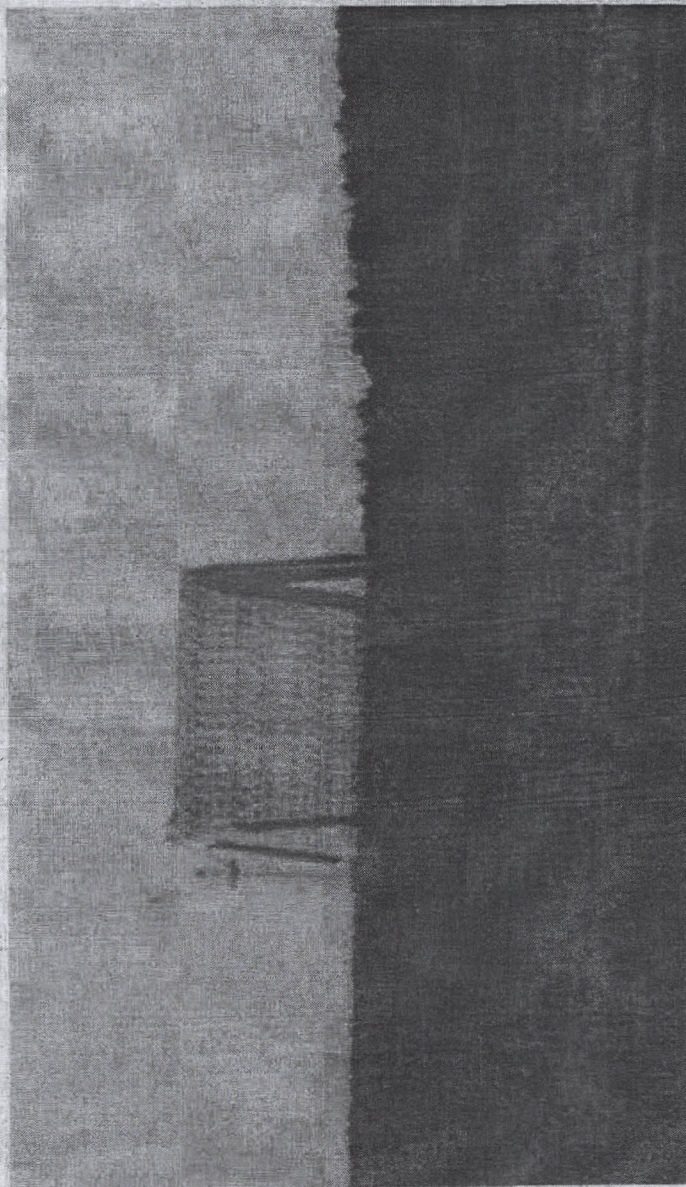
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DOG HOUSE



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