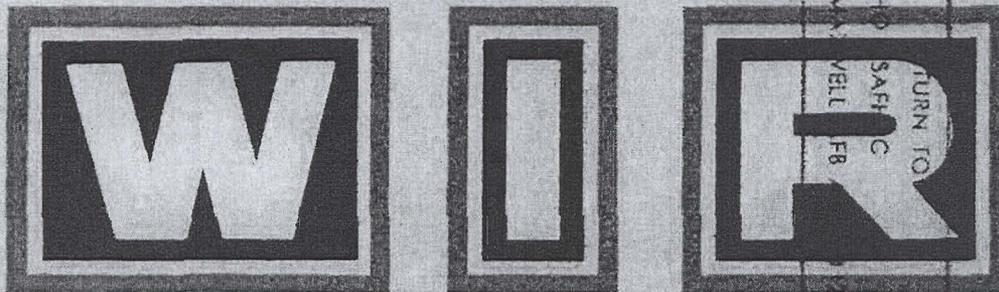




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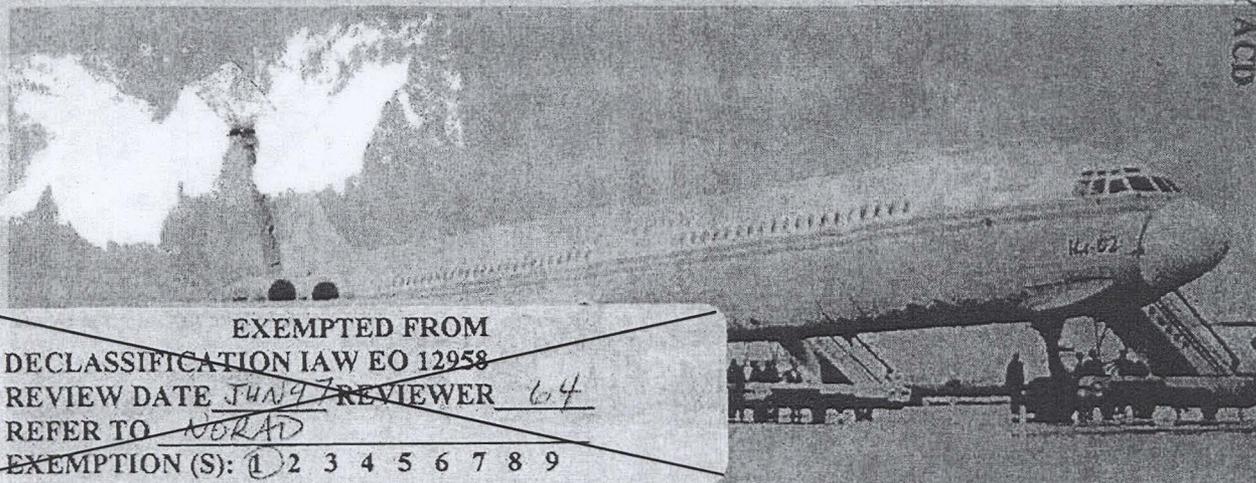
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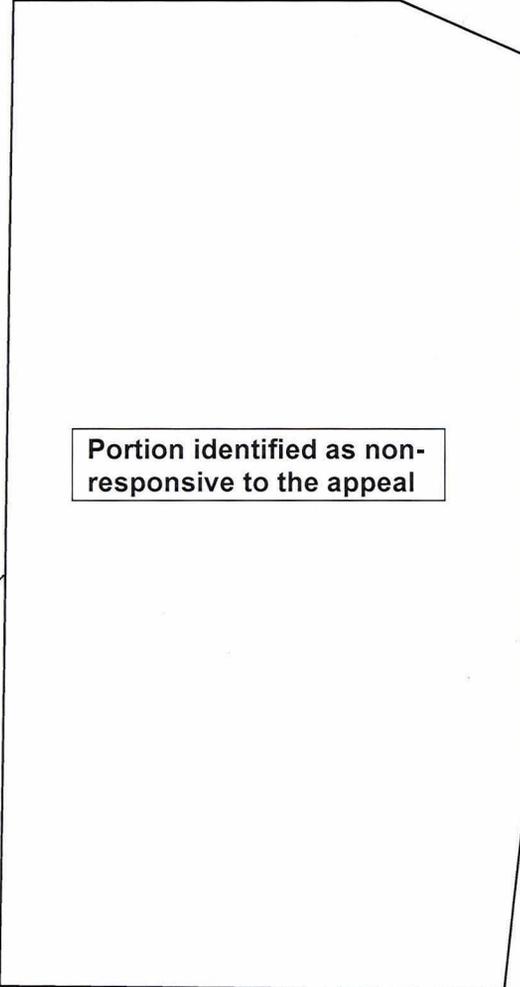
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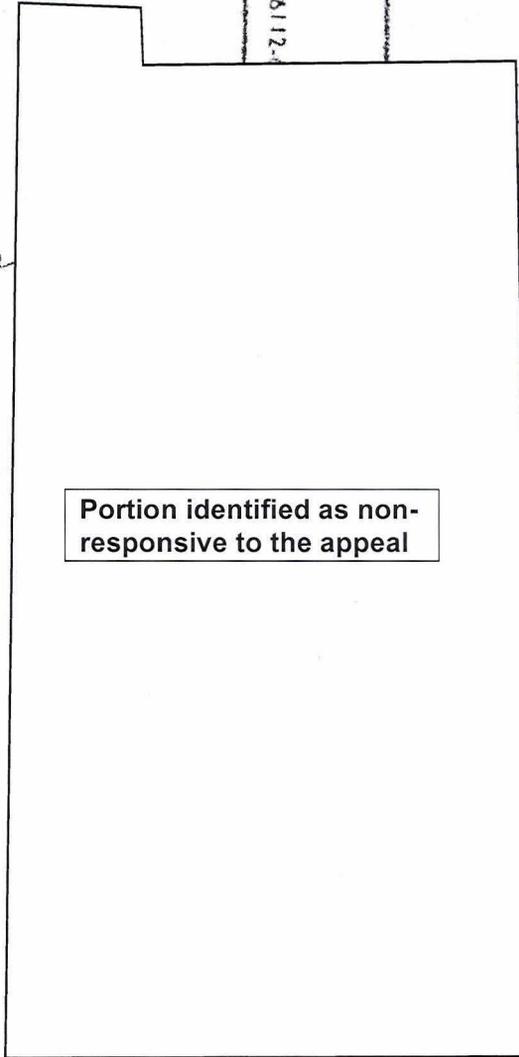
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The WIR in Brief



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Space

COSMOS 115 MAY BE A WEATHER SATELLITE OR PROTOTYPE

Orbit much like orbits of Cosmoses 41, 58, 100.

REGRE COSMOS 117 DE-ORBITED ROUTINELY On Rev 127, after nearly 8 days in orbit.

COVER: CLASSIC/IL-62 transport (from Interavia) (OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
NOTE: Pages 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 38, 39, 42, 43, 46, 47 and 48 of this issue are blank.

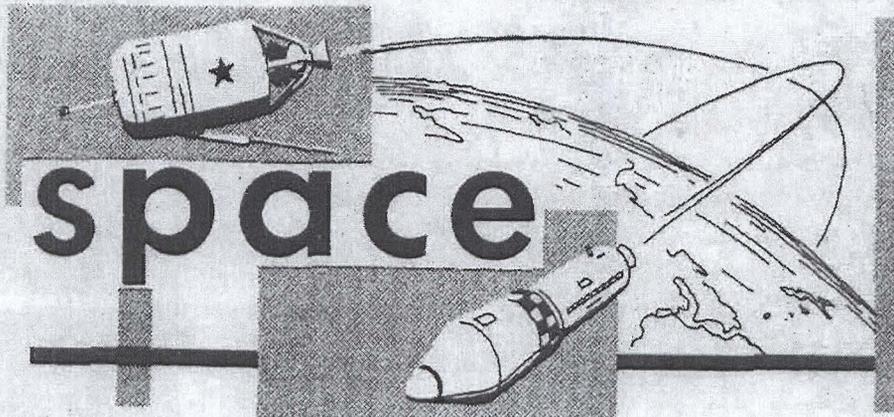
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significant
intelligence
on space
developments
and trends

Cosmos 118 May Be a Weather Satellite or Prototype

Cosmos 118, which the Soviets launched from Tyuratam at about 1410Z, 11 May, is tentatively assessed as a meteorological satellite or a prototype of one. It is in a fairly high, near-circular orbit -- parameters which would be expected of a weather satellite but which might also characterize some types of communications or research satellites. The launch of a Soviet meteorological satellite is somewhat overdue, the Soviets' having agreed last fall to launch one "within a few months" and exchange satellite-collected weather data with the U. S. (See p. 7, WIR 17/66.)

TASS said of Cosmos 118's mission only that the vehicle "carries scientific instrumentation to continue space research."

Orbital parameters of the new vehicle have been reported as follows by NORAD's Space Defenses Center:

Inclination	64.99 degrees
Period	97.13 minutes
Apogee	658.7 kilometers (356 n. m.)
Perigee	584.6 kilometers (316 n. m.)

Three previously launched Cosmoses (Nos. 44, 58, and 100) with similar orbital parameters are also believed to have been weather satellites or prototypes of such vehicles. They were launched 28 August 1964, 26 February 1965, and 17 December 1965. All were launched by SS-6 ICBMs and injected into orbit by Lunik-type third stages.

(NORAD)

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Recce Cosmos 117
De-Orbited Routinely

Cosmos 117, a reconnaissance satellite which the Soviets launched from Tyuratam at about 1059Z, 6 May 1966, was de-orbited on Revolution 127 on 14 May, after nearly 8 days in orbit. Time of impact in the USSR is believed to have been about 0831-0835Z.

(NORAD)

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