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ISCAP APPEAL NO. 2009-068, document no. 132
DECLASSIFICATION DATE: February 25, 2015

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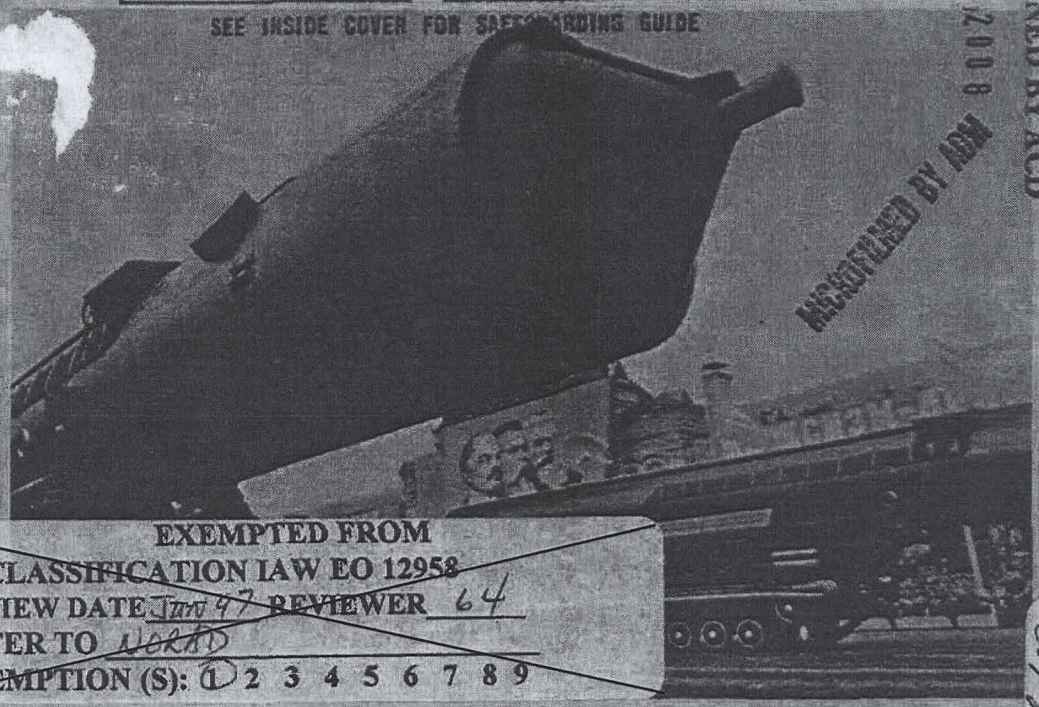

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Issue No. 25/66, 24 June 1966

The WIR in Brief

Portion identified as non-responsive to the appeal

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Space

RECCE SATELLITE COSMOS 120 DE-ORBITED ROUTINELY ON REV 128 — 11
After nearly 8 days in orbit.

COSMOS 121, MILITARY RECCE SATELLITE, LAUNCHED FROM PLESETSK — 11
3d space launch from Plesetsk ICBM Complex.

BIOSATELLITE COSMOS 110 LEFT IN ORBIT UNTIL LIFE-SUPPORT SYSTEM DETERIORATED — 12
Undesirable nighttime recovery probably forced on Soviets.

Portion identified as non-responsive to the appeal — 13

COVER: SCROOGE strategic missile (from Ogonek) (OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

NOTE: Pages 30, 31, 34, 35, 38, 39, 42, and 43 of this issue are blank.

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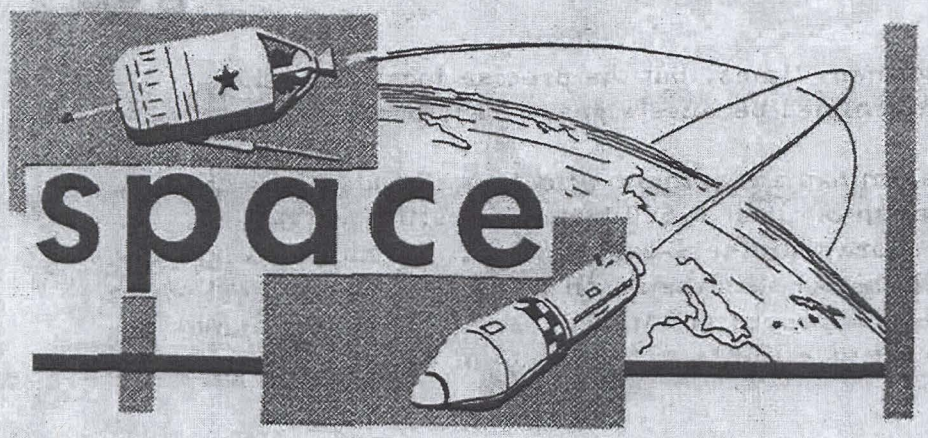

significant intelligence on space developments and trends

Recce Satellite Cosmos 120 De-orbited Routinely on Rev 128

Cosmos 120, military reconnaissance satellite which was launched from Tyuratam at about 1100Z, 08 June 1966, was de-orbited on 16 June, during Revolution 128, after spending 8 days in orbit. It crossed the Equator on an ascending pass at about 0916Z, 16 June, and probably impacted in the USSR at about 0931-0936Z. Almost all Soviet reconnaissance spacecraft launched in 1964, 1965, and 1966 have been de-orbited after 8 days in space.
(NORAD)
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Cosmos 121, Military Recce Satellite, Launched from Plesetsk

Cosmos 121, which was launched into orbit from the Plesetsk ICBM Complex at about 1100Z, 17 June, is believed to be a military reconnaissance satellite, the 11th launched this year, and the third launched from Plesetsk. Like the first two launched from Plesetsk (Cosmos 112 on 17 March, Cosmos 114 on 6 April), Cosmos 121 was injected into an orbit with an Equatorial inclination of about 72 degrees. Its time of launch, orbital parameters, and electronic emissions mark it as a military reconnaissance satellite which probably carries a camera system of high resolution (5-8 feet). If normal patterns prevail, Cosmos 121 will be de-orbited 25 June.
(NORAD)
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Biosatellite Cosmos 110 left in Orbit Until Life-Support System Deteriorated

When they launched Cosmos 110 and its two canine passengers on 22 February, the Soviets probably intended to de-orbit the craft only when some item of life-support supplies (food, water, oxygen) ran out, some part of the life-support system failed, or the success of the experiment was in some other way threatened.

The environmental control system was near the end of its useful life when the spacecraft was finally de-orbited on 16 March, 22 days after launch, [redacted] the dogs might not have lived much longer had the Soviets not terminated the flight when they did. [redacted] the oxygen concentration was marginal and decreasing rapidly, and that the carbon dioxide concentration was rising. The system monitoring the dogs' physical condition could no longer accurately portray the condition of the dogs on a real-time basis. For example, [redacted] the feeding of the dogs failed to indicate that the animals had received food or water during the last three days of the flight. Also, there were negative or low-quality signals from a majority of the physiological monitoring devices during the latter part of the flight.

Degradation of the life-support system probably forced the Soviets decision to execute the undesirable nighttime recovery of the spacecraft. However, this was done before any irreversible damage was done to the dogs.

(CIA)

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