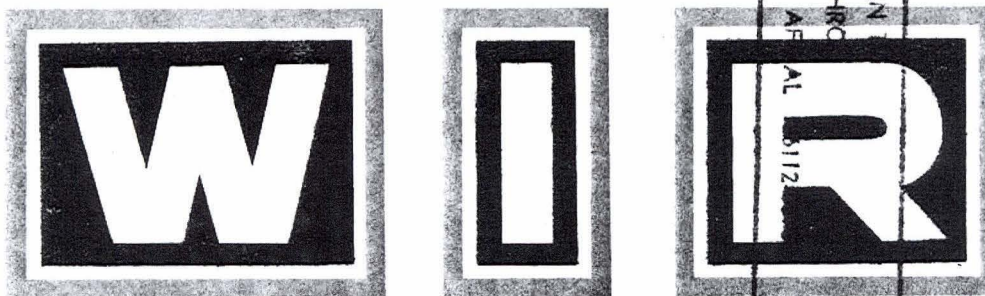




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NORTH AMERICAN AIR DEFENSE COMMAND



WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE REVIEW (U)

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Issue No. 5/67, 3 February 1967

The WIR in Brief

Portion identified as non-responsive to the appeal

Space

Portion identified as non-responsive to the appeal

RECCE SATELLITE COSMOS 138 DE-ORBITED
ROUTINELY
After 125 revolutions,
RV OF COSMOS 139, POSSIBLE ORBITAL BOMB
SYSTEM, MAY HAVE BEEN DE-ORBITED
Added objects appear after retro.

Portion identified as non-responsive to the appeal

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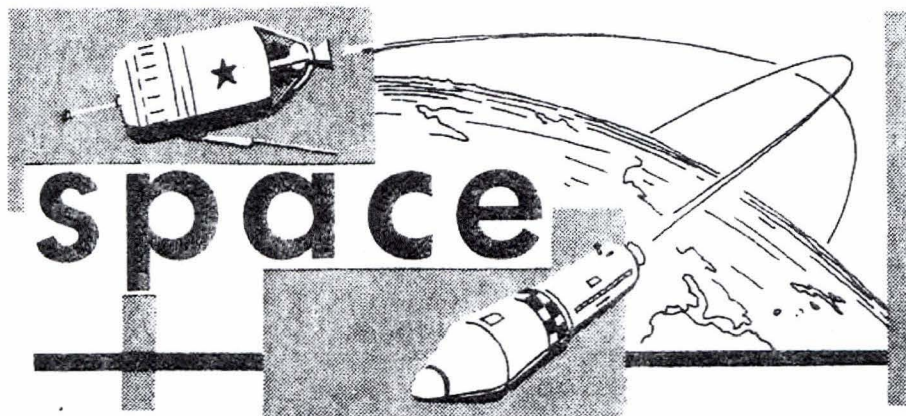
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significant
intelligence
on space
developments
and trends

Portion identified as non-
responsive to the appeal

Recce Satellite Cosmos 138 De-orbited Routinely

Cosmos 138, the Soviets' first military reconnaissance satellite of 1967, was de-orbited on 27 January during the early part of Rev 125, about 8 days after launch. It probably impacted in the USSR at about 0630Z.
(NORAD)

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RV of Cosmos 139, Possible Orbital Bomb System, May Have Been De-orbited

Radar data indicates that the payload of Cosmos 139, which the Soviets announced as a research satellite but is believed to have been a test of an orbital bombardment system, may have made a successful re-entry after completing one revolution around the Earth. The vehicle was launched from the Tyuratam Missile Test Range at about 1355Z, 25 January; retrofire occurred at about 1526Z (91 minutes later). Trajectory analysis indicates that the point of ballistic impact would have been in the vicinity of 48N-53E, that is, in an impact area for short-range ballistic missiles launched from the Kapustin Yar Missile Test Range.

A number of smaller objects seemed to separate from the payload toward the end of the RV (re-entry vehicle) track. These could have been objects produced by the separation of the retro package or they could have been terminal penetration aids.

It would thus appear that this test was successful, at least from the standpoint of launch and de-orbit. The two previous apparent tests of an orbital bombardment system to full orbital range failed when the payloads apparently exploded or disintegrated. Cosmos 139's orbit was unusually low. Parameters have been reported as follows:

	By TASS	By NORAD Space Defense Center
Orbital inclination	50 degrees	49.7 degrees
Period	-----	86.91 minutes
Apogee	210 kilometers	160.1 kilometers
Perigee	144 kilometers	123.5 kilometers

The propulsion system for this and preceding orbital bombardment tests was the SL-11, which consists of the 2-stage SS-9 ICBM and an added upper stage. The SS-11 launch vehicle, the retro package, and the re-entry vehicle have been designated the SS-X-6 system.

(NORAD)

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