[redacted]

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE
INTERAGENCY SECURITY CLASSIFICATION APPEALS PANEL,
E.O. 13526, SECTION 5.3(b)(3)

ISCAP APPEAL NO. 2009-068, document no. 215
DECLASSIFICATION DATE: May 14, 2015

~~SECRET~~ [redacted]

K410.607-233

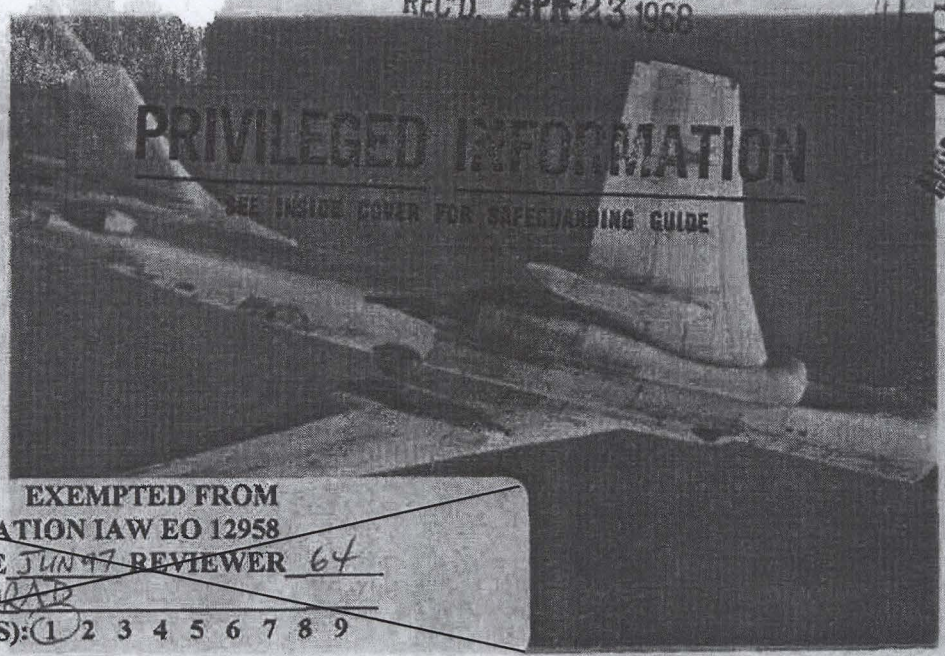
NORTH AMERICAN AIR DEFENSE COMMAND

WIR

WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE REVIEW (U)

RAND LIBRARY
REC'D. APR 23 1968

MICROFILMED BY ADM



~~EXEMPTED FROM~~
~~DECLASSIFICATION IAW EO 12958~~
~~REVIEW DATE JUN 97 REVIEWER 64~~
~~REFER TO NORAD~~
~~EXEMPTION (S): 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9~~

00880698

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

~~SECRET~~ [redacted]

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED
This document is releasable only
to U.S. and Canadian Nationals

~~EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC~~
~~REGRADING, DOD DIRECTIVE 5200.10~~
~~DOES NOT APPLY~~ Group 1

WIR 16/68
19 Apr 68

#16-68
19 April 1968
P.1

~~SECRET~~

NORAD—ADC Held Printing Plant
Ent AFB, Colorado

APR 22 1968
Postal Registry No. 251,252

[redacted]

[redacted]

SECRET

[redacted]

NORAD Weekly Intelligence Review

RETURN TO HQ USAFRC MAXWELL AFB AL 36112-6678

K410.607-233

Issue No. 16/68, 19 April 1968

The WIR in Brief

Portion identified as non-responsive to the appeal

Portion identified as non-responsive to the appeal

2

2

3

3

4

5

5

7

7

8

8

8

9

10

11

13

15

15

16

16

16

17

17

17

18

18

19

19

19

20

20

21

22

23

[redacted]

COSMOS 210 DE-ORBITED
Apparently impacted further east than usual.

THE SOVIETS MAY ATTEMPT A MARS LANDING IN 1969
Could include life detection devices.

SOVIET WEATHER SATELLITES REVIEWED
Data received in US from USSR is late.

NO FOBS TESTS CONDUCTED SINCE LAST OCTOBER
Previous pauses were associated with modifications to the system.

SOVIET SATELLITE TRACKING CAMERAS REPORTEDLY INSTALLED IN MALI AND THE ANTARCTIC
Soviets probably want to exchange tracking data with US.

POSSIBLE SOVIET MANNED SOYUZ FLIGHTS DURING 1968 ARE ASSESSED
Would probably involve rendezvous and docking.

LIST OF ACTIVE SOVIET SATELLITES
Further, more sophisticated, missions implied

COSMOS 212 and 213 RENDEZVOUS AND DOCK
Apparently is in preparation for manned flight.

Portion identified as non-responsive to the appeal

[redacted]

SOVIET OVERT INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION ACTIVITIES OUTLINED

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

COVER: BADGER A Bomber (Photo OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
Photo taken by F-106 interceptors of the Alaskan NORAD Region on 4 Apr 1968 (SECRET)

NOTE: Pages 26, 27, 30, 31, 34 and 35 of this issue are blank.

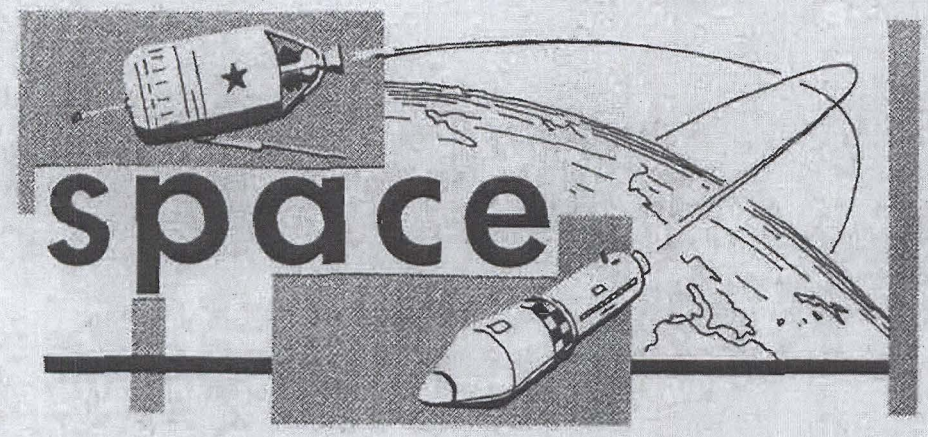
[redacted]

MICROFILMED BY ADM

SECRET

[redacted]

00880698



significant intelligence on space developments and trends

Cosmos 210 De-Orbited

Cosmos 210, the low resolution/ELINT collection satellite launched from Plesetsk on 3 April 1968, was deorbited on 11 April 1968 early on revolution 125.

The satellite crossed the equator at about 289 degrees West longitude and apparently impacted at about 0710Z in the general area of 5200N 07835E, a little farther east than the normal. This may be explained by the fact that this was the first time an 81-degree inclination was used for a photo reconnaissance satellite and thus may be the intended impact area for vehicles on this inclination.

(NORAD)

~~(SECRET~~ NO FOREIGN DISSEMINATION -- Releasable to US, UK & Canada)

The Soviets May Attempt a Mars Landing in 1969

The Soviets are reportedly planning a Mars landing in 1969 which will involve a "big, heavy package" including biological experiments. Such a mission would have to be launched in late 1968.

Comment: The Soviets could attempt to place a research package on Mars in 1969, using available scientific instrumentation and the SL-12 booster technology.

The physical experiments for such a Mars probe probably would consist of a package similar to the one used on the Venus-4 lander, including measurement of atmospheric composition, temperature, and pressure.

The biological experiments could involve one or more of the automated life detection and biochemical analysis devices known to be under development in the USSR.

If the Soviets successfully land a scientific package on Mars in 1969, this would put them at least three years ahead of the US target date for such a mission.

(CIA)

~~(SECRET)~~

Soviet Weather Satellites Reviewed

Cosmos 206 was launched on 14 March 1968 and according to the Soviets is part of their Meteor weather satellite system. The Soviets speak of now having three weather satellites in orbit, Cosmoses 144, 184, and 206.

Cosmos 206 is in an orbit similar to that of Cosmos 144 and follows it by about 20 minutes. This enables the Soviets to compare the weather furnished by each of these two satellites.

The first data from Cosmos 206 was received in Washington at 1313 EST on 18 March. The first pictures were received at 0430 EST on 19 March. The delay between the time the data is collected by the satellite and the time received in Washington continues to range from 9 to 30 hours. This does not meet the terms of the US-USSR bilateral agreement for the exchange of operational weather satellite data.

(CIA; NORAD)

~~(SECRET)~~

No FOBS Tests Conducted Since Last October

The Soviets have not conducted a Fractional Orbit Bombardment System (FOBS) test since 28 October 1967, the longest pause ever noted in the program. From July until 28 October, there had been roughly two tests per month.

The reason for this long pause in the FOBS test program is not known. Previous pauses have apparently been associated with modifications to the system.

The Soviets are not believed to have given up on the FOBS. They may be improving components or sub systems which will involve further testing or -- perhaps -- already have started the expected initial deployment.

(DIA; NORAD)

~~(SECRET~~ NO FOREIGN DISSEMINATION -- Releasable to US, UK, Can and Aus)

Soviet Satellite Tracking Cameras Reportedly Installed in Mali and the Antarctic

Cameras which compare favorably with the US Baker-Nunn camera have been installed at Soviet satellite tracking stations in Mali, in northwest Africa, and the Antarctic, according to a Soviet scientist.

Comment: The probable objective of such statements may be to impress the US with Soviet advances toward a world wide tracking capability so that the US could be persuaded to support Soviet proposals to exchange data with

the USSR which could be used to improve their world wide geodetic information.

Despite the Soviet claims, the USSR does not have a world wide net work of optical tracking stations equipped with a standard tracking camera. Their cameras are not capable of tracking faint satellites which are photographed routinely by the US and cooperating nations.

The proposed exchange would provide the USSR with more data than the US would receive from them. Such data is useful for refining geodetic information needed for ICBM targeting, particularly as ICBM accuracy improves.

(CIA; NORAD)

~~(CONFIDENTIAL)~~

Possible Soviet Manned Soyuz Flights During 1968 are Assessed

Analysis of the Soyuz life-support technology in combination with other capsule subsystems and the demonstrated automatic rendezvous and docking maneuver with this spacecraft, has established the potential capabilities of the Soyuz as a personnel ferry, a manned or unmanned resupply vehicle, and as an early manned orbital laboratory. Soviet manned spaceflight objectives indicated by literature, spokesmen, intelligence sources, and Soviet mission requirements indicated by unresolved biomedical and technological problems, suggest that the following manned Soyuz spaceflight events may occur during 1968.

- A short (1-5 days) Soyuz mission with a crew of up to 3 men (Spring).

- A longer Soyuz mission (possibly 10 days) involving extension of the earlier flight or a new flight. In the course of this mission the Soviets will rendezvous and dock another Soyuz (manned or unmanned) with the one already in orbit. The operation will include extravehicular activity and transfer of men from one spacecraft to the other. One Soyuz will return to earth after the transfer and well before the mission is terminated. (Spring-Summer)

- A 30-day or longer Soyuz flight with a 3 man crew. The major purpose of this mission will be to study potential psychological, physiological and work capacity problems during prolonged spaceflight. Complex extravehicular activities will be included. This mission also may involve a ferry and supply test flight by another (manned or unmanned) Soyuz spacecraft which will link with the first spacecraft for an extended period of time, or will return soon after discharging its cargo. (Summer-Fall)

Cosmoses 212 and 213, launched on 14 and 15 April respectively, appear to be reliability testing of automated docking systems and techniques in preparation for manned space flights.
(CIA; NORAD)
~~(SECRET)~~

List of Active Soviet Satellites

As of 15 April, there were fifteen active Soviet satellites.

NAME	MISSION	LAUNCH DATE
Cosmos 144	Meteorological	28 Feb 1967
Cosmos 156	Meteorological	27 Mar 1967
Molniya 5	Communications	24 May 1967
Molniya 6	Communications	03 Oct 1967
Molniya 7	Communications	22 Oct 1967
Cosmos 184	Meteorological	24 Oct 1967
Cosmos 192	Navigation	23 Nov 1967
Cosmos 200	Navigation	19 Jan 1968
Cosmos 203	Navigation	20 Feb 1968
Cosmos 204	Scientific	05 Mar 1968
Cosmos 206	Meteorological	13 Mar 1968
Cosmos 209	Maneuverable	22 Mar 1968
Cosmos 211	Scientific	09 Apr 1968
Cosmos 212	Check-out of Soyuz spacecraft	14 Apr 1968
Cosmos 213	Check-out of Soyuz spacecraft	15 Apr 1968

Note: Luna 14, launched on 7 April 1968, went into orbit around the Moon 3 days later. TASS announced the following orbital parameters:

Periselene	160 kilometers
Aposelene	870 kilometers
Period	160 minutes

The Soviets announced mission included the study of:

- The relationship between the masses of the earth and moon
- Moon's gravitational field, and
- Propagation and stability of radio signals transmitted from the earth and back.

This last item is considered particularly significant for the evaluation of command and control communication systems involved in future Soviet lunar missions, both manned and unmanned.
(NORAD)
~~(SECRET)~~

Cosmoses 212 and 213 Rendezvous and Dock

Cosmos 212, launched from Tyuratam at 1000Z on 14 April, rendezvoused and docked with Cosmos 213 the following day. Cosmos 213 was launched from Tyuratam at 0932Z on 15 April during the 16th orbit of Cosmos 212. The SL-4 launch system was used for both Soyuz type vehicles. The link-up lasted for about 2 1/2 revolutions, from 1021Z to 1411Z. Radar data tends to confirm the Soviet claims.

Both satellites were unmanned and the remote automatic docking techniques first noted on Cosmos 186/188 were used. The system places the active satellite (Cosmos 212 or 186) into orbit, then as it passes over Tyuratam, the target vehicle (Cosmos 213 or 188) is placed into a coplaner orbit within a few miles of the active vehicle. This close proximity permits relatively low power search systems to acquire the target vehicle. A special purpose computer in the active satellite then effects the rendezvous and docking.

Orbital parameters for both Cosmos 186/188 and 212/213 operations were similar, i.e., near circular orbits of several hundred kilometers, 52 degree inclinations and periods of about 89 minutes. "Round" orbits (eccentricity of near zero) are advantageous for rendezvous since the velocity then remains constant during the entire orbit.

During the Cosmos 186/188 operation, docking took place 3 days after the initial launch. In the Cosmos 212/213 event, only a day elapsed between the two launches.

There were several unique features of the Cosmos 212/213 operation:

- The Soviets announced the launch time of Cosmos 212 in addition to the usual wording of the TASS announcement. This is unprecedented.

- Cosmos 212 was slowly tumbling until about 48 minutes before the docking took place. This was probably an effort to save fuel for the Cosmos 212 engine and gas pressure for the stabilization jets used in the docking operation.

This docking and separation operation almost duplicates that of Cosmos 186/188 on 30 October 1967. This implies testing of the automatic techniques

and systems in preparation for a manned mission of this type.

Both Cosmoses 212 and 213 probably will be deorbitted as were Cosmoses 186 and 188.

(DIA; NORAD)

~~(SECRET~~ NO FOREIGN DISSEMINATION -- Releasable to US, UK, and Canada)