

1. USSR LAUNCHES SECOND SATELLITE

Comment on:

[redacted] Moscow radio announced on 3 November the successful launching of a second earth satellite, apparently again after completion of at least one complete orbit. The official announcement stated that the new satellite weighs about 1,120 pounds, is some 930 miles above the earth at the farthest point in its orbit, and is carrying a live dog and instrumentation for transmitting data. The new satellite is circling the globe about every hour and 42 minutes and has been noted transmitting on 20- and 40-megacycle frequencies like its predecessor.

[redacted]

The reported weight of the second satellite is by far its most significant military characteristic because of the propulsion capability required to place such a weight in orbit. Preliminary assessment indicates that such a rocket-launching system, if used in an ICBM, would be at least capable of delivering a 2,000-pound warhead a distance of 5,500 nautical miles.

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