

1. TYURA TAM ICBM/ESV RANGE RESUMES
PRACTICE ACTIVITY

Comment on:



The Tyura Tam - Klyuchi missile test range resumed practice activity on 23 and 24 November. Resumption of practice activity indicates probable preparations for another event, either an ICBM test or another satellite launching attempt.

Previous extensive practice activity started on 4 November--the day after the launching of Sputnik II--and ran through 10 November. This was followed on 13 and 14 November by KRUG direction-finding activity which ceased on 15 November.

The period of relative quiet following the extensive practice activities of 4-10 November and the KRUG practices of 13-14 November could have been caused by the delay or postponement of a scheduled ICBM/ESV flight test or by changes in range communications.

Judging by Soviet statements of the number (12-14) of satellites to be launched during the International Geophysical Year at the rate of about one per month, the orbiting of another earth satellite, possibly containing another animal, is considered more likely than an ICBM test. The timing of this event cannot yet be determined, but the attempt is likely to occur in the near future.

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