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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

STAFF MESSAGE BRANCH
INCOMING MESSAGE

AF IN : 23784 (14 Nov 63)

ACTION: JCS/DIA(CIIC)-2, DIA-25, XPD-3

INFO : JCS/J3-2, NMCC-2, RRA-1, JRG-2, JCS FILE-2 (11) CMC-8, OSD-15,
XOP-1, XOPX-4, XDC-1, NIN-1, ODC-1, SMB-1 (72)

pg 1 of 3

PE/trc

ZCHQA961ZCJJG859

OO RUEAHQ

ZFD RUWGALB

OO RUEAHQ RUEKC KEKVDA RUEKMJ RUEPDA RUEHC RUECW RUEPIA

DE RUWGALB 19D 13/2337Z

O 132316Z ZEX

FM CINCINORAD

TO RUEAHQ/JCS JRC

RUEKC/ANMCC

RUEKVA/NECPA

RUEKMJ/NEACP

RUEAHQ/DIA

RUEPDA/DA

RUEHC/DEPT OF STATE

RUEAHQ/CSAF

RUEAHQ/DIRNSA ~~///PROTECTED///~~

RUECW/CNO

RUKDAG/CINCAL

RUCSBR/CINCSAC

RULPC/USCINCSO

RUFLC/USCINCEUR

RUHPA/CINCPAC

RUCKHC/CINCLANT

RUCDSQ/AFSC FTD TD ARM FTD WPAFB OHIO

RUDLAU/CINCUSNAVEUR

RUECW/ONI

RUEPIA/CIA

BT

~~SECRET~~ FROM NITA-S X-660

DA PASS TO ACSI/DA. CSAF FOR AFNIE. DIRNSA FOR A41.

CIA. ATTN: OSI/BMSD. DEPT OF STATE FOR HOWARD WIEDMAN,

INR. DIA FOR DIAAP-3A3, ATTN: R.A. BAUMLER AND DIAAP-

AF1. ATTN: R.E. SCHMALTZ, ONI FOR OP922Y. THIS IS

NORAD FRAGMENTARY REPORT NUMBER 130-63. REFERENCE

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CASE FILE COPY

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EO 13526
by the Air Force Declassification Office
Date: 11-2-11 Reviewer: 72

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pg 2 of 3

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SICR #D-ACQ-03796. STATUS OF SPUTNIK 46, 1963-44A AND B, SPADATS OBJECTS NUMBER 687 AND 688. COSMOS 21 LAUNCHED FROM THE TYURATAM MISSILE TEST RANGE AT 0624Z ON 11 NOV (SPADATS DERIVED LAUNCH TIME). SPADATS OBJECT 688, IDENTIFIED AS THE INJECTION STAGE ROCKET BODY OF THIS LAUNCH, DECAYED BETWEEN 2210Z AND 2400Z ON 12 NOVEMBER 63. GOOD QUALITY RADAR SIGNATURE DATA WERE OBTAINED ON THIS OBJECT. THESE DATA INDICATE THAT OBJECT 688 MEASURED APPROXIMATELY 30 FEET IN LENGTH. IT WAS MADE UP OF THREE SECTIONS: A CYLINDER APPROXIMATELY 23 FEET LONG AND SEVEN FEET IN DIAMETER; A TRUNCATED 3 1/2 FOOT LONG TAPERED SECTION, TAPERING IN DIAMETER FROM SEVEN FEET TO 5 1/2 FEET; AND A FLARED SECTION, ON THE OPPOSITE END OF THE CYLINDER, MEASURING 3.3 FEET IN LENGTH. THIS ROCKET BODY TUMBLED WITH ITS TUMBLE RATE GRADUALLY INCREASING FROM 3.3 RPM ON REVOLUTION 5 TO 4.5 RPM AT TIME OF DECAY. SPADATS OBJECT 687, IDENTIFIED AS THE PAYLOAD, IS STILL IN ORBIT AS OF THIS WRITING (REVOLUTION 41 AT 1900Z ON 13 NOVEMBER). SPADATS ORBITAL PARAMETERS FOR OBJECT 687 AS OF REVOLUTION

36 WERE AS FOLLOWS:

INCLINATION: 64.76 DEGREES

NODAL PERIOD: 88.10 MINUTES

ECCENTRICITY: 00127

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AF IN : 23784 (14 Nov 63) pg 3 of 3

APOGEE: 187.55 KILOMETERS (101.27 NAUTICAL MILES)

PERIGEE: 170.9 KILOMETERS (91.2 NAUTICAL MILES)

RADAR SIGNATURE DATA INDICATES THAT OBJECT 687 POSSESSES A NUMBER OF IRREGULARITIES IN SHAPE AND STRUCTURE. IT APPEARS TO CARRY AT LEAST THREE ANTENNAE, AND PROBABLY HAS SURFACE DISCONTINUITIES AS WELL. ITS GENERAL CONFIGURATION APPEARS TO BE DRUM-SHAPED; IT IS ESTIMATED TO MEASURE ABOUT FOUR FEET IN DIAMETER AND FIVE FEET IN HEIGHT. DUE TO THE PROTRUSIONS AND SURFACE IRREGULARITIES, THE RADAR SIGNATURES WERE NOT INTERCEPTED FROM THE PAYLOAD SINCE THE ZERO REVOLUTION, WHICH SUGGESTS THAT THE PAYLOAD MAY NOT BE FUNCTIONING AS PLANNED. IN SUCH A CASE THE SOVIETS MAY BE UNABLE TO RECOVER IT. BASED ON THE ORBITAL PARAMETERS, IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THIS VEHICLE WILL DECAY NATURALLY WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. GP-1

BT

NOTE: ADV CY DEL TO DIA, NIN AND JCS.
CORRECTED COPY OF AFIN 22976 (14 Nov 63).

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EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC DOWNGRADING;
DOD DIR. 5825.10 EXEMPT NOT APPLY

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