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Folder Title:

USSR-Cosmos 1402

(January-February 1983 (1 of 2))

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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NSC: COUNTRY FILE

Withdrawer

KDB 12/11/2015

File Folder USSR - COSMOS 1402 (JANUARY 1983-FEBRUARY 1983)
(1)

FOIA

F03-002/5

Box Number 23

SKINNER

300

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
171222	REPORTS	RE COSMOS 1402 PAR 11/18/2013 CREST NLR-748-23-37-1-1	2	1/7/1983	B1
171223	REPORT	RE COSMOS 1402	1	1/8/1983	B1
171224	CABLE	101543Z JAN 83	1	1/10/1983	B1
171225	REPORT	RE COSMOS 1402	1	ND	B1
171226	CABLE	102037Z JAN 83	1	1/10/1983	B1
171227	REPORTS	RE COSMOS 1402 (EXCERPTS)	2	1/11/1983	B1
171228	CABLE	110200Z JAN 83 (INCL. COVER SHEET)	3	1/11/1983	B1

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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171229	REPORTS	RE COSMOS 1402 (INCL. COVER SHEET)	6	1/11/1983	B1
171230	CABLE	121519Z JAN 83	1	1/12/1983	B1
171231	CABLE	120130Z JAN 83	1	1/12/1983	B1
171233	REPORT	(PAGE 4 ONLY)	1	1/12/1983	B1
171232	REPORT	(PAGE 2 ONLY)	1	ND	B1
171234	CABLE	122100Z JAN 83	3	1/12/1983	B1
171235	REPORTS	RE COSMOS 1402	2	1/13/1983	B1

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ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
171236	CABLE	131540Z JAN 83 (EXCERPT)	2	1/13/1983	B1
171237	REPORT	FIFTH STATUS REPORT, COSMOS 1402 TASK FORCE	3	1/13/1983	B1
171238	REPORTS	RE COSMOS 1402	2	1/14/1983	B1
171239	CABLE	141706Z JAN 83	1	1/14/1983	B1
171240	REPORT	SIXTH STATUS REPORT, COSMOS 1402 TASK FORCE	3	1/14/1983	B1
171241	FORM	WASHFAX RECEIPT	1	1/15/1983	B1 B3
171242	CABLE	RE COSMOS 1402 R 4/8/2013 CREST NLR-748-23-37-21-9	3	1/15/1983	B1

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ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
171243	CABLE	161451Z JAN 83	1	1/16/1983	B1
171244	CABLE	MOSCOW 0600 R 4/8/2013 CREST NLR-748-23-37-23-7	4	1/17/1983	B1

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171223	REPORT RE COSMOS 1402	1	1/8/1983	B1

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BY: CSB MARA DATE 14/8/13

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DIA review completed.

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171224	CABLE 101543Z JAN 83	1	1/10/1983	B1

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171225	REPORT RE COSMOS 1402	1	ND	B1

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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171226	CABLE 102037Z JAN 83	1	1/10/1983	B1

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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171227	REPORTS RE COSMOS 1402 (EXCERPTS)	2	1/11/1983	B1

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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171228	CABLE 110200Z JAN 83 (INCL. COVER SHEET)	3	1/11/1983	B1

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171229 REPORTS

6 1/11/1983 B1

RE COSMOS 1402 (INCL. COVER SHEET)

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171230	CABLE	1	1/12/1983	B1
	121519Z JAN 83			

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	<i>Document Description</i>	<i>pages</i>		<i>tions</i>
171231	CABLE	1	1/12/1983	B1
	120130Z JAN 83			

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171233	REPORT (PAGE 4 ONLY)	1	1/12/1983	B1

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171232	REPORT (PAGE 2 ONLY)	1	ND	B1

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171234	CABLE	3	1/12/1983	B1
	122100Z JAN 83			

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171235	REPORTS RE COSMOS 1402	2	1/13/1983	B1

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USSR - COSMOS 1402 (JANUARY 1983-FEBRUARY 1983) (1)

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F03-002/5

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	<i>Document Description</i>	<i>pages</i>		<i>tions</i>

171236 CABLE

2 1/13/1983 B1

131540Z JAN 83 (EXCERPT)

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

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171237	REPORT FIFTH STATUS REPORT, COSMOS 1402 TASK FORCE	3	1/13/1983	B1

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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171238	REPORTS	2	1/14/1983	B1
	RE COSMOS 1402			

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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171239 CABLE

1 1/14/1983 B1

141706Z JAN 83

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]**
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]**
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171240	REPORT SIXTH STATUS REPORT, COSMOS 1402 TASK FORCE	3	1/14/1983	B1

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

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171241	FORM	1	1/15/1983	B1
	WASHFAX RECEIPT			B3

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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IMMEDIATE MOSCOW, ANATO, TOKYO

E.O. 12065: DECL: OADR

TAGS: TSPA, UR

SUBJECT: COSMOS 1402: SOVIET REPLY

REF: A. STATE 5558 (NOTAL)

1. SOVIET DCM BESSMERTNYKH JANUARY 14 CONVEYED SOVIET REPLY TO DEPARTMENT'S QUESTIONS REGARDING DECAY OF COSMOS 1402 (TEXT OF REPLY BELOW). NOT ALL QUESTIONS WERE ANSWERED, HOWEVER, SO WE ASKED THAT INFORMATION BE REVIEWED AND FURTHER DETAILS BE PROVIDED. IN REPLY TO SOVIET REQUEST, WE AGREED TO CONTINUE TO CONSULT. THEY ASKED FOR INFORMATION WE DEVELOP ON SATELLITE, WHICH WE PLAN TO PROVIDE.
2. COMMENT: IN COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS COSMOS INCIDENT, WE ARE IMPRESSED BY THE AMOUNT OF INFORMATION SOVIETS HAVE PROVIDED AND PROMPTNESS (FOR SOVIETS) OF THEIR RESPONSE. WE WILL BE INTERESTED AS WELL IN HOW SOVIETS DISCHARGE THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO INFORM OTHER COUNTRIES.
3. FOR MOSCOW: BEGINNING WITH DATA IN SEPTEL TODAY, YOU SHOULD PROVIDE SOVIETS WITH ORBITAL INFORMATION ON REGULAR BASIS, REFERRING TO THEIR JANUARY 14 REQUEST.

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4. FOR USNATO AND TOKYO: YOU SHOULD BRIEF ALLIES ON OUR EXCHANGE WITH SOVIETS, DRAWING ON REFTEL (BEING REPEATED) AND THIS MESSAGE.

5. TEXT OF SOVIET REPLY FOLLOWS:

AS HAS BEEN REPORTED BY TASS ON JANUARY 7, 1983, THE SOVIET SATELLITE COSMOS 1402 WITH A NUCLEAR POWER PLANT ON BOARD, ON COMPLETING ITS MISSION, HAS CEASED, ON COMMAND FROM THE EARTH, ACTIVE EXISTENCE ON DECEMBER 28, 1982. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REGULAR INTERNATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS THE SATELLITE WAS EQUIPPED WITH A SYSTEM MAKING IT POSSIBLE TO PUT ITS POWER PLANT INTO A BURIAL ORBIT AND A BACK-UP SYSTEM TO SEPARATE THE ACTIVE REACTOR CORE FOR ITS SUBSEQUENT COMBUSTION IN THE DENSE LAYERS OF THE ATMOSPHERE.

THE POWER PLANT, HOWEVER, FAILED TO MOVE INTO A BURIAL ORBIT. ACCORDING TO THE FLIGHT PROGRAM, THE BACK-UP SAFETY SYSTEM FRACTURED THE SATELLITE INTO THREE PIECES, ONE OF WHICH BURNT UP ON DECEMBER 30, 1982 ON ENTRY INTO THE DENSE LAYERS OF THE ATMOSPHERE. THE TWO REMAINING PIECES ARE THE BASIC PART OF THE SATELLITE'S STRUCTURE AND THE ACTIVE CORE OF THE REACTOR SEPARATED THEREFROM.

ACCORDING TO PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES THE BASIC PART OF THE SATELLITE STRUCTURE WILL ENTER THE DENSE LAYERS OF THE ATMOSPHERE IN LATE JANUARY, THE ACTIVE CORE REACTOR WILL DO SO IN MID FEBRUARY.

THE POWER PLANT OF THE SATELLITE INCLUDES A SMALL NUCLEAR REACTOR OF THE USUAL TYPE, WHOSE ACTIVE CORE IS AN ASSEMBLY OF URANIUM-BASED HEAT-GENERATING ELEMENTS ENRICHED WITH URANIUM-235. PRIOR TO THE FRAGMENTATION OF THE SATELLITE COSMOS 1402, THE REACTOR WAS TURNED OFF ON COMMAND FROM THE EARTH. AT THE PRESENT TIME THE RADIOACTIVE DECAY OF FISSION FUEL PRODUCTS HAS CHARACTERISTICS USUAL FOR HEAT-GENERATING ELEMENTS REMOVED FROM AN INOPERATIVE REACTOR. ON BURNING IN THE DENSE LAYERS OF THE ATMOSPHERE THE ACTIVE CORE OF THE REACTOR DISINTEGRATES INTO SMALL DISPERSION DEBRIS, WHICH IN CASE OF A FALLOUT WILL PRODUCE A RADIOACTIVE SITUATION WITHIN THE LIMITS RECOMMENDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL RADIOLOGICAL SAFETY COMMISSION.

THE BASIC STRUCTURAL MATERIAL OF THE SATELLITE IS STAINLESS STEEL. THERE ARE ELEMENTS CONTAINING BERYLLIUM.

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IF ANY ELEMENTS OF THE SATELLITE SURVIVE AFTER HAVING BEEN SUBJECTED TO AERODYNAMIC DRAG THE LEVEL OF OUTSIDE RADIATION PRODUCED BY THEM, WITHOUT PROLONGED DIRECT CONTACT, WILL PRESENT NO HAZARD TO PEOPLE OR THE ENVIRONMENT. ALSO, BECAUSE OF THEIR LOW CAPACITY TO BE DISSOLVED, THEIR ENTRY INTO FOOD CHAINS IS PRACTICALLY RULED OUT.

FOR 48 HOURS FOLLOWING THE SEPARATION OF THE SATELLITE INTO PIECES RADIO COMMUNICATION WAS MAINTAINED WITH THE BASIC PART OF ITS STRUCTURE, WHEREBY IT WAS CONFIRMED--FIRST, THAT THE REACTOR WAS ACTUALLY TURNED OFF, SECOND, THAT THE ACTIVE CORE WAS SEPARATED. FURTHER RADIO CONTACTS WITH THE SATELLITE'S PIECES ARE NOT CONTEMPLATED. AT THE PRESENT TIME THESE PIECES ARE BEING MONITORED TO FORECAST THE MOST PROBABLE TIME AND AREAS OF THEIR ENTRY INTO THE DENSE LAYERS OF THE ATMOSPHERE. THE SOVIET UNION INTENDS TO KEEP THE INTERESTED COUNTRIES INFORMED OF THE RESULTS OF THE SAID FORECASTS.

WE HOPE THAT THE U.S. SIDE, IN ITS TURN, WILL INFORM THE SOVIET SIDE OF THE RESULTS OF THE OBSERVATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THAT SATELLITE'S PIECES, CONDUCTED BY U.S. SPECIALISTS IN THE ZONE COVERED BY THE U.S. MONITORING SYSTEMS. 44

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171243 CABLE

1 1/16/1983 B1

161451Z JAN 83

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

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DIA FOR DB-1, DB-463; COMNAVINTCOM FOR NIC-03;
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CNO FOR OP-009; USCINCEUR FOR ECJ2-P; HQ ADCOM FOR J-20;
USAFECOIC FOR INRMH; FTD FOR NIIS; CINCUSNAVEUR FOR N2;
DIRNSA FOR T5321
E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: TSPA, SCSA, UR, US
SUBJECT: REENTRY OF SOVIET SATELLITE COSMOS 1402

1. (L) PRAVDA JANUARY 16 PROVIDED THE FIRST NEW SOVIET INFORMATION ON THE REENTRY OF THE SOVIET SATELLITE COSMOS 1402 SINCE THE PERFUNCTORY 7 JANUARY TASS RELEASE WHICH STATED EVERYTHING WAS UNDER CONTROL. BILLED AS "COSMOS 1402: OUR COMMENTARY," THE 750-WORD INTERVIEW WITH ACADEMICIAN OLEG M. BYELOTSYERKOVSKIY, DIRECTOR OF THE MOSCOW PHYSICO-TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, AND LEADING AUTHORITY IN THE FIELD OF COMPUTATIONAL AERODYNAMICS, SOUGHT TO ALLAY CONCERNS BY ASSURING READERS THAT ALL WAS BEING DONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS, AND IMPLYING THAT THE SOVIETS WEREN'T DOING ANYTHING DIFFERENT THAN THE U. S. WAS DOING. BYELOTSYERKOVSKIY STATED THAT "SPECIAL TECHNICAL MEASURES" HAD BEEN DEVELOPED (PRESUMABLY SINCE COSMOS 954) TO ENHANCE THE DISPERSION OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS FROM THE

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DTG: 171446Z JAN 83 PSN: 003335

NUCLEAR REACTOR, AND PROVIDED THE SOVIETS' FIRST TIMETABLE ON THE COSMOS 1402 REENTRY. THE INTERVIEW WITH BYELOTSYERKOVSKIY HAD BEEN BROADCAST ON SOVIET NATIONAL TELEVISION 15 JANUARY ON "VREMYA," THE EVENING NEWS, AND HAD BEEN THE SUBJECT OF A TASS RELEASE THAT SAME EVENING.

2. (U) DISCUSSING THE TIMING OF COSMOS 1402 EVENTS, BYELOTSYERKOVSKIY SAID: "ON 28 DECEMBER 1982, EQUIPPED WITH A SAFETY SYSTEM IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS, COSMOS 1402 COMPLETED ITS WORK PROGRAM AND, ON A COMMAND FROM EARTH, ENDED ITS ACTIVE EXISTENCE. A COMMAND FROM EARTH ACTIVATED A SYSTEM WHICH SHUT OFF THE REACTOR AND SPLIT THE SATELLITE INTO THREE FRAGMENTS, ONE OF WHICH BURNED UP ON 30 DECEMBER UPON REENTRY INTO THE DENSE LAYERS OF THE ATMOSPHERE. THE TWO REMAINING FRAGMENTS COMPRISE THE MAIN PART OF THE SATELLITE STRUCTURE AND THE FUEL CORE ("AKTIVNAYA ZONA") OF THE REACTOR SEPARATED FROM THE SATELLITE STRUCTURE. ACCORDING TO PRELIMINARY CALCULATIONS, THE MAIN PART OF THE SATELLITE STRUCTURE WILL REENTER THE DENSE LAYERS OF THE ATMOSPHERE IN THE LAST DAYS OF JANUARY, AND THE FUEL CORE IN MID-FEBRUARY OF THIS YEAR. THE EXTRACTION OF THE FUEL CORE WITH RADIOACTIVE PRODUCTS FROM THE REACTOR GUARANTEE THAT IT WILL BURN UP IN THE DENSE LAYERS OF THE ATMOSPHERE, AND THAT THE DISPERSAL OF THESE MATERIALS INTO FINELY-DISPERSED PARTICLES ("MYELKODISPYERSNIYE CHASTITSI") WHICH, IN THE EVENT THEY WERE TO FALLOUT, WOULD BE WITHIN THE LIMITS RECOMMENDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION."

3. (U) IN A FINAL PARAGRAPH (IN THE PRAVDA PIECE, BUT OMITTED FROM THE TASS RELEASE), BYELOTSYERKOVSKIY
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CIA WASHDC
SECDEF WASHDC
JCS WASHDC
NMCC WASHDC
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USAFEOIC FOR INRMH; FTD FOR NIIS; CINCUSNAVEUR FOR N2;
DIRNSA FOR T5321

STATES THAT "IN THE UNITED STATES, RADIOACTIVE ISO-
TOPES HAVE BEEN THE PREFERRED APPLICATION FOR SPACE
APPARATI, ALTHOUGH IN 1965 THE U. S. LAUNCHED A
SATELLITE INTO SPACE WHICH HAD A NUCLEAR REACTOR."
HE THEN DESCRIBES HOW RADIOISOTOPES DERIVED FROM
PLUTONIUM-238 ARE USED AS A SOURCE OF ENERGY,
AND CONCLUDES: "SEVERAL SPACE APPARATI WITH RADIO-
ISOTOPE GENERATORS WHICH WERE MADE IN THE USA ARE
CURRENTLY OPERATING IN SPACE."

4. ~~(C)~~ COMMENT: TO DATE, THE SOVIETS HAVE PROVIDED
NO DEFINITE INFORMATION ON COSMOS 1402, EITHER THROUGH
GOVERNMENTAL OR ACADEMIC CHANNELS, EITHER TO EMBASSY
MOSCOW OR, TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, TO ANY OF THE OTHER
DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS HERE, DESPITE REPEATED REQUESTS.
THE BYELOTSYERKOVSKIY INTERVIEW - SPARSE AS IT WAS ON
HARD DATA - CLEARLY WAS DESIGNED BOTH TO RESPOND TO
MOUNTING INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE AND TO PREPARE SOVIET

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DTG: 171446Z JAN 83 PSN: 003336

CITIZENS FOR ANTICIPATED NEGATIVE INTERNATIONAL REACTIONS BY ASSURING THEM THEIR GOVERNMENT WAS FOLLOWING INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS TO THE LETTER, AND NOT DOING ANYTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY. THE NEW INFORMATION PROVIDED CONSISTS OF AN ADMISSION THAT AT LEAST FINE PARTICLES OF THE REACTOR MAY FALL TO EARTH, AN APPARENT CLAIM THAT IT HAS BEEN REDESIGNED TO MINIMIZE THE DANGER OF FALLOUT, AND A PREDICTION THAT THE REENTRY OF THE FUEL CORE WILL BE IN MID-FEBRUARY.
HARTMAN
BT

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