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[REDACTED]
REPORT CLASS [REDACTED]
COUNTRY USSR
SUBJECT Soviet Submarine Accidents
(DCI: 1971-1973)

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]
DATE DISTR. [REDACTED]
REFERENCES: [REDACTED]

SOURCE [REDACTED]

Summary: This report provides information on several major accidents that occurred on Soviet Northern Fleet submarines between 1968 and 1972.

3 [REDACTED]
2 [REDACTED]
1 [REDACTED]

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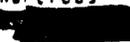
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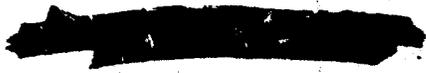
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Soviet Submarine Accidents

1. A Soviet nuclear-powered submarine from the Northern Fleet suffered a nuclear radiation accident while on patrol off the eastern coast of North America in December 1972. Standard operating policy for any nuclear radiation problem on board a submerged boat was to isolate the accident space from the rest of the submarine as soon as possible. In this case, the accident occurred in the spaces of the Mine-Torpedo Department (B/Ch-3) in the forward section of the submarine and involved nuclear radiation leakage from a nuclear torpedo. Doors were immediately secured in accordance with regulations and some crew members were trapped within the space where the nuclear radiation leakage occurred.



2.  numerous Soviet warships and aircraft participated in the operation.  At a speed of two to three knots, it required six weeks to tow the nuclear-powered submarine to Severomorsk, arriving there in February 1973. The crew members trapped in the forward space initially consumed dry rations that were permanently stored in the compartment, and later they received food through a small opening from the weather deck. Upon arrival at Severomorsk, crew members were permitted



[REDACTED]

to debark the submarine. Several men died shortly after the accident, others later, and the total dead from the accident was [REDACTED] personnel. The majority of submarine crew members suffered some form of radiation sickness.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

5. In 1968, the entire crew of 90 men perished when a Northern Fleet submarine failed to return to its homeport at Severomorsk. The submarine had been on patrol and its return was expected. Standard policy was for submarines to remain submerged until reaching Soviet territorial waters. After the submarine failed to arrive, authorities waited one or two days and then started a search. Divers found the submarine on the bottom of the estuary to Kolskiy Zaliv. When the submarine was recovered, it was determined that all food had been consumed and it was estimated the submarine had been at the location for 30 days.

[REDACTED]

6. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

7. [REDACTED]

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