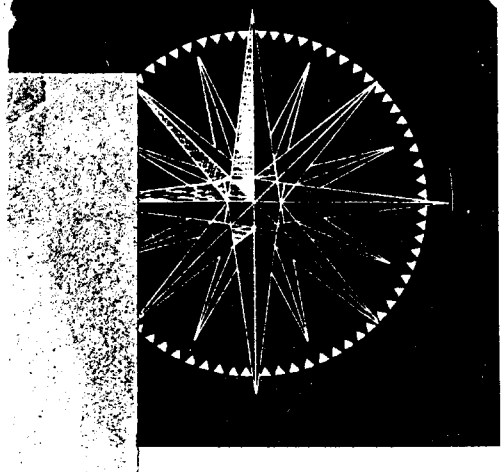
TOP SECRET



(b)(1)
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12 April 1963

[redacted]

WEEKLY REVIEW

OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

[redacted]

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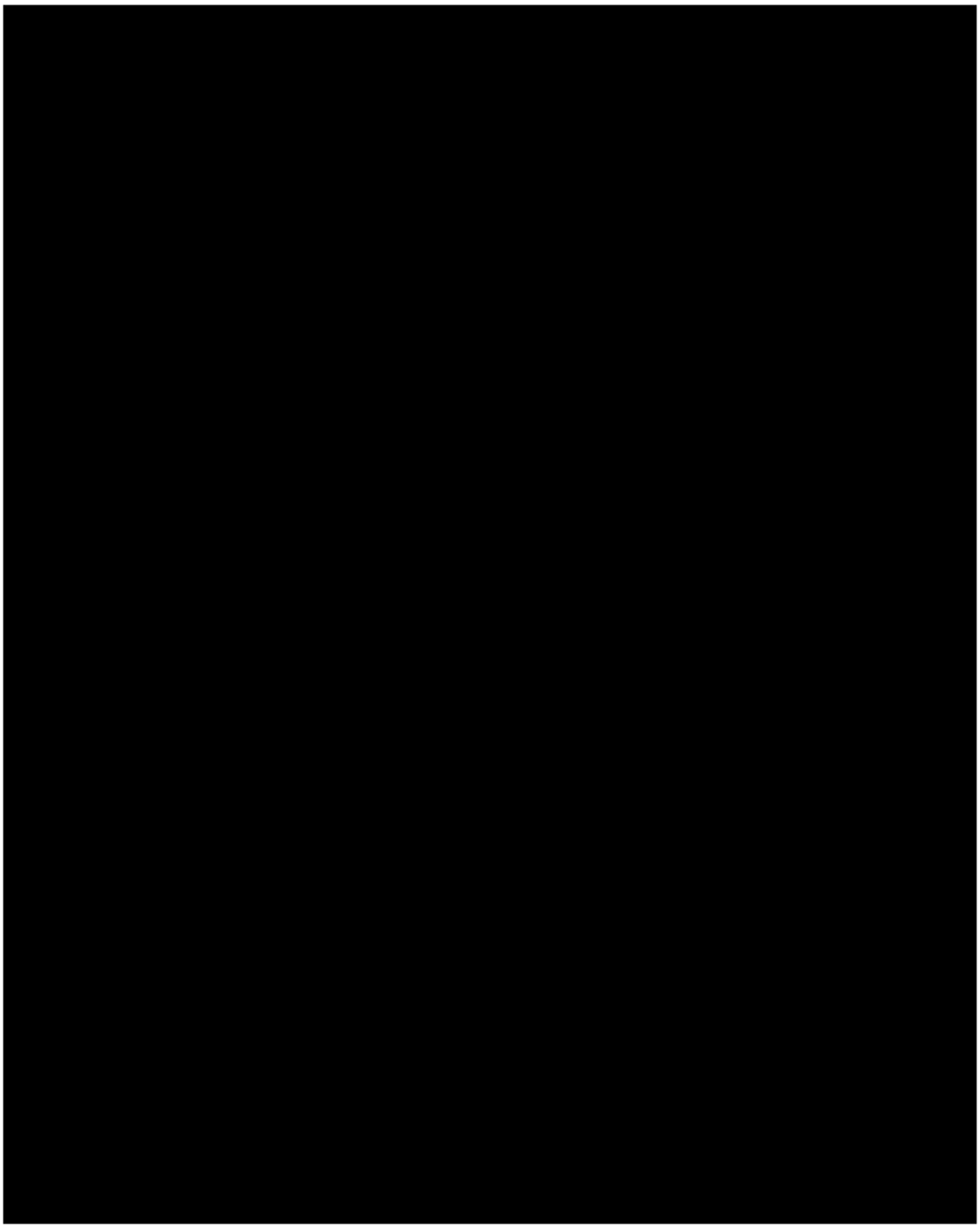

C O N T E N T S

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SOVIET LUNAR AND INTERPLANETARY OPERATIONS

TYPE	DATE	COMMENTS	TECHNIQUE AND LAUNCH SYSTEM
LUNAR	23 Sep 1958	Failure	Direct ascent. Basic launch vehicle SS-6 ICBM with one upper stage (3-stage launch system).
LUNAR	11 Oct 1958	Failure	
LUNAR	4 Dec 1958	Failure	
LUNIK I	2 Jan 1959	Failed to impact as intended. Went into solar orbit.	
LUNAR	18 Jun 1959	Failure	
LUNIK II	12 Sep 1959	Lunar impact	
LUNIK III	4 Oct 1959	Circumlunar with photos of far side of moon.	
LUNAR	15 Apr 1960	Failure	
LUNAR	16 Apr 1960	Failure	
MARS	10 Oct 1960	Failure	Parking orbit. Basic launch vehicle SS-6 ICBM with two upper stages (4-stage launch system).
MARS	14 Oct 1960	Failure	
VENUS	4 Feb 1961	Failure	
VENIK I	12 Feb 1961	Ejected into space trajectory. Probe communications failed	
VENUS	25 Aug 1962	Failure	
VENUS	1 Sep 1962	Failure	
VENUS	12 Sep 1962	Failure	
MARS	24 Oct 1962	Failure	
MARS I	1 Nov 1962	Ejected into Mars trajectory to reach vicinity in June 1963.	
MARS	4 Nov 1962	Failure	
LUNAR	4 Jan 1963	Failure	
LUNAR	3 Feb 1963	Failure	
LUNA IV	2 Apr 1963	Successful ejection; unacceptable trajectory.	

ANNOUNCED BY SOVIETS

[redacted]

SOVIET LUNAR AND INTERPLANETARY OPERATIONS

The USSR's Luna IV, launched on 2 April, failed in its mission to collect detailed new information on the surface of the moon. It was the twelfth Soviet lunar operation, the third attempted this year.

The vehicle approached no closer than about 5,300 miles from the moon, [redacted]

The Soviets announced a weight of 3,120 pounds for Luna IV. It is estimated that a vehicle of this size could have soft-landed an instrumented package of approximately 800 pounds on the moon, or put a package of about 1,750 pounds into orbit around the moon.

The Soviets' lunar operations began in the fall of 1958 with a series of six attempts to hit the moon. The first real success occurred in September 1959, when Lunik II impacted on the moon.

On 7 October 1959 Lunik III took pictures of the far side of the moon in one of the most remarkable successes of the Soviet space program.

The nine operations which made up the first phase of the Soviet lunar program used a direct ascent technique with payloads under 1,000 pounds. The propulsion system for all was the SS-6 ICBM with one additional upper stage.

Since the fall of 1960 the so-called parking orbit technique has been used for both lunar and interplanetary probes. Two upper stages were added to the basic ICBM--one to place the space vehicle into parking orbit around the earth, the other to power that portion of the vehicle that enters a trajectory toward the moon or planet. The system is capable of placing about 15,000 pounds into parking orbit for lunar and planetary missions.

[redacted]

The USSR's 1962 space ventures were plagued by failures to eject the vehicles from their parking orbits. [redacted] Of the six interplanetary attempts to reach Venus and Mars in 1962, only the probe launched toward Mars on 1 November appears to be successful. The first two lunar attempts to use the parking orbit technique, in January and February of this year, also failed [redacted]