

3 May 1956

~~SECRET~~

[Redacted]

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Additional Information for DGI Briefing of NSC on Earth Satellite Vehicles

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

1. As per request of AD/SI, actual quotations paraphrased in AD/SI memorandum of 10 April to DGI Special Assistant were collected by the Guided Missiles Division. On 2 May, an additional statement

[Redacted]

Sedov said "It is possible that the Soviet Union will not have its earth satellites ready for firing during the international geophysical year. He believes that the US has put itself on a spot by its optimistic statements." This latest information apparently contradicted two earlier statements attributed to Sedov

[Redacted]

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

2. The latest Sedov statement was called to the attention of the DGI, and it was pointed out that it could represent Soviet recognition of greater difficulties in the earth satellite project or that it could be a deliberate ploy intended to reduce pressure for haste in the U. S. program.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

[Redacted]

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

ERNEST J. ZILLNER
Deputy Chief, Collection Staff

Enclosure:

[Redacted]

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

Key Soviet Statements Re Earth Satellite Vehicle (Transmitted to DGI 9 May 1956)

[Redacted]

~~SECRET~~

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

Key Soviet Statements Re Earth Satellite Vehicle

1. August 1955: Professor L. I. Sedov, President of the Permanent Interagency Commission for Interplanetary Communications, Academy of Sciences.

"Sedov stated that the Soviets plan to put up satellite like the U. S. at about the same time and agreed that the Soviets felt it was possible to launch a large satellite as well as a small one."

[redacted] October 1955, [redacted]

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

"In my (Sedov) opinion it will be possible to launch an artificial earth satellite in the course of the next couple of years, and it is technically possible to create 'artificial satellites' varying in size and weight." TASS, 4 August 1955 [redacted]

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

2. August 1955: Major General (Professor) G. I. Pokrovsky, Doctor of Technical Sciences, reported to be a member of the Permanent Interagency Commission for Interplanetary Communications, and author of articles on earth satellite since 1944.

"Preparations for launching an artificial satellite were taking place in the USSR and that the preliminary stages in scientific research for making such a satellite had already been carried out."

IZVESTIA [redacted]

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

3. September 1955: Khrushchev [redacted]

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

"They (Soviets) were ahead of United States in preparation for space satellite and that United States conception of satellite

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

was little more than a guided missile for military purposes."

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

[Redacted]

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

4. January 1956: Major General (Professor) G. I. Pokrovsky,

Doctor of Technical Sciences and reported to be a member of the Permanent Interagency Commission for Interplanetary Communications.

"It will be possible to launch this year (1956) an artificial satellite which will revolve around the earth after having overcome the force of gravity." TRUD (LABOR) - Newspaper of the All Union Central Council of Trade Unions dated 2 January 1956

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

5. March 1956: Soviet Radio Broadcast on Interplanetary Travel

"The construction of a space satellite, automatically controlled from the earth, is being timed to coincide with the International Geophysical Year." 6 March 1956

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

5-8 February 1956:

Sedov also stated that "it is possible that the Soviet Union will not have its earth satellites ready for firing during the international geophysical year. He believes that the US has put itself on a spot by its optimistic statements."

[Redacted] 12 April 1956
[Redacted]

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

~~SECRET~~