

~~Top Secret~~ [redacted]

5 DECEMBER 1977

(b)(3)

STATUS OF SOVIET RORSAT

As of 28 November, there has been no significant change in the status of Cosmos 954, a radar ocean reconnaissance satellite (RORSAT)

[redacted]

(b)(3)

(b)(1)

As previous RORSATs terminated their missions, a portion of the vehicle (which we believe contains the nuclear reactor) was boosted from an altitude of about 140 nm to about 500 nm. This prevents the nuclear materials from reentering the atmosphere for over 500 years, well in excess of the half life of the estimated nuclear power supply. We believe that the RORSAT has a failsafe mechanism designed to start the sequence to boost the power supply into a higher orbit when certain criteria are met.

[redacted]

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

~~Top Secret~~ [redacted]

(b)(3)

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(b)(3)

(b)(3)
(b)(1)

~~Top Secret~~

(b)(3)