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Central Intelligence Agency



21 September 2012

Mr. John Greenewald, Jr.

Reference: F-2012-01843 / DIA #0201-2009

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

In the course of processing your 26 February 2009 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) for documents pertaining to Unidentified Flying Objects that have been created or released since your previous FOIA request, the DIA located CIA, Foreign Broadcast Information Service, and Open Source Center material and referred it to us on 25 July 2012 for review and direct response to you.

We reviewed the material and determined that 14 documents can be released in their entirety. Copies of the documents are enclosed.

We also determined that some material is currently and properly classified and must be denied in its entirety on the basis of FOIA exemptions (b)(1) and (b)(3). Exemption (b)(3) pertains to information exempt from disclosure by statute. The relevant statute is the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 U.S.C. § 403, as amended, e.g., Section 6, which exempts from the disclosure requirement information pertaining to the organization, functions, including those related to the protection of intelligence sources and methods, names, official titles, salaries, and numbers of personnel employed by the Agency. An explanation of exemptions is enclosed. As the CIA Information and Privacy Coordinator, I am the CIA official responsible for this determination. You have the right to appeal this response to the Agency Release Panel, in my care, within 45 days from the date of this letter. Please include the basis of your appeal.

Sincerely,

Michele Meeks

Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosures

Explanation of Exemptions

Freedom of Information Act:

- (b)(1) exempts from disclosure information currently and properly classified, pursuant to an Executive Order;
- (b)(2) exempts from disclosure information, which pertains solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of the Agency;
- (b)(3) exempts from disclosure information that another federal statute protects, provided that the other federal statute either requires that the matters be withheld, or establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld. The (b)(3) statutes upon which the CIA relies include, but are not limited to, the CIA Act of 1949;
- (b)(4) exempts from disclosure trade secrets and commercial or financial information that is obtained from a person and that is privileged or confidential;
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- (b)(7) exempts from disclosure information compiled for law enforcement purposes to the extent that the production of the information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings; (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication; (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy; (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential source or, in the case of information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source; (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law; or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger any individual's life or physical safety;
- (b)(8) exempts from disclosure information contained in reports or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, or on behalf of, or for use of an agency responsible for regulating or supervising financial institutions; and
- (b)(9) exempts from disclosure geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

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SECTION 1 OF 2

QQQQ

CITE OSC RESTON VA 251306

WARNING: TOPIC: INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, MILITARY, TECHNOLOGY

SERIAL: EUP20060616071005

/******** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *******/

BODY

COUNTRY: UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES

SUBJ: UK CURRENT AFFAIRS PROGRAM SPECULATES ON UK CONNECTION TO

US 'BLACK PROJECTS'

SOURCE: LONDON BBC TELEVISION TWO IN ENGLISH 2230 GMT 14 JUN 06 14 JUN 06- - LONDON BBC TELEVISION TWO IN ENGLISH -- SECOND CHANNEL OF THE PUBLICLY FUNDED BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION, BBC

TEXT:

("NEWSNIGHT" PROGRAM PRESENTED BY JEREMY PAXMAN)

(OSC TRANSCRIBED TEXT)

(PAXMAN) NOTHING GENERATES MORE CONSPIRACY THEORIES THAN UFOS, UNLESS IT'S TOP SECRET WEAPONS BEING DEVELOPED BY THE PENTAGON TO HELP THEM RULE THE WORLD. NOW, OUR MINISTRY OF DEFENSE (MOD) HAS JUST DECLASSIFIED A SECRET WORKING PAPER WHICH DEALS WITH WHAT THE AMERICANS CALL BLACK PROJECTS. THE MOD REPORT CONTAINS A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF BLANKED OUT PARAGRAPHS AND PHOTOS TO FEED WHAT IS ALREADY A RAVENING APPETITE IN THAT TWILIGHT ZONE. THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, IT SEEMS, KNOWS MORE THAN IT'S SAYING ABOUT WHAT THE AMERICANS ARE UP TO. LIZ MACKEAN INVESTIGATES:

(MACKEAN - VOICE OVER RECORDED VIDEO, STARTING WITH MUSIC FROM "THE TWILIGHT ZONE" AND SHOWING VARIOUS OBJECTS FLYING THROUGH SPACE) OUT THERE IS A WORLD WHERE FACT AND FICTION COLLIDE. WHERE STRAIGHT QUESTIONS HIT A STONE WALL, AND WHERE OFFICIAL DENIALS ARE TREATED AS CONFIRMATION. IT'S A WORLD WHERE PEOPLE BELIEVE THAT SOMEONE. SOMEWHERE IS UP TO SOMETHING: UFOS HOVER OVERHEAD WHILE STRANGE AIRPLANES SCREAM ACROSS THE SKY. THIS WORLD IS DENSELY POPLULATED. TYPE "AURORA SPY PLANE" INTO GOOGLE AND YOU GET NEARLY 200,000 HITS, ALL FOR A PLANE THAT OFFICIALLY DOESN'T EXIST. IT READS LIKE THE STUFF OF SCIENCE FICTION: HYPERSONIC CRAFT, CAPABLE OF SPEEDS OF MORE THAN 3,500 MILES AN HOUR, THAT WOULDN'T SHOW UP ON MOST RADAR SCREENS. EASY FOR THE RATIONAL CLASSES TO DISMISS, BUT THEN OTHER, WILD REPORTS HAVE TURNED OUT TO BE TRUE. (VIDEO SHOWS U-2 PLANE IN FLIGHT, THEN PHOTO OF GARY POWERS STANDING BESIDE A PLANE) NO ONE THOUGHT THE U-2 SPY PLANE EXISTED UNTIL ONE WAS SHOT DOWN OVER THE SOVIET UNION. ITS PILOT, GARY POWERS, WAS ARRESTED, AND THE INCIDENT PLUNGED THE COLD WAR INTO NEW LOWS. THE 2,000.MILE AN HOUR BLACKBIRD WAS ALSO DEVELOPED, FUNDED, AND FLOWN IN COMPLETE SECRECY.

(BILL SWEETMAN, "JANE'S DEFENSE REVIEW") THE US BLACK BUDGET IS SIMPLY ENORMOUS. IT IS WELL ABOVE \$30 BILLION ANNUALLY. IT INCLUDES PRETTY WELL EVERYTHING THE US DOES IN TERMS OF INTELLIGENCE, IN TERMS OF CLANDESTINE MILITARY OPERATIONS. IT'S ACTUALLY VERY HARD TO SAY, YOU KNOW, HOW MUCH OF THAT IS SPENT ON DEVELOPING SECRET WEAPONS. BUT CLEARLY EVEN A SMALL FRACTION OF THAT WOULD PAY FOR A VERY LARGE NUMBER OF SUBSTANTIALLY SIZED PROGRAMS.

(MACKEAN - VOICE OVER VIDEO INCLUDING LONG DISTANCE SHOTS OF A MILITARY AIR BASE) SOME OF THEM ARE BEING DEVELOPED IN THE FORBIDDING NEVADA DESERT. THE FACILITY AT **GROOM LAKE** -- KNOWN IN THE US AIR FORCE AS **AREA** 51 -- HAS UNDERGONE A HUGE

REFURBISHMENT, FUELING RUMORS THAT AN EVEN FASTER, MORE UNDETECTABLE AIRCRAFT IS IN DEVELOPMENT. THE NIGHT HAWK STEALTH FIGHTER FLEW OUT OF HERE IN SECRET FOR 10 YEARS. (VIDEO SHOWS A PLANE PULLING OUT OF A HANGER) ACTIVITY IN THE AREA HAS GIVEN RISE TO A UFO INDUSTRY. THERE'VE BEEN REPORTS OF ODD SIGHTINGS AND DISTURBANCES, AND NOT JUST FROM THE FAITHFUL. SCIENTISTS OF THE US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY HAVE PAINSTAKINGLY DOCUMENTED EVENTS LIKE STRANGE SONIC BOOMS, SO POWERFUL THEY'VE BEEN PICKED UP BY EARTHQUAKE MONITORS.

IN THE HUMDRUM UNIVERSE OCCUPIED BY OUR MOD, UFOS DON'T EXIST. THEY'RE KNOWN INSTEAD AS UNEXPLAINED AERIAL PHENOMENA -- AND THEY STILL DON'T EXIST. IN A RECENTLY DECLASSIFIED REPORT, INTELLIGENCE STAFF REFERRED TO BLACK PROJECTS, OR COVERT AIRCRAFT PROGRAMS. THEY LIST THREE OF THEM, INCLUDING THE SR-71 BLACKBIRD PROGRAM. THE OTHERS ARE SO SENSITIVE THEY CAN'T EVEN BE NAMED.

(SWEETMAN) WHAT THE REPORT TELLS US IS THAT WHEN IT WAS PUT TOGETHER, THERE WERE PEOPLE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE WHO CERTAINLY SUSPECTED -- PERHAPS KNEW -- THAT THERE WERE A COUPLE OF SPECIFIC BLACK US PROGRAMS OPERATING OUT OF UK BASES.

(MACKEAN) RUMORS CENTER ON AURORA, THE REPORTED QUEST FOR A HYPERSONIC AIRCRAFT THAT COULD SECRETLY TAKE US INTELLIGENCE INTO AREAS WHERE IT'S STRICTLY OFF THE GUEST LIST. THE MOD REFERS TO JUST SUCH A PROJECT, A PRIORITY PLAN TO DEVELOP AN AIRCRAFT CAPABLE OF AURORA-LIKE PERFORMANCE. IN 2003, THE US AIR FORCE REVEALED IT WAS WORKING ON AN UNMANNED CRAFT CALLED FALCON, BUT IT DENIED BUILDING AN AURORA.

(SWEETMAN) AURORA HAS ALWAYS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE UK-IT'S ALWAYS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF FORWARD-BASING
IN THE UK. IT -- THIS REPORT CLEARLY REFERS TO THINGS WHICH ARE
UNLIKE CONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT, AND WOULD BE LIKELY TO BE REPORTED
AS UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS. THAT AGAIN POINTS TO SOMETHING
THAT, YOU KNOW, IS PERHAPS LESS LIKE THE STEALTH FIGHTER, MORE
LIKE THE SR-71 WAS IN ITS DAY. SOMETHING SO SPECTACULARLY
DIFFERENT THAT PEOPLE WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY WERE SEEING.

(MACKEAN) MENTION A UFO, OR A CLANDESTINE PROJECT, AND SENSIBLE HEADS WILL ALWAYS SHAKE WITH DISBELIEF, BUT THEIR SKEPTICISM WILL DO NOTHING TO ROCK THE CERTAINTY OF THOSE WHO SCAN OUR SKIES AND FIND HIDDEN MEANING. AS SOMEONE ELSE ONCE SAID: THE TRUTH IS OUT THERE. (END RECORDING)

(PAXMAN) WELL, WE'RE JOINED NOW HERE IN THE STUDIO BY WING COMMANDER ANDREW BROOKS, WHO NOW WORKS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES; AND, WE'RE JOINED FROM GLASGOW

BY RON HALLIDAY. FIRST OF ALL, WING COMMANDER BROOKS, IT DOES LOOK FROM THIS THAT THE AMERICANS REALLY ARE UP TO SOMETHING, DOESN'T IT?

(BROOKS) I DON'T THINK SO. I MEAN THE AMERICANS DO HAVE /****** BEGINNING OF SECTION 2 *******

BLACK PROJECTS -- THEY'RE SPENDING \$50 BILLION ON SPACE; DOUBLE THAT IF YOU TAKE THE BLACK PROJECTS INTO ACCOUNT. SO, THEY ARE DOING HIDDEN PROJECTS, BUT NOT THIS AURORA PROJECT. THEY HAVE NO NEED FOR IT, IT DOESN'T FIT IN WITH THEIR PLANS, AND I DON'T THINK -- IF IT DID EXIST YEARS AGO AS AN IDEA, IT CERTAINLY DOESN'T EXIST NOW.

(PAXMAN) NOW YOUR ORGANIZATION, MR HALLIDAY, THE SCOTTISH EARTH MYSTERIES FOUNDATION -- YOU PRESUMABLY DO THINK THERE IS SOMETHING AFOOT. DO YOU?

(RON HALLIDAY, "CHIEF, SCOTTISH EARTH MYSTERIES RESEARCH")
WELL, I MEAN WE CAN ONLY GO BY THE REPORTS THAT WE HAVE RECEIVED
OVER THE PAST 10 OR 12 YEARS. PEOPLE REPORTING STRANGE-SHAPED
CRAFT, AND CRAFT TRAVELLING AT FANTASTIC SPEEDS, YOU KNOW,
ESTIMATED SOMETIMES BETWEEN 3,000 AND 4,000 MILES AN HOUR.
(PASSAGE OMITTED: CONTINUED DISCUSSION ABOUT STRANGE AIRCRAFT OR
OTHER SPACE OBJECTS)

(DESCRIPTION OF SOURCE: LONDON BBC TELEVISION TWO IN ENGLISH -- SECOND CHANNEL OF THE PUBLICLY FUNDED BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION, BBC)

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CITE OSC RESTON VA 549025

WARNING: TOPIC: DOMESTIC POLITICAL, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL

SERIAL: AFP20080430693001

/******* THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *******/

RODY

COUNTRY: BURKINA FASO, UNITED STATES

SUBJ: BURKINA FASO: COMMENTARY EXAMINES CHANCES OF US

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES (U)

SOURCE: OUAGADOUGOU L'OBSERVATEUR PAALGA (INTERNET VERSION-WWW) IN

FRENCH 29 APR 08 30 APR 08 (U)

TEXT:

Report by Z. Dieudonne Zoungrana:

(-ILLEGAL-CHARACTER-)Comparative Look at their Qualities and

UNCLASSIFIED

Weaknesses(-ILLEGAL-CHARACTER-) (U) Internet

OSC Translated Text

The primaries in Pennsylvania are over, but there is still a long road (nine primaries between now and 6 June) to the nomination of the Democratic candidate in Denver, Colorado, at the end of August. And, in actual fact, there is still a long road to the presidential elections slated for 4 November of this year. But what are the strengths and weaknesses of Hillary Diane Rodham Clinton and Barak Hussein Obama? Here are some elements of response.

Some people think that Hillary's main strength stems from the fact that she decided, some 30 years ago, to get married to a young Arkansas barrister named Bill - a difficult choice for this bourgeoisie girl from Illinois (a state where Obama is senator), who attended the best universities and then went to Arkansas, a miserable, absolutely conservatory and racist state.

It was, indeed, a good thing although she often had to swallow her regrets (as was the case in the Monica Levinski affair). Since Bill occupied the White House, she was able to emerge politically by making sure that she was elected as New York senator. Another strength is that she is also a woman of files in a country where everything is seen as great so that the American hegemony can always be preserved.

Hillary is equally idolized by women, Latin Americans and elderly persons. She is very gifted in political struggles and dirty tricks (a quality in politics) and it is not superfluous to say that she is very brave and absolutely foolhardy. These are political qualities that make one respected by one's opponents. With regard to her weaknesses, the first is her origin and education. Hillary has very peculiar attitudes.

Hence, the inhabitants of Arkansas, her husband stronghold, call her Misfit because of her anti-sexy dresses; her constantly untidy hair; and her ideas vis-a vis equality with blacks. This is far from being a compliment and her oversensitivity has often been highlighted by the media:

The media recalled the incident, which occurred in the hall after Obama's announcement to take part in the race to presidency. On that day, Obama called out to Mrs Clinton and wanted to hold her by the elbow, an act of friendship between colleagues, but she freed herself and continued her way. She did not digest the idea that the Illinois senator dared to compete in the nomination of

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Democrats.

There is also the presence of her husband by her side: Bill constitutes the strength of his wife and potential presidential candidate. "Who of the two of you is my opponent?" Obama had asked Hillary during a televised debate - a way of referring to the ex-president's role in his rival's campaign. It is from this day that neologism "Billary" came into existence, which is used by the media to refer to the ex-first lady, a way of saying that Obama has as opponent a second Hillary (Bill himself). With regard to this issue, it is true that his wife never stops declaring that, if she is elected, her husband will be her adviser, but that she will be the one to decide on issues in the final analysis. QED Quod Erat Demonstrandum. Furthermore, as regularly stressed by political scientists. Hillary has a problem with the blacks who, however, constitute one-quarter of the Democratic Party's voters. Example: during the primaries in South Carolina, she declared that blacks got their civil rights from the president who hailed from Texas, Johnson Lyndon, who enacted the Civil Rights Act in 1964, a way of saying that she, who is experienced, was more capable of protecting the blacks than her opponent. This is a big error because none of these persons, no white person, and, moreover, a person from South America is more important than Martin Luther King. Consequently, Hillary would have lost in South Carolina where more than half of the senators are blacks.

Finally, the Hillary dynasty issue regularly comes up (after that of the Bushes). What do you think of the qualities and weaknesses of the Illinois senator? People are unanimous on her glibness and her great communication skills. Some people would say she is a "peddler of dreams."

And she started her career with a speech, that of 27 July 2004, during the Democrats convention in Boston - a speech during which John Kerry adjusted in order to confront George Bush, the Republican. This traditional keynote speech is supposed to worry delegates before any nomination. But it is also a speech that can launch the career of a senator, and that was the case with Obama, who was a young black candidate in the American Senate; in short, a perfect nobody.

He based his speech on the personal profile of the son of a Kenyan father and white American mother, a successful career thanks to his qualities, a success story that is an incarnation of the American dream. In front of 4,000 delegates, he rekindled memories

of his grand father, who was a cook for English colonial masters, /****** BEGINNING OF SECTION 2 *******

and especially that of his father. Besides, the substance of this speech became his best-seller (1), published in 2006. Obama is the best orator from the time of Kennedy or Roosevelt, say those who listened to these two persons at the time.

Another striking strength of the black candidate is that he is idolized by youths and media officials and even some generally conservative newspapers have sympathy for him. Mike Barley, spokesperson of the Republicans, admitted the following to us in Harrisburg:

"The popular support Obama is enjoying proves that he is connected somewhere." Obviously, this connection is the youths, who find in "Obamania" the starting point for the change highly advocated by this **UFO Unidentified Flying Objects** policy.

Finally, Obama has become an expert in mobilizing people on the Internet, and especially for the raising of funds that are indispensable for an American campaign. In this wise, he has been sparing no ways and means, because his budget practically triples that of his rival.

Although he is the first black to be given the real opportunity to enter the White House, he also has aspects that limit his ambitions. The first is obviously his color: "are Americans ready, as someone said, to see a black with African roots on their TV channels, represent them in big summits?"

In other words, the issue of his race is omnipresent in this campaign, with the application by Americans of the "one drop theory," which states that if a single drop of black blood in your veins, you are officially a black. It is true that Obama falls in this category. And yet to some members of the black community, "he is not sufficiently black," wrote, for example, Kevin Merida, specialist in racial issues at the Washington post.

This issue of race has been used by Republicans and Hillary to ground the Illinois senator. Another great weakness of this black candidate is the change he is promising and which may upset the Yankee establishment. He still needs to be capable of doing that. He is already whispering that the fact that he is refusing money from pressure groups does not instil confidence in some milieus, which are fiddling for anything except Obama.

We see that each of these two Democratic Party candidates has strengths and weaknesses, and for American voters, who are long accustomed to duels following unsurprising nominations of

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candidates, these Democratic Party primaries have something that is completely new and that is what is making the issue captivating.

Description of Source: Ouagadougou L'Observateur Paalga (Internet Version-WWW) in French — privately owned, pro-government daily newspaper; root URL as of filing date: http://www.lobservateur.bf
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Source Metadata

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Source City: Ouagadougou
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Source Start Date: 29 Apr 08
Source End Date: 30 Apr 08
Language(s): French

Article Metadata

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Precedence: Routine

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Subregion(s): West Africa, North Americas

Topic(s): DOMESTIC POLITICAL, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL

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WARNING: TOPIC: DOMESTIC POLITICAL, LEADER

SERIAL: JPP20080318036003

/****** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *******/

BODY

2

UNCLASSIFIED

COUNTRY: JAPAN

SUBJ: JAPAN: MACHIMURA CONSIDERED MOST LIKELY MINISTER TO BE

SACKED BY PM FUKUDA (U)

SOURCE: TOKYO SHUKAN GENDAI IN JAPANESE 22 MAR 08 (U)

TEXT:

Unattributed reporter: "Chief Cabinet Secretary Machimura's Off-the-Record Remark To Ruin 'Civil Service Reform'; Prime Minister Wants To Dismiss Him Before Anyone Else" (U) Publications

OSC Translated Text

As support rates for the Fukuda Cabinet are falling, Chief Cabinet Secretary Nobutaka Machimura, 63, the Cabinet's "public relations officer," is revealing his incompetence.

On 29 February, the Democratic Party of Japan DPJ hardened its attitude, saying it would not join a Diet session for a week in protest against the ruling parties' railroading of the fiscal budget for 2008 and laws related to tax reform through the lower house.

In this connection, Machimura said, "I wonder why it is one week and why they decided on the duration beforehand. I cannot understand. I am really wondering why." He made the comments just like a commentator, showing no intention to provide a breakthrough in the situation. What he is doing is none other than standing in the way of the Cabinet.

His resistance to a civil service reform plan is intolerable. Probably because his father and he are bureaucrat-turned politicians, it is said, "The Chief Cabinet Secretary, who does whatever bureaucrats want, is the biggest force of resistance" (in the words of a Liberal Democratic Party Diet member LDP). Shukan Gendai recently obtained a memo about an off-the-record remark Machimura made to reporters. According to the memo, after a meeting of Cabinet members to exchange views on civil service reform, Machimura blatantly told reporters, "If a government personnel agency (centerpiece of the civil service reform plan) is established, ministers will lose their power to appoint personnel. Do you think there will be bureaucrats who will pledge loyalty to ministers, who do not have the right of personnel management? Administrative reform minister Yoshimi Watanabe (55), said, 'It is a plan to strengthen each minister and agency director-general's power.' But what the plan is completely different from what he said."

Then, referring to Watanabe's appearing before reporter with a

mask -- he wore a mask because he was ordered by Machimura not to talk about the issue with reporters -- Machimura swore, "He is just playing to the gallery, and because of such a manner, he is disliked."

A person concerned with the LDP says, "Do you think ministers are exercising the right of personnel appointment? Bureaucrats are managing personnel on their own, right? The establishment of personnel agency is aimed at helping manage personnel by integrating the Cabinet members' rights of personnel management and putting them under the prime minister and the Cabinet members. Bureaucrats who do not want to give up their personnel management right are frantically opposing the plan. Mr. Machimura is just repeating what they are saying."

Machimura has taken the self-assured behavior because he thinks that he is supported by Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda, who was negative about civil service reform. However, recently, the situation has changed. Prime Minister Fukuda met separately with Watanabe and Koki Chuma, chairman of the LDP Administrative Reform Promotion Headquarters, who changed tack and now supports the plan to establish the personnel agency. Thus, Fukuda has suddenly become positive about civil service reform.

A political reporter of a major newspaper says, "The prime minister is trying to boost his popularity by emphatically indicating the necessity for civil service reform."

Machimura was not aware of Fukuda's move. So, he, speaking with reporters, complained about Fukuda, saying, "I have not heard anything from the prime minister. I will ask him." He had argument with Watanabe at the prime minister's official residence on 5 March. But Prime Minister Fukuda has reportedly made up his mind.

Another political reporter says, "The prime minister is now fed up with Machimura, who drew public attention only when he made remarks on the possible existence of **UFO** (**Unidentified Flying Objects**). The prime minister wants to fire him before anyone else when it comes to a Cabinet reshuffle."

The prime minister and the Chief Cabinet Secretary, who is supposed to play a wifely role, are living apart under the same roof.

Description of Source: Tokyo Shukan Gendai in Japanese -- weekly general interest magazine

Source Metadata

Source Name: Shukan Gendai

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Source Type(s): Publications

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 2 ******

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Content Type: Translation/Transcription
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Precedence: Routine
Country(s): Japan
Region(s): Asia

Subregion(s): East Asia

Topic(s): DOMESTIC POLITICAL, LEADER

Attachments:

(Attachment not included: JPP20080318036003001.pdf)

ShukanGendai22Mar08pp24-26.pdf

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SECTION 1 OF 2

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CITE OSC RESTON VA 937334

WARNING: TOPIC: DOMESTIC ECONOMIC, DOMESTIC POLITICAL, HEALTH,

LEADER

SERIAL: JPP20080123033001

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/******* THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *******/

BODY

COUNTRY: JAPAN

SUBJ: JAPAN: LDP DISPLEASED WITH MACHIMURA FOR 'SLIP OF TONGUE'

OVER SEVERAL ISSUES

SOURCE: TOKYO SHUKAN BUNSHUN IN JAPANESE 24 JAN 08

TEXT:

Unattributed article: "Chief Cabinet Secretary Nobutaka Machimura Is Always Disliked for His 'Slip of Tongue' Over Pension Issues,

Hepatitis C"
Publications

OSC Translated Text

A chief cabinet secretary is the government's spokesman and a prime minister's confidant, who supports from behind the scenes, as a coordinator for the cabinet. However, the ruling parties are now pointing out faults of Nobutaka Machimura, who holds this responsible position. The reason is said to be the problem of his frequent slip of tongue.

In a news conference on 11 December last year, his unprepared remarks over pension issues elicited much criticism.

A political correspondent said: "The Liberal Democratic Party LDP was upholding the campaign pledge during the Upper House election to complete the matching of some 50 million 'missing pension records' by March this year. But, Mr Machimura admitted himself the breach of the LDP's campaign pledge, saying that 'because it is the election, we abridged and said that we would complete it all within the fiscal year.' Moreover, we had expected that he would reflect on what he had said. But against all our expectation, he showed up for a general meeting of the Machimura faction two days later and said, 'I am sorry to have caused trouble with my clumsy explanation': He was inviting snickers, by going over the people's heads and prioritizing the apology to the faction."

After that, when the cabinet support rate in the survey by Kyodo News Service dropped sharply to approximately 35 percent, it was pointed out that one reason for this might be the remarks by Prime Minister Fukuda over pension issues: There was a scene in which Machimura forgot his own faults and blamed Fukuda, saying: "After all, these Fukuda's remarks might have influenced the results."

A reporter assigned to the Prime Minister's Official Residence said: "Furthermore, during the debate on **UFO Unidentified Flying**

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Objects, he stressed that 'personally, I am positive that such a thing absolutely exists,' while saying 'the government has not confirmed the existence.' When questioned again in a brief and informal interview at night on the same day, he expounded his pet theory, saying that 'I believe even the spirit world.' (laughing)"

However, did he not know it by inspiration? There was also an "incident," in which he exposed himself the rift between Fukuda and himself with his remarks over the class action suit for drug-induced Hepatitis C.

The previous reporter said: "Mr Machimura continued to insist that it was impossible to provide 'uniform relief for all the sufferers,' which contradicts the judicial ruling, buying into bureaucrats' theory. Then he lost all his public popularity. As the call for a political decision increased daily, Prime Minister Fukuda announced a uniform relief by legislation by house members at a news conference on 23 December. However, Mr Machimura was still mentioning his view in a TV program on the morning of the same day. It was obvious that he was left completely in the dark alone."

Because of "the estranged relations" between the two, there was a speculation that Machimura would be dismissed by a cabinet reshuffle at the end of the year. However, the same reporter said: "Former prime minister Mori disliked the return of Mr Machimura to the Mori faction. Mr Machimura's sideslip to other cabinet minister post was also considered. But, Prime Minister Fukuda ultimately decided to shelve it. Even after that, there have still been problems in the cooperation with the Prime Minister. On 8 January, when the battle over a new antiterrorism special measures law between the ruling and opposition camps was entering the final phase, Mr Machimura stated positively that the government would enter into consultation toward submitting a permanent law to allow the overseas dispatch of the Self-Defense Forces, although the new antiterrorism bill had not yet passed the Diet. However, at the night of the same day, the Prime Minister expressed displeasure about Mr Machimura's remarks that went beyond what was overstepping the mark, saying, 'I have not made such instructions at all.' Mr Machimura, who was pointed out about it by a reporter keeping night watch, turned pale, saying, 'Eh, really?" The mouth is the gate of misfortune.

Description of Source: Tokyo Shukan Bunshun in Japanese -- weekly

political, general-interest magazine

Source Metadata

Source Name: Shukan Bunshun

Source Type(s): Publications

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 2 ******

Source City: Tokyo Source Country: Japan Source Start Date: 24 Jan 08 Source End Date: 24 Jan 08

Language(s):

Japanese

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DOMESTIC ECONOMIC, DOMESTIC POLITICAL,

HEALTH, LEADER

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(Attachment not included: JPP20080123033001001.pdf)

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CITE OSC RESTON VA 847081

WARNING: TOPIC: DOMESTIC POLITICAL, LEADER

SERIAL: JPP20080107969007

BODY

COUNTRY: JAPAN

SUBJ: ASAHI: ENDING 2007 W ITH BOTH HAPPINESS AND TRAGEDY

SOURCE: TOKYO ASAHI SHIMBUN (INTERNET VERSION-WWW) IN ENGLISH 0155

,

GMT 07 JAN 08

TEXT:

"Ending 2007 W Ith Both Happiness And Tragedy"
Publications

OSC Transcribed Text

Computer selected and disseminated without OSC editorial intervention

It has been 10 years since the passing of Shinichi Hoshi, a popular science fiction writer. I still continue to marvel at his technique of drawing readers into his fantastic world in a few short lines and concluding each story with a brilliant twist.

Newspapers provide slices of daily occurrences in condensed words. Below is my selection of quotable quotes for the final month of 2007.

Junichi Kuramoto, whose 26-year-old daughter Mai was slain in a shooting rampage at a sports club in Sasebo, Nagasaki Prefecture, said at her funeral: "Mai died to save the kids she (coached and) loved dearly. So, please don't think her death was in vain." The courage with which the father tried to cope with this terrible tragedy drove home the utter irrationality of her death

Popular Hokkaido cookies "Shiroi Koibito" (White beloved ones) were sold out at many stores as soon as they returned from a temporary sales suspension. Kensuke Suzuki, a researcher at International University of Japan, noted: "Consumers react only to matters that are taken up widely by the media. The public made a big deal of the mislabeling scandal, and then rushed to snap up the cookies as soon as they were back on the shelves again. I think both phenomena are only of a temporary nature." In the UFO debate that descended upon the political community out of the blue, Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda said, "I haven't confirmed the existence (of unidentified flying objects) yet." But on the government's mishandling of the pension records fiasco, Fukuda ruffled the public's feathers by remarking, "I don't think it's so serious as to be called a breach of a campaign pledge." The nation's leader ought to be cool in an emergency and passionate in inspiring people in times of peace. But Fukuda's odd "tepidness" has brought down his Cabinet's approval ratings.

Oscar Peterson, one of the greatest jazz pianists, died on Dec. 23 at age 82. Makoto Ozone, also a jazz pianist, said of

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Approved for Release: 2012/09/18

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Peterson: "There are many good pianists. But he made his audiences unconditionally happy."

Hazuki Saisho, a nonfiction writer who has won the Osaragi Jiro Prize and other awards for her work "Hoshi Shinichi Senichi Wa o Tsukutta Hito" (Shinichi Hoshi, the man who wrote the one thousand one tales), published by Shinchosha Publishing Co., recalled what she learned from her research: "Reading (Hoshi's) posthumous works, I felt his pain of having his stories dismissed as fit only for children, and his anger at the literary world that refused to acknowledge him."

The year is ending with many things both good and bad, including the reality of one's powerlessness.

-The Asahi Shimbun, Dec. 30

Description of Source: Tokyo Asahi Shimbun (Internet version-WWW)

in English -- Internet version of Asahi Shimbun, Japan's

second-largest daily

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Source Start Date: 0155 GMT 07 Jan 08 Source End Date: 0155 GMT 07 Jan 08

Language(s): English

Article Metadata

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Subregion(s): East Asia

Topic(s): DOMESTIC POLITICAL, LEADER

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SECTION 1 OF 3

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CITE OSC RESTON VA 768699

WARNING: TOPIC: DOMESTIC ECONOMIC, DOMESTIC POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENT

SERIAL: CEP20080609950283

/****** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *******/

BODY

COUNTRY: RUSSIA

SUBJ: RUSSIA: YEKATERINBURG MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS 2-8 JUN 08 (U)

SOURCE: CAVERSHAM BBC MONITORING IN ENGLISH 2359 GMT 08 JUN 08 (U)

TEXT:

Publications OSC Summary

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Russia: Yekaterinburg media highlights 2-8 Jun 08

The following are media highlights from the state-owned Rossiya TV's regional news slot and Channel 4 TV news, the Novyy Region and JustMedia news agencies and Ekho Moskvy in Yekaterinburg radio during the period 2-8 June 2008:

Political

The organizers of a demonstration in Severouralsk in support of striking miners have been fined, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 2 June. About 4,000 people staged a protest in the centre of the city to back the miners on 30 March. The miners struck in support of their demand for a 40 per cent wage increase.

The Severouralsk magistrate's court found three members of the independent miners' trade union guilty of organizing an unauthorized demonstration. They were ordered to pay R1,000 each. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1120 gmt 2 Jun 08) The former chairman of the city's economy committee, Aleksandr Vysokinskiy, 35, has been appointed deputy mayor of Yekaterinburg, Channel 4 TV reported on 2 June. The new deputy mayor will be responsible for work with government bodies and public organizations. (Channel 4 TV news, Yekaterinburg, 1430 gmt 2 Jun 08)

Local parents who held a rally in central Yekaterinburg have collected about 2,000 signatures for an appeal to Russian President Dmitriy Medvedev to protest against the lack of city-funded kindergartens. The waiting list for a kindergarten place in the city runs to 18,000 children. The parents are urging the authorities to follow the experience of other cities where construction companies are committed to building kindergartens in every new block of flat. (Novyy Region news agency, Yekaterinburg, 0344 gmt 2 Jun 08)

The Yekaterinburg mayor, Arkadiy Chernetskiy, has reported the results of the city's socioeconomic development in 2007 to the

local parliament, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 3 June. Initially Chernetskiy did not intend to comment on the queues for a kindergarten place in the city, but he was forced to address the issue. Chernetskiy criticized not only local residents but also the state thanks to which parents pay only 20 per cent of the cost of maintaining a child in a kindergarten. Chernetskiy said that such an active intervention by the state had resulted in an increase in the number of applicants for pre-school education. He added that kindergartens had effectively become a form of state welfare. Chernetskiy said that the city failed to resolve the problem in 2007 despite its best endeavours. Three new kindergartens were constructed and others were renovated, creating about 1,000 places.

In stark contrast, housing construction was booming in the city. About 900,000 sq.m. was ready for occupation in 2007. Among other achievements the mayor also mentioned the construction of twelve hotels and the purchase of a female elephant for the city zoo. Deputies approved Chernetskiy's report unanimously. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1120 gmt 3 Jun 08) An exhibit devoted to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit, which will be studied by the world's business elite in a few days time, has been presented in Yekaterinburg, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 3 June. The stand was specially prepared for guests at the St Petersburg Economic Forum on 6-8 June. Guests will be able to view models of the renovated airport, the Yekaterinburg-City business district and an interactive map of the region which contains all properties under construction for the summit. The Russian President Dmitriy Medvedev, is expected to start his visit to the exhibition from the Sverdlovsk Region stand. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1120 gmt 3 Jun 08)

Valeriy Charushin has replaced Valeriy Chereshnev as head of the Urals branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Channel 4 TV reported on 3 June. (Channel 4 TV news, Yekaterinburg, 1430 gmt 3 Jun 08)

An expert directorate has been set up at the Sverdlovsk Region governor's administration, Novyy Region news agency reported on 3 June. The new structure will monitor the economic situation in the region. Aleksey Pakhomov, aged 30, has been appointed head of the new directorate. (Novyy Region news agency, Yekaterinburg,0648 gmt 3 Jun 08)

The Sverdlovsk Region governor, Eduard Rossel, has presented

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budget proposals for 2009-2011 to speakers of both chambers of /****** BEGINNING OF SECTION 2 *******
CITE OSC RESTON VA 768699

the regional parliament, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 5 June. The document envisages the improvement of medical services and an increase in wages and housing construction. One of the aims of the budget is to stabilize the size of the population in Sverdlovsk Region by increasing life expectancy rates and providing people with decent housing. The budget proposal will be presented to deputies on 26 June. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1120 gmt 5 Jun 08)

The Sverdlovsk Region governor, Eduard Rossel, is likely to step down, Novyy Region news agency quoted The Moscow Post on-line newspaper as saying on 6 June. The newspaper says that Rossel is to step down in the autumn and will take up a post at the Russian Foreign Ministry. Rossel could be appointed ambassador-at-large to supervise preparations for the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in 2009.

A high-ranking source in the Foreign Ministry told the newspaper that it was not an easy matter to transfer Rossel from his governor's seat to the Foreign Ministry because it would be difficult to find a replacement governor who was as familiar with Sverdlovsk Region. He also said that Rossel could only be replaced with an equally powerful administrator who was an expert in the Urals affairs and added that Rossel's transfer had probably been prompted by the importance of the forthcoming event. (Novyy Region news agency, Yekaterinburg, 0639 gmt 6 Jun 08)

Economic

Defrauded investors should pay only a minimum amount to buy their flats, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 2 June. The chairman of the Sverdlovsk regional government, Viktor Koksharov, urged the cabinet of ministers to get to grips with the problem and draw up a special resolution. According to the courts, about 256 people were victims of dishonest construction companies in the region. In 2003-2006 they took part in a shared construction agreement but failed to obtain their promised flats. Cases were registered not only in Yekaterinburg, but also in Nizhniy Tagil, Berezovskiy, Verkhnyaya Pyshma and Verkhnyaya Salda. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1120 gmt 2 Jun 08) The Urals Mining and Metallurgical Combine (UMMC) has bought a 51-per-cent stake in a Czech aircraft company, Novyy Region news

agency reported on 2 June. The value of the deal is not being divulged. The purchase is related to the UMMC's plans to diversify into new businesses including regional air services. The UMMC general director, Andrey Kozitsin, said the market for small aircraft was barely developed in Yekaterinburg. He added that aircraft produced by Aircraft Industries would enable passengers to fly between Yekaterinburg, Chelyabinsk, Tyumen, Kurgan, Perm and Ufa. (Novyy Region news agency, Yekaterinburg, 1122 gmt 2 Jun 08)

The extraction of emeralds at the only Russian deposit, the Malyshevskaya mine, has been halted, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 3 June. The Ministry of Natural Resources revoked the licence of the Zelenkamen company which has been developing the mine for a number of years. The mine was closed down as a result of an inspection carried out by Rosprirodnadzor (Federal Service for Supervision of Natural Resources) a year ago. The mine was not renovated according to schedule and the company also failed to reach the extraction level of emerald ores under a technical project. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1120 gmt 3 Jun 08)

Sverdlovsk Region deputies have had to revise plans to purchase agricultural machinery because of inflation, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 5 June. Only six instead of eight machines for fodder conservation will be bought. The deputies urged the regional government to allocate additional funds. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1120 gmt 5 Jun 08)

A cutting edge drilling rig named after the Russian Empress, Yekaterina, has been presented in Yekaterinburg, Channel 4 TV reported on 2 June. It was designed and produced by Uralmash machine building plant. Russia's gas giant Gazprom has placed an order for eleven rigs of this kind. Yekaterina will be sent to the Yamal peninsular where a large natural gas field is being developed. (Channel 4 TV news, Yekaterinburg, 1430 gmt 2 Jun 08) Environment

The Sredneuralsk metallurgical plant is likely to be halted or closed down over the violations of environmental protection laws discovered by Rostekhnadzor (Federal Service for Ecological, Technological and Nuclear Monitoring), Channel 4 TV reported on 3 June. The plant recycles and utilizes ferrous metals. The plant emits hazardous substances dioxides into the atmosphere. Rostekhnadzor found that the company did not have permits for these emissions. (Channel 4 TV news, Yekaterinburg, 1430 gmt 3

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Jun 08)

More than 30 production facilities are to be relocated outside Yekaterinburg before the end of 2025, Novyy Region news agency quoted representatives Rostekhnadzor (Federal Service for Ecological, Technological and Nuclear Monitoring) and Rosprirodnadzor (Federal Service for the Regulation of the Use of Natural Resources) as saying at a news conference on 4 June. They also named the main factors which have a disastrous influence on the environmental situation in Sverdlovsk Region. Specialists said that transport was the most harmful to the environment car emissions exceed permissible rates ten-fold and in some territories 100-fold. Another problem is the disposal of waste. Landfills near Yekaterinburg are full to overflowing. (Novyy Region news agency, Yekaterinburg, 0627 gmt 4 Jun 08)

CITE OSC RESTON VA 768699

Military

The Sverdlovsk Region Public Youth Chamber is to appeal to the Russian president and State Duma to revoke amendments to the law on army service, Channel 4 TV reported on 4 June. The amendments will oblige men under 27 to report to military registration and enlistment offices if they leave their place of residence for more than 15 days. Members of the Public Youth Chamber said that the changes limited the constitutional rights of young men of conscription age. (Channel 4 TV news, Yekaterinburg, 1430 gmt 4 Jun 08)

Other

Lorries have been prohibited from entering the centre of Yekaterinburg from 0700-2200 local time as of 2 June, Ekho Moskvy in Yekaterinburg reported on the same day. This decision, made by the regional government to relieve traffic congestion in the city, sparked off protests not only by construction companies but also by the regional prosecutor's office. The latter considers that the decision is beyond the scope of the regional authorities' powers. (Ekho Moskvy in Yekaterinburg radio, Yekaterinburg, 0342 gmt 2 Jun 08)

Members of the Sverdlovsk Region Legislative Assembly's House of Representatives have proposed that a curfew for young people should be introduced in Sverdlovsk Region, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 6 June. The deputies propose to study Kemerovo Region's experience where teenagers were banned from appearing on streets, at discos and entertainment centres as of

20 May after 2200 local time. Parents of young people found in public places after that time have to pay a fine of R3,000 and owners of entertainment centres have to pay from R25,000 to R50.000.

Sverdlovsk Region deputies decided to set up a commission to draw up the relevant legislation and consider it in September. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Urai" news, Yekaterinburg, 1120 gmt 6 Jun 08) Sverdlovsk Region's authorities intend to allocate about R6m to help identify the so-called "tsar's family remains" which are thought likely to belong to Princess Manya and Prince Aleksey Romanov, Ekho Moskvy in Yekaterinburg reported on 4 June. The money will be found from the surplus of the regional budget. (Ekho Moskvy in Yekaterinburg radio, Yekaterinburg, 0352 gmt 4 Jun 08)

The Sverdlovsk Region prosecutor's office has started an investigation into a case related to a hunger strike at a prison in Sosva, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 4 June. More than 30 inmates refused to eat for a number of hours. The protesters demanded that the money they could spend in a prison shop be increased. According to the law, they could spend only 70 per cent of a minimum wage in the prison in other words not more than R70.

Sverdlovsk Region's prosecutor for control over prisons visited the Sosva establishment to resolve the situation. He succeeded in reaching agreement with the inmates. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1120 gmt 4 Jun 08)

A new paranormal zone has been discovered in Sverdlovsk Region, JustMedia news agency reported on 4 June. The head of the monitoring centre of the Urals paranormal phenomena, Aleksey Komanev, said that the zone was located near Rezh. Komanev said that four people - all of whom he trusts - had seen **Unidentified Flying Objects** (UFOs) in that region. Eyewitnesses said that they had seen a shining ball floating above the trees and then the **UFO** had abruptly flown up into the sky. Some time later observers saw an object which looked like a sputnik slowly floating across the sky. Komanev said that a group of experts would study the activities of paranormal phenomena near Rezh. (JustMedia news agency, Yekaterinburg, 0818 gmt 4 Jun 08)

Description of Source: Caversham BBC Monitoring in English --Monitoring service of the BBC, the United Kingdom's public service broadcaster

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Article Metadata

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Processing Ind: OSC Summary

Precedence: Routine
Country(s): Russia
Region(s): Eurasia
Subregion(s): Russia

Topic(s): DOMESTIC ECONOMIC, DOMESTIC POLITICAL,

ENVIRONMENT

CABLETYPE: FBISEMS ACP 1.0.

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HEADER

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RUEPWDC/DA AMHS WASHINGTON DC

RHMCSXX/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC//IN-1//

RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC

RHFFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC

RHMCSXX/DIO CANBERRA

RUZDNIS/DIRNAVCRIMINVSERV WASHINGTON DC

RUEPMAX/GISA FT BRAGG NC

RHMCSXX/HQJOC WASP

RUZDJWC/JWAC DAHLGREN VA

RUZDQAN/MARCORINTACT QUANTICO VA

RUZDNAI/NASIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OH

RHMCSXX/NATIONAL DRUG INTELLIGENCE CENTER JOHNST//NDIC//

RUGIAAA/NGA NAVY YARD WASHINGTON DC

RUETIAA/NSACSS FT GEORGE G MEADE MD

RHMCSXX/ONA CANBERRA

RUCXONI/ONI WASHINGTON DC//2140//

RHHJJPI/PACOM IDHS HONOLULU HI

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//INR//

RHHJRAP/USARPAC INTEL FT SHAFTER HI//APIN//

RUCQSAB/USSOCOM INTEL MACDILL AFB FL

RULWIOC/USSTRATCOM INTEL OPSCTR OFFUTT AFB NE

RUZEUAA/UTAIS RAMSTEIN AB GE//INOW//

BT

CONTROLS

UNCLAS

8

SECTION 1 OF 4

QQQQ

CITE OSC RESTON VA 729706

WARNING: TOPIC: CRIME, DOMESTIC ECONOMIC, DOMESTIC POLITICAL,

HUMAN RIGHTS

SERIAL: CEP20080603950403

/****** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *******/

BODY

COUNTRY: RUSSIA, CHINA

SUBJ: RUSSIA: YEKATERINBURG MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS 26 MAY-1 JUN 08 (U) SOURCE: CAVERSHAM BBC MONITORING IN ENGLISH 2359 GMT 01 JUN 08 (U)

TEXT: Publications

OSC Summary

C:

Russia: Yekaterinburg media highlights 26 May-1 Jun 08
The following are media highlights from the Novyy Region news agency, Ekho Moskvy in Yekaterinburg radio, Kommersant-Ural website, the state-owned Rossiya TV's regional news slot and Channel 4 TV news during the period 26 May 1 June 2008:
Political

The presidential envoy to the Urals Federal District, Petr Latyshev, has become a member of the Russian Security Council, Channel 4 TV reported on 26 May. The Russian President, Dmitriy Medvedev, signed a decree on appointing Security Council members on 25 May. Together with Latyshev, all Russian presidential envoys, the chairman of the government and also heads of law enforcement agencies, including the head of the Federal Service for control over the Trafficking of Narcotics, Viktor Ivanov, also became members of the Security Council. (Channel 4 TV news, Yekaterinburg, 1300 gmt 26 May 08)

The Sverdlovsk Region governor, Eduard Rossel, has not been included on the new State Council, Novyy Region news agency reported on 28 May. Rossel's name was not included in an order signed by the Russian President, Dmitriy Medvedev. Rossel has twice been a member of the State Council's presidium. The new structure includes the heads of seven regions, including the heads of the Chechen Republic, Tyumen Region and Perm Region. (Novyy Region news agency, Yekaterinburg, 0510 gmt 29 May 08) Relatives of prisoners and human rights activists have held an unauthorized demonstration near the governor's residence in Yekaterinburg, Channel 4 TV reported on 27 May. A UN

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representative, Leandro Despouy, (The United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC) Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers) arrived in Yekaterinburg on 26 May and demonstrators decided to draw his attention to the imperfections of the legal system. These people are convinced that their relatives were convicted illegally. (Channel 4 TV news, Yekaterinburg, 1300 gmt 27 May 08)

Members of the Sverdlovsk Region government, including its chairman, Viktor Koksharov, are to have military training in Yelanskiy garrison on 28-29 May, Novyy Region news agency reported on 26 May. For two days members of the regional government and municipalities' heads will have to remember shooting skills and practice in using military hardware. The officials will live in tents and eat ordinary army rations. (Novyy Region news agency, Yekaterinburg, 0818 gmt 26 May 08) Young political activists in Yekaterinburg have decided to express their dissatisfaction with the incumbent authorities. Novvy Region news agency reported on 27 May. The young people decided not to take to the streets and demand that Dmitriy Medvedev step down. Instead they decided to fight against the "regime" anonymously. A number of graffiti pictures against the government appeared in the centre of the city overnight on 27 May. On one of the pictures the Russian President, Dmitriy Medvedev, is depicted wearing a crown with an inscription saying "False Dmitriy get out of the Kremlin". A number of similar graffiti pictures appeared in Yekaterinburg a few months ago. They showed former Russian President, Vladimir Putin, calming down Medvedev and saying, "they will elect you I gave the orders". Experts believe that both right wing and left-wing youth movements could be involved in creating these pieces of art in Yekaterinburg. The most popular graffiti pictures are in support of Yabloko and the People's Will party. (Novyy Region news agency, Yekaterinburg, 0444 gmt 27 May (80

A centre named after Boris Yeltsin is to be built in Yekaterinburg. There will also be a branch in Moscow, Channel 4 TV reported on 27 May. A presidential adviser, Vladimir Shevchenko, informed the Sverdlovsk Region governor, Eduard Rossel, that this proposal had the backing of the family of the first Russian president. The design, construction and functioning of the centre will be funded from the federal budget. Eduard Rossel said that the regional government would give all possible assistance to implement the project. (Channel 4 TV news,

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Yekaterinburg, 1300 gmt 27 May 08) Sverdlovsk Region's businessmen are to award the most incompetent officials with a prize, Ekho Moskvy in Yekaterinburg reported on 27 May. The prize is to be called the Brake Shoe. This device is used to fix carriages standing on rails. The Brake Shoe will be /***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 2 ****** CITE OSC RESTON VA 729706 given to those officials who are tardy in registering documents. The rating of state structures' effectiveness has been drawn up in Yekaterinburg for a number of years. The next list will be announced at the beginning of 2009. (Ekho Moskvy in Yekaterinburg radio, Yekaterinburg, 1044 gmt 27 May 08) Yekaterinburg is lagging behind schedule in preparations for the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit, Channel 4 TV reported. Two new buildings have already been excluded from the guests' route. The Sverdlovsk Region governor, Eduard Rossel, did not hide his indignation while meeting representatives of construction companies on 28 May. A trade centre on Novokoltsovskaya highway, the construction of which was hampered by gardeners some time ago and the second Park House trade centre on Belinskogo-Furmanova streets will not be finished by the deadline. The Yekaterinburg mayor, Arkadiy Chemetskiy, even doubted the honesty of construction companies. Chernetskiy said that they simply did not want to work on these projects. Rossel also criticized the city authorities. He accused city hall of failing to think through the problems of transport movement and car parks taking into consideration the pace of construction work. (Channel 4 TV news, Yekaterinburg, 1300 gmt 28 May 08) Former subordinates of Maj-Gen Vasiliv Lakhtyuk, the former head of the Emergencies Ministry directorate for Sverdlovsk Region. staged a protest near the building of the Sverdlovsk Region government in Yekaterinburg on 30 May. Channel 4 TV reported on the same day. They disagree with the court's verdict. The regional military court found Lakhtyuk guilty of corruption and embezzlement and sentenced him to seven-and-a-half years in a high-security prison and fined him R2.35m (around 100,000 dollars). (Channel 4 TV news, Yekaterinburg, 1300 gmt 30 May 08) Sverdlovsk Region is to send humanitarian aid to victims of the earthquake in China, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 27 May. The Emergency Situations Ministry said that they intended to do so on 26 May, but the Chinese side failed to inform them when

and where a cargo plane would be allowed to land. About 1,000

tents and 10,000 blankets will be sent to earthquake-hit China from Yekaterinburg. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1120 gmt 27 May 08)

Economic

The number of children on the waiting list for admittance to kindergartens is to decrease by 6,000 people in the next three years, Rossiya TV regional service quoted the head of education directorate, Yevgeniya Umnikova, as saying on 28 May. The city authorities intend to allocate R4bn (about 160m dollars) to renovate and construct about 50 pre-school educational establishments. They are also counting on private kindergartens. About 18,000 children are waiting for their turn to be admitted to kindergartens in Yekaterinburg at present. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1120 gmt 28 May 08) The Federal Statistics Service in Sverdlovsk Region has summed up the final results of agricultural census which was started in 2006, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 26 May. According to updated indices, people have virtually stopped migrating from villages to cities. The villages have started to grow and produce more products. Sverdlovsk Region villages compare favourably to other regions of Russia, There are 513 agricultural companies in the region. The number of peasant farms and individual businessmen is also increasing and has already amounted to more than 2,000. Both private and large farms grow mainly grain. Only one third of agricultural companies breed cattle. There are also more exotic farms. Two businessmen breed frogs and one Californian earthworms. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1120 gmt 26 May 08)

The Aviaprad air company has started paying wage arrears to its former employees, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 27 May. The company's total debt amounts to R31m. The Aviaprad air company halted its activities on 11 February. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1120 gmt 27 May 08)

A second airport is to be constructed in Yekaterinburg, Rossiya TV regional service quoted the Sverdlovsk Region governor, Eduard Rossel, as saying on 30 May. Rossel will consider the first drafts of the new international airport in the middle of June. Construction will start in 2010. (Rossiya TV, "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1120 gmt 30 May 08)

The design of a new metro line is to start in Yekaterinburg in July-December 2008, Ekho Moskvy in Yekaterinburg reported on 28 May. The new line will connect the city centre and VIZ district

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and there will be five stations. (Ekho Moskvy in Yekaterinburg radio, Yekaterinburg, 1013 gmt 28 May 08)
Health

Koltsovo airport is to step up security measures in connection with an outbreak of an enterovirus infection in China, Rossiya TV regional service quoted Sverdlovsk Region's Rospotrebnadzor (Federal Service for Consumer Rights Protection) as saying on 27 May. Public health doctors will examine all passengers arriving from South-East Asia. More than 27,500 people infected with the virus have already been registered in China. About 39 children have died. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1120 gmt 27 May 08)

Crime

/****** BEGINNING OF SECTION 3 ******* CITE OSC RESTON VA 729706

A search for a paedophile accused of a number of attacks on small children is under way in Sverdlovsk Region, Channel 4 TV reported on 26 May. The man is accused of murdering an 11-year-old boy in Verkhnyaya Pyshma in the summer 2007 and attacking a four-year-old boy in Kamensk-Uralskiy. The suspect is on the federal wanted list. More than 300 police officers are taking part in a special operation. (Channel 4 TV news, Yekaterinburg, 1300 gmt 26 May 08)

The results of a forensic examination which should shed light on the death of a lawyer, Viktor Yuzhakov and his family are to be ready in a month, Kommersant-Ural website quoted the regional bureau of forensic examination as saying on 26 May. The bodies of four people Yuzhakov, his wife, Tatyana, daughter, Inna and son, Yevgeniy were discovered after an explosion in a nine-storey building in Yekaterinburg on 22 May. The main version of the crime is linked to Yuzhakov's professional activities. The regional prosecutor, Yuriy Ponomarev, is personally controlling the investigation. (Kommersant-Ural newspaper website, Yekaterinburg, 0411 gmt 26 May 08)

Yekaterinburg's Zheleznodorozhnyy district court has started considering a case into child trafficking, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 27 May. Two sisters from Uzbekistan are in the dock. One of the women allegedly offered her four-month daughter for sale in February. The other one helped her to find a buyer. The child was on sale for R20,000. The girl's mother and her sister were caught red-handed. However, in court the

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defendants said that they were not trying to sell the child and police officers planted the money on them. The women pleaded not guilty and asked for the return of the child. The defendants face up to 10 years' imprisonment for child trafficking. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1120 gmt 27 May 08) Human Rights

Yekaterinburg's Chkalovskiy district court has delivered its verdict on Kirill Formanchuk, known as Medved (Bear), Rossiya TV regional service reported on 29 May. Formanchuk was involved in a fight with a military commissioner in October 2007. The court found Formanchuk guilty and ordered him to pay a fine of R52,000.

According to Formanchuk's own version of events, he came to the State Traffic Inspectorate to register his car but he was arrested there and taken to a military registration and enlistment office as a draft dodger. When he tried to make a video recording of his encounter with the military commissioner, a fight broke out. He was taken to Chkalovskiy district interior directorate where he was brutally beaten up by fellow prisoners. Later he was taken to the intensive care unit in one of the city hospitals.

The court found that Formanchuk had tried to rip out documents relating to investigative work from the military commissioner, dropped him on the floor and torn a shoulder strap. Formanchuk is also likely to be dismissed from the Law Academy where he is a first-year student.

Formanchuk intends to appeal against the ruling. He said he was innocent and the case was aimed at intimidating him. For two years he has conducted a campaign against the traffic police who often violate law, publishing the results of his work on the Internet. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1120 gmt 29 May 08)

Other

The first open conference in Sverdlovsk Region on the paranormal was held in Yekaterinburg on 29 May, Rossiya TV regional service reported on the same day. Members of a forum discussed Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs), shared their discoveries, determined the position of places where paranormal phenomena were registered and studied false evidence videos which in the proper sense of the word are discrediting their activities. UFO specialists said that there were two paranormal zones in Sverdlovsk Region Dyatlov Pass and the Malevskiy triangle which

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is located on the border with Perm Region. They also said that an outburst of paranormal phenomena was expected in 2008. This will include visits by aliens and the activities of ghosts and spirits. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1120 gmt 29 May 08)

Description of Source: Caversham BBC Monitoring in English --Monitoring service of the BBC, the United Kingdom's public service broadcaster

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Source Metadata

Source Name: **BBC Monitoring** Source Type(s): Publications Source City: Caversham Source Country: Russia

Source Start Date: 2359 GMT 01 Jun 08 Source End Date: 2359 GMT 01 Jun 08

Language(s): English

Article Metadata

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 4 ******

Document ID:

CEP20080603950403

Content Type:

Summary

Processing Ind: OSC Summary

Precedence:

Routine

Country(s):

Russia, China

Region(s):

Eurasia, Asia

Subregion(s):

Russia, East Asia

Topic(s):

CRIME, DOMESTIC ECONOMIC, DOMESTIC POLITICAL,

HUMAN RIGHTS

CABLETYPE: FBISEMS ACP 1.0.

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#0057

ADD1

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CDS

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HEADER

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FM FBIS RESTON VA

TO RHMCSXX/ATTORNEY GENERAL D BRANCH

RUEAORE/BICE FIU SE MIAMI FL

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RUEPPOG/CDR PSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//ASOF-POG-SB//

RUEPGBA/CDR USEUCOM INTEL VAIHINGEN GE

RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI

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RUKAAKC/UDITDUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

RHMCSUU/US CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION WASHING

RUKAAKA/USAREUR ACE DARMSTADT GE

RUCQSAB/USSOCOM INTEL MACDILL AFB FL

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RULWIOC/USSTRATCOM INTEL OPSCTR OFFUTT AFB NE RHFPAAA/UTAIS RAMSTEIN AB GE//INOW//

BT

CONTROLS

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CITE FBIS RESTON VA 309371

WARNING: TOPIC: DOMESTIC POLITICAL, TERRORISM, URGENT

SERIAL: EUP20060207058009

BODY

COUNTRY: ITALY

SUBJ: TURIN: 'UFO'S' REPORTEDLY SIGHTED OVER OLYMPIC CAULDRON AS

WINTER GAMES APPROACH

SOURCE: TURIN LA STAMPA (INTERNET VERSION-WWW) IN ITALIAN 07 FEB

06

TEXT:

(UNATTRIBUTED REPORT: "THERE IS AN **UFO** ABOVE THE CAULDRON IN THE STADIUM")

(OSC TRANSLATED TEXT)

THE **UFO**'S (**UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS**) HAVE COME TO TOWN FOR THE OLYMPICS AS WELL. IT IS NO JOKE, AS THERE WERE SEVERAL SIGHTINGS, IN CARMAGNOLA AND TURIN, BETWEEN 1600 AND 1640 HOURS. THE EXTRA-SPECIAL "GUESTS" WERE PHOTOGRAPHED RIGHT OVER THE CAULDRON DUE TO BE LIT IN A FEW DAYS' TIME TO INAUGURATE THE WINTER GAMES. SAVERIO MIRABELLI, FROM CARMAGNOLA, RECORDED THE SCENE ON HIS CELL PHONE: "I WAS LOOKING OUT FROM THE BALCONY AT MY HOME AND SAW A SORT OF THUNDERBOLT COME IN FROM AFAR AND THEN A BALL OF LIGHT EMERGING FROM THE TREES. THERE WAS A SORT OF BACKGROUND CRACKLE. THEN IT ALL DISAPPEARED."

(ATTACHMENT NOT INCLUDED: EUP20060207058009001.JPG)
(DESCRIPTION OF SOURCE: TURIN LA STAMPA (INTERNET VERSION-WWW) IN ITALIAN -- LEADING CENTRIST DAILY; OWNED BY FIAT'S AGNELLI

FAMILY)

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CABLETYPE: FBISEMS ACP 1.0.

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CDS

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ZNR UUUUU

HEADER

R 101328Z OCT 05

FM FBIS RESTON VA

TO RHMCSXX/ATTORNEY GENERAL D BRANCH

RUZFMXI/CDR USTRANSCOM INTEL CELL SCOTT AFB IL//J2-O/J2-J//

RUEPPOG/CDR4THPSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//AOCP-POG-SB//

RHMFISS/CDR501STMIBDE SEOUL KOR//IADK-OP-O//

RHMFISS/CDR524THMIBN SEOUL KOR

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RUACMXI/KAIS 7AF OSAN AB KOR//INOI//

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RHMFISS/SACINCUNC SEOUL KOR

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//INR//

RUCQSAB/USSOCOM INTEL MACDILL AFB FL

BT

CONTROLS

UNCLAS

CITE FBIS RESTON VA 539988 WARNING: TOPIC: LEADER SERIAL: KPP20051010971147

BODY

COUNTRY: SOUTH KOREA

SUBJ: ROK'S YONHAP: WATCHER REPORTS SIGHTING HUNDREDS OF UFOS

OVER SEOUL

10

UNCLASSIFIED

SOURCE: SEOUL YONHAP IN ENGLISH 1319 GMT 10 OCT 05

TEXT:

(FBIS TRANSCRIBED TEXT)

COMPUTER SELECTED AND DISSEMINATED WITHOUT FBIS EDITORIAL INTERVENTION)

SEOUL, OCT. 10 (YONHAP) -- A SOUTH KOREAN MAN CLAIMED TO HAVE FILMED **UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS** (UFOS) IN THE SKY ABOVE THE SOUTH KOREAN CAPITAL OF SEOUL MONDAY.

HUH JUN, A SELF-PROCLAIMED **UFO** EXPERT, CLAIMED TO HAVE WITNESSED HUNDREDS OF UFOS APPEAR ABOVE A MOUNTAIN LOCATED BEHIND THE NATION'S PRESIDENTIAL OFFICE OF CHEONG WA DAE (ROK PRESIDENTIAL OFFICES) AT AROUND 10:55 A.M. THAT FLEW AROUND THE AREA FOR ABOUT 30 MINUTES BEFORE DISAPPEARING ABOVE A BUILDING IN DOWNTOWN SEOUL.

A GROUP OF EXPERTS THAT EXAMINED VIDEO FOOTAGE RECORDED OF THE ALLEGED UFOS SAID THEY NEED TO CONDUCT A CLOSER EXAMINATION OF THE TAPE TO DETERMINE ITS AUTHENTICITY.

(DESCRIPTION OF SOURCE: SEOUL YONHAP IN ENGLISH -- SEMIOFFICIAL NEWS AGENCY OF THE ROK. URL:

HTTP://WWW.YONHAPNEWS.NET/ENGSERVICES/300000000.HTML)
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PATUZYUW RUEIFBS5739 1701429-UUUU--RHEFDIA RHEFJWC RHEFNGA RUZDADA RUZDNIS.

ZNR UUUUU

HEADER

P 191429Z JUN 05

FM FBIS RESTON VA

TO RUZDADA/AFIAA AMHS BOLLING AFB DC

RUZFMXI/AMC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//INO//

RAYWAP/ATTORNEY GENERAL D BRANCH

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RUEPGBA/CDR USEUCOM INTEL VAIHINGEN GE

RUZFMXI/CDR USTRANSCOM INTEL CELL SCOTT AFB IL//J2-O/J2-J//

RUEPPOG/CDR4THPSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//AOCP-POG-SB//

RHEFNGA/CDRNGIC CHARLOTTESVILLE VA

RHMFISS/CDRUSASETAF VICENZA IT//AESE-CMO//

RHMFISS/CG III MEF//G-2//

RHMFISS/COMUSNAVEUR DET LONDON UK//N2//

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RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC//IN-1//

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RUEPTAC/ISDTACOM WARREN MI

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RHEFJWC/JWAC DAHLGREN VA

RUZFNAI/NASIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OH

RUEAIJM/NGA M3 WASHINGTON DC

RUETIAA/NSACSS FT GEORGE G MEADE MD

RAYWBFA/ONA CANBERRA

RUCXONI/ONI WASHINGTON DC//2140//

RHHJJPI/PACOM !DHS HONOLULU HI

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RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//INR//

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RHFPAAA/UTAIS RAMSTEIN AB GE//INOW//

BT

CONTROLS

UNCLAS

CITE FBIS RESTON VA 843498

WARNING: TOPIC: DOMESTIC POLITICAL, MILITARY

SERIAL: CEP20050619027040

BODY

COUNTRY: RUSSIA

SUBJ: PROGRAM SUMMARY: MOSCOW REN TV RUSSIAN 0850 GMT 19 JUN 05

(-LEFT-BRACKET-)REN(-RIGHT-BRACKET-)

SOURCE: RENTV IN RUSSIAN 0850 GMT 19 JUN 05

TEXT:

("MILITARY SECRET" PROGRAM PRESENTED BY IGOR PROKOPENKO; FIGURES INDICATE PROGRAM RUNNING TIME. FOR A VIDEO OF THIS PROGRAM CONTACT FBIS AT (703) 482-7409 / (800) 205-8615 OR GSG(-UNDERSCORE-)VSD(-AT-)RCCB.OSIS.GOV WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE

BROADCAST. OSIS USERS MAY ACCESS SELECTED PROGRAMMING AT HTTP://FBISVIDEO.HQ.RCCB.OSIS.GOV)

(FBIS REPORT)

- 1, 0020 HEADLINES.
- 2. 0035 REPORT ON **UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS** (**UFO**) ALLEGEDLY REGISTERED BY SOVIET SALYUT SPACE SHIP IN 1978 AND BY SEVERAL SOVIET AND RUSSIAN MILITARY UNITS LATER. NIKOLAY ANTOSHKIN, FORMER DEPUTY CHIEF COMMANDER OF RUSSIAN AIR FORCE, IS SHOWN RECALLING HAVING SEEN AN **UFO** AND SAYING SOVIET DEFENSE MINISTRY ORDERED THEM TO WRITE NUMEROUS REPORTS ABOUT IT. VIDEO SHOWS ARCHIVE FOOTAGE OF UNCLEAR FLYING OBJECTS.
- 3. 0735 VIDEO REPORT ON RESCUE OPERATIONS CONDUCTED BY OFFICERS OF RUSSIAN EMERGENCIES MINISTRY. VIDEO SHOWS RESCUE WORKERS PULLING PEOPLE FROM UNDER DEBRIS AND THE EQUIPMENT THEY USE. RESCUE WORKERS ANDREY SHAPKIN AND IGOR KISELEV ARE SHOWN TELLING ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCE.
- 1300 TRAILERS FOR THE SECOND PART OF THE PROGRAM; ADVERTS.
- 5. 1955 VIDEO REPORT ON SPECIAL EQUIPMENT, CLOTHES AND SHOES WORN BY SPECIAL PURPOSE UNITS' SOLDIERS.
- 6. 2520 REPORT ON RUSSIAN TEAM THAT HAS WON PARIS-DAKKAR RALLY ON KAMAZ LORRIES. VIDEO SHOWS A KAMAZ ON ROUTE, A DRIVERS' TEAM INSIDE A KAMAZ AND VEHICLES THAT HAVE SUFFERED IN ACCIDENTS.
- 7. 3245 PRESENTER ENDS PROGRAM.

RECEPTION: GOOD

DURATION OF BROADCAST: 33 MINUTES

(DESCRIPTION OF SOURCE: MOSCOW RENTY IN RUSSIAN - NETWORK

FEATURING NEWS AND ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMS; RUSSIA'S UNIFIED ENERGY

SYSTEM IS THE MAJORITY OWNER)

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RATUZYUW RUEIFBS5664 2981047-UUUU--RUZDTPW.

ZNR UUUUU

HEADER

R 251046Z OCT 10

FM OSC RESTON VA

TO RUZFNEL/547IS NELLIS AFB NV

RUZDADA/AFIAA AMHS BOLLING AFB DC

RHMCSXX/ATTORNEY GENERAL D BRANCH

RUZFMXI/CDR USTRANSCOM INTEL CELL SCOTT AFB IL

RHMCSXX/CDRNGIC CHARLOTTESVILLE VA

RUEPVAI/CDRUSASOIC WASHINGTON DC//DIS//

RUEPWDC/DA AMHS WASHINGTON DC

RHMCSXX/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC//IN-1//

RUEPTRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC

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RUGIZZZ/NGA DISSEM WASHINGTON DC

RUETIAA/NSACSS FT GEORGE G MEADE MD

RUCXONI/ONI WASHINGTON DC//2140//

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//INR//

RUCQSAB/USSOCOM INTEL MACDILL AFB FL

BT

CONTROLS

UNCLAS

QQQQ

CITE OSC RESTON VA 385076

WARNING: TOPIC: MILITARY, TECHNOLOGY

SERIAL: GMP20101025737004

BODY

COUNTRY: TURKEY, UNITED STATES

SUBJ: TURKEY: RETIRED GENERAL SAYS ENCOUNTERED UFO OVER WESTERN

AEGEAN IN 1983 (U)

SOURCE: ISTANBUL HURRIYET DAILY NEWS.COM IN ENGLISH 25 OCT 10 (U)

TEXT:

2

UNATTRIBUTED REPORT: "RETIRED TURKISH GENERAL CLAIMS CLOSE ENCOUNTER WITH UFOS" (U) PUBLICATIONS

OSC TRANSCRIBED TEXT

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GREEK JETS ARE NOT THE ONLY AERIAL ADVERSARIES TURKISH PLANES HAVE ENGAGED IN THE SKIES, ACCORDING TO A RETIRED GENERAL WHO HAS CLAIMED HE ENCOUNTERED **UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS** OVER WESTERN TURKEY WHILE SERVING AS A PILOT.

CALLING UP A LIVE TELEVISION SHOW SATURDAY DURING A HEATED DEBATE ABOUT UFOS, RETIRED GEN. ERDOGAN KARAKUS SAID HE AND SEVEN OTHER PILOTS EXPERIENCED A **UFO** ENCOUNTER OVER THE WESTERN PROVINCE OF BALIKESIR IN MAY 1983.

THE UFOS WERE LEVITATING USING AN UNKNOWN TECHNIQUE, KARAKUS SAID, EXPLAINING THAT HE WAS PART OF A GROUP OF EIGHT PILOTS FLYING FOUR TURKISH JETS TO THE SOUTHERN CITY OF ADANA FOR A DRILL WHEN ONE OF THE MEN SPOTTED SOMETHING IN THE AIR.

"HE SAID, 'I SAW SOME OBJECTS, WHAT I SHOULD DO?' AND I SAID, 'IT MAY BE A PLANE SIGNALING FOR HELP; I AM CONNECTING TO THE BALIKESIR FREQUENCY," THE RETIRED GENERAL SAID. "THE FLIGHT-CONTROL TOWER IN BALIKESIR SAID IT DID NOT HAVE ANY FLIGHTS LISTED. I THOUGHT IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN A CIVILIAN PLANE."

THE OBJECTS ACCOMPANIED THE PILOTS FOR 15 MINUTES AS THEY PASSED FROM BALIKESIR TO THE AEGEAN CITY OF DENIZLI, KARAKUS SAID, ADDING THAT HE WARNED ANOTHER PILOT WHO WANTED TO FLY TOWARD THEM NOT TO DO SO AFTER DECIDING THE OBJECTS DID NOT LOOK LIKE PLANES. "ONE OF MY FRIENDS MEANWHILE TURNED HIS PLANE'S LIGHTS OFF. THIS TIME THE UFOS GOT CLOSE TO THE THIRD PLANE. THEY MOVED ON TO THE SECOND ONE WHEN THE THIRD ONE ALSO TURNED ITS LIGHTS OFF," KARAKUS SAID, ADDING THAT WHEN HE LOOKED TO HIS LEFT AT THAT MOMENT, HE COULD NOT SEE ANYTHING OTHER THAN A YELLOW BEAM OF LIGHT.

"THEY MOVED TO MY LEFT SIDE WHEN I ALSO TURNED MY PLANE'S LIGHTS OFF, THE RETIRED GENERAL SAID, ADDING THAT SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, FOUR TO FIVE LIGHTS RESEMBLING PLANE LIGHTS APPEARED. "THEN THEY DISAPPEARED WITH A SUDDEN MANEUVER." KARAKUS SAID THE CONTROL TOWERS AT AIRPORTS IN ANKARA, ISTANBUL AND KONYA ALSO DETECTED THE UFOS THAT NIGHT. "WE REPORTED THE

INCIDENT AND IT WAS PROBABLY SENT TO NASA."

DESCRIPTION OF SOURCE: ISTANBUL HURRIYET DAILY NEWS.COM IN

ENGLISH -- WEBSITE OF HURRIYET DAILY NEWS AND ECONOMIC REVIEW,

PRO-SECULAR DAILY, WITH ENGLISH-LANGUAGE VERSIONS FROM OTHER DOGAN

MEDIA GROUP DAILIES; URL: HTTP://WWW.HURRIYETDAILYNEWS.COM/

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SOURCE METADATA

SOURCE NAME: HURRIYET DAILY NEWS.COM

SOURCE TYPE(S): PUBLICATIONS

SOURCE CITY: ISTANBUL
SOURCE COUNTRY: TURKEY
SOURCE START DATE: 25 OCT 10
SOURCE END DATE: 25 OCT 10
LANGUAGE(S): ENGLISH

ARTICLE METADATA

DOCUMENT ID: GMP20101025737004

CONTENT TYPE: TRANSLATION/TRANSCRIPTION

PROCESSING IND: OSC TRANSCRIBED TEXT

PRECEDENCE: ROUTINE

COUNTRY(S): TURKEY, UNITED STATES

REGION(S): EUROPE, AMERICAS

SUBREGION(S): SOUTH EUROPE, NORTH AMERICAS

TOPIC(S): MILITARY, TECHNOLOGY

CABLETYPE: FBISEMS ACP 1.0.

ADMIN BT

#5664

NNNN

POSSIBLE UFO APPEARANCE (U)

SOURCE: BEIJING CHINA DAILY ONLINE IN ENGLISH 1533 GMT 02 AUG 10 (U)

TEXT:

ARTICLE BY CHINADAILY.COM.CN) FROM THE "REGIONAL" PAGE: "EXPERT PREDICTS POSSIBLE UFO APPEARANCE" (U)

INTERNET

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WANG MADE THE FORECAST UNDER RECENTLY-HEATED SPECULATIONS ABOUT UFOS, AS SOME **UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS** HAVE BEEN SPOTTED IN SEVERAL CHINESE REGIONS OF ZHEJIANG, HUNAN, CHONGQING AND XINJIANG SINCE LAST MONTH.

A UFO SPOTTED IN ZHEJIANG'S PROVINCIAL CAPITAL OF HANGZHOU EVEN DISRUPTED AIR TRAFFIC OVER EAST CHINA FOR AN HOUR IN EARLY JULY. SOME MEDIA REPORTS GUESSED THE UFO MIGHT HAVE BEEN A PRIVATE AIRCRAFT, BECAUSE OF THE INCREASING NUMBER OF PRIVATELY OWNED AIRCRAFT.

YET WANG HINTED THE POSSIBILITY OF AIRCRAFT FROM OUTER SPACE, BASED ON "THE POSSIBLE EXISTENCE OF 2.5 BILLION PLANETS WITH POSSIBLE CIVILIZATION AND ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY IN THE MILKY WAY GALAXY, AMONG WHICH THE EARTH AND ITS CIVILIZATION ARE MERELY AT A PRIMARY EVOLUTION STAGE," SAID THE GUANGZHOU-BASED NEWSPAPER. AS FOR WHAT BRITISH COSMOLOGICAL PHYSICIST STEPHEN HAWKING CLAIMED ABOUT ALIENS IN APRIL THIS YEAR, SAYING "AN ALIEN ENCOUNTER COULD HAVE BAD CONSEQUENCES FOR HUMANS AND EARTH HAD BETTER WATCH OUT," WANG CALLED IT TOO EARLY TO MAKE A CONCLUSION.

WANG ALSO URGED SCIENTISTS TO DESIGN AND CREATE MORE ADVANCED AND AGILE TELESCOPES IN ORDER TO OBSERVE THE UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS THAT USUALLY TURN UP ON OCCASION, OFTEN FOR ONLY SECONDS AT A TIME.

DESCRIPTION OF SOURCE: BEIJING CHINA DAILY ONLINE IN ENGLISH --

RATUZYUW RUEIFBS6511 2150600-UUUU-RUZDTPW. CDS

ZNR UUUUU

HEADER

R 030559Z AUG 10

FM OSC RESTON VA

TO RHMCSXX/ATTORNEY GENERAL D BRANCH

RUEPPOG/CDR PSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//ASOF-POG-SB//

RHMCSUU/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI

RUZFMXI/CDR USTRANSCOM INTEL CELL SCOTT AFB IL

RHMCSXX/CDRNGIC CHARLOTTESVILLE VA

RUEPWDC/DA AMHS WASHINGTON DC

RHMCSXX/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC//IN-1//

RUEPTRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC

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RHEFMSC/DIRMSIC REDSTONE ARSENAL AL

RUEPMAX/GISA FT BRAGG NC

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RUZDJWC/JWAC DAHLGREN VA

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RUETIAA/NSACSS FT GEORGE G MEADE MD

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RUCXONI/ONI WASHINGTON DC//2140//

RHHJJPI/PACOM IDHS HONOLULU HI

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//INR//

RUHDNCR/SUSLAK SONGNAM KOR

RHHJRAP/USARPAC INTEL FT SHAFTER HI//APIN//

RUCQSAB/USSOCOM INTEL MACDILL AFB FL

BT

CONTROLS

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CITE OSC RESTON VA 799537

WARNING: TOPIC: DOMESTIC POLITICAL

SERIAL: CPP20100803026002

BODY

COUNTRY: CHINA

SUBJ: CHINA DAILY CITES YANGCHENG EVENING NEWS: EXPERT PREDICTS

WEBSITE OF CHINA'S OFFICIAL ENGLISH-LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER, OFFERING BOTH THE WEBSITE OF THE PAPER AND ADDITIONAL CONTENT: URL:

HTTP://WWW.CHINADAILY.COM.CN/

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SOURCE METADATA

SOURCE NAME:

CHINA DAILY ONLINE

SOURCE TYPE(S): INTERNET

SOURCE CITY:

BEIJING

SOURCE COUNTRY: CHINA

SOURCE START DATE: 1533 GMT 02 AUG 10

SOURCE END DATE: 1533 GMT 02 AUG 10

LANGUAGE(S):

ENGLISH

ARTICLE METADATA

DOCUMENT ID:

CPP20100803026002

CONTENT TYPE:

TRANSLATION/TRANSCRIPTION

PROCESSING IND: OSC TRANSCRIBED TEXT

PRECEDENCE:

ROUTINE

COUNTRY(S):

CHINA

REGION(S):

ASIA

SUBREGION(S):

EAST ASIA

DOMESTIC POLITICAL

TOPIC(S):

CABLETYPE: FBISEMS ACP 1.0.

ADMIN

BT

#6511

NNNN

CDS

RATUZYUW RUEIFBS8517 2021431-UUUU--RUZDTPW.

ZNR UUUUU

HEADER

R 211430Z JUL 10

FM OSC RESTON VA

TO RHMCSXX/ATTORNEY GENERAL D BRANCH

RUZDADA/BUREAU OF ALCOHOL TOBACCO FIREARMS WASHI

RUEPPOG/CDR PSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//ASOF-POG-SB//

RHMCSUU/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI

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RHHJJPI/PACOM IDHS HONOLULU HI

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//INR//

RUCQSAB/USSOCOM INTEL MACDILL AFB FL

RUZEUAA/UTAIS RAMSTEIN AB GE//INOW//

BT

CONTROLS

UNCLAS

SECTION 1 OF 2

QQQQ

CITE OSC RESTON VA 728795

WARNING: TOPIC: TECHNOLOGY

SERIAL: CEP20100607358005

/******** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE ********/

14

BODY

COUNTRY: RUSSIA

SUBJ: RUSSIA: NEW TELESCOPE MONITORS LOW-ORBIT OBJECTS (U)

SOURCE: BARNAUL ALTAYSKAYA PRAVDA ONLINE IN RUSSIAN 04 JUN 10 (U)

TEXT:

ARTICLE BY OLEG MIKUROV AND ANDREY KASPRISHIN: "THE UNIVERSE IS NEARBY!" (THIS TRANSLATION PROVIDED TO OSC BY ANOTHER GOVERNMENT

AGENCY.) (U)
INTERNET

OSC TRANSLATED TEXT

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"FOR ALTAY KRAY, 2010 IS A SPECIAL YEAR," ALEKSANDR KARLIN THINKS. "I AM TALKING ABOUT THE 75TH BIRTHDAY OF THE PLANET'S SECOND COSMONAUT AND THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF HIS FATHER, STEPAN PAVLOVICH TITOV, A TEACHER AND A EDUCATOR. THIS DECISION IS NOT JUST A MERE FORMALITY. THE KRAY HAS A WORTHY PLACE IN THE HISTORY OF SPACE EXPLORATION. I AM SURE THAT NAMING THE OPTICS AND LASER CENTER AFTER A DISTINGUISHED PERSON WILL RESULT IN THE FACT THAT ALL TASKS SET BY THE STATE LEADERSHIP AND ROSKOSMOS WILL BE CARRIED OUT ON A HIGHER LEVEL."

YURIY ROY SPOKE ABOUT HIS WORK WITH GERMAN TITOV AND PRESENTED THE KRAY GOVERNOR WITH A BADGE FOR CONTRIBUTION TO SPACE ACTIVITIES, WHICH IS USUALLY BESTOWED FOR A SIGNIFICANT PERSONAL CONTRIBUTION TO CARRYING OUT SPACE PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS.

THE FIRST "LASER" OR AS SCIENTISTS PUT IT, THE GROUND OPTICS AND LASER SYSTEM (NOLS) WAS PUT IN SERVICE IN 2004. IT IS A TELESCOPE THAT HAS A PRIMARY MIRROR WITH A 0.6 METER DIAMETER. IT IS USED FOR TRAJECTORY AND PHOTOMETRIC MONITORING DURING LAUNCH AND FLIGHT INTO TARGET ORBITS, INCLUDING GEOSTATIONARY ORBITS, OF NEW SPACECRAFT AND TO MONITOR SPACECRAFT THAT ARE ALREADY IN SPACE. THIS IS A DUAL-PURPOSE FACILITY—IT WORKS FOR ROSKOSMOS AND FOR THE MILITARY.

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT TASKS OF THE SAVVUSHKA TELESCOPE IS TO MONITOR SPACE DEBRIS IMMEDIATELY BEFORE ROCKET LAUNCHES FROM BAYKONUR. AFTER ALL, IT IS NO SECRET THAT THERE IS A GREAT DEAL OF GARBAGE IN LOW-EARTH ORBIT—DEBRIS LEFT OVER FROM PREVIOUS LAUNCHES. THE PIECES VARY IN SIZE AND WEIGHT, AND THEY FLOAT IN DIFFERENT ORBITS. BY THE WAY, THIS DIRECTLY DETERMINES THEIR FURTHER FATE. THE ONES THAT ARE CLOSER TO THE EARTH WILL FALL MORE QUICKLY AND WILL BURN UP IN THE UPPER LAYERS OF THE ATMOSPHERE. THE FURTHER AWAY THEY ARE, THE LONGER THEY WILL REMAIN IN SPACE. AND, FINALLY, THE ONES THAT ARE ORBITING FAR FROM OUR PLANET WILL STAY THERE A VERY LONG TIME OR WILL FLY INTO SPACE. BUT ALL THIS DEBRIS IS A REAL THREAT TO LAUNCH VEHICLES, WHICH IS WHY CLOSE MONITORING IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE LAUNCH IS NECESSARY.

NOW LET'S TALK ABOUT WHAT THE NEW TELESCOPE WILL BE LIKE. IT WILL BE POSITIONED SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER THAN THE OLD ONE. WHICH IN ITSELF WILL PROVIDE FOR MORE PRODUCTIVE OPERATION OF THE TELESCOPE. BECAUSE THE HIGHER IT IS, THE LESS ATMOSPHERIC INTERFERENCE THERE IS. THE DIAMETER OF THE PRIMARY MIRROR OF THIS NOLS IS 3.12 METERS. AS THE SCIENTISTS WHO WILL OPERATE THE TELESCOPE MODESTLY STATE. THIS AND OTHER PARAMETERS WILL MAKE THIS TELESCOPE THE MOST POWERFUL UNIT OF THIS KIND. AT LEAST IN RUSSIA. THE TELESCOPE WILL BE PUT INTO SERVICE BETWEEN 2011 AND 2012. ITS TASK IS TO OBTAIN DETAILED IMAGES OF LOW-ORBIT SPACECRAFT. GERMAN TITOV WAS PRESENT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CREATION AND PRACTICAL SPACE APPLICATION OF HIGH-PRECISION QUANTUM-OPTICAL SYSTEMS; HE WAS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE USSR MINISTRY OF DEFENSE STATE COMMISSION IN CHARGE OF TESTING AND USING THE COMPLEX ON MOUNT MAYDANAK (2750 METERS ABOVE THE SEAL LEVEL) IN UZBEKISTAN--THE BEST SUCH COMPLEX AT THE TIME. WHEN THE SOVIET UNION BROKE APART, THE MAJORITY OF SUCH FACILITIES ENDED UP OUTSIDE OF RUSSIA'S BORDERS. THE CONSTRUCTION OF SUCH FACILITIES IN AREAS WITH THE BEST ASTRONOMICAL AND CLIMATIC CHARACTERISTICS HAS BECOME URGENT. GERMAN STEPANOVICH WAS AN AVID PROPONENT OF

BUILDING AN OPTICS AND LASER CENTER IN HIS NATIVE ALTAY IN THE VILLAGE OF SAVVUSHKA. BY THE WAY, SCIENTISTS SAY THAT THERE ARE OVER 250 SUNNY DAYS PER YEAR IN THAT AREA. SO, THE LOCATION WAS CHOSEN PROFESSIONALLY!

THERE ARE 50 PERSONS ON STAFF IN THE ALTAY OPTICS AND LASER /***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 2 ******

CENTER. PRIMARILY, THEY ARE LOCAL RESIDENTS. ALL PERSONNEL HAVE HIGHER TECHNICAL EDUCATION. TRADITIONALLY, THEY ARE GRADUATES FROM THE ALTAY STATE TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OR BAUMAN MOSCOW STATE TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY.

JOURNALISTS WERE INTERESTED TO KNOW IF THE CENTER'S PERSONNEL HAD SEEN SOMETHING UNUSUAL THROUGH THEIR TELESCOPE.

"DO YOU MEAN A UFO?" ONE OF THE STAFF ASKS. "NATURALLY, NO! LET ME EXPLAIN WHY I SAID 'NATURALLY.' OTHER KINDS OF TELESCOPES RESEARCH SPACE. WE MONITOR SATELLITES, WHICH MEANS THAT WE WORK IN STRICTLY DEFINED SECTORS. THE PROBABILITY OF A UFO ENTERING THIS VERY SECTOR IS VERY LOW. BUT AS FOR UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS THAT ARE REMNANTS OF SPACE LAUNCHES FROM THE EARTH, THERE ARE MORE THAN ENOUGH! THEY ALL MUST BE CATALOGUED. WHEN THE NEW TELESCOPE ARRIVES. OUR CAPABILITIES WILL GREATLY EXPAND. AND IT IS GREAT THAT RUSSIA IS NOT LAGGING BEHIND WORLD TRENDS AND IS **BUILDING SUCH MODERN EQUIPMENT."**

DESCRIPTION OF SOURCE: BARNAUL ALTAYSKAYA PRAVDA ONLINE IN RUSSIAN - WEBSITE OF ALTAY KRAY REGIONAL DAILY SOCIOPOLITICAL NEWSPAPER, URL: HTTP://WWW.AP22.RU/

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SOURCE METADATA

SOURCE NAME: ALTAYSKAYA PRAVDA ONLINE

SOURCE TYPE(S): INTERNET SOURCE CITY: BARNAUL SOURCE COUNTRY: RUSSIA SOURCE START DATE: 04 JUN 10

SOURCE END DATE: 04 JUN 10

ARTICLE METADATA

LANGUAGE(S):

CEP20100607358005 DOCUMENT ID:

CONTENT TYPE: TRANSLATION/TRANSCRIPTION

PROCESSING IND: OSC TRANSLATED TEXT

RUSSIAN

ROUTINE PRECEDENCE:

UNCLASSIFIED

COUNTRY(S): RUSSIA
REGION(S): EURASIA
SUBREGION(S): RUSSIA
TOPIC(S): TECHNOLOGY
CABLETYPE: FBISEMS ACP 1.0.

ADMIN BT #8518

NNNN

UNCLASSIFIED

page 28

Approved for Release: 2012/09/18

CDS

RATUZYUW RUEIFBS3906 1831130-UUUU--RHEFDIA RHEFNGA RUZDJWC RUZDNAI RUZDNIS RUZEUAA.

ZNR UUUUU

HEADER

R 011127Z JUL 08

FM OSC RESTON VA

TO RUZFMXI/AMC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//INO//

RHMCSXX/ATTORNEY GENERAL D BRANCH

RUEPPOG/CDR PSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//ASOF-POG-SB//

RUZFMXI/CDR USTRANSCOM INTEL CELL SCOTT AFB IL//J2-O/J2-J//

RHEFNGA/CDRNGIC CHARLOTTESVILLE VA

RHMCSXX/CDRUSASETAF VICENZA IT//AESE-CMO//

RUEPWDC/DA AMHS WASHINGTON DC

RHMCSXX/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC//IN-1//

RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC

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RUGIAAA/NGA NAVY YARD WASHINGTON DC

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RUCXONI/ONI WASHINGTON DC//2140//

RHHJJPI/PACOM IDHS HONOLULU HI

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RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//INR//

RUCQSAB/USSOCOM INTEL MACDILL AFB FL

RUZEUAA/UTAIS RAMSTEIN AB GE//INOW//

BT

CONTROLS

UNCLAS

SECTION 1 OF 3

QQQQ

CITE OSC RESTON VA 890706

WARNING: TOPIC: CRIME, DOMESTIC ECONOMIC, DOMESTIC POLITICAL,

MIGRATION

SERIAL: CEP20080701950161

/******* THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *******/

BODY

5

UNCLASSIFIED *

COUNTRY: RUSSIA

SUBJ: RUSSIA: YEKATERINBURG MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS 23-29 JUN 08 (U)

SOURCE: CAVERSHAM BBC MONITORING IN ENGLISH 2359 GMT 29 JUN 08 (U)

TEXT:

Publications
OSC Summary

C:

Russia: Yekaterinburg media highlights 23-29 Jun 08
The following are media highlights from the state-owned Rossiya
TV's regional news slot and Channel 4 TV news, the Novyy Region
news agency, Ekho Moskvy in Yekaterinburg radio and
Kommersant-Ural website during the period 23-29 June 2008:
Political

The leader of the Sverdlovsk regional branch of the Yabloko party, Mariya Dronova, has been elected to the political bureau of the party, Novyy Region news agency reported on 23 June. The decision was made at Yabloko's federal conference in Moscow on 22 June. The conference was of really historical significance for the Yabloko party. Grigoriy Yavlinskiy stepped down and his deputy. Sergey Mitrokhin, was elected new leader. (Novyy Region news agency, Yekaterinburg, 1000 gmt 23 Jun 08) A glass dome is to be constructed over the lset River in Yekaterinburg, Ekho Moskvy in Yekaterinburg reported on 23 June. The dome will be connected with the Demidov business centre and will be constructed especially for the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit. After the official events, presidents will be invited into the dome to admire the picturesque view of the lset embankment. The dome will be made of energy-saving protective glass. Its total area will be 2,000 sq.m. After the summit the dome will be used as an exhibition and entertainment centre. (Ekho Moskvy in Yekaterinburg radio, Yekaterinburg, 0854 gmt 23 Jun 08)

The Yekaterinburg city duma deputies approved the design of the city's official flag on 24 June, Channel 4 TV reported on the same day. The banner is a cloth of yellow, green and blue colours. In the centre there is a smelting furnace and a mineshaft. Green is the historical colour of Sverdlovsk Region. Yellow is the colour of the Urals Mountains and blue is the colour of the Iset River. Blue and yellow are also the colours of Europe and Asia respectively. (Channel 4 TV news, Yekaterinburg, 1300 gmt 24 Jun 08)

The former head of Yekaterinburg's committee for property

5885832

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management has been charged with large-scale embezzlement, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 26 June. The name of the official is not being divulged in the interests of investigation. The district prosecutors' office said that the official had illegally transferred a municipal building of more than 1,000 sq.m. to a commercial structure at a price well below its market value. Losses to the city budget are assessed at more than R27m. The official faces up to ten years' imprisonment. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1130 gmt 26 Jun 08) The Sverdlovsk Region governor, Eduard Rossel, has rebuked Yekaterinburg mayor Arkadiy Chernetskiy for failing to clean the city, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 26 June. Chernetskiy said that the lack of funding was the main reason: the money allocated by the regional authorities was enough only to take five per cent of snow out of the city, to clean first class streets twice a week, second class streets once a week and third class streets only once in two weeks. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1130 gmt 26 Jun 08) The Sverdlovsk Region governor, Eduard Rossel, has discussed Yekaterinburg's contribution to a special meeting dedicated to construction works ahead of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 27 June. Rossel paid special attention to the construction of the Koltsovo-Yekaterinburg highway. Part of the road will be opened on 15 June and it will have been completed by September. The

However, the construction of a transport and logistics centre in Koltsovo airport has not yet been resolved. The design documentation is ready and a construction site has been determined but construction has not even begun. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1130 gmt 27 Jun 08) Economic

contractors have told Rossel that all the works have gone

according to plan.

Yekaterinburg's Koltsovo airport is set to become a leader in aviation fuel prices, Kommersant-Ural website reported on 23 June. The company announced the next increase in fuel prices would be 13.6 per cent (from R26,940 to R30,600 a tonne) as of 21 June. This is higher than in other Russian airports, including Domodedovo. (Kommersant-Ural website, Yekaterinburg, 0500 gmt 23 Jun 08)

The Sverdlovsk Region governor, Eduard Rossel, has signed an order to set up a corporation of the Urals' development, Ekho Moskvy in

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Yekaterinburg reported on 25 June. Initially its assets will be R5bn and then they will be increased to R20bn. The corporation is /******* BEGINNING OF SECTION 2 *******

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expected to start working in 2009 and it will draw up business plans for potential investors, including those from foreign countries. (Ekho Moskvy in Yekaterinburg radio, Yekaterinburg, 0439 gmt 25 Jun 08)

Sverdlovsk Region deputies have considered a draft budget presented by the regional governor, Eduard Rossel, Rossiya TV regional Service reported on 26 June. Among its main aims is to resolve the shortage of kindergartens, construct more housing and roads, improve medical services and attract more investment to Sverdlovsk Region.

As of 2009 the budget will move from an annual to a three-year event. "The programmes will be aimed at the implementation of the state development strategy through to 2020 and first of all at the improvement of people's living standards in Sverdlovsk Region," Lyudmila Babushkina, the chairman of the House of Representatives of Sverdlovsk Region's Legislative Assembly, said.

About 50 per cent of the budget will be spent on targeted programmes and up to 20 per cent will be invested in innovation. Rossel said that a huge sum of money - more than R60bn - would be spent to construct roads in rural areas and main highways in 2009-15. As of 2009 73 kindergartens will be refurbished and 14 new ones built with funds from the regional budget. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1130 gmt 26 Jun 08) Environment

A train carrying toxic and radioactive waste has arrived in Novouralsk in Sverdlovsk Region from Germany, Ekho Moskvy in Yekaterinburg reported on 24 June. The transportation of uranium waste by-products was not hampered by protests from Russian and German environmentalists. The Ekozashchita environmental organization said that the German Urenco company had been importing toxic and radioactive waste formed during the uranium enrichment process to Russia since 1996. (Ekho Moskvy in Yekaterinburg radio, Yekaterinburg, 0457 gmt 24 Jun 08) Health

Russian and Czech doctors have performed a demonstration operation using the da Vinci Surgical System at the Regional Clinical

reported on 27 June. The system enables surgeons to perform even the most complex and delicate procedures through very small incisions with unmatched precision. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1130 gmt 27 Jun 08)

Migration

About 300 construction workers from Turkey have been evicted from a hostel in Yekaterinburg, Channel 4 TV reported on 27 June. A construction company which hired them to build a block of flats in the city has gone bankrupt and has not been paying their wages for three months. The migrant workers now have to live in tents. (Channel 4 TV news, Yekaterinburg, 1300 gmt 27 Jun 08) Crime

Two police officers in Yekaterinburg have been ordered to pay a fine of R200,000 for abuse of office, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 23 June. Mikhail Derevyankin and Andrey Shaburov will also be deprived of the right to work for law enforcement agencies for five years.

In 2007 the police officers arrested a young man in the village of Koltsovo and planted drugs on him. Then they started threatening to put the young man in jail if he did not pay them R60,000. The victim decided not to bring the money but appealed to the security service of the district interior directorate. In a sting operation Derevyankin and Shaburov were caught red-handed while receiving the bribe. Both the prosecutor and the victim consider the verdict to be too lenient. They demanded that the police officers be sentenced to nine years' imprisonment. (Rossiva TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1130 gmt 23 Jun 08) A woman who was trying to sell her nephew's organs has been sentenced to five years' imprisonment in Kamensk-Uralskiy in Sverdlovsk Region, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 25 June. The woman was arrested on 15 March while receiving R100,000 in exchange for her nephew's organs. Police officers posed as buyers in this deal. The woman pleaded guilty. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1130 gmt 25 Jun 08) A former staff member of the Nizhniy Tagil education department, Shamil Karymov, has been found guilty of extorting R200,000 (8,540 dollars), from a businessman and has been sentenced to three years in jail, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 25 June. According to the evidence presented in court, Karymov extorted the money from a businessman who repaired schools in Nizhniy Tagil.

This turned out to be not the only case of abuse of office in the

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Nizhniy Tagil administration. The head of the city's housing directorate, Nadezhda Smirnova, was also arrested. She was charged with responsibility for illegal rental contracts signed on properties in federal ownership which belong to the Ministry of Civil Defence, Emergencies, and Natural Disasters. Losses to the state budget are estimated at R800m. This sum, however, looks ridiculous compared to how much of budget money was spent to create Nizhniy Tagil's Internet website. The sum of R5.5m is mentioned in an estimate signed by the city head, Nikolay Didenko. An investigation into this case is under way. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1130 gmt 25 Jun 08)

A symbolic number of UFO specialists 13 people have spent two days /****** BEGINNING OF SECTION 3 *******

in mysterious forests near Rezh where local dacha owners say they have observed flying saucers and shiriy spheres, Rossiya TV regional service reported on 23 June. "I was walking in the forest, the day was gloomy and everything was calm. Suddenly, I heard a deafening sound, as if somebody was throwing metal sheets. I walked 20 m. more, looked around but saw nothing and then I understood that I was in an absolutely unknown place," a local mushroom picker who claims he was abducted by aliens told UFO specialists. The man also showed a forefinger with a strange mark on a nail looking like an implant which was allegedly put there by aliens.

Members of the Kosmopoisk public scientific organization were surprised with readings of radiation level which stood at 23 micro-roentgen per hour. The general radiation level is supposed to be 11 micro-roentgen in this region. Aleksey Komanev, coordinator of a group of scientists studying paranormal phenomena said that he believed in eyewitnesses' stories about flying objects in this paranormal zone, but unfortunately he had not seen **Unidentified Flying Objects** (UFOs) himself. There are no less than 100 paranormal zones in Sverdlovsk Region. The next expedition will be to Sukhoy Log later this summer. A woman who says she became paralysed after contact with a **UFO** lives there. (Rossiya TV "Vesti Ural" news, Yekaterinburg, 1130 gmt 23 Jun 08) (SEE SEPARATE ITEM)

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