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RHHJJAA/JICPAC HONOLULU HI
RHMJUPIPACON IDMS HONOLULU HI
RHMUNA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI
RUCCAAB/MQ AFSPC INTEL PETERSON AFB CO
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RUEAL/SESTATE MASHINGTON DC//2148//
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RUECASESTATE MASHINGTON DC
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WARN WARNING: TOPIC: MILITARY

SERI SERIAL: CEP2@@11115@@#29@

COUN COUNTRY: RUSSIA

SUBJ SUBJ: DAGESTAN UFO 'MAY HAVE BEEN' RUSSIAN 'DRONE'

SOUR SOURCE: MOSCOW SEGODNYA IN RUSSIAN 15 NOV ## P 3

TEXT TEXT:

[REPORT BY ANDREY VIKTOROV: "ALIENS MAKING MISCHIEF. DAGESTANI BORDER GUARDS SEE UNIDENTIFIED FLYING INTRUDER""]
[FBIS TRANSLATED TEXT] IN THE EARLY HOURS YESTERDAY MEN FROM SEVERAL DERBENT BORDER GUARD DETACHMENT (MAGARAMKENTSKIY RAYON, DAGESTAN) SUBUNITS WATCHED A MYSTERIOUS LUMINOUS OBJECT FOR SEVERAL MINUTES AS IT MOVED SWIFTLY ACROSS THE SKY. WITNESSES CLAIMED THAT "THREE GLOWING LIGHTS TWO METERS ACROSS APPEARED OVER BY THE MOUNTAINS AND DISAPPEARED OVER BY THE SEA FOLLOWING A 18-DEGREE COURSE "

YOUR SEGODNYA CORRESPONDENT WAS TOLD AT THE FPS [FEDERAL BORDER SERVICE] NORTH CAUCASUS REGIONAL DIRECTORATE THAT THE "UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT WAS OBSERVED BY BORDER DETAIL DUTY OFFICERS OF TWO DERBENT DETACHMENT SUBUNITS STATIONED NEAR THE SETTLEMENTS OF KAZMALYAR AND NOVYY FILYA AT \$145 HOURS." THE FAST-FLYING OBJECT APPEARED OVER BY THE MOUNTAINS AND MOVED TOWARD THE CASPIAN AT A HEIGHT OF AROUND 188 METERS. TWO MINUTES LATER THE UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT DISAPPEARED.

THE MYSTERIOUS INCIDENT WAS TREATED RATHER SERIOUSLY: IT WAS REPORTED TO THE LOCAL INTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTRY. BUT THE DAGESTANI POLICE'S VIEW OF THE INCIDENT WAS SOMEWHAT IRONICAL: AS ONE OF THEM TOLD YOUR SEGODNYA CORRESPONDENT, "WE OUGHT TO BE LOCKING INTO TERRESTRIAL MATTERS."

THERE WERE PERSISTENT RUMORS YESTERDAY AMONG THE MILITARY THAT THE UFO WAS A MILITARY SATELLITE DESCENDING FROM ORBIT, WHILE THE

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BORDER GUARDS EVEN SAID ROUGHLY WHERE IT HAD COME DOWN -"SOMEWHERE IN ORENBURG OBLAST." BUT, AS STRATEGIC MISSILES FORCES
SPECIALISTS TOLD YOUR SEGODNYA CORRESPONDENT, "AT THAT PARTICULAR
TIME THE REGULAR TRACKING FACILITIES IN THE DAGESTAN AREA DID NOT
PICK UP A SATELLITE." SEGODNYA WAS GIVEN A DIFFERENT VERSION BY
EDVARD KONOVIVICH, HEAD OF THE MOSCOW BRANCH OF THE RUSSIAN ACADEMY
OF SCIENCES ASTRONOMY AND GEODESY SOCIETY: HE CONCEDED THAT THE
LUMINOUS OBJECT MIGHT WELL BE A LOW-FLYING METEOR, ALTHOUGH HE DID
SAY THAT "IT IS SIMPLY IMPOSSIBLE TO GIVE A SOUND, UNEQUIVOCAL
ANSWER ON THE BASIS OF THE AVAILABLE INFORMATION."

THERE IS ANOTHER EXPLANATION, WHICH HAS NOT BEEN OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED, FOR THE APPEARANCE OF THE UFO IN THE SKIES OF DAGESTAN. THE "LUMINOUS OBJECT" MAY HAVE BEEN A RUSSIAN PCHELA OR SHMEL RECONNAISSANCE DRONE: ACTIVE USE HAS BEEN MADE OF THEM FOR AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE IN CHECHNYA. THEIR SIZE NEATLY FITS THE DIMENSIONS OF THE OBJECTS SPOTTED BY THE BORDER GUARDS. AND THE THREE "GLOWING LIGHTS" MIGHT WELL HAVE BEEN THE INCANDESCENT EXHAUST FROM A DRONE'S JET ENGINES.

[DESCRIPTION OF SOURCE: MOSCOW SEGODNYA IN RUSSIAN -- DAILY NEWSPAPER OWNED BY VLADIMIR GUSINSKIY'S MEDIA-MOST GROUP.]
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