

UNCLAS 30/WAVE SPACE 292 308  
\*\*\* BEGIN MESSAGE 33 \*\*\*

SERIAL=PM2305151591 UDN=Y(26285)  
CLASS=UNCLAS 30/WAVE SPACE 292 308  
UNCLAS 30/WAVE SPACE 292 308  
WARNING: THIS ITEM CORRESPONDS TO ITEM NO. 30. OF LD21052Q0191  
(211800 PROGRAM SUMMARY)  
SERIAL: PM2305151591  
PASS: ATTN TV CENTER/VIDEO NAVY  
COPY TO MOD, MOD (2), UD  
COUNTRY: USSR  
SUBJ: 'STRANGE OBJECT' FILMED FLOATING AROUND 'MIR' STATION  
SOURCE: MOSCOW CENTRAL TELEVISION FIRST PROGRAM NETWORK IN RUSSIAN  
1800 GMT 21 MAY 91

TEXT:  
//((FROM THE "VREMYA" NEWSCAST: REPORT BY P. ORLOV, IDENTIFIED BY CAPTION))

((TEXT)) ((ANNOUNCER)) THE FLIGHT OF THE SOVIET-BRITISH SPACE CREW ABOARD THE "MIR" STATION IS CONTINUING. THEIR JOINT WORK HAS ALREADY PRODUCED ITS FIRST RESULTS, BUT NOT ALL OF THEM CAN BE INTERPRETED UNEQUIVOCALLY. OUR CORRESPONDENT REPORTS:

((ORLOV)) FOR SCHOOLS IN BRITAIN, AND ALSO FOR OUR SPECIAL SCHOOLS, THIS COULD BE AN OBJECT LESSON IN CELESTIAL MECHANICS -- TO USE THE BRITISH DESCRIPTION OF WEIGHTLESSNESS.

HELEN SHARMAN'S FIRST IMPRESSIONS ARE: THE FEELING OF BEING IN SPACE IS LOVELY. SERGEY KRIKALEV TAUGHT HER HOW TO GET RID OF THE DISTRESSING SENSATIONS. THE FOOD IS STRANGE BUT VERY TASTY. TRUE, IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO PREPARE. BUT THE HARDEST THING OF ALL IS THAT EVERYTHING AROUND YOU IS FLYING ABOUT, BE IT A PIECE OF BREAD OR THE CREW COMMANDER.

OUR BRITISH COLLEAGUES WERE VERY PLEASED TO HEAR ALL THIS. BUT THE REAL PROBLEMS LIE OUTSIDE THE STATION. THE POINT IS THAT YESTERDAY EVENING, DURING THE LATE COMMUNICATIONS SESSION, A STRANGE OBJECT WAS FILMED. YOU CAN SEE IT NOW, THERE, AT THE VERY CENTER OF THE SCREEN. ((VIDEO SHOWS "MIR" STATION AND A LUMINESCENT OBJECT HOVERING AROUND IT))

IF IT WERE A UFO, IT WOULD NOT BE TOO BAD. BUT MUSA MANAROV, WHO WAS FILMING THE CRAFT DURING THE DOCKING WITH THE STATION, HAS FUELED DOUBTS BY SAYING THAT HE SAW THAT OBJECT COME OFF THE CRAFT. OF COURSE, THERE IS NOTHING CHEEERFUL ABOUT THE FACT THAT AN OBJECT OF QUITE A CONSIDERABLE SIZE IS FLYING AROUND THE STATION, EVEN IF IT IS NOT A PART OF THE SOYUZ TRANSPORT CRAFT.

((UNIDENTIFIED VOICE)) MOVE CLOSER, PLEASE.  
((ORLOV)) MEANWHILE, LET ME REMIND YOU THAT HELEN SHARMAN IS THE FIRST WOMAN ABOARD THE "MIR" STATION. SOMETHING TO MAKE SEAMEN ENVIOUS. BUT JOKES APART, IT IS NOT CLEAR WHAT THE OBJECT ACCOMPANYING THE STATION IS.

((ANNOUNCER)) WE WILL WAIT FOR FURTHER REPORTS. THIS IS A VERY INTERESTING, BUT ALSO A FAIRLY ALARMING DEVELOPMENT.  
(ENDALL) 211800 [REDACTED] 23/1817Z MAY

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