



Secretariat

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ORIGINAL: RUSSIANCOMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF
OUTER SPACEADDITIONAL INFORMATION FURNISHED IN CONFORMITY WITH THE
CONVENTION ON REGISTRATION OF OBJECTS LAUNCHED INTO
OUTER SPACENote verbale dated 14 June 1988 from the Permanent Mission of
the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General and, in accordance with article IV, paragraph 2, of the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space, has the honour to transmit to him the following additional information concerning the Cosmos-1900 satellite, launched into orbit in the Soviet Union on 12 December 1987.

As has already been reported, on board the Cosmos-1900 spacecraft is a nuclear power plant. The plant includes a small nuclear reactor, the core of which consists of fuel elements containing uranium-235-enriched uranium. The core is surrounded by a beryllium reflector which contains the regulating devices making it possible to control the reactor and to shut it down after its work has been completed.

The radiation safety of the Cosmos-1900 spacecraft is ensured by transferring the nuclear power plant to an orbit higher than 800 kilometres, in which decay of the reactor's radioactive products takes place. The ejection of the power plant, which is separable from the spacecraft is carried out from Earth by radio command, or automatically after the satellite's systems have attained the established levels of work.

In the case of a failure of the device for the automatic ejection of the power plant into a high orbit, a system is activated which dismantles the nuclear reactor as the satellite enters the atmosphere. This system ensures that the radiation situation will be within the limits recommended by the International Commission on Radiological Protection.

According to data from the competent Soviet organizations, the Cosmos-1900 satellite is still in a steady trajectory, and its entry into the Earth's atmosphere cannot occur earlier than August or September 1988.

The flight of the Cosmos-1900 satellite is being constantly monitored.
