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# Soviet Satellites Reported Over Area

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WASHINGTON, May 2 — The Soviet Union has focused six and possibly eight intelligence gathering satellites over the South Atlantic to watch both Argentine and British military movements, according to military analysts here.

The analysts said they presumed that some of the information from the satellites was being passed to the Argentine Government. But they said they had no proof that the Soviet Union had been informing the Argentines.

A senior State Department official said that Argentine leaders had told Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. that they would not accept such help from the Soviet Union. But the official said that might change in the future, which would mean a sharp shift in policy for the Argentine military junta.

The United States has two photographic satellites over the region, and Washington has been passing whatever information it gets to the British, the analysts said.

## Cited in Defense Daily

Details of the Soviet and United States satellite operations appeared in Defense Daily, a newsletter published here, and were confirmed, with some elaboration, by military analysts.

The Soviet Union lofted the most recent of the satellites, Cosmos 1354, into orbit Wednesday to intercept communications. It is the second electronic listening satellite the Soviet Union has put up in the region; the first was Cosmos 1346 on March 31 before the Argentine seizure of the islands on April 2. The Russians also put up a radar sensing satellite, Cosmos 1345, on March 31. That device picks up radar transmissions, particularly from ships.

On the day of the Argentine seizure of the Falklands, the Russians sent up a photographic reconnaissance satellite, Cosmos 1347, that is capable of taking high-resolution pictures of objects on the ground. That satellite dumps out photographic capsules when it passes over the Soviet Union.

Nearly three weeks later, as the British fleet steamed through the South Atlantic on April 21, the Soviet Union sent up another radar-sensing satellite, Cos-

mos 1351, presumably to track ship movements. Another photographic satellite, Cosmos 1352, went up at the same time.

## Limited Visibility

The Russians are believed to have sent up two more photographic satellites, Cosmos 1350 on April 16 and Cosmos 1353 on April 23, but the analysts said they were not certain. They also pointed out that photographic surveillance has been limited at best.

Winter is coming on in that area, meaning the days are shorter. In addition, the weather has generally been foul and overcast. Thus radar and communications intercepts have been much more useful, the analysts said.

Military analysts also said, however, that the British fleet was capable of masking its radar transmissions with jammers or deceptive devices and would presumably do so as the ships began tactical maneuvers around the Falklands. They are also equipped with radar sensing devices that are sophisticated versions of the "fuzz busters" that motorists sometimes use to detect police radar.

While Argentina was believed to lack most highly technical intelligence gathering devices, the military analysts said the Argentines had been conducting long-range reconnaissance of the British fleet with commercial aircraft with photographers aboard.