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SONODA: JAPAN NOT TOLD BY USSR ABOUT SATELLITE CRASH

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TOKYO KYODO IN ENGLISH 0537 GMT 27 JAN 78 OW

((TEXT)) TOKYO JAN 27 KYODO--FOREIGN MINISTER SUNAO SONODA SAID FRIDAY THAT THE SOVIET UNION DID NOT TELL JAPAN ABOUT THE CRASH OF A SATELLITE CARRYING A NUCLEAR REACTOR EARLIER THIS WEEK.

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SONODA TOLD NEWSMEN AFTER FRIDAY'S REGULAR CABINET SESSION THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD ASK THE SOVIET UNION TO REPORT SUCH ACCIDENTS TO COUNTRIES CONCERNED IN THE FUTURE.

SONODA TOLD THE CABINET MEETING OF HIS DESIRE FOR EARLY RATIFICATION OF A MULTILATERAL TREATY ON COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGE CAUSED BY MAN-MADE OBJECTS FROM SPACE.

SUCH ACTION WAS ADVANCED THURSDAY BY THE GOVERNMENT'S SPACE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL.

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SONODA SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOTIFIED OF THE ACCIDENT BY THE UNITED STATES. THE REPORT WAS KEPT SECRET AT THE REQUEST OF THE UNITED STATES AND BECAUSE THERE WAS LITTLE POSSIBILITY THAT THE SATELLITE WOULD CRASH IN JAPAN.

SONODA SAID VISITING CANADIAN FOREIGN SECRETARY DONALD C. JAMIESON PROMISED TO PROVIDE JAPAN WITH DATA ON SURVEYS CONDUCTED BY CANADA.

THE SOVIET SATELLITE PLUNGED THROUGH THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE AND CRASHED INTO NORTHERN CANADA TUESDAY.

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JUSTICE MINISTER MITSUO SETOYAMA AND TRANSPORT MINISTER KENJI FUKUNAGA EXPRESSED REGRET AT THE SOVIET FAILURE TO NOTIFY JAPAN OF THE ACCIDENT. 270537 SCHOTOFF YM 270612Z JAN

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