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16 SUMMARY This report forwards original and translations of two articles from the German newspaper <u>Bild Zeitung</u> , editions of 13 February and 20 March 1980. These articles deal with a possible biological warfare center near the city of Sverdlovsk, in the central Ural mountains.			
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b. 20 March 1980 Article.

# Bakterienbombe: Viele Sowjets to US-Regierung bestätigt BILD-Bericht

Von J. STERCK und M. BENZ  
Washington/Moskau, 20. März  
Der britische Bericht über die Zerstörung einer Bakterienbombe in der Sowjetunion hat zu neuen Spannungen zwischen der USA und Moskau geführt. Das Außenministerium

richte in seinem Informationsdienst "Foreign Broadcasts Information Service" des BILD Bericht "Bakterien-Bomben explodiert - 1000 Russen tot" vom 15. Februar 1980.  
Ein Sprecher des US-Außenministeriums bestätigte den Unfall bei

Broadwest (Urss) im Frühjahr 1977 bei geübliche Kampfbakterien freigesetzt. Die Menschen sterben in Moskau in wenigen Stunden. Sowjet-Truppen flohen aus Gebiet ab.  
Die USA forderten die Sowjetunion zu einer Entschuldigung auf. Die

US-Regierung vermutet, die Sowjets haben möglicherweise gegen das Abkommen über das Verbot biologischer Waffen verstoßen. Das britische Außenministerium im Bericht des Verunglückten wäre eine "Bakterielle Angelegenheit".  
(Welter 2/10)

## Bakterien-Bombe: In Sekunden Atemnot

Fortsetzung von Seite 1

Das Moskauer Außenministerium bestritt gestern die Bakterien-Katastrophe und bezeichnete sie als „[gagete] Erfindung der amerikanischen Propaganda“.

BILD erfuhr neue Einzelheiten. Die todbringenden Bakterien sind vom Typ „V-21“. Ein Experte der

Bundeswehr: „Deutsche entwickelten in der Mittellage biologische Y-Kampfstoffe. Sowjets forschten sie nach dem Krieg und entwickelten sie weiter. In zwei Formen bringen die Bakterien den Tod: in Organen zum Einatmen nach der Explosion oder in Glasbehältern zum Versuchen von Trinkwasser.“

Die Sowjet-Bürger um Keschine (1300 Kilometer nördlich von Moskau) atmeten die „V-21“-Bakterien nach dem Unfall am 8. April 1977 etc. in Sekunden wurden sie von einer Art „Anthrax“ (Milzbrand) befallen: Fieber, Schüttelfrost, Kollaps, Atemnot - schließlich tödliche Atemnahrung („Lungenmilzbrand“).

2. Transactions:

a. The 13 February 1979 article. By J. SIERKS and N. BENS

"In 1978 an experiment by a research division of a Soviet military unit for bacteria bombs is supposed to have exploded. Billions of pathogenic bacteria poisoned the air in an important Soviet industrial area around Kaschino in the Ural. Over 2000 people died horribly."

"A western secret source has now determined this."

"The bacteria infected the soil by breathing; farmers in the field, truck drivers, and the researchers themselves. In a hospital in Strelitz, Brandenburg, a special section was established with military doctors from the Red Army. For one month, every day, thirty to forty patients were delivered. But the Soviets had no antidote against the terrible agent. Within four hours after admission to the hospital, the patients died because their lungs and air passages were paralyzed. They suffocated."

"The source was able to keep the catastrophic secret for ten months. It was on the afternoon of the 3rd of April last year at the military hospital No. 19, near Kaschino, a village on the east side of the Ural. The Soviets also unsuccessfully tried to keep secret another bacterial agent in 1979 near Novosibirsk. Also there hundreds died."

"In the case of deaths, the corpses of Kaschino were buried. Following a short funeral ceremony the bodies were taken to the crematorium. Rumors about mysterious diseases: "All fairy tale!"

"By construction companies began to re-asphalt all the roads. Bulldozers also removed the upper layer of soil to eliminate the smallest concentration of bacteria."

b. The 13 February 1979 article. By J. Sierks and N. Bens

"The Bild Zeitung about a bacterial catastrophe now serious tensions between the USA and the USSR. The magazine published the Bild report 'Bacteria Bombs: A Deadly Secret', from 13 Feb 1980 in its information 'Information Service'."

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" A spokesman for the US State Department confirmed: the accident near Sverdlovsk in early 1979 released dangerous BW agent. The people died by the hundreds in a few hours. Soviet troops sealed off the area."

"The USA demanded an explanation from the Soviet Union. The US government suspects: The Soviet may possibly have violated the agreements forbidding biological weapons. The British Foreign Ministry: 'A breach of the contract would be an extremely serious situation'."

"The Moscow Foreign Ministry yesterday denied the bacterial catastrophe and called it the 'newest invention of American propaganda'."

"Bild found new details; the death-bringing bacteria are of the type 'V-21'. An expert of the German Army: 'Germans during the Hitler period developed biological V-agents. The Soviets found them after the war and developed them further. The bacteria causes death in two ways; in explosive munitions which produce an agent aerosol and in glass containers to poison the drinking water'."

"The Soviet citizens around Kaschino (1500 km east of Moscow) breathed in the 'V-21' bacteria following the accident on 3/4 April 1979. In seconds they were stricken with a form of 'Anthrax'; fever, chills, colic, breathing difficulty - finally deathly respiratory paralysis ('Lung Anthrax')."

3. ORIGINATOR'S COMMENT:

a. The article in Bild Zeitung from 20 March 1980 adds the information that the alleged bacterial agent was of the type "V-21", and that breathing difficulties occurred in the victims "within seconds". The symptomology described in this article (fever, chills, colic, respiratory distress and death due to respiratory failure), if occurring "within seconds" would be more consistent with organo-P CW agents or insecticides.

b. Bild Zeitung is known for its pungent, short, sensationalist style.

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