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QUALITY	Has the product been through the Chief Directorate Clearance Panel?	1 - 1
ASSURANCE	Has the Deputy-Director's Clearance Panel recommended this product?	

THE EVENT

RUSSIAN INTELLIGENCE - STRATEGIC COOPERATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA

: 21 AUGUST 2012

ACCUR	ACY	STA	TEMENT	: (

To be determined by EXCO)

- 1. Agent AFRICANIST with direct access to the Russia Government provided the following s update regarding Russian Intelligence (SVR) and Russian military Intelligence (GRU) interaction with South Africa.
- Agent provided a short overview regarding the status of continued cooperation 2. between South Africa (DENEL / SANDF) regarding the aerial satellite surveillance programme Project CONDOR. Russian GRU member (formerly posted to South Africa in a declared capacity) and former Head of the SANDF's Military Intelligence General MTAU (believed to be with DENEL) remain key role players in respect of CONDOR.
- Project CONDOR is regarded as a significant part of the envisaged strategic 2.1 cooperation between the two countries that would culminate in the launch of a satellite by Russia on behalf of South Africa, hopefully by 2013, placing South Africa in a position to conduct its own aerial surveillance in Africa, potentially right up to Israel for strategic military purposes. Currently there are 30 Russian technicians working in South Africa in close cooperation with South African authorities on the project.
- In conjunction with CONDOR Russia is simultaneously working on its own 2.2 satellite program to be launched sometime after CONDOR, the aim is to eventually integrate the two satellite systems and capabilities providing wider strategic coverage with obvious benefits for both countries.
- With respect to DENEL, Agent stated that has been flouting the 3. possibility in Moscow that the South African Government is seriously deliberating the Initial Public Offering (IPO) of DENEL. This has attracted the attention of the Russian arms industry and will enable Russia to strategically heighten its cooperation with a public entity in the arms sphere. According to

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should DENEL be listed, Russia will strongly consider entering into a strategic arrangement with DENEL providing technical support, knowhow and technology transfer.

- 3.1 The focus of a listed DENEL with Russian support will be geared specifically towards the African market, taking on the like of France and the US.
- 4. With regard to former SVR members that served in South Africa and the region the following:



- 4.2 who left South Africa approximately ears ago is serving in Moscow where he has become the Head of the Economic Intelligence Unit responsible for Africa and Asia.
- 4.3 former SVR resident in Namibia has been reposted to Southern Africa and is currently serving in Zimbabwe.
- 5. COMMENT BY SOURCE
- During HoS's tenure in Moscow regular reports were forwarded to HQ regarding the status of **Project CONDOR**, at that stage still in its infancy. Simultaneously SVR resident status was reported.
- 5.2 The above is regarded as of significant as it would bring the desk dealing with Russia up to date re so-called strategic issues between Russia and South Africa. In addition the identification of relevant SVR members could assist in monitoring their activities as well as pursuing operational initiatives.