

Russia may have launched “satellite killer”

A mysterious object has raised concerns that Russia may have revived a Cold War project by testing a satellite capable of chasing down other spacecraft, a technology that could be used to destroy or disable them

■ **Dec 25, 2013:**

Russia launches seemingly routine mission to add three **Rodnik** communications satellites to existing military constellation

■ **May 5, 2014:** Russia reveals

launch sent four satellites into orbit instead of three.

Radar observations show fourth satellite – Kosmos 2499 – performing unusual manoeuvres to change orbit

■ **Nov 9:** Manoeuvres

culminate with close approach to **Briz-KM** – upper stage of rocket that originally launched all four satellites into orbit

