

# The Story of SareemOne: Olivine Window

This tape contains a collection of recordings of signals believed to be coming from the lost Soviet spy satellite Саяём1.

Саяём1 (roughly translated from Russian as 'We speak as one') was launched from the Baikonur Cosmodrome (in what is now modern day Kazakhstan) in the latter months of 1983 but went missing just after what was thought to be a successful 2nd stage separation. Initially it was thought that the satellite blew up and it fell harmlessly into the Laptev Sea but no debris was found or recorded. Like most of Russia's space launch failures it remained hidden from the public until the fall of the Soviet Union in 1988 when many details of the then defunct Kosmicheskaya programma SSSR information were leaked. It transpired that the Russians strongly believed the disappearance of the satellite to be caused by "American Interference" and the announcement by the U.S. President Ronald Reagan about the "Star Wars Program" or the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) a few months later is seen by many soviet observers & sympathisers to corroborate that.

A few months later amateur radio enthusiasts began noting and logging a new sporadic radio transmission who's frequency would "Doppler shift", often bleeding temporarily into other stations broadcasting in the high frequency range that is often used by Numbers Stations (3-30Mhz). At the time it was considered to be nothing more than an inconvenient but mostly pleasant anomaly, with most presuming that the source was possibly another rogue enthusiast wanting to emulate John Shepherd's Earth Station One. As no one within the community could trace the source, the Numbers Station Monitoring group ENIGMA gave the source designation of X01: Smudge; station loggers were updated and - apart from the transmission logs - it was mostly forgotten about.

With the arrival of the early internet, U.S. radio specialists began to publish their findings - including the infamous "Smudge logs" - on the new National Science Foundation Network (NSFN). In October 1991 by chance these logs were stumbled upon by the head of Astrophysics at University of Rangoon. Dr. Tin Maung Thant. Dr. Thant - himself a keen radio ham - became intrigued by the anomaly and soon realised the potential significance of the frequency doppler shifting of Smudge: In his autobiography "The Dust and Interconnectivity of Space" (2013) Dr. Thant wrote "It was the end of the monsoon of 1991, I think October; and to avoid getting wet in the floods I would spend my nights rifling through science papers and radio logs that had been released on the NSFN, on the only online computer the University had, fascinated by this new deluge of scientific dialog. In the radio logs I kept seeing references to Smudge by other hams and something about seemed intriguing; a radio signal with this level of

shifting could only be explained by the source moving at high speed, possibly many kilometres a second and the only place I could think of where that speed would be sustainable would be space, potentially in orbit!”

He gave the problem to some of his phd students “...just to see if it would spark anyone’s interest” who treated the problem with little interest until his student Daw Mya Aye (now Professor Daw Mya Aye Ng of the Institute of Indian Astrophysics) extrapolated and calculated the exceptionally eccentric orbital path of the source, tracing its trajectory back to the point where it intersected the recorded path and last known coordinates of the missing satellite, Саяём1.

Though the launch date of Саяём1 was never confirmed and could only be approximated, the coincidence and approximate date and time seemed too strong to be ignored. Whatever this was, it seemed to be (potentially) in exactly the same space time coordinates as the satellite was when it went missing.

News of this discovery soon made it back to ENIGMA. Keen to update the new findings the station was translated phonetically (albeit incorrectly) and renamed: Sareem1, later SareemOne.

This cassette is a collection of recordings attributed to the station, lovingly restored, corrected, compiled and upscaled by Mach V and Andy Gillham (Echaskech); the track names all come from the ENIGMA logs where the majority of these recordings can be found. Special mention for the tireless work made by ENIGMA monitors & loggers PATHfndr, XHTRM141.12 & LOneSt\*R who made the majority of these original recordings available.

To this date the current Russian space agency Roscosmos and the USA’s N.A.S.A. deny any knowledge of the launch of Саяём1 and its “disappearance”.