

**DID THE 20TH CENTURY
INVENT WORLD WARS?**

AND ARE THEY EXTINCT?

HOW MANY WORLD WARS HAVE THERE BEEN?

Take the Seven years War, for example.

First incident: Fort Necessity in 1754 (Near the current location of Pittsburgh, PA)

Then

The war expands to Europe in 1756

Later

The fighting spreads also to the West Indies and India

<http://odur.let.rug.nl/~usa/E/7yearswar/fiw02.htm>

**I HAVE HEARD OF A WORLD WAR STARTING WITH THE
INVASION OF POLAND (MAYBE)...**

BUT, PITTSBURGH?????

IT TOOK TWO PEACE CONFERENCES TO END IT:

**(Feb., 1763) -- among Prussia, Austria, and Saxony at
Hubertusburg**

**(Treaty of Paris, 1763) -- among England, France, and Spain
at Paris**

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My Comment:

Excuse me, but 1754 to 1763 is nine years.

<http://odur.let.rug.nl/~usa/E/7yearswar/fiw02.htm>

Oh, right.

That was the French and Indian War in North America.

This was the only action for the first two years.

Selected World War candidates:

	Years	Dead	% Civilian
30-years War	1618-1648	4.0 million	57
7 –years War	1756 (54?)-1763	1.4 million	27
French Revolution And Napoleonic	1792-1815	4.9 million	41

Renner, Michael, *Ending Violent Conflict*, Worldwatch Paper 146, April, 1999. (for the statistics)

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**If a nine-year-long war can be called the “Seven Years War”,
then maybe we can do this....**

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31-years War	1914-1945	>86 million	??

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99 YEARS

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65 YEARS AND COUNTING*

***As of 2010**

Can we make it another 99 years?

And if so, then for how much longer?

**A World War III (or whatever number it would be)
near miss or two.**

(Besides the Cuban Missile Crisis.)

1. NIXON ON ALERT

<http://www.lars-klein.com/start/usa/nixon/nixonyomkippur.html>

<http://www.aish.com/jw/me/48893552.html>

On Oct. 6, 1973, the Yom Kippur War began when Egypt and Syria invaded Israel. It led to an oil embargo by Saudi Arabia and other oil producing states. Israel, surprised by the attack, was initially on the defensive.

In fact, it was so much on the defensive that its leaders thought for a while that the state of Israel might be destroyed by this attack.

Israel is a nuclear weapons state, although no one talks much about it. But on this occasion the leaders did consider using nuclear weapons to save their country. They didn't do that, because...

<http://www.lars-klein.com/start/usa/nixon/nixonnyomkippur.html>

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...with the help of a stream of supplies from the US and by moving their troops from the border of Jordan, which did not participate in the war, Israel turned back the attack without the use of nuclear weapons. The attack was turned back so completely that after a few days, Israel was threatening to strike deeply into Egypt and Syria.

That led to the threat that the Soviet Union might send military forces to aid the Arab states. So President Nixon put US forces – including nuclear forces -- on worldwide alert.

Nixon was also in the middle of his Watergate problems, which eventually forced him to resign. Most news media reporting on the alert focused on whether it was all just an attempt to divert attention from Watergate.

<http://www.lars-klein.com/start/usa/nixon/nixonymkippur.html>

<http://www.aish.com/jw/me/48893552.html>

The alert lasted almost a week. Although nothing much was known publicly at the time, it is now considered to be the closest the world came to World War III except for the Cuban Missile Crisis. Eventually, with the start of Henry Kissinger’s “shuttle diplomacy”, everyone disengaged.

British Prime Minister Edward Heath had to learn of the alert from the news media – even though it covered US forces stationed in Britain.

Later British intelligence sources said that Nixon had considered invading Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Abu Dhabi to ease the oil embargo and prevent other embargos.

2. THANK GOODNESS REAGAN DIDN'T DISAPPEAR

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/dna/h2g2/A19142200>

In the Fall of 1983, several events put the Soviet leadership on edge. They were going through a leadership vacuum because Yuri Andropov was on kidney dialysis and would be dead within months. Arms control negotiations had broken down, and President Reagan had announced his missile defense program.

On Sept. 1, 1983, Soviet fighter jets shot down a Korean airlines passenger jet that was off course. It became clear later that they had not identified it as a passenger jet at the time, and they insisted incorrectly that it was a spy plane. Rhetoric between the USA and the USSR rose to harsh levels not seen in several years.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/dna/h2g2/A19142200>

The US marines had been sent to Beirut, Lebanon as peacekeepers to separate Christian and Muslim factions that were fighting one another. Troops from France, Italy, and Britain were also on hand. Early on October 23, 1983 a truck filled with explosives detonated outside the US barracks killing 241 marines and wounding 80. A separate attack on the French troops killed 58 of them.

On October 25, President Reagan ordered a US invasion of the Caribbean island of Grenada. This removed a Marxist government on that island. Since Grenada was a British Commonwealth nation, the invasion was strongly opposed by Britain.

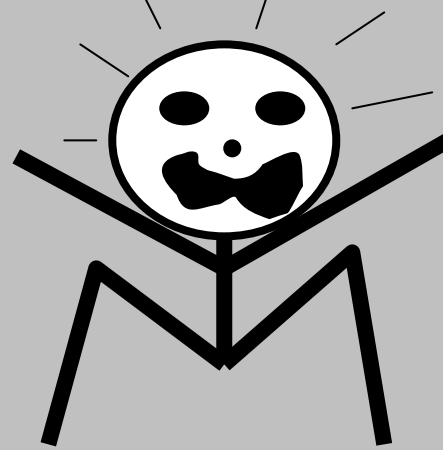
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/dna/h2g2/A19142200>

This resulted in a flurry of coded messages between Washington and London. The Soviets had previously identified such a large increase in coded traffic as a possible signal that a larger military operation was coming soon.

A few days later a NATO military exercise called “Abel Archer” began. It had been previously scheduled, and it was intended to simulate a nuclear attack launched by NATO.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/dna/h2g2/A19142200>

Panic in Moscow!!!



The Soviets knew about the exercise, but spent several days persuading themselves that it was just a cover for an actual attack. They considered what to do and might have attempted some sort of preemption except that...

One of our spies communicated the situation to CIA director William Casey. This was the first time that US leaders had any idea what was going on in Moscow.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/dna/h2g2/A19142200>

A previous plan to include the US political leadership in the Abel Archer exercise had been cancelled at the last minute. Therefore the President and other leaders did NOT drop out of sight.

That is probably a good thing.

This episode is reviewed in a CIA report at the link:

<https://www.cia.gov/library/center-for-the-study-of-intelligence/csi-publications/books-and-monographs/a-cold-war-conundrum/source.htm>

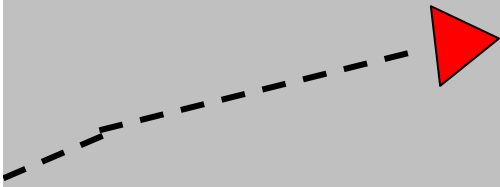
It makes interesting reading – especially its description of the background circumstances.

3. WHAT DO YOU MEAN, “LAUNCH ON WARNING?”

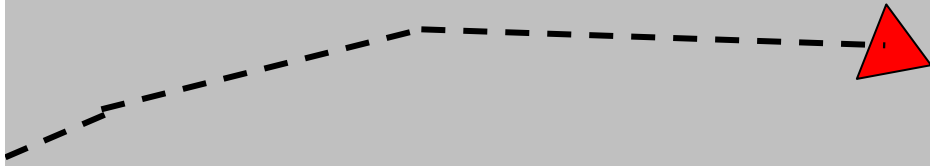
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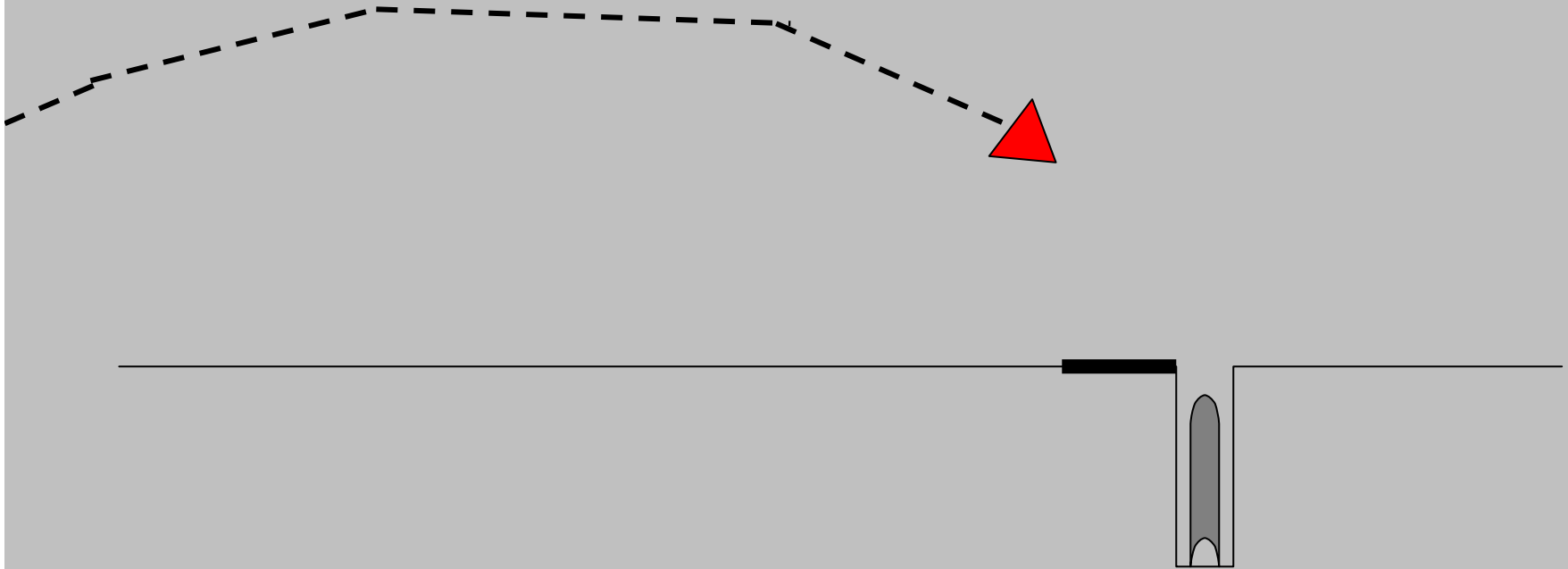
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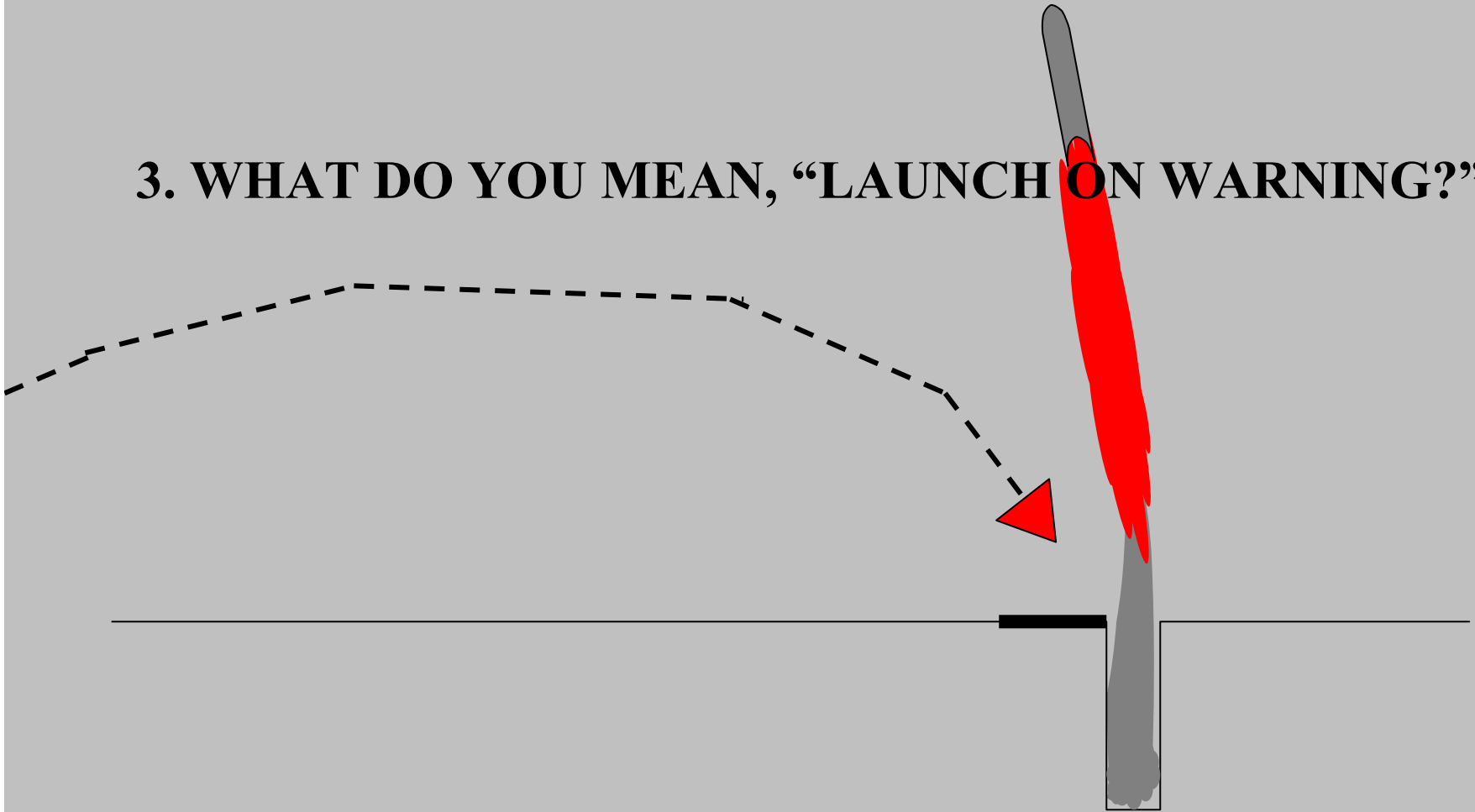
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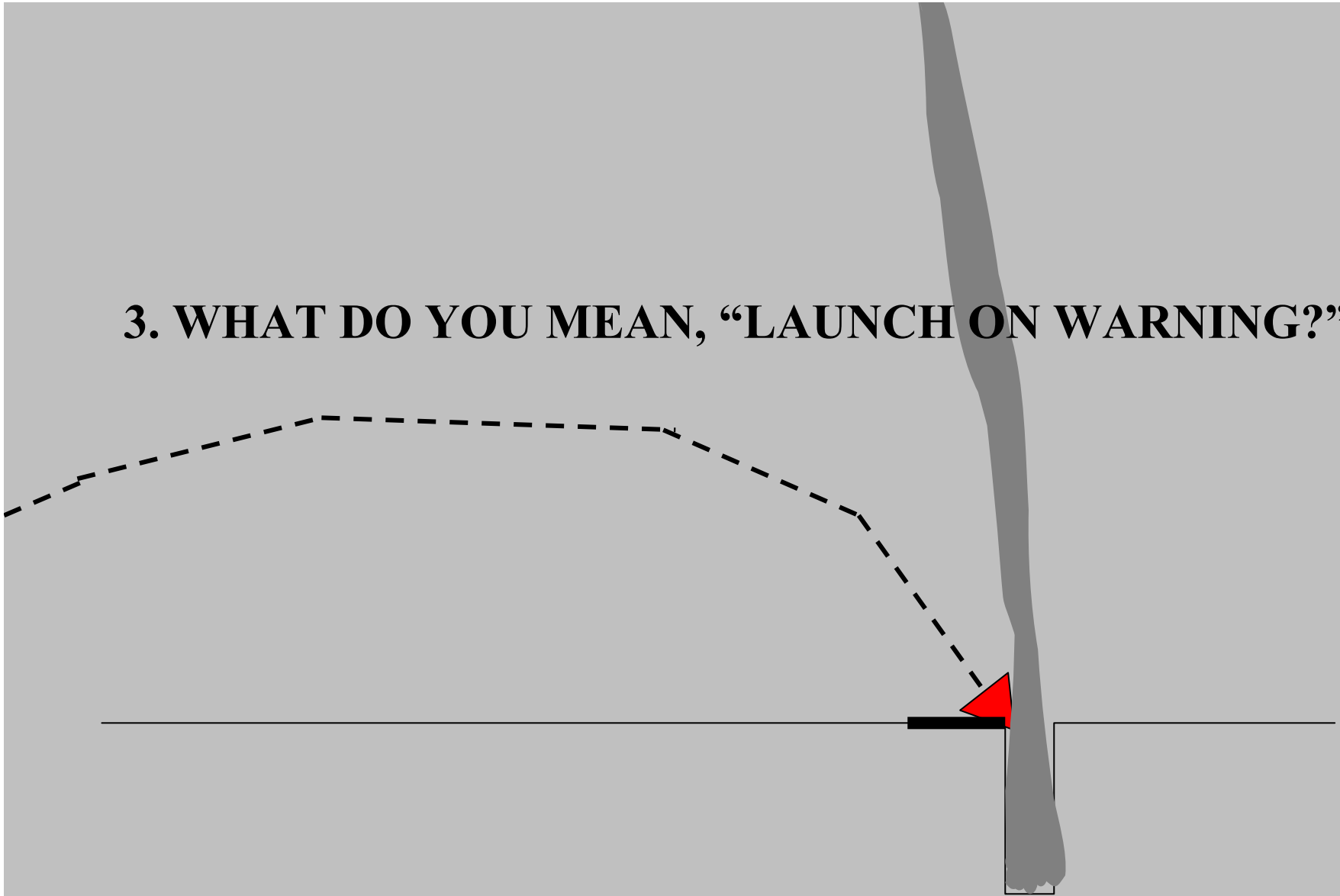
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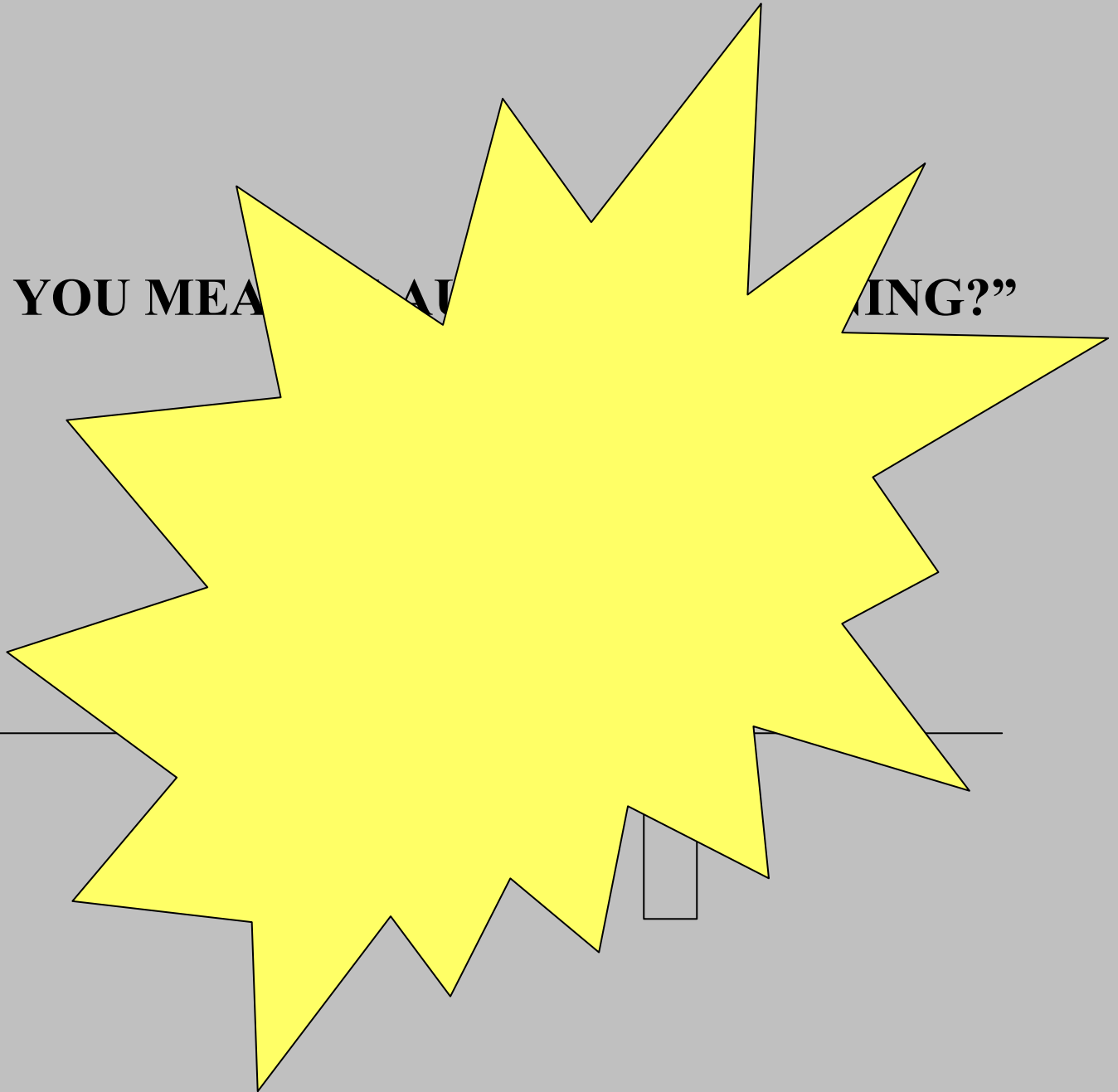
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3. WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "AUGUST 1963"?



Scientific American, Nov. 1997

On Jan. 25, 1995 (after the cold war was over)...

Russian early warning stations watched an unknown missile rise from an area off the coast of Norway – an area that is about 15 minutes from Moscow by submarine-launched missile.

A few minutes later, several radar blips were seen that could have been multiple missiles.

Scientific American, Nov. 1997

Russian President Boris Yeltsin conferred with advisers by telephone. He warmed up the “nuclear briefcase” – a portable communications center from which he could order a nuclear response.

This was the first time it had ever been activated.

Under a “launch on warning” strategy, he would need to order the launch of Russian nuclear missiles about 10 minutes after the launch detection.

Scientific American, Nov. 1997

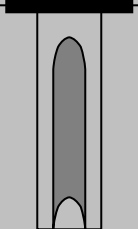
Eight minutes after the launch detection, the rocket's course was determined. It was headed toward the north – away from Russia.

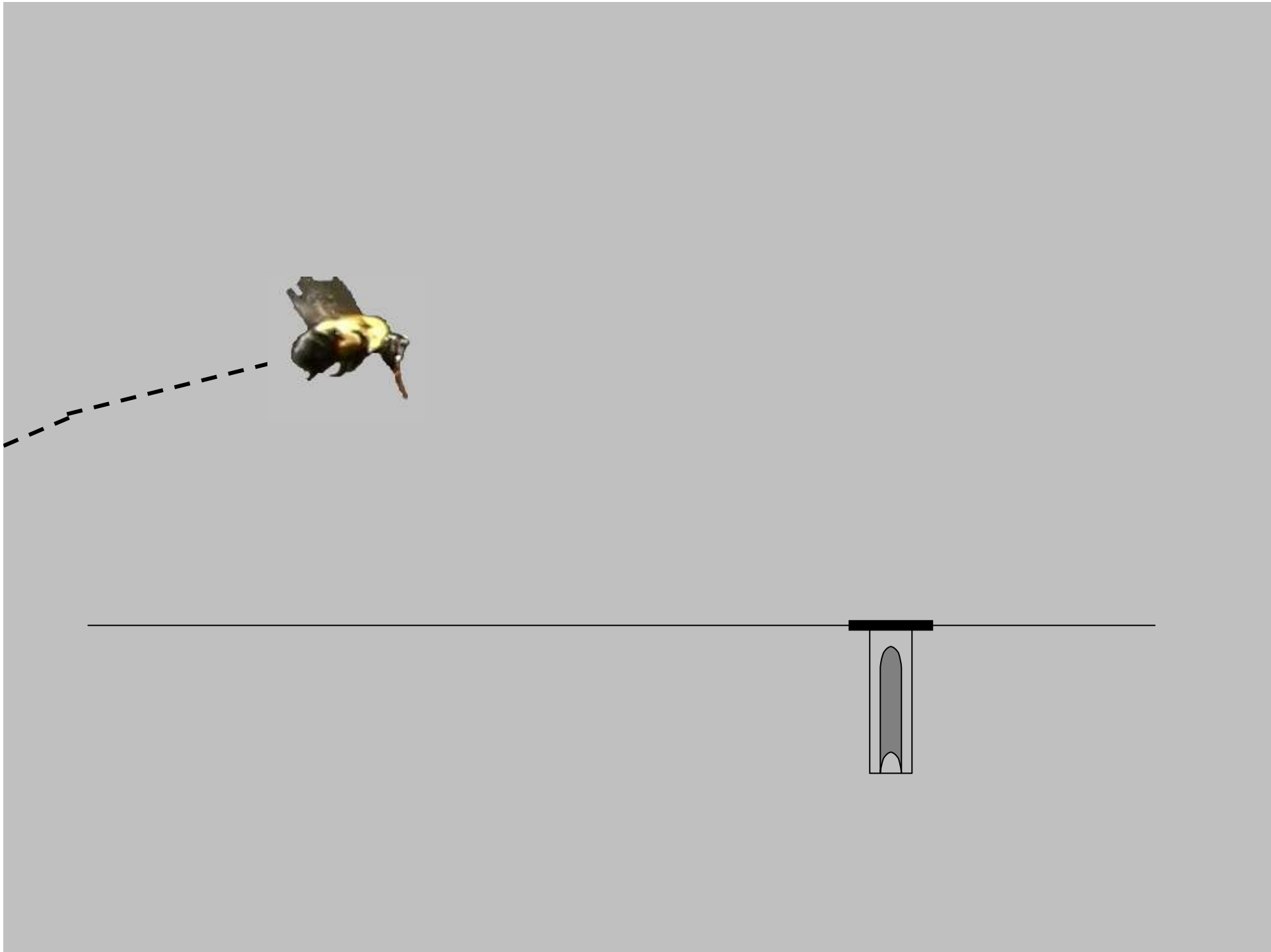
The multiple radar blips were the booster stages falling off of the rocket.

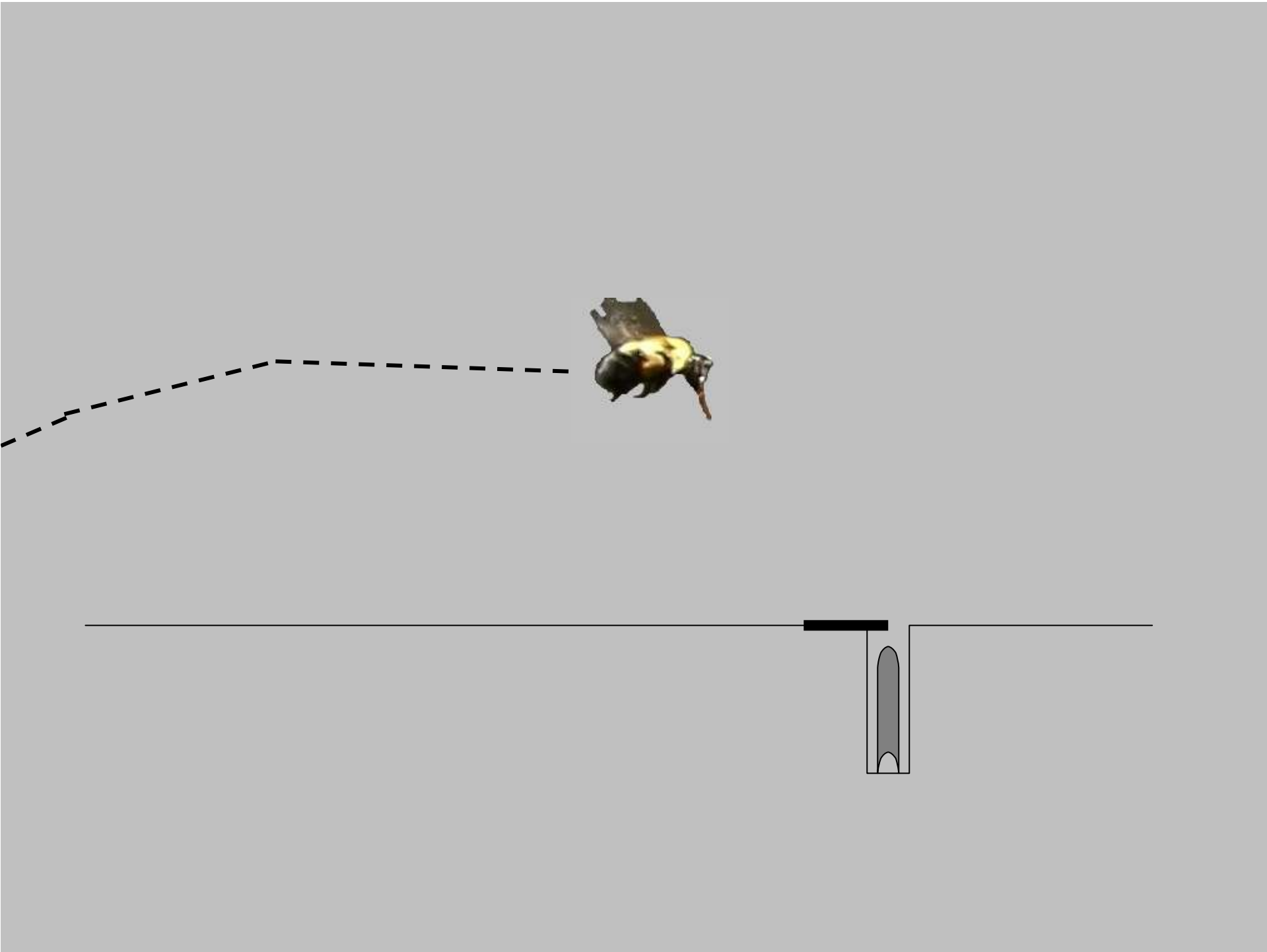
It was a US scientific probe sent up to study the northern lights.

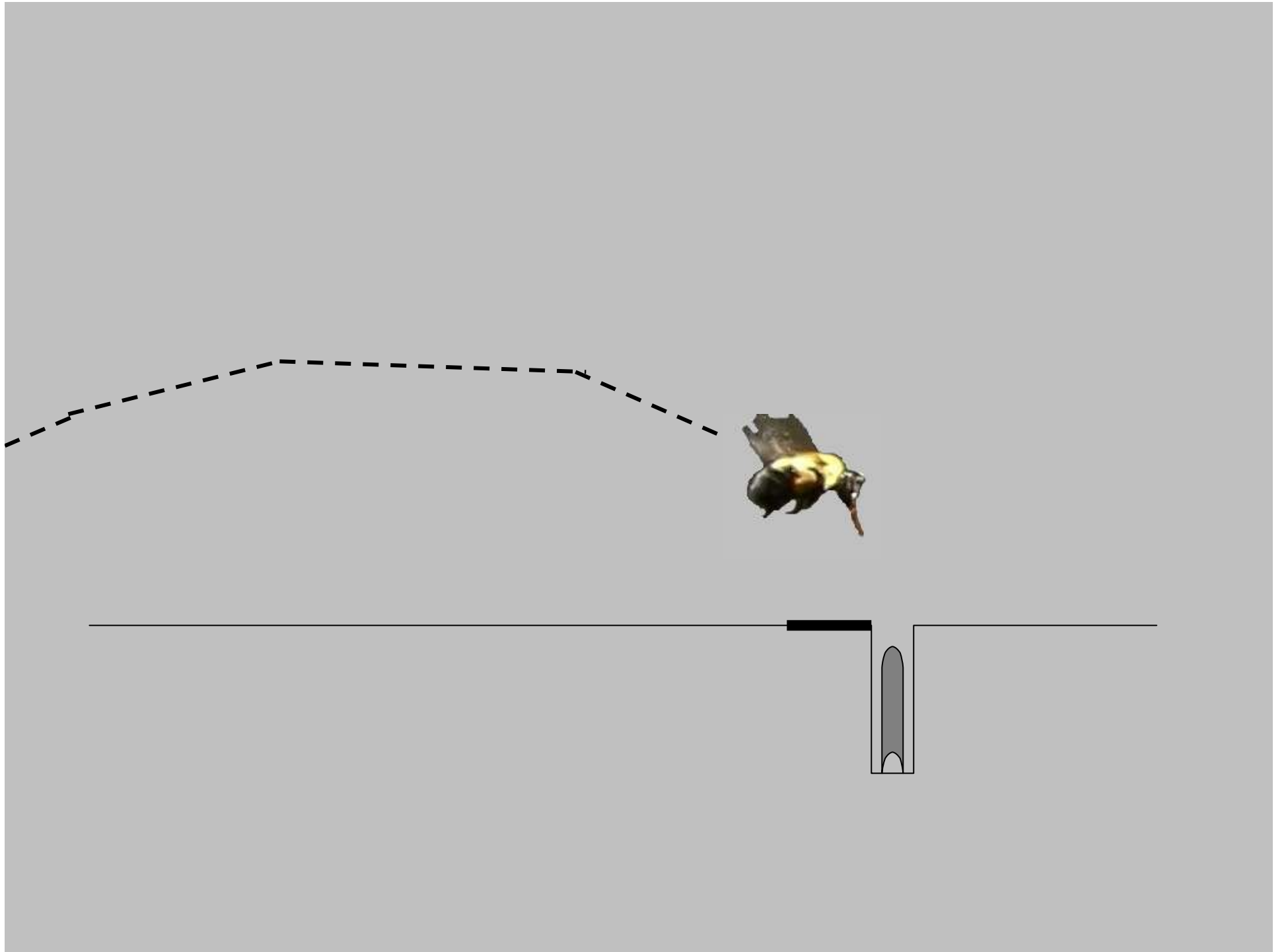
Norway had given notice to the Russians about the launch, but it had somehow become lost.

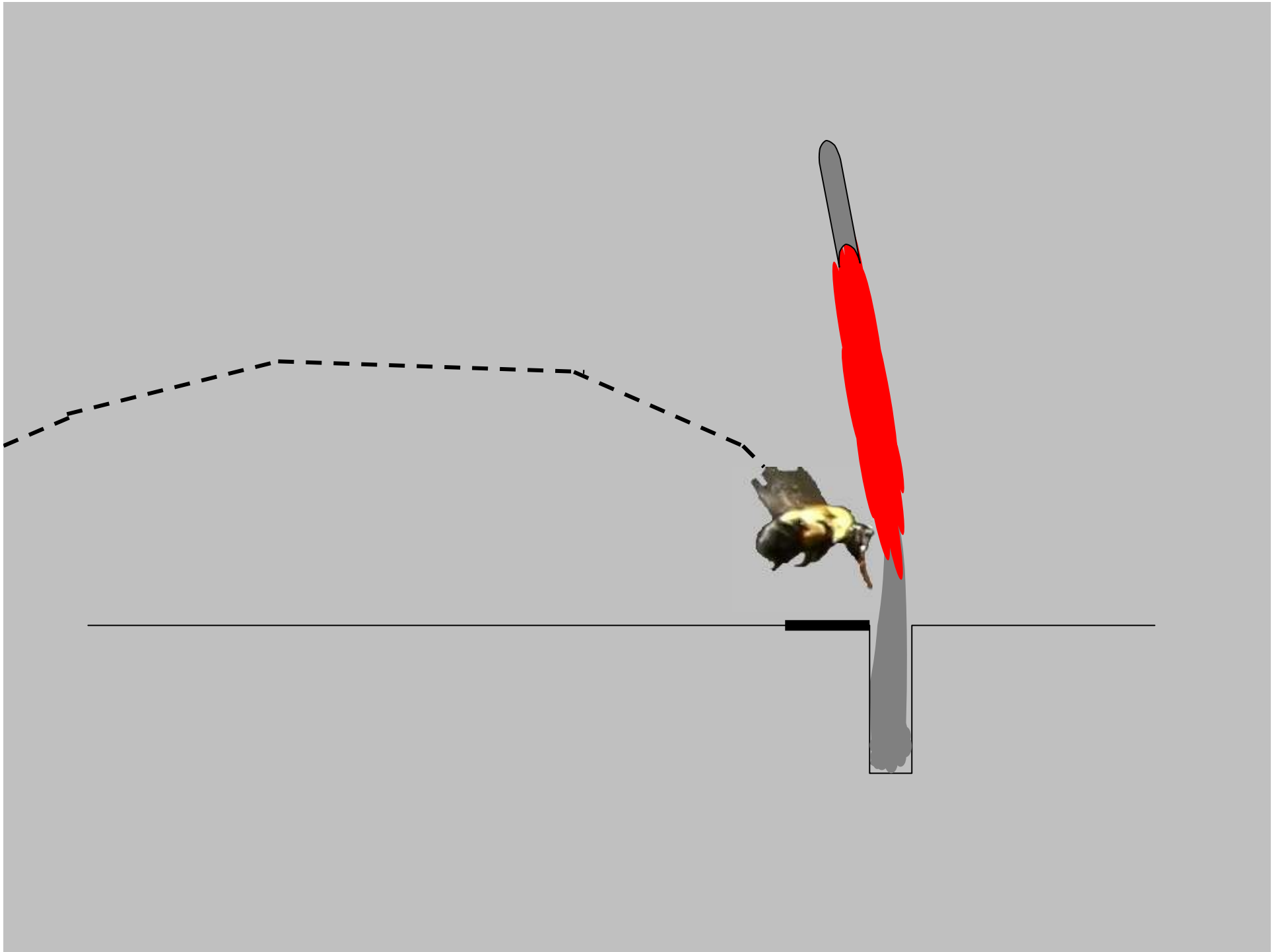












THE END

**This is a bee that buzzed my
rose bush one day.**

