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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
LANGLEY, VA

October 15, 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

SUBJECT: **Russia's Plans to Test Nuclear Weapons**

Information provided by US intelligence agents in Russia have confirmed that President Vladimir Putin has suffered a debilitating "health crisis." The exact causes and his condition are unknown. It has been reported that President Putin remains conscious but with limited physical capacity.

Despite Putin's condition, US intelligence reports that he has remained in power and his subordinates are concerned about challenging his authority. President Putin has asserted to his inner circle that he expects to fully recover and resume his full duties as the Russian President. US intelligence assets remain skeptical of that assertion. The Kremlin rumors as to President Putin's health have not been well contained and there are widespread rumors via social media of his health crisis.

In Ukraine, Russia has brazenly declared that a part of the recently annexed territory of the Ukraine will be used as a test site for a new nuclear warhead. Russia has asserted the need to test its nuclear stockpiles at this critical time. Nearly all world leaders have condemned this obvious fictitious ploy.