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Altai Flood Washes Up Military Missile, Report Says

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The original picture posted on social media shows a five-by-two-meter missile in a village street in the Altai region. The photo, however, has not been verified.

A river flood has washed up part of an old military missile in the Altai region, depositing the five-by-two-meter hulk among other debris on a village street, a news report said.

Facebook user Sergei Ill posted a reported picture of the find online, saying that "this thing" washed up in the Malo-Ugrenevo village, and identifying it as part of a rocket, News 22 reported Sunday.

A deputy chief of the military research and production center "Altai," Nikolai Dochilov, said the missile was likely a relic of a nearby abandoned military facility that used to fill the missiles with fuel, the report said.

Missiles of this type were decommissioned in the early 1990s and their remains were mostly destroyed, but several unused sections were left behind and appropriated by local residents, Dochilov said, according to Itar-Tass.

The "Altai" center sent an expert to inspect the missile for safety, Dochilov said, adding that an "empty vessel presents absolutely no danger," Itar-Tass reported.

The missile's owner has already come forward to claim the military souvenir, the press service for the local Interior Ministry branch told Itar-Tass.

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