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INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Pro-Kremlin Media Share Video Showing Russian Missile Shooting Down Santa's Sleigh

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Video grab

Pro-Kremlin Telegram channels on Friday circulated a New Year's video depicting Russian air defense systems shooting down Santa Claus' reindeer sleigh.

The video, first shared by the Pul N3 Telegram channel, begins with Santa flying over central Moscow to the tune of "We Wish You a Merry Christmas."

"Hi, Russians! Here are your presents," says Santa Claus, sipping a Coca-Cola as the camera zooms in on his sleigh, which is loaded with rockets bearing NATO logos.

"Happy New Year," Santa says before a missile shoots into his sleigh, causing it to explode mid-air.

Embed:

The scene then shifts to a military control room where a Russian serviceman and Ded Moroz — Russia's version of Santa Claus — monitor the action on a screen as a traditional Russian folk tune plays.

"Is it done?" Ded Moroz asks the headset-wearing serviceman.

"Yes, it's done. The target was destroyed," the serviceman replies.

"Good. We don't need any kind of foreign stuff flying above our heads," Ded Moroz says, embracing the serviceman. "Happy New Year!"

The video's release comes just days after an Azerbaijani passenger plane crashed in western Kazakhstan, with reports suggesting it was shot down by a Russian surface-to-air missile.

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