



On 10 October, Mälsten Coastal Defense Command received active sonar and IR-contact with a submarine north of Mälsten. It was apparently damaged by a mine when passing Måsknöv on 11 October. On 10 October, Mälsten had sonar and IR-contact with a submarine a few kilometers southeast of Mälsten. On 11 October, she approached Mälsten and sent a signal.²⁵³ Right: Chief of Defense General Lennart Ljung

such a tracked submersible are tape-recorded very close to hydrophone no. 5. The sounds are identical to a tracked vessel, an excavator, going on the ground. We have definite reasons to believe that a tracked submersible passed close to hydrophone no. 5 in the early morning on 14 October. The hydrophone actually died when this sound came extremely close. The fuse for no. 5 melted.²⁵⁴ Prints from a double nose-wheel might originate from a DSRV. This is the only vessel that is supposed to have had such a wheel (see below). One or both these submersibles might have used the larger submarine as their MOSUB. However, the only conventional submarine known to have been rebuilt to carry a DSRV and a similar vessel was the British HMS *Porpoise* (see Chapter 6). Close to Mälsten, there is evidence for two small midjets and two conventional-size submarines including one that sent a signal, which identified it as Western, and one that was damaged on 11 October, used a US/UK VDS and was tape-recorded the following day.

On 12 October, Chief of Defense General Lennart Ljung made a public statement: "The only way to show [that we will defend our neutrality and territory] is to use force. I am sorry for that".²⁵⁵ It is not clear to whom this apology was directed, but he would almost certainly refer to the 11 October-event and the apology was most likely not meant for the Soviets. Chief of Navy Vice Admiral Per Rudberg wrote in his diary two days later: "usual morning contact with [Chief of Staff Bror Stefenson]. Conclusion: a submarine is possibly trying to contact a damaged submarine in Danziger Gatt [Mälsten]". Chief of Staff Vice Admiral Stefenson had spoken about two submarines at Mälsten. One of them was damaged.²⁵⁶ On 21 October, he briefed Olof Palme about the two submarines.²⁵⁷ Submarines in foreign waters like to operate two and two to let one submarine attract attention from the foreign power, if the other gets into trouble. The Conservative Party leader Ulf Adelsohn wrote in his memoirs: Prime Minister Palme had briefed him after the events at Muskö/Hårsfjärden about a "certain submarine that was here possibly to assist another submarine that had been seriously damaged".²⁵⁸ They all (Prime Minister Palme, Conservative Party leader Adelsohn, Chief of Navy Rudberg and Chief of Staff Stefenson) spoke about two submarines. One of them had been damaged, and Chief of Defense General Ljung made an apology.