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Havana Syndrome: The "Pentagon Device" Breakthrough

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News Context: In January 2026, the investigation into Havana Syndrome (technically called Anomalous Health Incidents or AHIs) took a dramatic turn. The U.S. Department of Defense confirmed it is testing a "portable, backpack-sized device" acquired via a covert operation, which emits pulsed radio-frequency (RF) energy.

- **The Shift in Narrative:** For years, U.S. intelligence was divided. A 2023 report suggested a foreign adversary was "unlikely" to be involved. However, the discovery of this physical device—reportedly containing components of **Russian origin**—reopens the possibility of targeted directed-energy attacks.
- **Mechanism:** The device uses high-energy microwaves or pulsed radio waves to disrupt the nervous system. Victims often describe a "drilling" sound or a "marble circling a metal funnel" before experiencing dizziness, nausea, and cognitive impairment.
- **Official Status:** While the NIH recently found no consistent MRI-detectable brain damage in all victims, the **HAVANA Act of 2021** continues to provide compensation. The new device testing is the first time investigators have a "plausible physical mechanism" to analyze.

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