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NPIC/R-145/64  
February 1964



PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

# LAUNCH COMPLEX H, TYURATAM MISSILE TEST CENTER, USSR, CHANGES



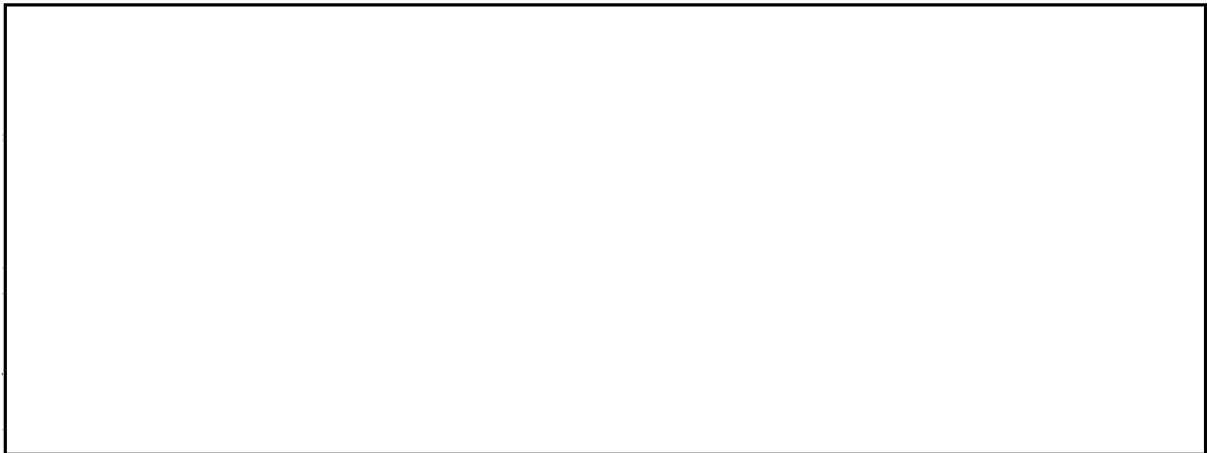
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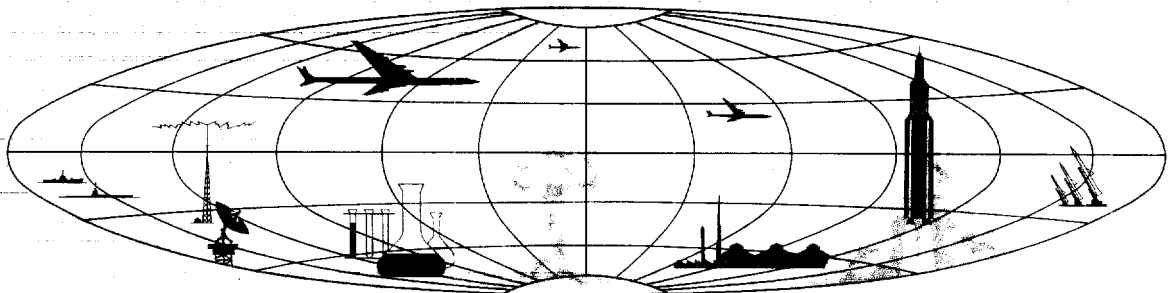


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NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER



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GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and declassification

DECLASS REVIEW BY NMA / DOD

LAUNCH COMPLEX H,  
TYURATAM MISSILE TEST CENTER, USSR,  
CHANGES [redacted]

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INTRODUCTION

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This report, based on [redacted] photography [redacted]

photography was stereoscopic coverage of good quality.

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[redacted] gives details of additions and changes at Launch Complex H (45-58N 63-41E) at the Tyuratam Missile Test Center (Figure 1) [redacted]

Dimensions for some buildings in the complex, given in an earlier NPIC report, 1/ have been corrected. The functions of the various buildings have not been determined, and comparisons with the buildings at other launch complexes cannot be made.

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The [redacted] photography was monoscopic coverage of fair quality and the [redacted]

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SUMMARY

Launch Complex H, consisting of a launch area and an electronic facility, may be the prototype for a probable semihardened rail-served ICBM launch facility (Figures 2 and 3). The launch area contains two launch facilities: one in a late stage of construction and possibly

complete, and the other in a midstage of construction. It is rail served, but direct rail service onto the launch pads has not been confirmed. Only gross features of the electronic facility are apparent.

LAUNCH AREA

The launch area (Figures 2 and 3), approximately 1,800 by 1,800 feet, is generally square in shape. Security fencing is probably complete, but has not been identified on the southwest side of the area. The completed launch facilities will probably consist of two launch pads about 580 feet apart, each with almost parallel groups of four earth-mounded buildings arranged in an inverted cross configuration. The group on the west side of the area appears to be near completion. The vague circular pattern at the center of the cross configuration is the launch

pad. An unidentified structure 95 by 20 feet, adjacent to the launch pad, is aligned with the long axis of the cross configuration. The three heavily mounded buildings at the head of the cross configuration are approximately 120 feet from the pad; the buildings east and west of the pad are 120 by 40 feet, and the building south of the pad is 100 by 40 feet. The mounding at these buildings has been covered or treated with a highly reflective material nearly white in tone. The material, possibly something similar to gunite or a veneer of concrete, appears to be

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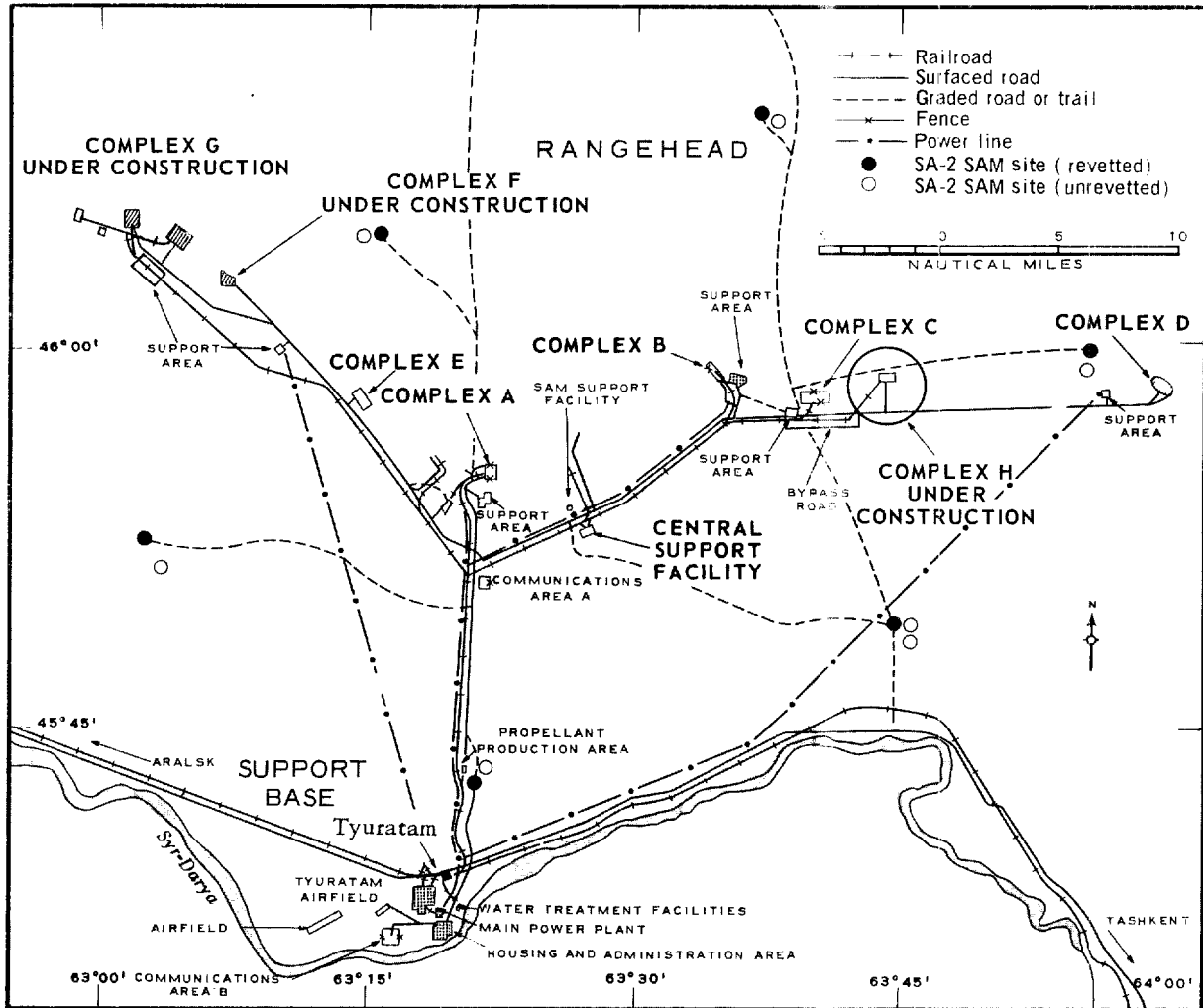


FIGURE 1. TYURATAM MISSILE TEST CENTER

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identical to that lining the western half of the blast pit at Launch Complex A (Pad A1) at Tyuratam. 2/ The fourth mounded building, 300 feet north of the launch pad, is at least 100 by 40 feet. It was not observed prior to mounding, and its exact dimensions cannot be determined. The mounding at the fourth building has not been covered or treated.

The cross configuration on the east side of the launch area is incomplete. The three buildings forming the head of the configuration have

been constructed east, west, and south of a shallow excavation for the launch pad, which is under construction at the center of the configuration. The buildings are all 120 by 40 feet, and none has been earth mounded as yet. A fourth building has not been identified north of the launch pad excavation, but a ditch extends northward 300 feet to a small unidentified structure at its probable location.

There are three earth-mounded buildings in the center of the launch area, between the

southern extremities of the cross configurations. The buildings--230 by 50 feet, 120 by 40 feet, and 65 by 40 feet--form a V-shaped pattern from north to south. They are centered on a line midway between the launch pads, and are perpendicular to the long axes of the cross configurations. The mounding on these buildings has been covered or treated with the same material as those in the cross configuration on the west side of the launch area. A possible conduit, which appeared as a low linear earth mound, extended along the west side of the buildings [redacted] A 340- by 30-foot rectangle, of either concrete construction or treated in the same manner as the mounded buildings, was observed in this position [redacted] A ditch or low linear earth mound extends generally south about 300 feet from the buildings, and north to a point near the fence line.

A possible spray pond 130 by 110 feet and a low earth-mounded structure 105 by 50 feet

are located south of the western cross configuration, on the west side of the main access road to the launch area; there were excavations at both locations on the [redacted] photography. Two large buildings are located south of the eastern cross configuration, on the east side of the main access road. Other structures within the launch area include nine small buildings and three small earth mounds at scattered locations.

The launch area is road and rail served. The main access road forks just south of the V formed by the three earth-mounded buildings in the center of the area; one branch curves west and north to terminate in feeder roads on either side of the mounded building at the head of the western cross configuration; the other branch, to the eastern cross configuration, is incomplete. The rail line into the launch area can be identified to a point near the fork in the main access road. Vague traces suggest that rail service may extend onto the launch pads.

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**ELECTRONIC FACILITY**

The electronic facility southeast of the launch area consists of a triangular-shaped secured area, with two legs approximately 1,200 feet long, at right angles (Figures 2 and 3). The security fencing has not been identified completely along the southwest side of the facility. One leg is oriented on an azimuth of approximately [redacted] parallel to the electronic

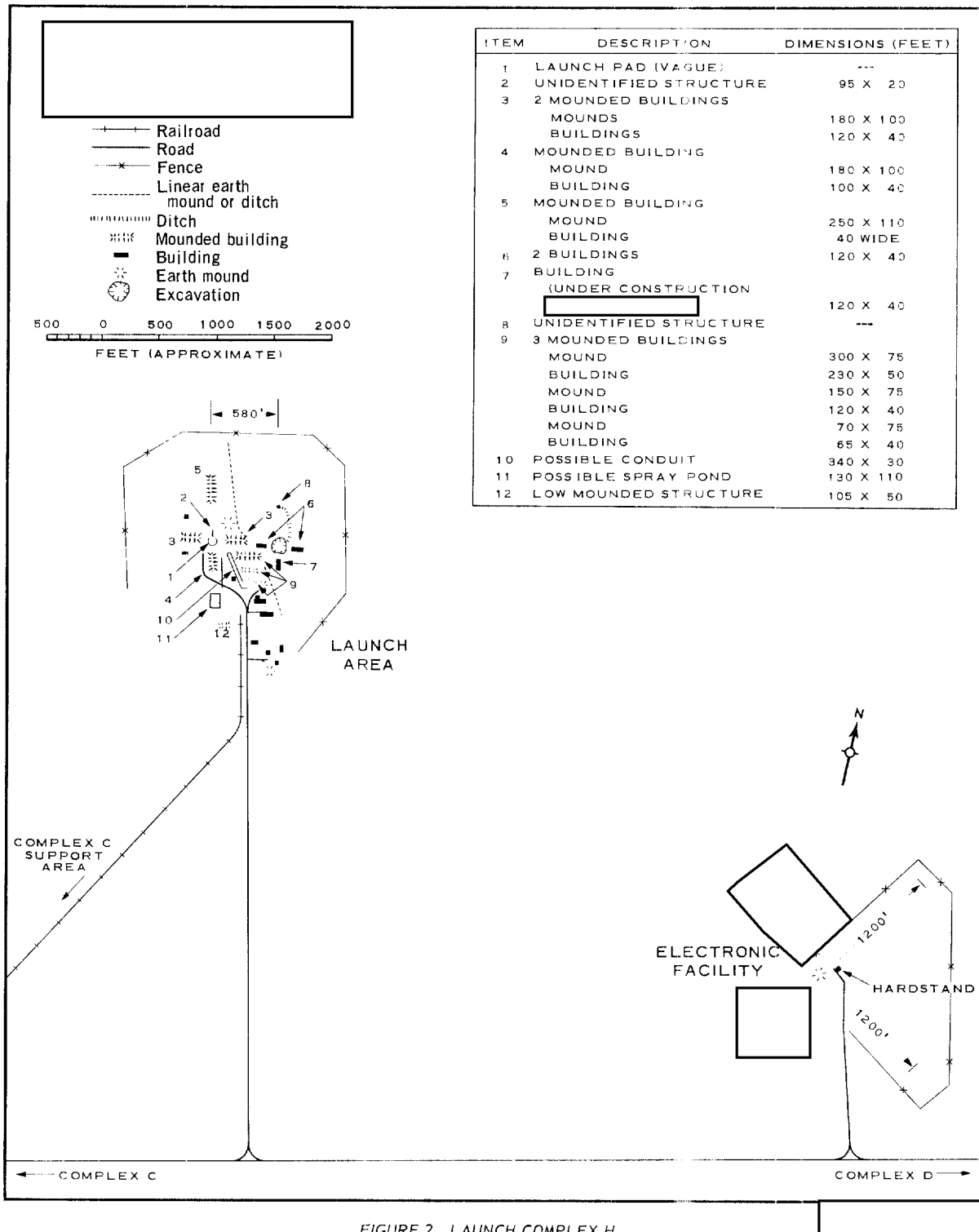
facility at Launch Complex C at Tyuratam), and the other has an azimuth [redacted] A low earth mound approximately 65 feet in diameter is at the intersection of the legs. Grading southwest of the intersection suggests that additional construction may be in progress. The access road to the facility terminates at a hardstand near the intersection of the legs.

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FIGURE 2. LAUNCH COMPLEX H.

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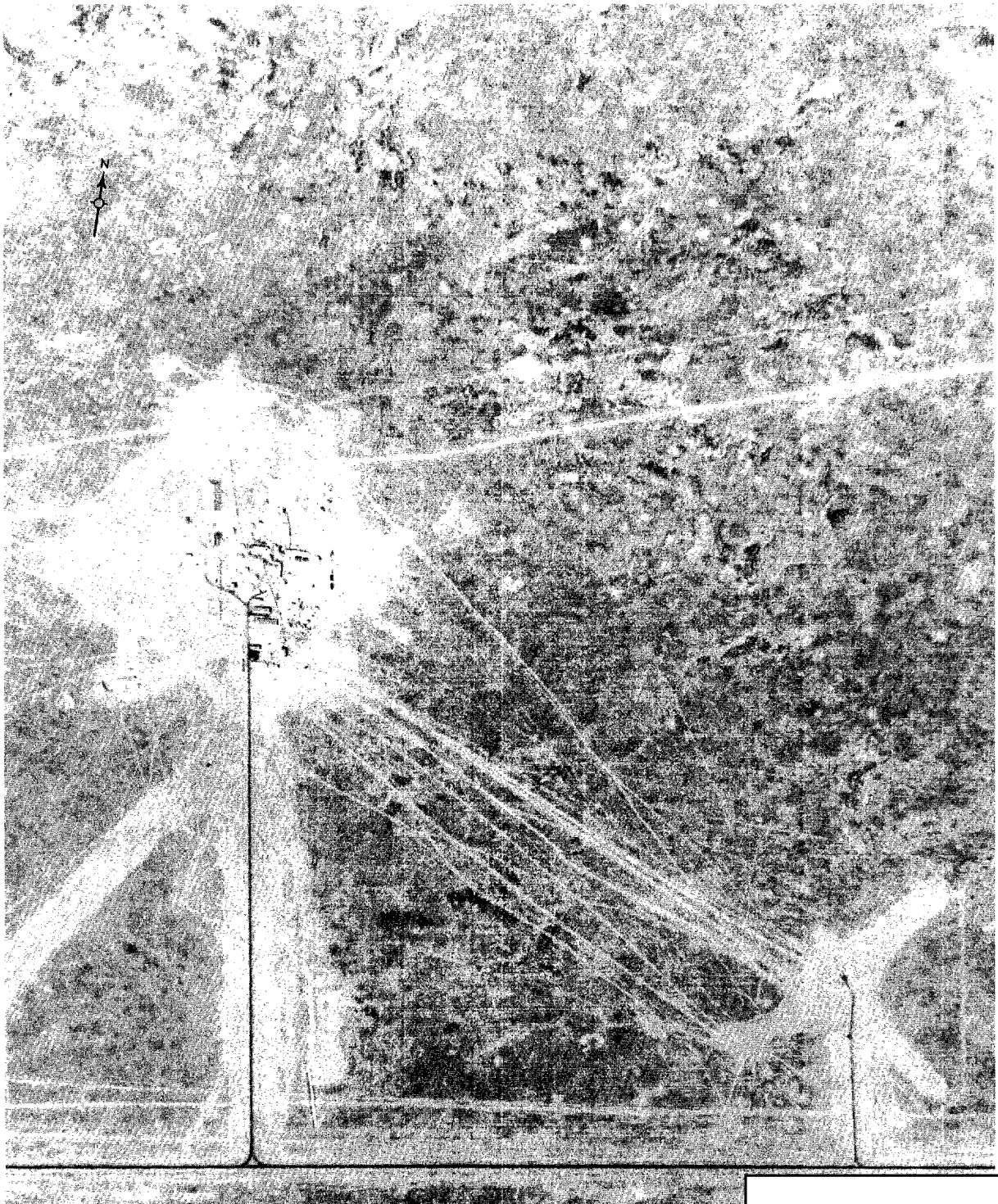


FIGURE 3. LAUNCH COMPLEX H, [redacted]

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REFERENCES

PHOTOGRAPHY



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MAPS OR CHARTS

DESPA. Series 1, Sheet NL 41-8, 1st ed, Nov 62, Scale 1:250,000 (TOP SECRET [redacted])

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DOCUMENTS

1. NPIC. R-204/63, Launch Complexes C and H, Tyura Tam Missile Test Center, USSR, Aug 63 (TOP SECRET [redacted])

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2. NPIC. R-315/63, Launch Complexes A and E, Tyuratam Missile Test Center, USSR, Changes Dec 63 (TOP SECRET [redacted])

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REQUIREMENT

CIA. OSI/C-DS3-80,911

NPIC PROJECT

N-5/64

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