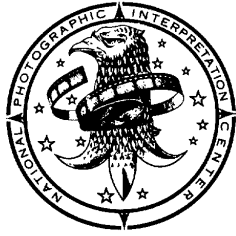


Basic Imagery Interpretation Report



**NATIONAL
PHOTOGRAPHIC
INTERPRETATION
CENTER**

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**LAUNCH GROUP I, LAUNCH SITE 17
TYURATAM MISSILE TEST CENTER**

25X1A

**MISSILE RANGES--STRATEGIC SSM & SPACE FACILITIES
USSR
NOVEMBER 1968**

DECLASS REVIEW by NIMA/DOD

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TITLE NPIC
TOS-24070/68

SEC. CLASS. LOCATION

Nov. 1968 TS/T/K

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INSTALLATION OR ACTIVITY NAME
Launch Group I, Launch Site I7, Tyuratam Missile Test Center

COUNTRY
UR 25X1A

UTM COORDINATES
NA

GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES
45-56-35N 063-27-50E

MAP REFERENCE
AMS. DESPA, Series 2, Sheet NL 41A/2, Oct 64, Scale 1:50,000 (TOP SECRET RUFF)

25X1D

LATEST IMAGERY USED
[REDACTED]

ABSTRACT

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This report covers the period of construction, from [REDACTED] for the three silos at Launch Site I7, one of the sites in Launch Group I at the Tyuratam Missile Test Center. Graphics include a location map showing the position of Launch Group I within the Test Center and a detailed line drawing of the three silos within their security fence. All significant features are annotated on the drawing and it is accompanied by a keyed mensuration table.

INTRODUCTION

Launch Site I7, the most recently constructed site in Launch Group I at the Tyuratam Missile Test Center, is about 10 nautical miles (nm) east-northeast of Launch Complex A and 12 nm southwest of Launch Complex B. The first evidence of construction for this site was observed on [REDACTED] photography and no construction activity was discernible on [REDACTED] coverage.

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This site is unique within Launch Group I (Figure 1) as it is the only site in the group which has three launch silos within a common security fence. It is directly connected by ditching, probably for cables, to Launch Site I1, a Type IIIC control site and to a recently constructed underground building near the Instrumentation and Tracking Facility at Launch Complex A.

Available evidence indicates that the I7 silos have characteristics of the Type IIIC silos, however, a lack of high resolution photography during critical stages of construction prevents a definitive comparison.

BASIC DESCRIPTION

Launch Site I7 (Figure 2) consists of three launch silos, their associated entrance buildings (item 2), a buried structure (item 3), a barracks and administration building (item 9), and other small buildings and structures. The three silos are equally separated by about 400 feet along a north-south line, and are designated the North Silo, the Center Silo, and the South Silo.

A hard-surfaced road enters the site from the west side and connects to a triple-loop road system serving the three silos. Each silo has an apron similar to those observed at the deployed Type IIIC sites.

Silo Construction

The construction techniques observed at these three silos are essentially the same as those seen at the other Type IIIC sites in this group 1 and nearly the same as those seen at most of the deployed Type IIIC sites. Most of the features and components associated with the construction of a Type IIIC launch site have been seen at the I7 silos. These features and components include the U-shaped excavation, silo coring, beveled ring, compartmented silo headworks, silo liner, silo door, propellant-associated structures, cylindrical tanks, entrance building, and the twin mound pattern.

At the I7 silos, the silo liner appears to have been placed into its proper position in two pieces. The only time a silo liner has been observed being emplaced in a Type IIIC silo was in [REDACTED] at Launch Site O4 at TTMT. The liner was in two sections and one was in a slightly elevated position at the front edge of the silo headworks. The other was on the mound in front of the headworks. This may also be the procedure used at the deployed Type IIIC sites. The silo liner segments are first assembled into a complete silo liner on the mound in front of the silo headworks. Checks are then probably made to in-

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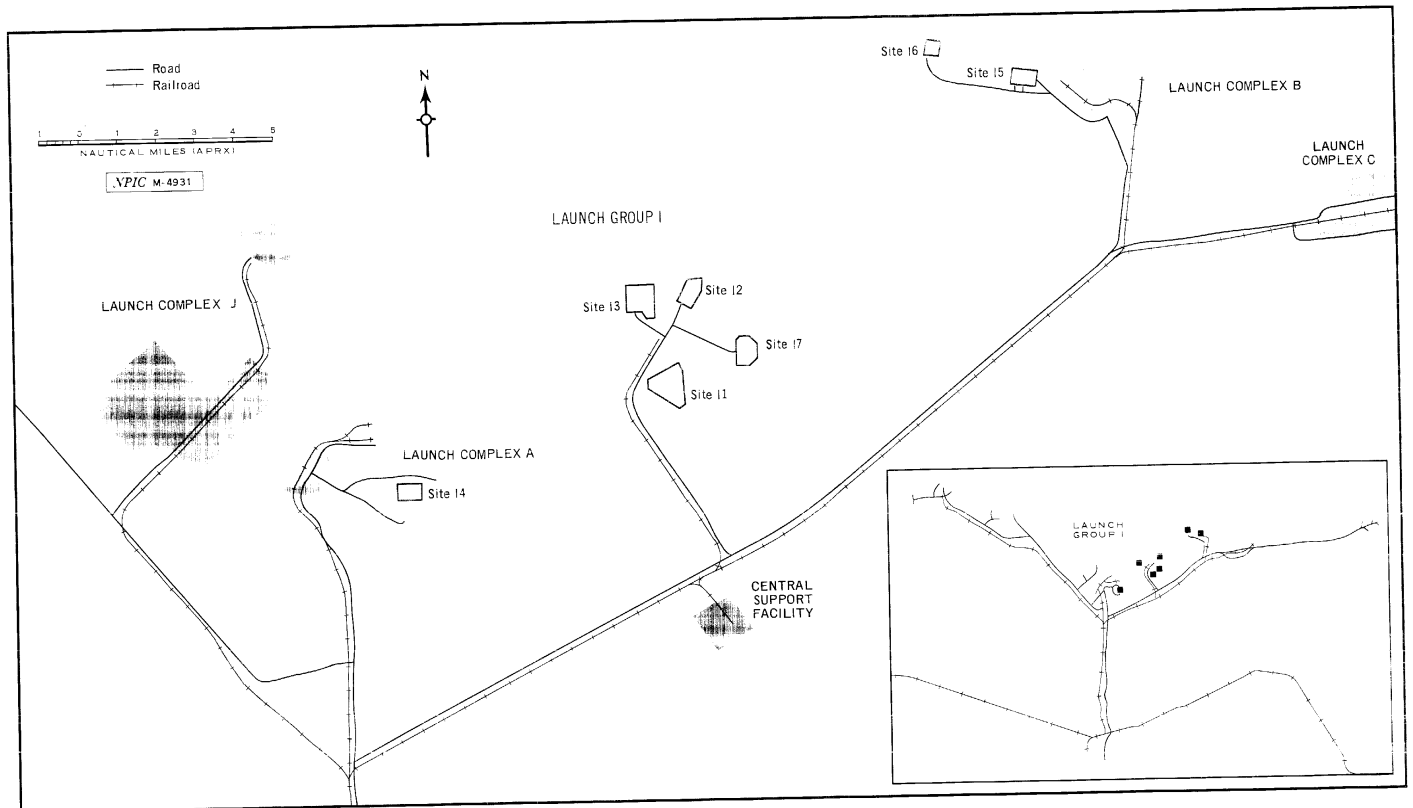


FIGURE 1. LAUNCH GROUP I, TYURATAM MISSILE TEST CENTER, USSR.

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sure that proper alignment has been achieved and then the liner is separated into two pieces and probably placed, a section at a time, into its proper place. Silo liners have been observed, assembled in one piece, in front of each of the three I7 silos. At the South Silo the assembled liner was first seen in [REDACTED] the liner was seen separated in two pieces, and no liner was seen in [REDACTED]. At the North Silo, the liner was first seen in [REDACTED] in two pieces in [REDACTED] and possibly placed into its proper position in [REDACTED]. The liner for the Center Silo was first seen in [REDACTED] and was not seen in [REDACTED].

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A structure not previously observed at Type IIIC silos (Figure 2, item 3) is immediately southeast of each of the I7 silos. It has an inclined conduit which serves as an above-ground personnel entrance and horizontal conduits which project west then northwest to the base of the headworks. The cruciform structure associated with the personnel entrance of a Type IIIC silo has not been observed at the I7 silos. Lack of interpretable photography during the construction stage may have precluded its identification.

Construction Timing

The time required to complete the South Silo was 23 months, the North Silo took 24 months, and the Center Silo will probably take approximately 27 months. This is appreciably longer than the 15-18 months it took to complete the silos at the first three sites in this group, Launch Sites I1, I4, and I5 which are apparently the same type.

Construction began on all three I7 silos in [REDACTED] and proceeded at a uniform pace through the early phases of construction, with the South Silo being the most advanced. By [REDACTED] the headworks at the South Silo appeared complete and the front had been backfilled. A silo door was under construction behind the silo. The other two had headworks to ground level and a silo liner positioned on the mound in front of their silos.

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At this point, construction effort was apparently transferred almost exclusively to the South Silo. With the exception of seeing the silo liner separated into two pieces in [REDACTED] very little change was observed at either the North or the Center Silo. Construction of the South Silo appeared to continue at a near normal rate. By [REDACTED] the silo headworks were completely backfilled and the site was nearly complete in [REDACTED]. It was observed in a completed stage in [REDACTED].

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Construction apparently resumed on the other two silos in [REDACTED] with the North Silo being completed in [REDACTED]. The Center Silo was in the final phases of construction in [REDACTED] and should be complete by [REDACTED].

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The apparent stopping of construction at the North and Center Silos of Launch Site I7 in [REDACTED] coincides with the stopping of construction at sites I2, I3, 2/ and I6 in this group and the starting of Launch Group O.

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Other Features

A barracks and administration building (Figure 2, item 9) is on the south side of the site access road where the road enters the site. This building is similar to the one at Launch Site I1. Another building (item 8) on the south side of this road is situated immediately inside the inner security fence. An earth-mounded structure (item 5) is about 275 feet east-southeast of the Center Silo and also south of the site access road. A probable underground conduit extends to the west from this structure to another earth-mounded structure (item 6), then south under the loop road for the South Silo, and finally southwest toward the security fence to a probable underground entrance. Similar components are present at the other sites in Launch Group I, but these are not observed at deployed Type IIIC sites.

Possible dual instrumentation positions, consisting of two low slender structures (item 4), are northwest and southeast of the South Silo. This is the only silo at this site to have these positions. If lines connecting the pairs are drawn across the silo, a perpendicular line would extend in a downrange direction. Similar patterns are observed at all deployed Type IIIC sites.

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Item	Description	Dimensions (ft)*	Item	Description	Dimensions (ft)*
1	Silo	[REDACTED]	d	Inclined passageway	[REDACTED]
a	Propellant-associated structure				
b	Propellant-associated structure				
c	Propellant-associated structure				
d	Propellant-associated structure				
e	Silo aperture				
f	Silo door well				
g	Silo door				
2	Entrance bldg				
3	Buried structure				
a	Entrance	4	Possible dual instrumentation positions		
b	Inclined passageway	5	Earth-mounded structure		
c	Buried bldg	a	[REDACTED]		
		b			
		6		Earth-mounded structure	
		7		Underground entrance	
		8		Bldg	
		9		Barracks/administration bldg	
		10		Utility structure	

*Accurate within ±5 ft

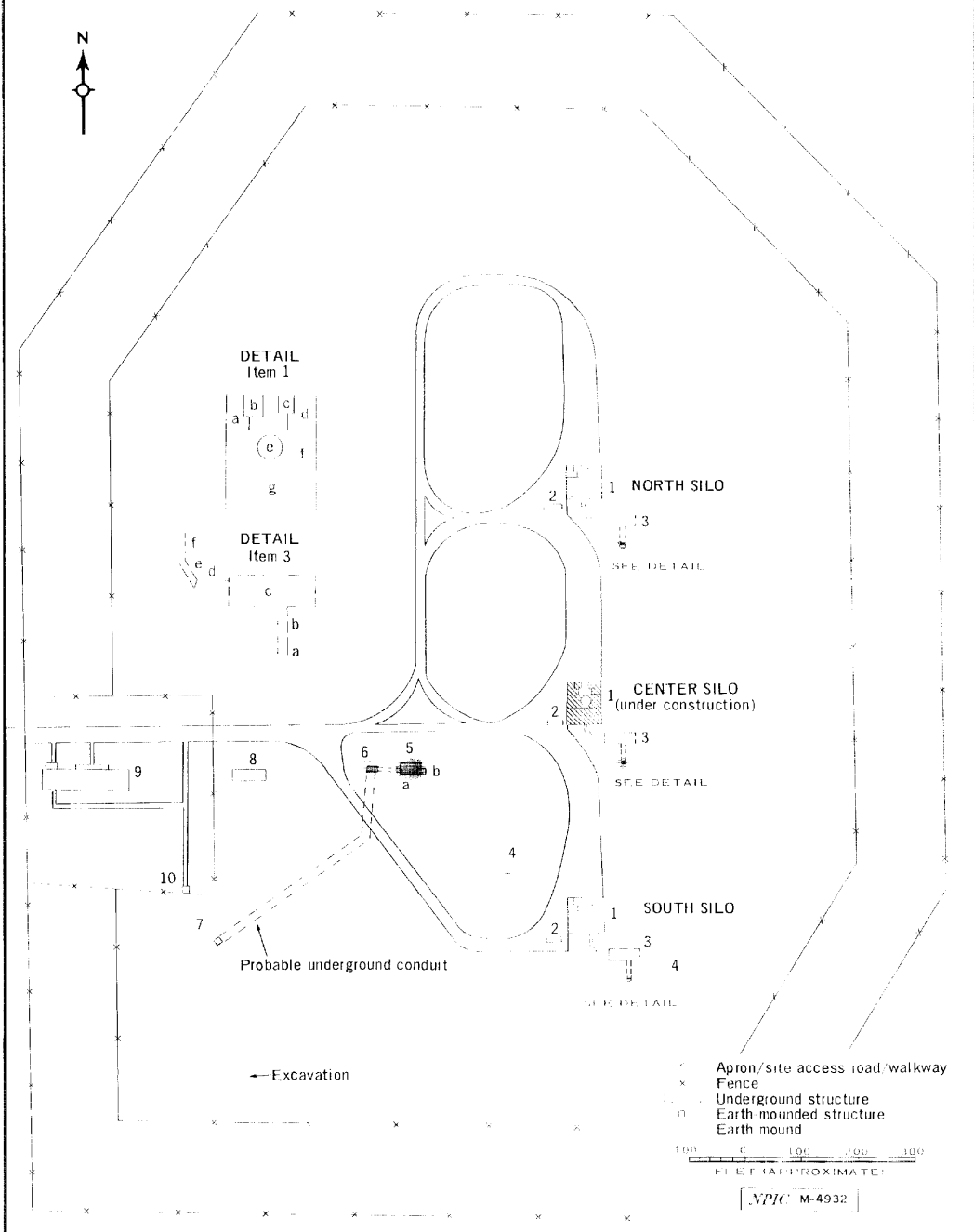
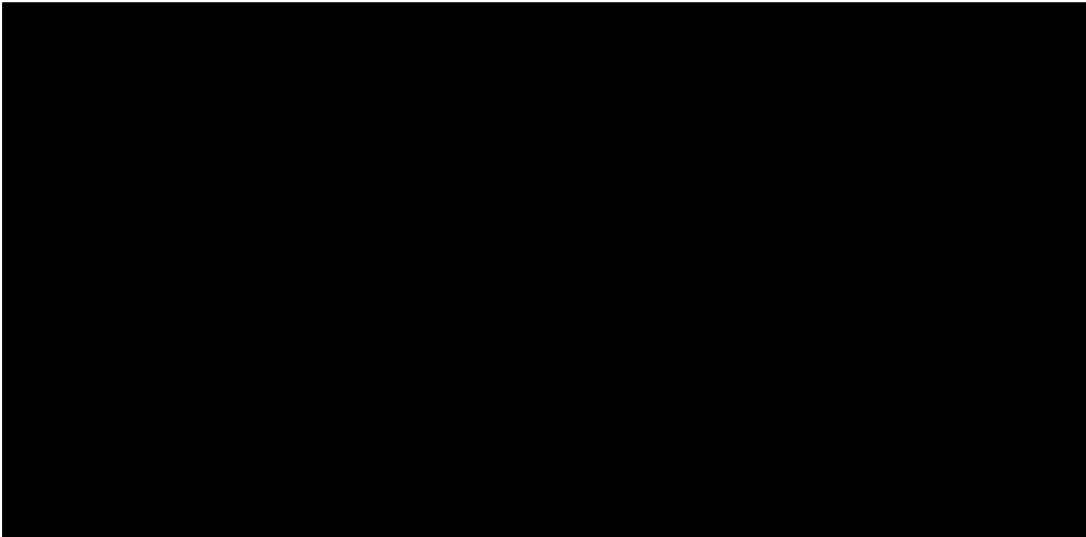


FIGURE 2. LAUNCH SITE 17, LAUNCH GROUP I, TYURATAM MISSILE TEST CENTER.

TOP SECRET RUFF

25X1D

REFERENCES



MAPS OR CHARTS

AMS. DESPA, Series 2, Sheet NL41A/2, Oct 64, Scale 1:50,000 (TOP SECRET RUFF)

DOCUMENTS

1. NPIC. TCS-80660/67, Tyuratam Missile Test Center, Launch Group I, Launch Sites 11, 14, and 15, Nov 67 (TOP SECRET RUFF)
2. NPIC. TCS-80764/67, Tyuratam Missile Test Center, Launch Group I, Launch Site 13, Nov 67 (TOP SECRET RUFF)

REQUIREMENT

EXSUBCOM-BR-P/002-69

NPIC PROJECT

210295

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