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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT



**KARTALY
ICBM COMPLEX
USSR**

Declass Review by NIMA/DOD

TCS-20036/68
JANUARY 1968
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PREFACE

This report, one of a series prepared in response to CIA Requirements C-DI5-82,972 and C-DI7-84,251 requesting detailed line drawings, to scale, of elements of the complex, updates and supersedes TCS-80207/67, Kartaly ICBM Complex, USSR. 1/ The information contained herein is based on KEYHOLE photography through [redacted] Individual reports in the series will be updated periodically to reflect changes observed on subsequent photography.

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KARTALY ICBM COMPLEX, USSR

The Kartaly ICBM Complex (Figure 1) is in the west-central part of the Steppe Region, in the Chelyabinsk Oblast, Russian SFSR. Magnitogorsk, the nearest large city, is about 60 nm to the west-northwest. The complex support facility is 2.0 nm west of the city of Kartaly. The 31 launchers at this complex (all Type IIC launch sites) are contained in 5 groups, all of which have their full complement of 6 sites, with an additional site at the rail-to-road transfer point. Three of the launch groups form a partial ring, open on the northeast quadrant, around the city. The outer limit of the ring is about 15 nm from the center of the city. The fourth and fifth launch groups fall outside this ring, to the south and southwest, with the southernmost site about 30 nm from the city.

Kartaly is an industrial and agricultural city at the intersection of 2 important rail lines. The chief industries are metal working and locomotive and car repairing in support of the railroads. Terrain in the region is well-drained, gently rolling steppe with elevations ranging from 800 to 1,200 feet. Much of the land is devoted to agriculture. Trees are in scattered clumps and, although relatively sparse, are more prevalent than usual for this region. The bulk of the population in the general area surrounding Kartaly is concentrated in numerous small towns and villages at intervals of 5.0 to 10 nm apart.

The Steppe Region is the warmest part of Western Siberia. Snow cover is normally limited to the period from early November to mid-April. The average temperature in January is about 0°F. Summers are quite warm, with little variation in temperatures. The average temperature in July is about 68°F. The region has an overall annual cloud cover average of about 60 percent. A substantial seasonal variation exists, with averages reaching a minimum in February and March, and a less definite minimum again in July and August. During these periods of minimum cloudiness, about one-third to one-half the days are clear. Maximum cloudiness occurs from October through December when one-fourth or less of the days are clear.

Transportation of supplies and materials into the complex is provided by the railroad. The rail lines that intersect at the city of Kartaly are both double-tracked. The north-south line runs through Chelyabinsk, Kartaly, and Orsk. The east-west line runs from Magnitogorsk through Kartaly and Akmolinsk. The complex support facility and the rail-to-road transfer point are served by a spur from the east-west line, and also have ready access to the north-south line. A local network of roads connects the towns and villages in the area, but such roads are inadequate for efficient long distance, cross-country move-

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KARTALY ICBM COMPLEX, USSR

Component	Type	Negated	First Seen	Estimated Start	Completion Confirmed	Geographic Coordinates
Complex Support Facility	--					53-02N 60-35E
Launch Group A						
Launch Site 1A**	IIC					53-01N 60-25E
Launch Site 2A	IIC					52-56N 60-31E
Launch Site 3A	IIC					52-55N 60-23E
Launch Site 4A	IIC					52-51N 60-27E
Launch Site 5A	IIC					53-00N 60-15E
Launch Site 6A	IIC					53-04N 60-18E
Launch Group B						
Launch Site 7B	IIC					53-09N 60-41E
Launch Site 8B**	IIC					53-08N 60-32E
Launch Site 10B	IIC					53-09N 60-23E
Launch Site 11B	IIC					53-12N 60-32E
Launch Site 12B	IIC					53-14N 60-39E
Launch Site 13B	IIC					53-15N 60-23E
Launch Group C						
Launch Site 14C*	IIC					53-00N 60-46E
Launch Site 15C	IIC					52-57N 60-39E
Launch Site 18C	IIC					52-51N 60-38E
Launch Site 19C	IIC					52-53N 60-46E
Launch Site 20C	IIC					52-57N 60-55E
Launch Site 21C	IIC					52-51N 60-55E
Launch Group D						
Launch Site 24D	IIC					52-43N 60-34E
Launch Site 25D	IIC					52-41N 60-42E
Launch Site 26D	IIC					52-35N 60-46E
Launch Site 28D	IIC					52-46N 60-42E
Launch Site 29D*	IIC					52-36N 60-36E
Launch Site 30D	IIC					52-31N 60-39E
Launch Group E						
Launch Site 31E	IIC					52-47N 60-21E
Launch Site 32E*	IIC					52-42N 60-24E
Launch Site 34E	IIC					52-47N 60-13E
Launch Site 36E	IIC					52-42N 60-16E
Launch Site 37E	IIC					52-36N 60-23E
Launch Site 38E	IIC					52-36N 60-14E
Launch Site 27	IIC					53-00N 60-33E
Launch Site A (Prob Dummy)	--					52-52N 60-19E
Launch Site B (Prob Dummy)	--					52-52N 60-09E

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*Control Site

**Control Site with L-Shaped electronics

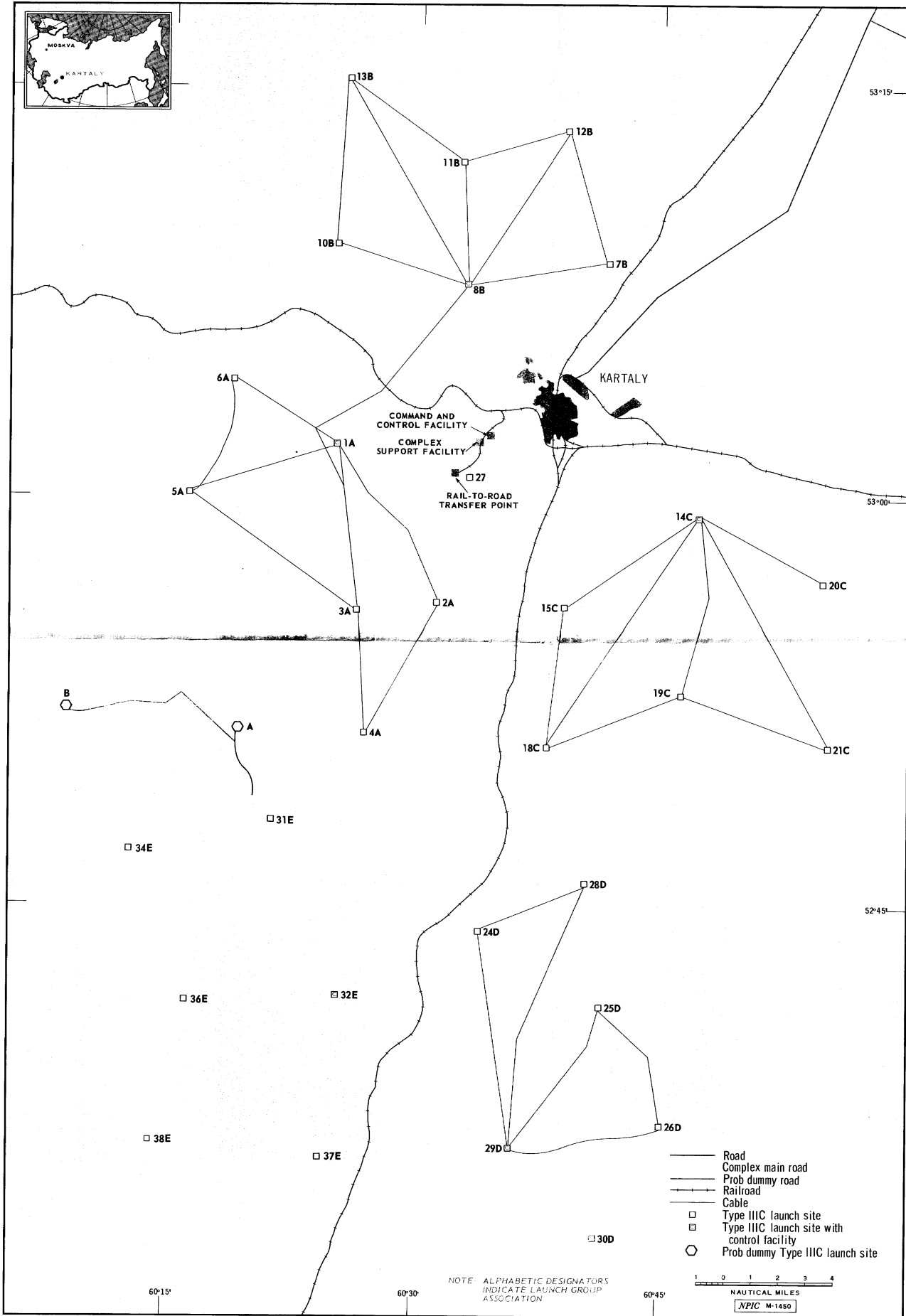


FIGURE 1. LOCATION OF KARTALY ICBM COMPLEX.

ment. A system of improved roads is under construction within the complex. The sites within Launch Groups A, B, and C are all served by well-engineered roads, and similar road facilities will no doubt be constructed to the launch sites in the remaining groups as they approach completion.

The Kartaly ICBM Complex was first observed in [] when the complex support facility and 5 of the sites in Launch Group A were present in an early stage of construction. Since then, expansion of the complex has continued at an increasing rate through [] Construction at Launch Group B was initiated in the spring of [] 2 sites in Launch Group C were first observed in the fall of [] and the remaining 4 in early [] Construction of Launch Group D was started in [] and Launch Group E was first observed early in [] The most active year at this complex has been [] when there were 13 new starts and 11 sites observed complete. No completed sites were observed prior to [] the first year of construction, 6 sites were started; 8 sites were started in [] There was a recession in starts during [] with construction starting on only 4 silos. There also has been a decrease in the time necessary to construct a silo. The first sites, completed [] required 26 months in construction. Since then, the elapsed time for site construction has steadily decreased and sites recently observed complete [] were under construction only 17 months. At present, Launch Groups A, B, and C are complete. Launch Group D is ahead of Launch Group E, but both are generally in a midstage of construction.

A new development, heretofore unobserved at any of the ICBM complexes, was identified at this complex in late [] Two dummy site patterns were observed in [] One appeared to be complete, the other in a late stage of construction. At first glance, they seemed to be Type IIIC launch sites; further study, however, revealed serious discrepancies from normal sites. They were both negated in [] and first seen in [] If these were fully equipped Type IIIC launch sites, it would mean that one site had been completed in a period of 5 months. The shortest construction time previously noted for a Type IIIC launch site was 15 months, and that (Aleysk Launch Site 12) was obviously a speeded-up project. Roads to the probable dummy sites, while clearly defined, do not appear to be graded nor are there bridges where the road crosses a drain.

It is difficult, at this time, to predict the future role of this complex. There is ample space for additional sites in all directions from the complex support facility. The most likely area, however, is toward the south and southwest. It appears to be well-drained, easily accessible, and is the least populated. The area to the northeast appears to be too poorly drained for the con-

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struction of silos, and the remainder of the surrounding area is more populated. Supplies and construction materials presently stockpiled in the complex support facility are sufficient to complete the sites currently under construction. A renewed buildup of these materials would be a definite indicator of continuing deployment. If expansion of the complex continues at previous rates, new sites should appear by the spring or early summer of [] The slowdown in new site starts at the Type IIIC complexes may indicate that these launch sites are in a terminal phase of deployment. There has been no indication, however, whether the Type IIIC complexes will be used for the deployment of follow-on missile systems.

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REFERENCES

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DOCUMENT

1. NPIC. TCS-80207/67, *Kartaly ICBM Complex, USSR, Apr 67* (TOP SECRET RUFF)

REQUIREMENTS

- CIA. C-DI5-82,972
- CIA. C-DI7-84,251

NPIC PROJECT

- 11210/66 (partial answer)

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