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June 1961

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW by NIMA/DOD 4/5/00

M - TYPE STORAGE SITES AT SOVIET AIRFIELDS



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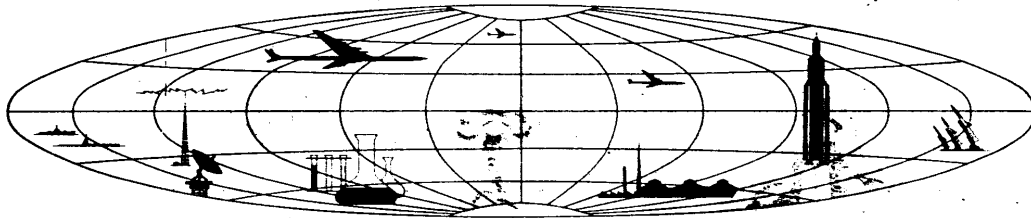
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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

**M - TYPE STORAGE SITES
AT
SOVIET AIRFIELDS**

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PREFACE

This photographic interpretation report has been prepared at the National Photographic Interpretation Center with participation by the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Central Intelligence Agency. It is based solely on photographic evidence and is concerned only with the so-called M-type (miscellaneous) storage sites at Soviet airfields which have been the object of considerable interest in the intelligence community for several years. It is the purpose of this report to examine the M-type sites collectively and to determine [REDACTED]

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SUMMARY

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Twenty-three so-called M-type storage sites have been located on photography between [redacted] They are associated with both tactical and long range airfields in various parts of the Soviet

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[redacted]

INTRODUCTION

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The M-type storage sites associated with Soviet airfields include sites for which no specific storage function has been identified. They have certain general characteristics which include [redacted]

[redacted]

Other than these general characteristics, the M-type sites differ considerably in general appearance, size, shape, and layout. Road connections with airfields are sometimes new and direct, and in other cases where existing roads have been utilized, they are indirect. All sites are road served, and a few are rail served. All sites, with one exception, appear to be enclosed by a double wire fence separated by a wide cleared area.

Despite the diversity of these sites, for purposes of discussion in this report they have been divided into four groups, three of which are based on certain similarities, primarily in size and shape, while the fourth group includes six distinctly dissimilar sites.

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ANALYSIS OF SITES

The six M-type sites shown in Table 1 are covered on vertical and oblique photography ranging in quality from very good to poor. These sites are almost square in shape. Figure 1 is a photograph of the Monchegorsk site.

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TABLE 1. First Group of M-type Storage Sites

Location	Coordinates of Site	Distance from A/F (nm)	Transportation Facilities	Percent Complete
Afrikanda	67° 26' N 32° 45' E	2	Road	Possibly 100
Gdov	55° 50' N 27° 57' E	2	Road	Probably 100
Monchegorsk	67° 59' N 33° 04' E	1	Road	Probably 100
Osinovka	44° 01' N 132° 11' E	1.6	Road	100
Postavy	55° 08' N 26° 46' E	1	Road	50
Shchuchin	53° 35' N 24° 48' E	1.5	Road	Probably 100

The service road within the site is laid out in a nearly-square pattern with an average of nine non-revetted gable-roofed buildings situated on paved ramps and well spaced. Two or three of the buildings at each site are large storage buildings while the remainder are quite small. Visible only at the Osinovka and Postavy sites is a very small structure, possibly earth-covered, which could be for storage of primers and fuzes. Although the storage sites in this group have certain similarities, no one site appears identical to another.



FIGURE 1. M-TYPE STORAGE SITE NEAR MONCHEGORSK AIRFIELD.

Excellent to poor quality photography, both vertical and oblique,

covers the eight M-type sites in the second group (Table 2). They are rectangular in shape. The service road within the site forms a long rectangle with an average of nine non-revetted gable-roofed buildings, well-spaced on separate paved ramps. Most of the sites in this group have three large storage buildings and one large support building near the entrance with the remainder of the buildings being smaller storage buildings.

TABLE 2. Second Group of M-type Storage Sites

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Location	Coordinates of Site	Distance from A/F (nm)	Transportation Facilities	Percent Complete
Briyeni	45° 58' N 29° 21' E	1.5	Road & Rail	100
Chernyakhovsk	54° 34' N 21° 48' E	1	Road	Probably 100
Dombarovskiy	50° 47' N 59° 31' E	2	Road	Probably 100
Kupino	54° 22' N 77° 22' E	1.5	Road	100
Limanskoye	46° 43' N 30° 02' E	2	Road & Rail	100
Orsk	51° 17' N 58° 37' E	1	Road	100
Siauliai *	55° 54' N 23° 27' E	2	Road	90
Sol'tsy **	55° 10' N 30° 17' E	2	Road	50

* Type II site also present at this airfield.

**Type I site also present at this airfield.

The Briyeni and Limanskoye sites, (see Figure 2 for photograph of Limanskoye site), which appear to be almost identical, are the only ones in this group that have a rail spur entering the site. The site at Sol'tsy appears to be about the same design but has no rail spur. The other sites in this group have the same general features with certain minor variations in layout or number of buildings.



FIGURE 2. M-TYPE STORAGE SITE NEAR LIMANSKOYE AIRFIELD.

Good quality photography covers the M-type sites in the third group (Table 3). There is no stan-

standard size or shape to these facilities, but they are generally larger than those in the first two groups. Figure 3 is a photograph of the Ussuriysk/Vozdvizhenka (formerly Voroshilov/Vozdvizhenka) site. The Spassk-Dalniy site is the only M-type site where only a single security fence exists.

TABLE 3. Third Group of M-type Storage Sites 25X1D

Location	Coordinates of Site	Distance from A/F (nm)	Transportation Facilities	Percent Complete
Khorol East	44° 28' N 132° 05' E	2.5	Road & Rail	100
Spassk-Dalniy East	44° 35' N 132° 56' E	2.4	Road & Rail	Probably 100
Ussuriysk Vozdvizhenka	42° 53' N 131° 58' E	2	Road	Probably 100



FIGURE 3. M-TYPE STORAGE SITE NEAR USSURIYSK VOZDVIZHENKA AIRFIELD.

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The Ussuriysk/Vozdvizhenka and Khorol East sites each have 17 non-revetted predominately large gable-roofed buildings. The Spassk-Dalniy East site has only seven.

The key feature which makes a group out of these storage sites is the presence of several circular structures. They are placed along the road network on small curved aprons. There are two each at Khorol East and Spassk-Dalniy East, and four at Ussuriysk/Vozdvizhenka. They are probably circular tanks covered with earth, for liquid storage of some type. No entrances are visible. These circular structures could be present but not discernible at some of the other M-type sites.

The remaining six storage sites (Table 4) have the same general characteristics as the other M-type storage sites, but each one is unique in layout of buildings and roads. They appear on good quality photography except in the case of the Kedainiai site which is on far oblique photography.

TABLE 4. Fourth Group of M-type Sites

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Location	Coordinates of Site	Distance from A/F	Transportation Facilities	Percent Complete
Baranovichi *	53° 04' N 26° 03' E	2	Road	100
Engel's *	51° 29' N 46° 15' E	3	Road & Rail	100
Kedainiai	55° 22' N 23° 57' E	3	Road	Unknown
Krehevitsy	55° 36' N 31° 22' E	2.5	Road	70
Melitopol	46° 53' N 35° 19' E	2	Road	100
Zaporozh'ye East	47° 52' N 35° 18' E	1	Road	100

* Type II site also present.

Buildings vary in number, size, and shape. At the Engel's site there are also several very small structures possibly for storage of fuzes and primers. In addition, at Engel's there is extensive open storage, possibly of conventional bombs.

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COMPARISON OF M-TYPE SITES

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Table 5, with a comparison of features observed at M-type sites.

CONCLUSIONS

Comparison of the M-type sites [redacted] at Soviet airfields (as shown in Table 5) indicates that they have none of the [redacted]. The M-type sites are not secluded by board fencing; they are not protected from internal or external blasts; they appear to have no facilities for weapon check-out or loading; and they lack the uniformity of design characteristic of the Type I and

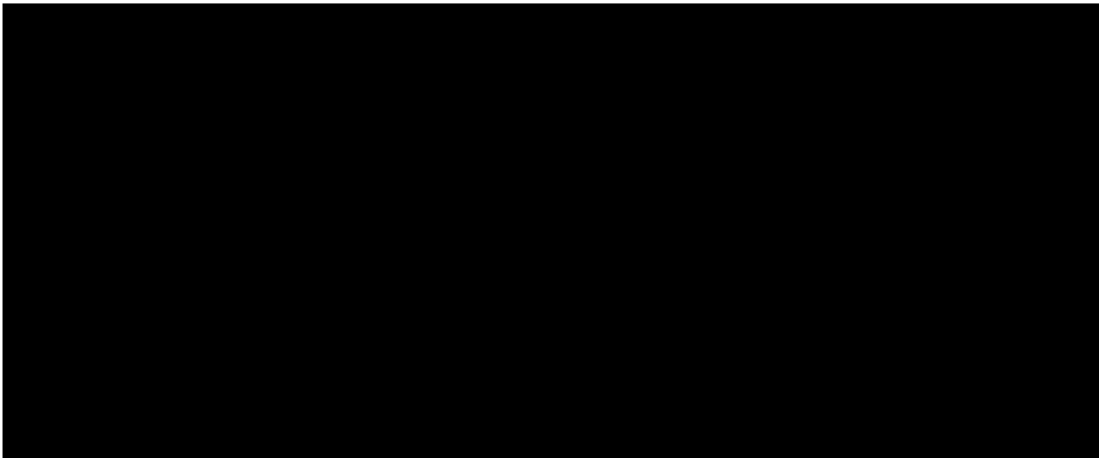
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TABLE 5. Comparison of M-Type Sites

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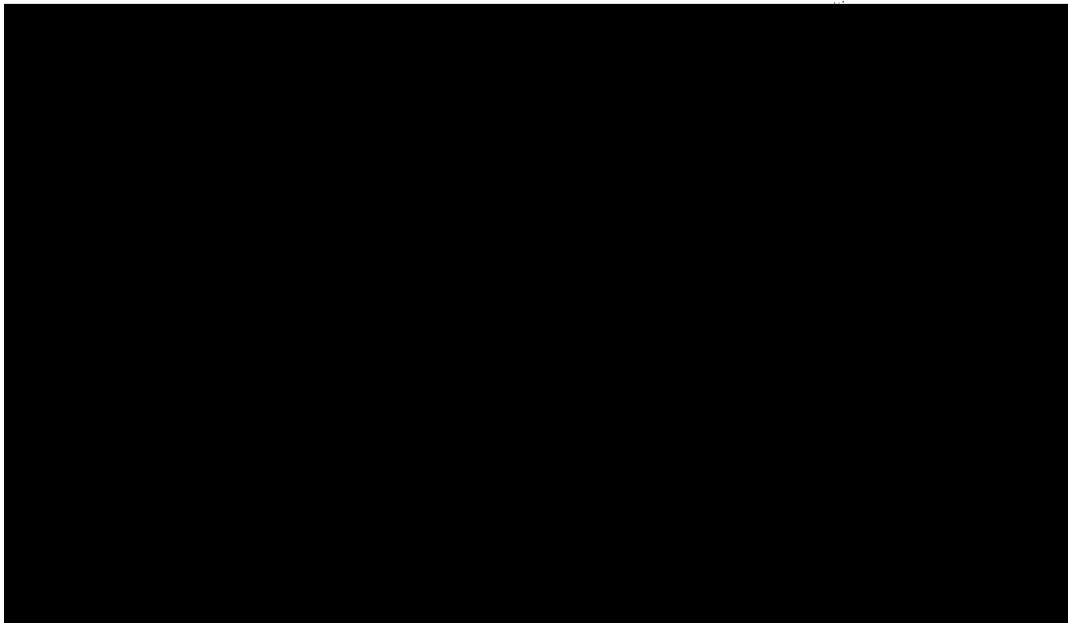
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[REDACTED] For these reasons it seems doubtful that the M-type sites were designed and constructed for the [REDACTED]

On the other hand the M-type sites do resemble some World War II ammunition storage areas, utilizing simple gable-roofed storage buildings well-spaced along a service road. It is expected that each of these military airfields would require some facilities for the storage of conventional weapons, which would include bombs, rockets, and ammunition. Most of the airfields with associated M-type sites have no other facilities available for the storage of these conventional weapons.

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REFERENCES



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