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NPIC/R-1489/64
September 1964

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

MILITARY STORAGE DEPOT NEAR PAO-CHI, CHINA

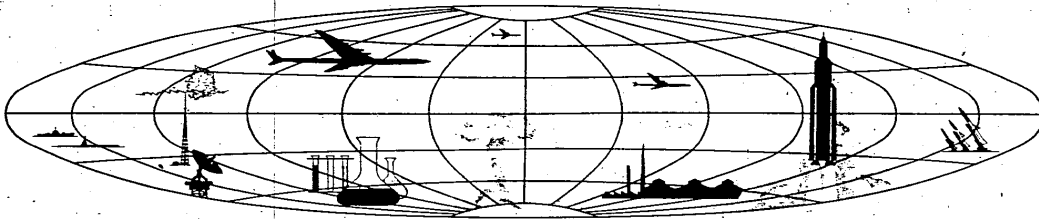


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MILITARY STORAGE DEPOT NEAR PAO-CHI, CHINA

COORDS: 34-14N 106-56E
NPIC TARGET NO: 0384-9C
COMOR NO: None
BE NO: None

A large military storage depot is located in a sparsely populated area in a high pass in the Ching-ling mountains, approximately 13.5 nm SW of Pao-chi, China (Figure 1). The depot covers an irregular area, approximately 11,000 x 1,700 ft (Figure 2). A short access road extends

from the western end of the depot to the main highway between Pao-chi and Cheng-tu, and the railroad between these two cities passes within 1,200 ft of the storage depot. Considerable preliminary construction activity is discernible about 3 nm east of the depot and may be related to it. A new or rebuilt access road to the construction site from the main highway bypasses the depot and provides access to it at the eastern end.

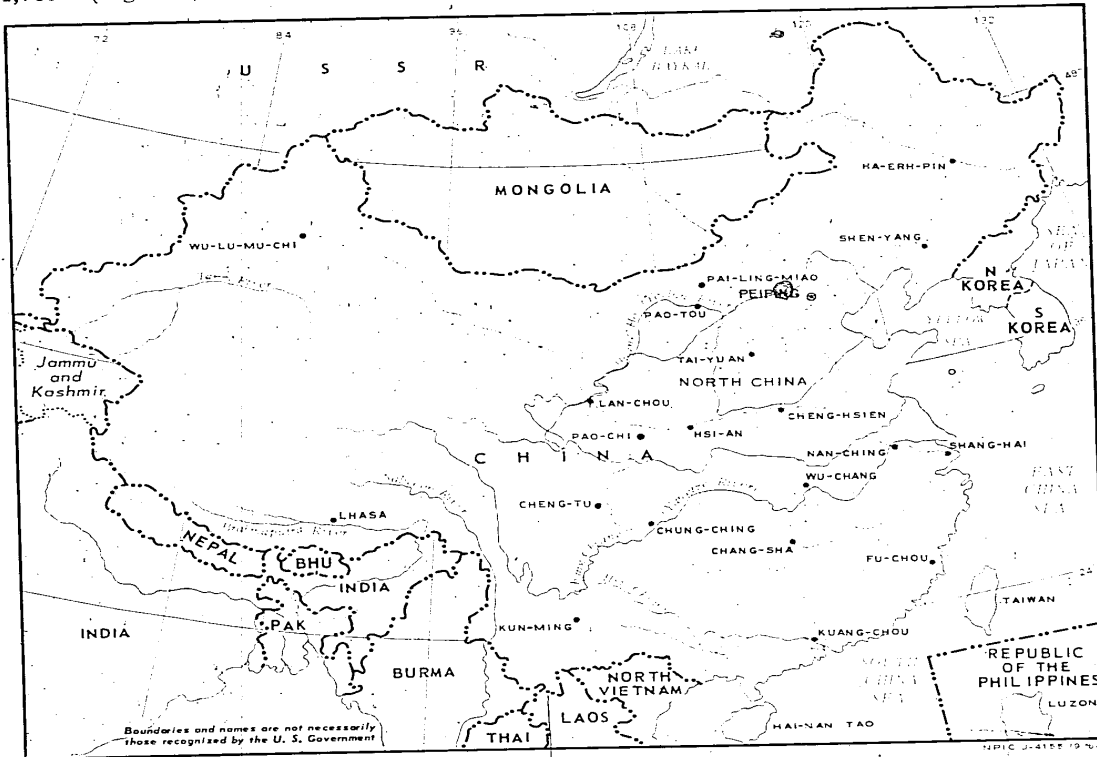


FIGURE 1. LOCATION MAP.

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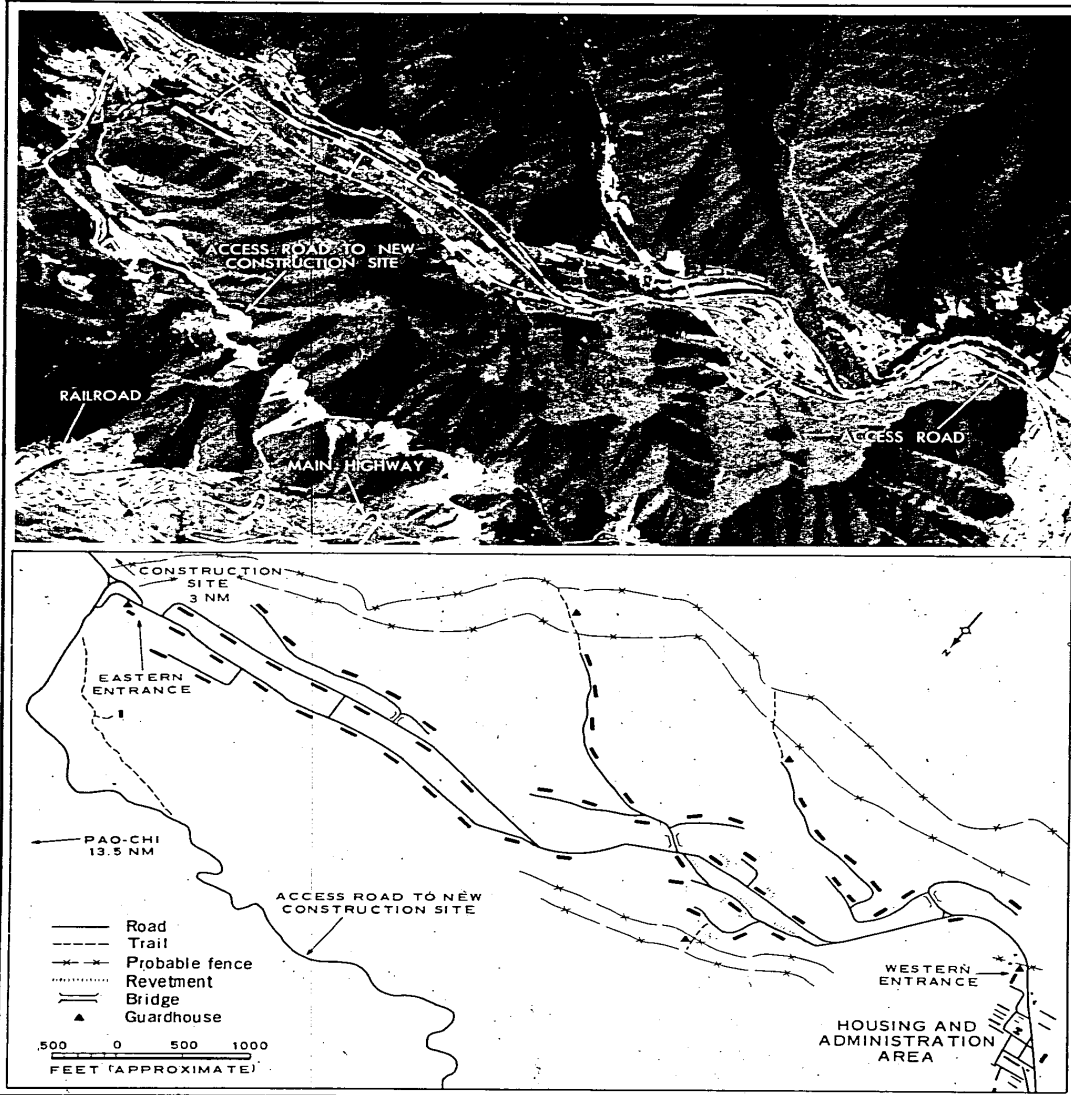


FIGURE 2. MILITARY STORAGE DEPOT NEAR PAO-CHI, CHINA.

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The best available coverage of the installation is good-quality, oblique photography of February 1962 and June 1963.

Storage Buildings. Fifty-four storage buildings are situated in a large valley and two small valleys. The buildings appear to be similar in size, measuring approximately 150 x 60 ft. Since the valleys are long and narrow, most of the buildings have been constructed in cutbacks. Several buildings are partially revetted, and the others are protected by natural terrain. All of the storage buildings appear to be standard warehouse-type structures; no distinctive characteristics are discernible.

Security. Two partially cleared, subparallel strips, which may be fence lines, extend from the eastern end of the depot around the southern side of the installation and are also discernible for a short distance along the northern side of the depot. The lines become indistinct near a housing and administration area. It is probable that the depot is completely double fenced, but the obliquity of the photography precludes identification of the entire fence system. Small buildings which are probably guardhouses are visible at the eastern and western entrances and at three points where trails enter the depot.

Housing and Administration. A housing and administration area, located at the western en-

trance to the storage depot, contains five barracks-type buildings, a probable messhall, a probable headquarters building, several warehouse-type structures, and a possible motor pool. The barracks-type buildings measure approximately 150 x 30 ft, and the largest of the warehouse-type structures is about 180 x 35 ft. Several small unidentified buildings are also in this area.

Summary of Observations. This depot is not similar to any known or suspect CW storage facilities in China, nor is it similar to known high-explosive munitions depots. However, the scale and obliquity of available photography preclude the identification of details which might indicate a specialized form of storage, such as [redacted] 25X9
The location of the depot near the only rail line which connects North and South China through the Ching-ling mountain barrier suggests that this depot serves as a strategic reserve stockpile.

25X1

REFERENCES

[redacted]

MAP: USATC, Series 200, Sheet 0354-14A (S) 25X9

NPIC PROJECT: X-765 '64 (partial answer)

[redacted]

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[redacted]

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