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Imagery analysis report

**Formation of Category III/Second-Generation
Motorized Rifle Division, USSR (S)**

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WNINTEL

Z-20062/80

IAR-A186/80

AUGUST 1980

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FORMATION OF CATEGORY III/SECOND-GENERATION MOTORIZED RIFLE DIVISION, USSR (S)

1. (S/D) Imagery of [redacted] revealed that a category III/second-generation motorized rifle division (MRD) has been formed in the Ural Military District (MD) of the USSR, at Shadrinsk SSM Complex [redacted]. The complex, a former SS-7 ICBM complex, was deactivated in June 1978, and ground force equipment began arriving soon thereafter. Shadrinsk Complex consists of five major facilities—Shadrinsk ICBM Rail-to-Road Transfer Point (RTP; [redacted]), Shadrinsk SSM Launch Position 1 [redacted], Shadrinsk ICBM Complex Support Facility Rail [redacted], Shadrinsk SSM Launch Position 2 [redacted], and Shadrinsk SSM Launch Position 3 [redacted] (Figure 1). Analysis of imagery of launch positions 1 through 3 revealed no ground forces units.

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2. (S/D) Major units of the category III/second-generation MRD were at Shadrinsk ICBM RTP. Divisional units identified included elements of a tank regiment, elements of three tank battalions, elements of three antitank battalions, elements of three motorized rifle regiments (MRRs), major elements of a chemical defense battalion, major elements of an engineer battalion, and at least 90 antitank guns in storage. The three tank battalions stored with the tank regiment are subordinate to the three MRRs. The 90 antitank guns in storage are probably not part of the MRD at this facility.

3. (S/D) Shadrinsk ICBM RTP contains three MRRs, a tank regiment, three MRR tank battalions, an engineer battalion, and a chemical defense battalion (Figure 2). The boundaries of the three MRRs are clearly defined, and the MRRs consist of approximately the same type of equipment. Each regiment consisted of a 24-gun antitank battalion, antiaircraft artillery (AAA) batteries comprising eight ZPU-4 antiaircraft guns, and a chemical defense company containing three ARS-14 decontamination vehicles. One MRR also contained a MTU-20 tank-launched bridge, three PMR-3 mine plows, and one BAT-M dozer, which represents elements of the regimental engineer company. The engineer battalion is next to the tank regiment storage area. This battalion contained eight TMM truck-mounted short gap bridges, six GSP amphibious ferries, one PMP ponton bridge company, one KMS pile driver set, and two BMK-T powerboats. There are approximately 214 medium tanks, four TMM, five MTU-20, three PMR-3, and three armored recovery vehicles in the tank regiment storage area. The engineer company was in the northwest corner of the vehicle park. The chemical defense battalion was in the northwest corner of the facility and consisted of 13 ARS-14, one DDA-53 decontamination vehicle, three medical trailers, and three ambulances. Shadrinsk ICBM RTP has covered storage for approximately 161 vehicles. With the completion of two additional seven-bay double-depth vehicle storage buildings, the storage capacity will increase to 195 vehicles. Support facilities at Shadrinsk ICBM RTP consisted of three multistory barracks/administration buildings.

4. (S/D) On [redacted] additional units subordinate to the category III/second-generation MRD were observed at Shadrinsk ICBM Launch Position 1. A division-level artillery regiment, an antitank battalion, and a multiple rocket launcher (MRL) battalion were observed in a cleared area adjacent to the launch pads (Figure 3). The artillery regiment contained 100mm field artillery pieces and 122mm howitzers instead of the 152mm and 122mm howitzers usually observed in an artillery regiment.

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The antitank battalion contained eighteen 100mm antitank guns, and the MRL battalion consisted of 11 BM-13 MRLs. Twenty MT-LB tracked prime movers which were being used to tow the 100mm antitank guns for the antitank battalion were also observed. Additional equipment observed at this vehicle park included nine 76mm field guns ZIS-3 for training as well as numerous cargo trucks to tow the artillery pieces for the artillery regiment. The AAA regiment was also observed at the main support facility at Launch Position 1 (Figure 4). The regiment contained twenty-four 57mm AA gun S-60 with 16 cargo trucks and 11 generator trailers. Covered storage is provided by three eight-bay single-depth vehicle storage buildings and one bunker with a storage capacity for approximately 30 vehicles. Support facilities included eight multistory barracks. There is sufficient housing at Shadrinsk SSM Launch Position 1 for the number of personnel necessary to activate the MRD.

5. (S/D) Shadrinsk SSM Complex is in the Ural MD. As of August 1980, divisional holdings in this district included a second-generation and a category III MRD at Sverdlovsk, a second-generation division at Perm, a tank training division at Kamyshlov, and a motorized rifle training division with a newly identified second-generation based MRD at Chebarkul.

(S) Comments and queries regarding this report are welcome. They may be directed to [redacted] Warsaw Pact Forces Division, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, [redacted]

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