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imagery analysis report

Soviet Tactical POL Storage Facilities in Afghanistan (S)



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SOVIET TACTICAL POL STORAGE FACILITIES IN AFGHANISTAN (S)

1. (S/WN) This report describes changes in the Soviet tactical POL storage areas in Afghanistan since [redacted] and provides the estimated POL storage capacities at those facilities as of [redacted]. The information presented here updates a previous NPIC report.¹ 25X1

2. (S/WN) Since the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in December 1979, a steady increase in tactical POL storage capacity has been noted. This increase is significant because the availability of POL directly affects the mobility of Soviet forces. The Soviets have increased their POL storage capacity by 18,962,000 liters since [redacted] (Table 1 and Figure 1). At least 5,990,000 liters of this increased capacity can be attributed to storage facilities newly constructed at recently identified Soviet deployments. One such deployment was at Maimana (Meymaneh) Airfield (Figure 2) in northwestern Afghanistan where a new Soviet combat force was identified in December 1981. The remainder of the increase in storage capacity resulted primarily from expansion of existing storage facilities to accommodate the increased amounts of POL being pumped into the country. The Soviets increased their pumping capacity with completion of the second Khairabad (Kheyrrabad) to Pol-E Khomri tactical POL pipeline (Figures 1 and 3) in late 1981. 25X1

3. (S/WN) Although increased POL capacities were observed at most of the storage facilities, a significant decrease (1,291,000 liters) was noted at Kunduz (Qonduz) Tactical POL Site, Kunduz Airfield. This decrease can be attributed to the departure of Soviet airborne forces from the airfield in December 1981. Several Soviet installations in Afghanistan, such as Jabal Os Saraj Army Camp Soviet (BE [redacted]) have not been included in this report because they have no tactical POL storage. These installations use nearby permanent Afghan POL storage facilities. Additionally, several Soviet installations covered in this report may also supplement their tactical POL storage by using permanent Afghan facilities. 25X1

REFERENCES

IMAGERY

(S/WN) All applicable satellite imagery acquired through [redacted] was used in the preparation of this report. 25X1

DOCUMENT

1. NPIC. Z-20106/82, IAR-0112/81, *Deployment of Soviet Tactical POL Storage Facilities in Afghanistan as of 31 May 1981 (S)*, Jul 81 (SECRET/[redacted]) 25X1

(S) Comments and queries regarding this report are welcome. They may be directed to [redacted] USA, Third World Forces Division, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, [redacted] 25X1
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Table 1.
Soviet Tactical POL Storage Capacities in Afghanistan
(Items keyed to Figure 1)

This table in its entirety is classified SECRET/WNINTEL

Item	Location/BE No	Maximum Estimated POL Storage Capacity (liters)		Total Capacity (liters)	Change Since	
		Air Units	Ground Units			
1	Khairabad (Kheyraabad) Tac POL Site [redacted]	—	8,250,000	8,250,000	+ 5,250,000	25X1
2	Mazar-E Sharif Soviet Bivouac [redacted]	—	20,000	20,000	+ 20,000	25X1
3	Kholm Soviet Mil Camp [redacted]	—	450,000	450,000	+ 450,000	25X1
4	Pol-E Khomri Tac POL Site [redacted]	—	23,235,000	23,235,000	+ 844,000	25X1
5	Kunduz (Qonduz) Tac POL Site, Kunduz AFD [redacted]	1,620,000	550,000	2,170,000	- 1,291,000	25X1
6	Kunduz (Qonduz) Deployment Area North [redacted]	—	3,026,000	3,026,000	+ 3,026,000	25X1
7	Faizabad (Feyzabad) Tac POL Site, Faizabad AFD [redacted]	400,000	591,000	991,000	+ 316,000	25X1
8	Charikar Soviet Bivouac [redacted]	—	250,000	250,000	+ 250,000	25X1
9	Bagram Tac POL Site, Bagram AFD [redacted]	1,850,000	3,317,000	5,167,000	+ 1,037,000	25X1
10	Kabul Tac POL Site, Kabul AFD [redacted]	3,800,000	1,350,000	4,950,000	+ 1,694,000	25X1
11	Kabul Tac POL Site, Kabul NW [redacted]	—	3,642,000	3,642,000	+ 317,000	25X1
12	Kabul Deployment Area SW [redacted]	—	281,000	281,000	+ 231,000	25X1
13	Bamian Airfield [redacted]	28,000	—	28,000	+ 28,000	25X1
14	Chagasaray (Chaghasaray) Complex [redacted]	—	24,000	24,000	+ 24,000	25X1
15	Jalalabad Soviet Bivouac 3 [redacted]	—	557,000	557,000	+ 32,000	25X1
16	Jalalabad Tac POL, Jalalabad AFD [redacted]	650,000	—	650,000	+ 375,000	25X1
17	Gardez Tac POL Site [redacted]	300,000	339,000	639,000	+ 239,000	25X1
18	Ghazni Tac POL Site, Ghazni AFD [redacted]	465,000	—	465,000	+ 165,000	25X1
19	Ghazni Soviet Mil Camp SE [redacted]	—	547,000	547,000	- 53,000	25X1
20	Kandahar (Qandahar) Tac POL Site, Kandahar AFD [redacted]	2,500,000	2,402,000	4,902,000	+ 1,611,000	25X1
21	Bost Airfield [redacted]	—	475,000	475,000	+ 300,000	25X1
22	Farah Airfield [redacted]	16,000	150,000	166,000	+ 166,000	25X1
23	Shindand Tac POL Site, Shindand AFD [redacted]	1,775,000	—	1,775,000	+ 325,000	25X1
24	Shindand Tac POL Site, Shindand AFD NE [redacted]	—	9,755,000	9,755,000	+ 1,005,000	25X1
25	Herat Soviet Deployment Area [redacted]	—	1,175,000	1,175,000	+ 575,000	25X1
26	Herat Airfield [redacted]	200,000	—	200,000	+ 200,000	25X1
27	Towraghondi Trnshp and Stor Area [redacted]	—	450,000	450,000	+ 450,000	25X1
28	Qual-ye Now (Qaleh-Ye Now) Soviet Bivouac [redacted]	—	28,000	28,000	+ 28,000	25X1
29	Chakhcharan (Chaghcharan) Airfield [redacted]	153,000	—	153,000	+ 153,000	25X1
30	Maimana (Meymaneh) Airfield [redacted]	325,000	475,000	800,000	+ 800,000	25X1
31	Sheberghan Bivouac Site [redacted]	—	20,000	20,000	+ 20,000	25X1
32	Aqcheh Soviet Bivouac [redacted]	—	375,000	375,000	+ 375,000	25X1
	Totals	13,882,000	61,734,000	75,616,000	+ 18,962,000	25X1

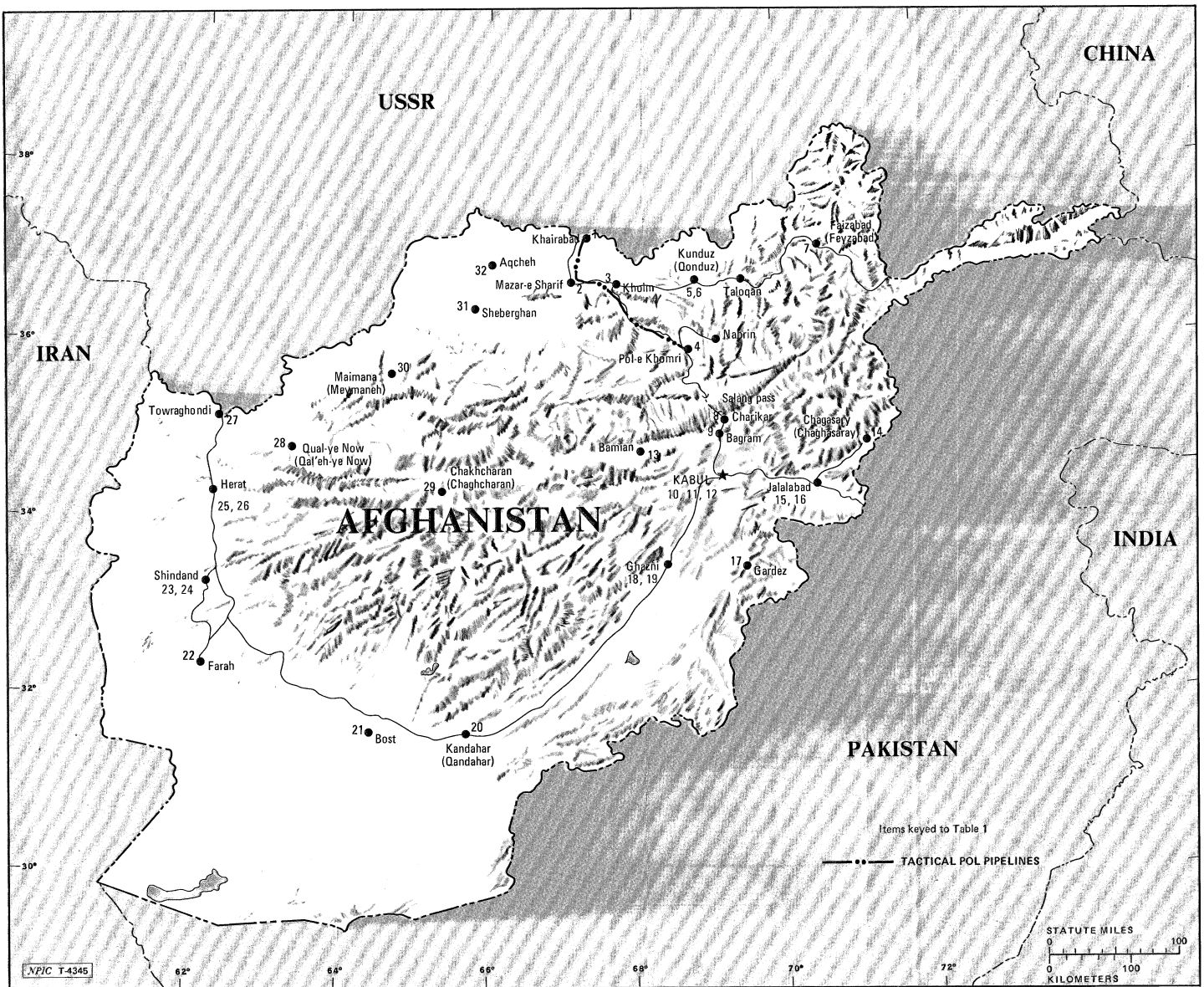


FIGURE 1. LOCATION OF SOVIET TACTICAL POL STORAGE SITES IN AFGHANISTAN

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