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DISSEMINATION CONTROL ABBREVIATIONS

NOFORN-	Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals
NOCONTRACT-	Not Releasable to Contractors or Contractor/Consultants
PROPIN-	Caution-Proprietary Information Involved
ORCON-	Dissemination and Extraction of Information Controlled by Originator
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NPIC/IEG (8/83)

15 AUGUST 1983

**PROBABLE SS-X-25 LAUNCH ACTIVITY
PLESETSK ICBM LAUNCH TEST SITE 23, USSR (SWN)**



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1. SIGNIFICANCE: THE ORIGIN OF THE PROBABLE SS-X-25 LAUNCH FROM PLESETSK ICBM LAUNCH TEST SITE (LTS) 23 IS UNDETERMINED. (SWN)

2. REMARKS: INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE [REDACTED] LAUNCH OF AN SS-X-25 (DEFSMAC S/DQ/688-83) PROBABLY CAME FROM PLESETSK ICBM LTS 23. HOWEVER, IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO DETERMINE IF THE LAUNCH OCCURRED FROM THE SILO, THE SILO APRON, OR THE SINGLE-BAY GARAGE (SBG). THE DARKENED AREA PREVIOUSLY REPORTED AS A POSSIBLE BLAST MARK (NPIC EVENING HIGHLIGHT REPORT 83-1003 [REDACTED] ITEM 1) HAS BEEN REASSESSED TO BE THE RESULT OF FACTORS UNRELATED TO THE LAUNCH OF A MISSILE. (SWN)

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ON PRELAUNCH IMAGERY [REDACTED] CANVAS/NET-COVERED EQUIPMENT WAS ON THE APRON NEXT TO THE SBG AND POSITIONED ON ALIGNMENT MARKS WHICH HAVE BEEN PRESENT SINCE AT LEAST [REDACTED] THE CANVAS/NET WAS LARGE ENOUGH TO COVER A MOBILE MISSILE LAUNCHER AND POSSIBLY OTHER VEHICLES AS WELL. THE LTS 23 SILO WAS OPEN AND APPEARED EMPTY AND THE SILO AT COLLOCATED LTS 24 [REDACTED] WAS CLOSED. NO ACTIVITY WAS OBSERVED AT THE SBG. (SWN)

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ON POSTLAUNCH IMAGERY [REDACTED] GRAPHIC 2), THE CANVAS/NET-COVERED EQUIPMENT WAS NO LONGER PRESENT AND THE ALIGNMENT MARKS ON WHICH THE EQUIPMENT HAD BEEN POSITIONED WERE VISIBLE. THE SILOS AT LTS 23 AND 24 WERE OPEN AND APPEARED EMPTY. NO ACTIVITY WAS OBSERVED AT THE SBG. THE GROUND IMMEDIATELY NORTHEAST OF THE LTS 23 SILO APPEARED DARKER THAN IT HAD APPEARED [REDACTED] HOWEVER, IMAGERY ENHANCEMENT TECHNIQUES REVEALED THAT THE ENTIRE IMAGE [REDACTED] WAS DARKER THAN THE TWO PRECEDING COVERAGES AND THAT THE AREA NEXT TO THE SILO WAS NO DARKER THAN OTHER AREAS AROUND THE SITE. THE DARKENED AREA APPARENT [REDACTED] WAS PROBABLY DUE TO FACTORS RELATED TO THE IMAGING SYSTEM OR LOCAL CONDITIONS SUCH AS MOISTURE CONTENT OF THE SOIL RATHER THAN DUE TO RESIDUALS FROM A MISSILE LAUNCH. IN ADDITION, AN EARLIER SS-X-25 FIRING FROM THIS LAUNCH SITE [REDACTED]

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NPIC/IEG (8/83)

15 AUGUST 1983

(DEFSMAC S/DQ/098-83) LEFT A POCK-MARKED PATTERN IN THE SNOW,
BUT DID NOT LEAVE A DARKENED AREA AROUND THE SILO. (TSR)



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3.

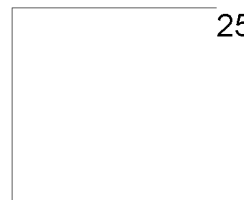


COORDINATES 63-00-28N 041-32-50E

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