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basic imagery interpretation report

Kazan Airframe Plant B-387,  
USSR (S)

*Handwritten number 23*

STRATEGIC WEAPONS INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES

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WNINTEL

Z-12097/83  
RCA-09/0017/83  
OCTOBER 1983  
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INSTALLATION OR ACTIVITY NAME Kazan Airframe Plant B-387 Kazan Northwest Heliport				COUNTRY UR	
UTM COORDINATES NA	GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES 55-51-18N 049-02-20E 55-51-30N 049-02-15E	CATEGORY [Redacted]	BE NO. [Redacted]	COMIREX NO. [Redacted]	NIETB NO. NA
MAP REFERENCE DMAAC. USATC, Series 200, Sheet 0165-1, scale 1:200,000					
LATEST IMAGERY USED [Redacted]		NEGATION DATE (if required) NA			

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**ABSTRACT**

1. This report updates NPIC report [Redacted] and satisfies the basic reporting requirement. It discusses construction, production, and testing at Kazan Airframe Plant B-387 from [Redacted] through [Redacted] and includes activity at Kazan Northwest Heliport, the test and flyaway field for the plant. (S/WN)
2. Kazan Airframe Plant B-387 is the primary production facility for the MIL-designed HIP helicopter and the only production facility for the HAZE. During this reporting period, floorspace in the plant was increased by 11,266 square meters for a total of 156,446 square meters. (S/WN)
3. This report contains a location map, 12 annotated photographs/drawings, and two tables of mensural and/or chronological data. (S/WN)

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**BASIC DESCRIPTION**

**Construction**

4. Kazan Airframe Plant B-387, approximately 400 nautical miles (nm) east-southeast of Moscow in the city of Kazan (Figure 1), consists of a main plant area and a separately secured MIL OKB (experimental

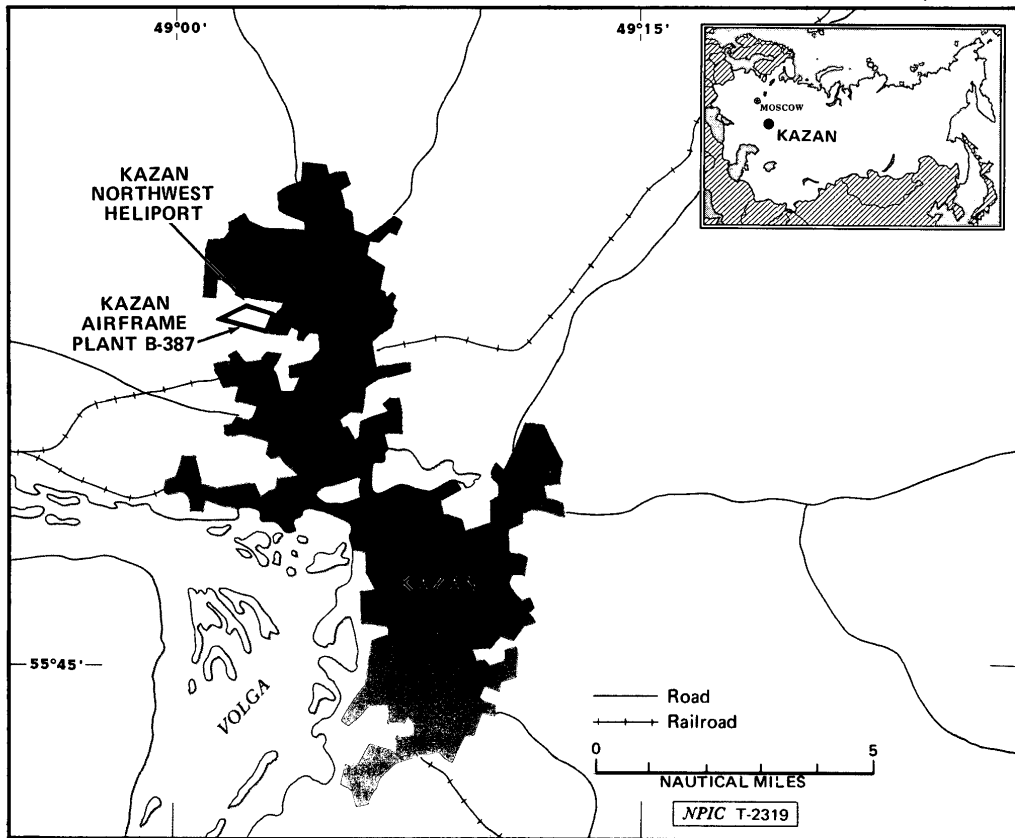


FIGURE 1. LOCATION OF KAZAN AIRFRAME PLANT B-387 AND KAZAN NORTHWEST HELIPORT

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design bureau) research and development area (Figure 2).<sup>1</sup> In the four years covered by this update, the facility was expanded by 11,266 square meters to 156,446 square meters of floorspace. Included in these figures are buildings in the main plant area, the MIL OKB Research and Development area, and the airfield. Of the 11,266 square meters, 1,260 square meters were added to the OKB area; 1,226 square meters to the airfield, Kazan Northwest Heliport (Figures 2 and 3); and 8,780 square meters to the main plant area (Figure 3). (S/WN)

5. None of the construction was production related (assembly or subassembly), but 4,789 square meters (42 percent) was direct support—shops or test buildings—(Table 1 and Figure 3) and 6,477 square meters (58 percent) was general purpose, predominantly storage and support (Table 1 and Figure 3). Fifteen buildings and eight additions were complete or under construction at the end of the reporting period. (S/WN)

6. Five buildings or additions were completed in 1979 (items 27b, 62b, 99, 102, 104, Table 1 and Figure 3), six in 1980 (items 45d, 98, 100, 105, 108, and 109), two in 1981 (items 110 and 112), three in 1982 (items 26, 101, and 103) and four thus far in 1983 (items 4b, 67b, c, and d). Five buildings and additions were still under construction as of [ ] (S/WN)

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## PRODUCTION ACTIVITY

### HIP

7. Several models and variants of the MIL-designed, twin-turbine-powered, five-bladed HIP are produced at the plant. The Mi-8 (HIP C) was observed here in numbers ranging between 20 and 70 during the reporting period (Table 2 and Chart 1). Military (camouflage painted) and civilian models (Aeroflot paint scheme) were present on all interpretable coverages. (S/WN)

8. On [ ] an Armed HIP H was observed at the airfield (Table 2 and Figure 4). Since then, from one to 14 have been observed at the plant (Table 2). This helicopter, with outriggers, is the armed version of the Mi-17 (designated HIP H), displayed by the Soviets at the 1981 Paris Air Show. The Mi-17 has the tail rotor on the port side and the more powerful TV3-117 engine (Figure 5).<sup>2</sup> The Armed HIP H is similar to the HIP E/F; however, the tail rotor is on the port side like the HAZE. (S/WN)

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9. The standard HIP H has been in production at Kazan since at least [ ] when, on imagery of excellent interpretability, seven probable HIP H (four camouflage painted) were observed. On most coverages of Kazan, the interpretability was not adequate to distinguish the HIP H from the HAZE, also produced there. (S/WN)

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### HAZE A

10. The HAZE A (Mi-14) is a land-based antisubmarine warfare (ASW) helicopter that uses a HIP-type fuselage with aft-mounted sponsons. The number of HAZE A during the reporting period averaged approximately six per image. The high count for the four-year period was 14 on [ ] (Table 2). (S/WN)

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### HAZE Shipping Container

11. On [ ] a HAZE shipping container was at the plant. This new container measured approximately [ ] and 6 meters at the highest point (Figure 6). It is similar to HIND shipping containers (types E and A); however, the raised area is broader (Figure 7) and near-ground-level protrusions for the sponsons are usually on one end (Figure 8). These protrusions are not observed on all coverages (Figure 7), possibly because they are installed to protect the HAZE sponsons after the fuselage is placed in the container. Although HAZE helicopters have been at the plant since the early 1970s, containers did not appear until the Soviets began exporting the helicopter outside the Warsaw Pact. These containers were also seen in Libya in mid-1981. (S/WN)

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### Other Container Observations

12. In addition to HAZE containers, observations of HIP fuselage and component containers continued throughout the reporting period (Figure 9). The HIP fuselage shipping container is distinct from the HAZE container but resembles the HIND fuselage shipping container type C. The HIP fuselage shipping container has the cupola centered on the top, midway between the ends; the cupola on the HIND type C is not centered between the ends. (S/WN)

### Other Observations

13. Probably because a Branch of the MIL OKB is collocated with the main plant area, several other MIL variants/prototypes were observed at the plant. A HIP K, a jammer variant of the HIP C produced at Ulan Ude Airframe Plant 99 [ ] was observed on [ ] (Figure 10).<sup>3</sup> Also, one of the original HAZE prototype helicopters with enlarged sponsons, at the plant since the early 1970s, and two HOUNDs were regularly observed. (S/WN)

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**Table 1.**  
**Construction at Kazan Airframe Plant B-387 (March 79—June 83)**  
**(Keyed to Figure 3)**

Item	Function	Dimensions* (m)			Floorspace (sq m)	Observed Complete	Remarks		
		L	W	H					
2b	Fire station/garage area				228		2-bay addition	25X1	
4b	Support sect				38				
27b	Storage sect				138				
45d	Shop sect				270				
50b	Support sect				216			Early stages of construction as of [ ] floor-space tentative	25X1
60c	Shop sect				1,177			Midstage of construction as of [ ]	25X1
62b	Support sect				57				
67	Spt bldg additions				301			2 stories	
b	Support sect				(168)				
c	Support sect				(49)				
d	Support sect				(84)				
98	Support bldg				108				
a	Support sect				(68)				
b	Support sect				(40)				
99	Support bldg				114				
100	Support bldg				153				
101	Stor/spt bldg				205				
102	Support bldg				82				
103	Prob shop/stor bldg	3,023			Aboveground entrances approx 65 sq m				
104	Stor/spt bldg	215							
105	Storage bldg	668							
106	Support bldg	206			Late stage of construction as of [ ]	25X1			
107	Poss stor bldg	2,574			Late stage of construction as of [ ]	25X1			
108	Support bldg	92							
109	Support bldg	72							
110	Prob test bldg	319							
a	Prob test sect	(80)							
b	Prob test sect	(156)							
c	Prob spt sect	(83)							
111	Airfield support bldg	789			Midstage of construction as of [ ] at least one third will be 2 stories; floorspace tentative	25X1			
112	Airfield electronics Spt bldg	221							
a	Spt sect	(164)							
b	Spt sect	(57)							
Total additional floorspace as of [ ]					11,266			25X1	
Previously constr floorspace					145,180				
Total floorspace as of [ ]					156,446			25X1	
[ ]								25X1	

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**FIGURE 5. HIP H (MI-17) HELICOPTER**



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14. On [redacted] two HELIX As were on the plant parking apron (Figure 11). This was the only sighting of this new KAMOV-designed shipborne antisubmarine warfare (ASW) helicopter at Kazan. KAMOV-designed aircraft are not normally observed at this plant. (S/WN)

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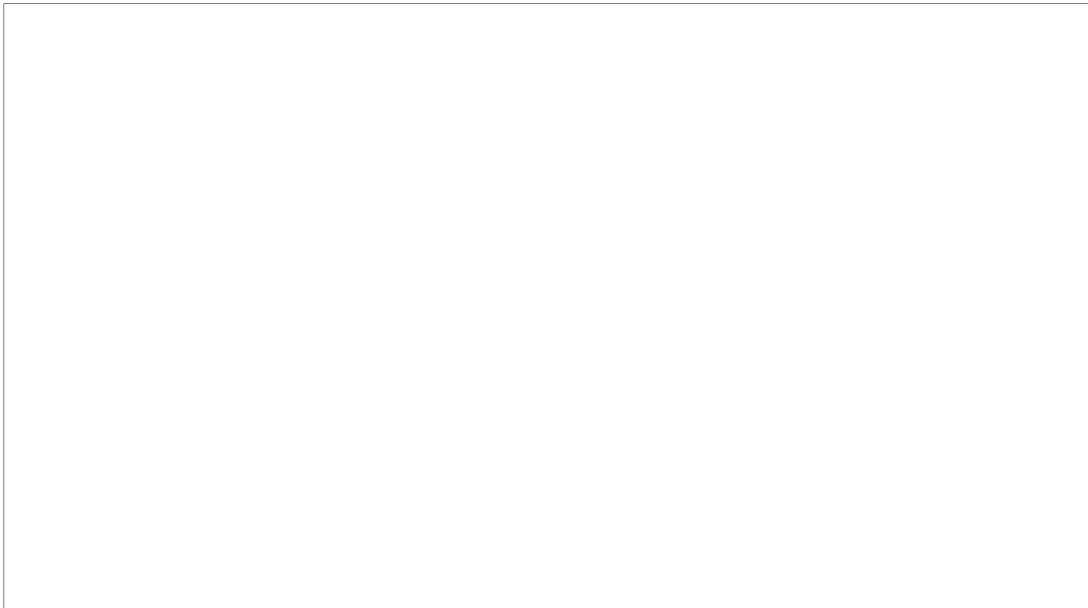
15. In the rotor test stand cage, mid-sized, normally five-bladed rotor systems were present during the reporting period. On [redacted] what appeared to be a four-bladed, mid-sized system was observed. Because of poor image interpretability, no precise determination of rotor size could be made. A four-bladed rotor is not known to be associated with any advanced MIL helicopter. (S/WN)

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**Security**

16. Security at the facility includes double fences or a fence and a wall in some areas (Figure 2). In addition, the plant and MIL OKB research and development area are separated by a wall. Entrance into the facility is provided by two vehicle/pedestrian entrances, one rail entrance into the plant area on its southern perimeter, and a single vehicle/pedestrian entrance to the MIL OKB research area on its southern perimeter. Access to the heliport and parking areas is gained through one of three pedestrian/vehicle entrances on the northeastern perimeter of the facility. (S/WN)

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**REFERENCES**

**IMAGERY**

All available satellite imagery acquired from [redacted] was used in the preparation of this report. (S/WN)

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**Small Format Imagery**

Figure No.	Agency	Accession No.	Classification
6	FTD	IR 1570002881	UNCLASSIFIED

**MAPS OR CHARTS**

DMARC. USATC, Series 200, sheet 0165-1, scale 1:200,000 (UNCLASSIFIED)

**DOCUMENTS**

1. NPIC, [redacted] RCA-09/0016/79, *Kazan Airframe Plant B-387*, Jul 79 (TOP SECRET, CODEWORDS/NOFORN/NOCONTRACT\*)
2. *Aviation Week and Space Technology*, "The Paris Airshow (Special Report)," Vol. 114, 8 Jun 81 (UNCLASSIFIED)
3. DIA. DST-1340S-498-82-Sup 1, *HIP, Helicopter System (U), Supplement 1*, 31 Aug 82 (SECRET NOFORN\*\*)

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\*Extracted information is classified [redacted]

\*\*Extracted information is classified [redacted]

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**REQUIREMENT**

COMIREX J02  
Project 543069J

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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