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DISSEMINATION CONTROL ABBREVIATIONS

NOFORN-	Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals
NOCONTRACT-	Not Releasable to Contractors or Contractor/Consultants
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Attachment to Z-17375/84

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NPIC/IEG (3/84)

27 MARCH 1984

NEW LAUNCH TOWER/SERVICE GANTRY UNDER CONSTRUCTION
BARREIRA DO INFERNO ROCKET RANGE, BRAZIL (SWN)

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1. SIGNIFICANCE: A LAUNCH TOWER/SERVICE GANTRY FOR THE SONDA IV ROCKET IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION. (SWN)

2. REMARKS: A LAUNCH TOWER/SERVICE GANTRY WAS IDENTIFIED UNDER CONSTRUCTION ON THE SONDA IV LAUNCH PAD AT BARREIRA DO INFERNO ROCKET RANGE [REDACTED] THIS WILL BE BRAZIL'S FIRST LAUNCH STRUCTURE CAPABLE OF HANDLING LARGE ROCKETS. CONSTRUCTION OF THE LAUNCH TOWER/SERVICE GANTRY HAD PROBABLY BEGUN [REDACTED] AND APPEARED TO BE IN THE LATE STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION [REDACTED] THE STRUCTURE CONSISTED OF A LARGE, RAIL-MOUNTED LATTICE FRAMEWORK, WITH PROBABLE WORK PLATFORMS. (SWN)

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THE SONDA IV IS A TWO-STAGE, SOLID PROPELLANT GUIDED ROCKET, WHICH IS PROJECTED TO LAUNCH A 300 KG PAYLOAD TO AN ALTITUDE OF 1,000 KM. IT WILL PROBABLY SERVE AS A FORERUNNER TO THE BRAZILIAN SPACE LAUNCH VEHICLE UNDER DEVELOPMENT. HOWEVER, THE SONDA IV COULD ALSO POSSIBLY BE ADAPTED FOR USE AS A WEAPONS DELIVERY SYSTEM. ACCORDING TO OPEN SOURCES, BRAZIL HOPES TO LAUNCH A SONDA IV BY THE SUMMER OF 1984. BARREIRA DO INFERNO, ON THE ATLANTIC COAST, 9 NM SOUTH OF NATAL, IS THE ONLY ROCKET LAUNCH FACILITY IN BRAZIL. (SWN) [REDACTED]

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3. [REDACTED] COORDINATES 05-55-00S 035-09-00W (S)

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4. COLLATERAL REFERENCE: [REDACTED] RCA-15-0004/82, NOV 82; BRAZILIAN SPACE LAUNCH VEHICLE PROGRAM (S/NOFORN/[REDACTED]) EXTRACTED MATERIAL IS UNCLASSIFIED)

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