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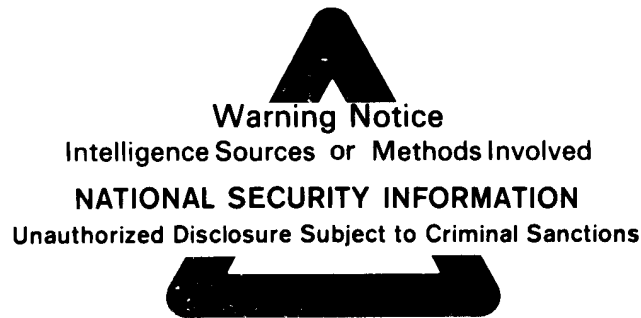
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NPIC/IEG
29 MARCH 1984

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MODIFIED TWIN DISH
YUZHNO SAKHALINSK, USSR (SWN)



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1. SIGNIFICANCE: THIS IS THE THIRD IDENTIFICATION OF THIS SYSTEM IN THE USSR AND THE FIRST IDENTIFICATION OF TROPOSCATTER RELAY EQUIPMENT WITH THE SIGNAL REGIMENT FOR THE U/I ARMY AT YUZHNO SAKHALINSK. (SWN)
2. REMARKS: A MODIFIED TWIN DISH (FORMERLY UL-EL-01) TROPOSCATTER RELAY SYSTEM WAS OBSERVED FIELD DEPLOYED 7.5 NM SOUTH-SOUTHEAST OF YUZHNO SAKHALINSK AL-8, WHICH HOUSES AN ARMY-LEVEL SIGNAL REGIMENT. THE ANTENNAS WERE ORIENTED EAST-SOUTHEAST TOWARD THE KURIL ISLANDS. (SWN)

A POSSIBLE RELATED SIGNAL DEPLOYMENT WAS 1.5 NM NORTH AND INCLUDED EIGHT SIGNAL VEHICLES, A COMMUNICATIONS CENTER OF SEVEN RADIO VAN TRUCKS, AND SIX VEHICLES IN REVETMENTS (ONE VEHICLE APPEARED TO BE CANVAS COVERED). (SWN)

BOTH THE NEW AND OLDER VERSIONS OF THE TWIN DISH HAVE TWO 10-METER PARABOLIC DISHES THAT ARE GROUND MOUNTED ON A V-BAR LATTICE MAST WITH TWO LATTICE SUPPORT ARMS. HOWEVER, THERE ARE STRUCTURAL, MOBILITY, AND OPERATIONAL DEPLOYMENT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO SYSTEMS. FIRST, THE MODIFIED TWIN DISH ANTENNA HAS A SOLID,  CENTER RING WITH A MESH OUTER RING COMPOSED OF 18 SEGMENTS. BY CONTRAST, THE STANDARD TWIN DISH ANTENNA IS COMPLETELY MESH CONSTRUCTED WITH A TWO RUNG-LADDER-SHAPED DESIGN IN ITS CENTER RING. SECONDLY, USE OF NEWER AND MORE VERSATILE URAL-375 TRUCKS INSTEAD OF THE ZIL-157 TRUCKS USED WITH THE OLDER SYSTEM HAVE IMPROVED TRAFFICABILITY. FINALLY, WHEN THE MODIFIED TWIN DISH IS OPERATIONALLY DEPLOYED, ITS VEHICLE LAYOUT PATTERN IS DIFFERENT AND MORE CLOSELY RESEMBLES THAT OF A TWIN PLATE STATION. (SWN)

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THE TWO OTHER SIGHTINGS OF THE MODIFIED TWIN DISH HAVE BEEN WITH ABOVE FRONT LEVEL SIGNAL UNITS ONLY. THE SYSTEM'S FIELD DEPLOYMENT TO THIS AREA OF THE FAR EAST COULD PRESAGE FURTHER DEPLOYMENTS AND EXPANSION OF SOVIET HIGH LEVEL TROPOSCATTER COMMUNICATIONS WITHIN THE FAR EAST THEATER AND THUS IMPROVE FAR EAST COMMAND AND CONTROL CAPABILITIES. (SWN) [Redacted]

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3. [Redacted] COORDINATES 46-57-04N 142-44-54E (S)

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4. COLLATERAL REFERENCE: DIA, WARSAW PACT GROUND FORCE STRUCTURE TROOP LIST FAR EAST TVD (U) VOLUME II, DDB-1100-375-83, AUGUST 1983, S/NOFORN, THE EXTRACTED MATERIAL IS CLASSIFIED S/NOFORN, [Redacted]

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