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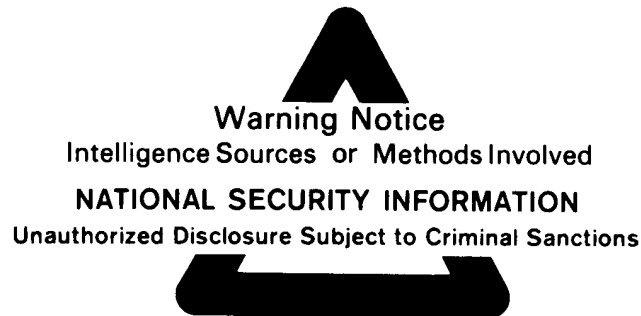
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(see inside cover)

CONTROL NO. Z-18335/85

NPIC/IEG (6/85)

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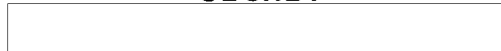
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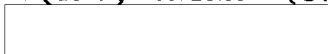
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NPIC/IEG/EAD

5 JUNE 1985

NEW CHINESE 122MM SELF-PROPELLED GUN/HOWITZER  
CHONGQING, CHINA (SWN)




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1. **SIGNIFICANCE:** A NEW 122M SELF-PROPELLED (SP) GUN/HOWITZER (INTERIM NPIC DESIGNATOR 122MM SP GUN/HOWITZER M-1985) IS APPARENTLY UNDER DEVELOPMENT AT THE CHONGQING ARMORED VEHICLE PLANT 256 AND THE ASSOCIATED CHONGQING ARMORED VEHICLE TEST AREA. (SWN)
2. **REMARKS:** ANALYSIS OF TWO PREVIOUSLY UNIDENTIFIED ARMORED VEHICLES OBSERVED AT THE CHONGQING ARMORED VEHICLE TEST AREA ON  INDICATES THAT ONE OR BOTH OF THE VEHICLES ARE A PROTOTYPE OF THE NEW 122MM SP GUN/HOWITZER WHICH WAS FEATURED IN A RECENT OPEN SOURCE MAGAZINE ARTICLE. (SWN)

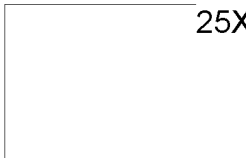
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ACCORDING TO THE MAGAZINE ARTICLE WHICH WAS IN CHINESE AND CONTAINED A GROUND PHOTOGRAPH OF A NEW 122MM SP GUN/HOWITZER, THE CHASSIS FOR THE NEW WEAPON WAS ADAPTED FROM THE TYPE-77 AMPHIBIOUS ARMORED VEHICLE WHICH IS A CHINESE VARIANT OF THE BTR-50P ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIER (APC). THE GROUND PHOTOGRAPH REVEALS THAT THE NEW WEAPON HAS A 122MM GUN/HOWITZER TUBE MOUNTED ON A TURRET AT THE REAR OF A MODIFIED TYPE-77 CHASSIS. THE TURRET IS FLAT ON TOP AND ITS SIDES TAPER TOWARD THE GUN TUBE NEAR THE FRONT. A HATCH IS EVIDENT IN THE CENTER-REAR OF THE CHASSIS. BECAUSE THE TURRET IS MOUNTED ON THE REAR, THE ENGINE IS LOCATED IN THE FRONT OF THE CHASSIS. THE SUSPENSION SYSTEM FOR THE NEW SP GUN/HOWITZER APPEARS TO BE THE TYPE-77 SYSTEM, EXCEPT THAT THE DRIVE SPROCKET AND IDLER WHEEL HAVE BEEN TRANSPOSED TO ACCOMMODATE THE ENGINE LOCATION. THE CHASSIS APPEARS SHORTER THAN THE STANDARD TYPE-77, HAVING BEEN MODIFIED AT THE FRONT AND REAR. (SWN)

CHONGQING ARMORED VEHICLE PLANT 256  AND THE CHONGQING ARMORED VEHICLE TEST AREA ARE THE ONLY FACILITIES IN CHINA KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH THE PRODUCTION AND TESTING OF EQUIPMENT BASED ON THE TYPE-77 CHASSIS. THE TWO ARMORED VEHICLES SEEN AT THE CHONGQING ARMORED VEHICLE TEST

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AREA [REDACTED] RESEMBLE THE WEAPON IN THE MAGAZINE. AS WITH THE CHASSIS IN THE ARTICLE, BOTH OF THESE ARMORED VEHICLES ARE SHORTER THAN THE STANDARD TYPE-77 CHASSIS [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] ONE OF THE VEHICLES SEEN AT CHONGQING WAS [REDACTED] AND HAD A TURRET SIMILAR TO THE ONE IN THE ARTICLE; HOWEVER, A GUN TUBE COULD NOT BE DISCERNED. IT ALSO HAD A HATCH IN THE CENTER-REAR OF THE CHASSIS, SIMILAR TO THE ONE IN THE ARTICLE. THE OTHER VEHICLE SEEN AT CHONGQING WAS [REDACTED]

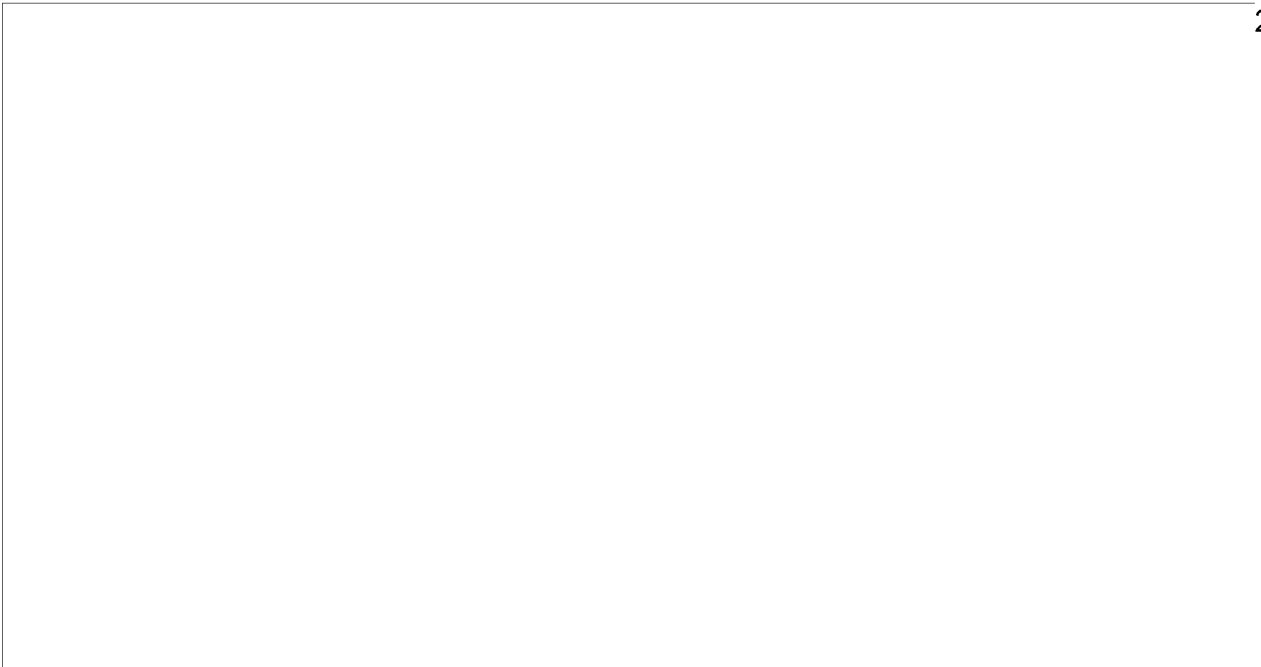
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[REDACTED] AND HAD A GUN TUBE SIMILAR TO THE ONE IN THE ARTICLE; HOWEVER, DETAILS OF THE TURRET COULD NOT BE DISCERNED DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE VEHICLE WAS MOVING, ITS ORIENTATION AND DARKER TONE. BOTH VEHICLES AT CHONGQING HAD REAR FENDERS THAT WERE VERY SIMILAR TO THOSE SEEN ON THE WEAPON SHOWN IN THE ARTICLE. (SWN)

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3. [REDACTED] COORDINATES 29-21-59N 106-26-48E (S)

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4. COLLATERAL REFERENCE: CONMILIT, APRIL 1985, P 10, COL 1 (U)



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