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PEIPING, CHINA
QUALITY BOARD

PEIPING, CAPITAL OF COMMUNIST CHINA, IS LOCATED IN NORTH CHINA APPROXIMATELY 90 MILES NORTHWEST OF THE GULF OF CHIH-LI. EXCEPT FOR BRIEF PERIODS, IT HAS REMAINED THE CAPITAL OF CHINA FOR NEARLY 700 YEARS. AS THE LARGEST CITY AND MOST IMPORTANT COMMUNICATIONS CENTER IN NORTH CHINA, IT IS THE KEY POINT IN MILITARY ADMINISTRATION. IT IS ALSO THE CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL CAPITAL OF THE COUNTRY.

THE WALLED PART OF PEIPING CONSISTS OF TWO MAIN AREAS, THE OLDER TARTAR CITY ON THE NORTH, AND THE CHINESE CITY ON THE SOUTH. THE NAME "TARTAR CITY" DATES FROM THE 13TH CENTURY, WHEN THE GOLDEN TARTARS RULED CHINA; IT HAS SURVIVED A SERIES OF MONGOL, MANCHU, AND CHINESE DYNASTIES. THE TARTAR CITY IS SURROUNDED BY NEARLY 15 MILES OF WALLS 40 FT HIGH AND 35 FT WIDE AT THE TOP. THE CHINESE CITY IS ENCLOSED BY 14 MILES OF WALL, 10 MILES OF WHICH ARE 25 FT HIGH  AT THE TOP. THE WALLS ARE OF COMPACTED EARTH, FACED WITH BRICK.

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WITHIN THE WALLS OF TARTAR CITY IS THE FORBIDDEN CITY. THE FORMER IMPERIAL RESIDENCE AND SITE OF THE THRONE HALL IS NOW A MUSEUM. IT IS SURROUNDED BY A MOAT 200 FT WIDE AND WALLS  AND 30 FT THICK.

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THE OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF THE PRESIDENT IS LOCATED ON A SMALL ISLAND IN NAN HAI (LAKE). THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE IS LOCATED ON THE NORTHWEST

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EDGE OF PEI HAI.

A WIDE AVENUE JOINING THE WU MEN (GATE) OF THE FORBIDDEN CITY AND THE TIAN-AN MEN IS BORDERED ON THE WEST BY CHUNG-SHAN PARK AND ON THE EAST BY THE GROUNDS OF THE PEOPLES CULTURAL PALACE, FORMERLY THE IMPERIAL ANCESTRAL TEMPLE.

IMMEDIATELY SOUTH OF TIAN-AN MEN IS TIAN-AN-MEN SQUARE, NOW EXPANDED TO COVER ABOUT 100 ACRES. CELEBRATIONS, PARADES, AND PAGEANTS ARE CONDUCTED HERE. EAST OF THE SQUARE IS THE MUSEUM OF THE CHINESE REVOLUTION AND TO THE WEST IS THE NATIONAL PEOPLES CONGRESS BUILDING.

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PREPARED BY: CSD/Research Branch

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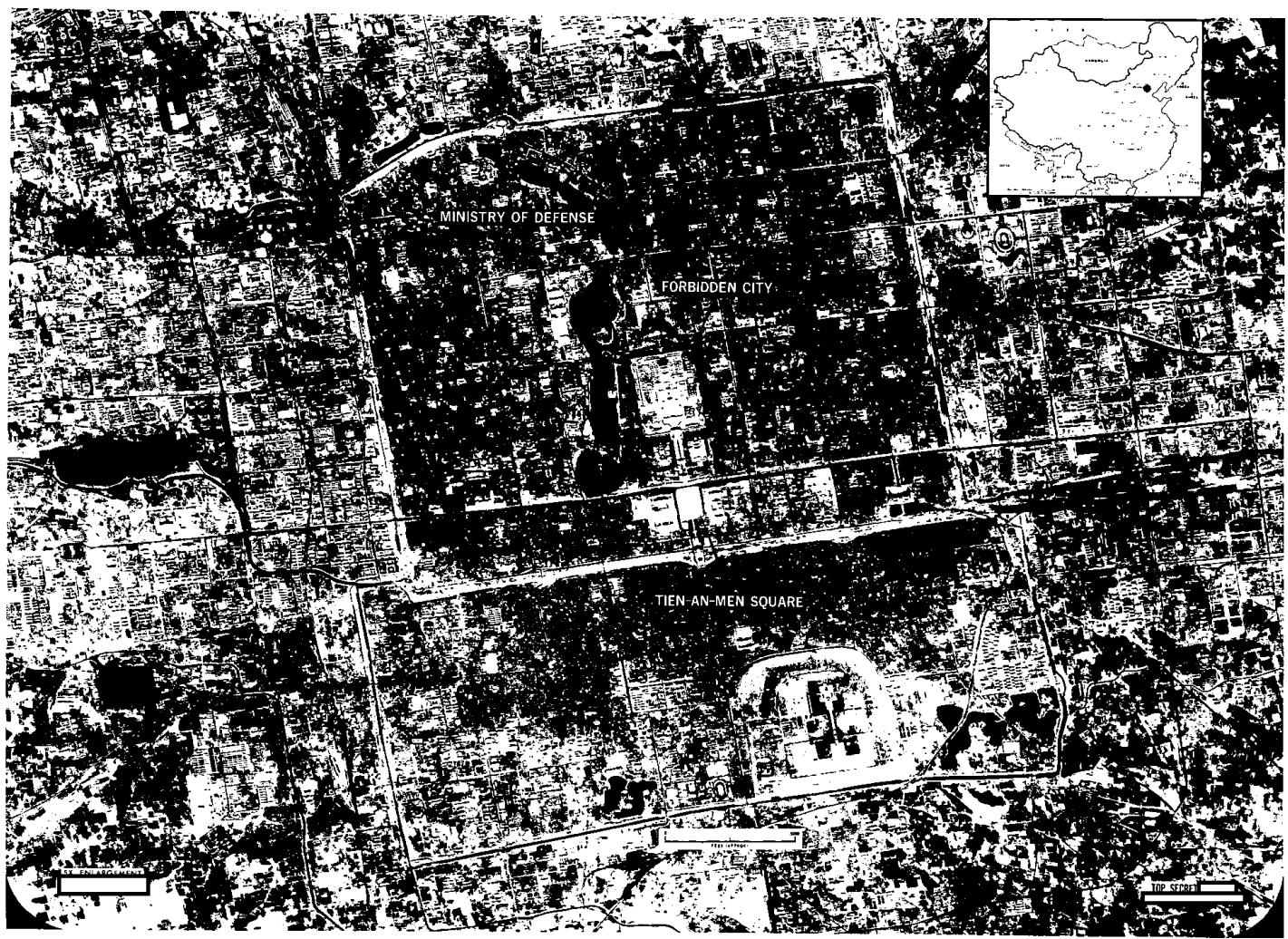


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