

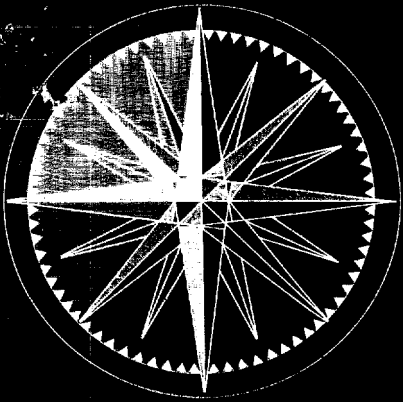
SECRET

Release 2006/09/27 : CIA-RDP79-00927A004000080005-7

10 May 1963

OCI No. 0279/63D
Copy No.

80



SPECIAL REPORT

OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE

THE USSR'S GUBA OKOLNAYA SUBMARINE SUPPORT FACILITY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

MORI/CDF

NO FOREIGN DISSEM

SECRET

GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic
downgrading and declassification

THIS MATERIAL CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE LAWS, TITLE 18, USC, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, THE TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF WHICH IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW.

DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

This document MUST NOT BE RELEASED TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS. If marked with specific dissemination controls in accordance with the provisions of DCID 1/7, the document must be handled within the framework of the limitation so imposed.

SECRET

10 May 1963

THE USSR'S GUBA OKOLNAYA SUBMARINE SUPPORT FACILITY

Ground photography of the Soviet naval support facility at Guba Okolnaya, near Severomorsk in the Kola Gulf, indicates that this base handles and stores cruise and ballistic missiles for submarines and probably nuclear warheads for these missiles. Nuclear weapons may have been carried from Guba Okolnaya to Cuba and back in October-November 1962 by the Soviet merchant ship Aleksandrovsk.

The Base

Photographs taken during late 1960 through 1962 show that extensive security precautions--including watch towers, floodlights, and a double fence--have been established at the base. Construction activity has also been noticeable, suggesting that the base has been expanded; this expansion may be continuing. Buildings on the base include a precast cement arch structure similar to those built at MRBM sites in Cuba. Automotive cranes are present, possibly for loading missiles into submarine missile hatches.

This is the only identified Soviet submarine missile storage facility, but others almost certainly exist.

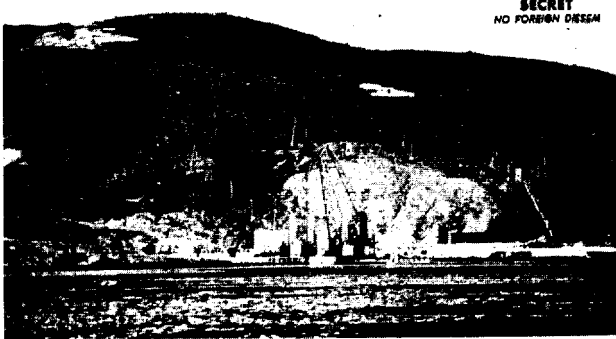
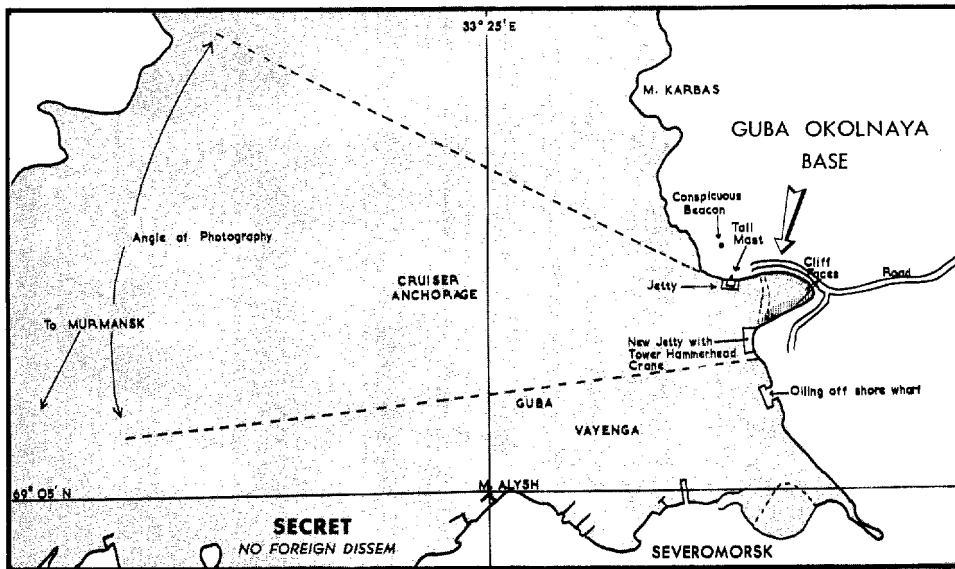
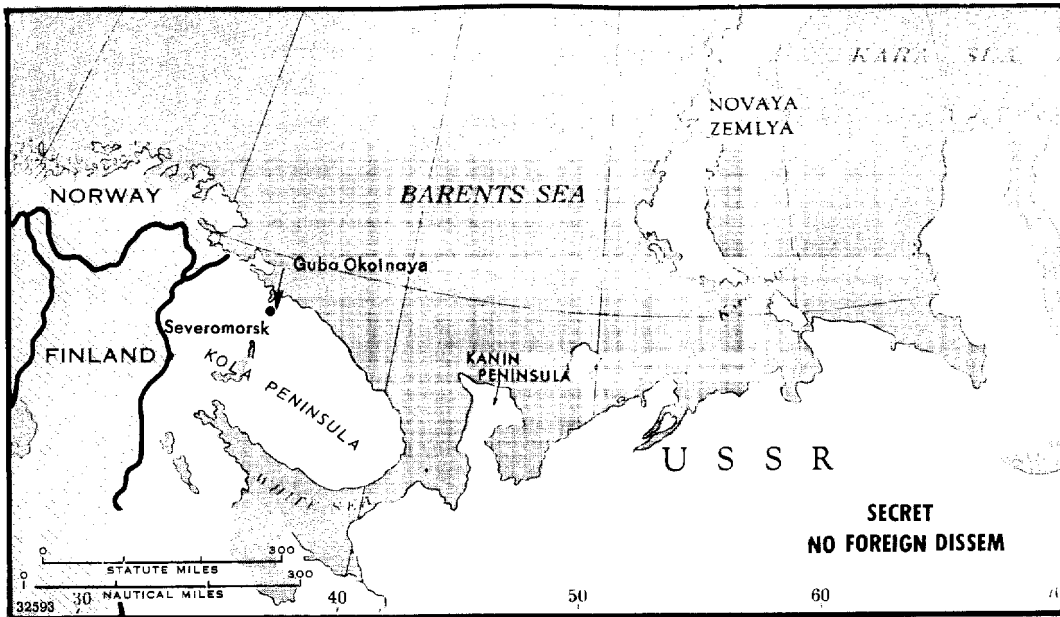
Ships and Submarines

Four types of missile submarines have been noted at Guba Okolnaya: G-class and Z-V-class ballistic-missile submarines, W-class cruise-missile equipped (Twin Cylinder) submarines, and a modified G, pendant 777, which has been photographed on numerous occasions.

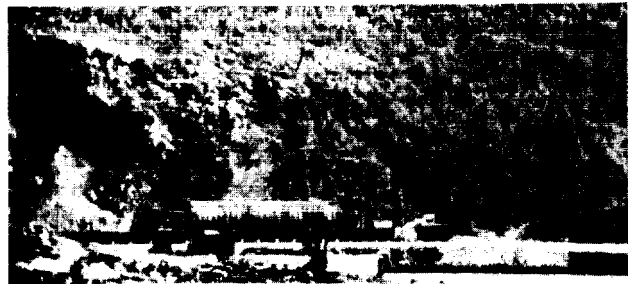
The presence of these submarines indicates that there are at least two types of missiles at the storage base: the standard 350-n.m. ballistic missile, and the 300-n.m. cruise missile. Nuclear warheads for these weapons are almost certainly stored at the base.

The only other ships noted in photography of the base are

SECRET

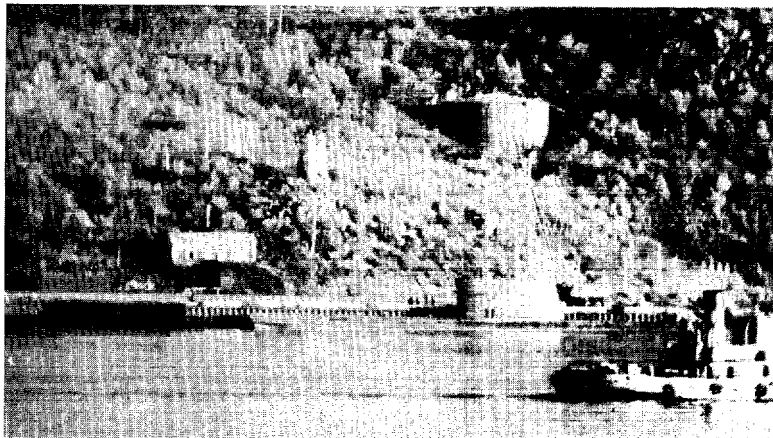


Probable construction activity.

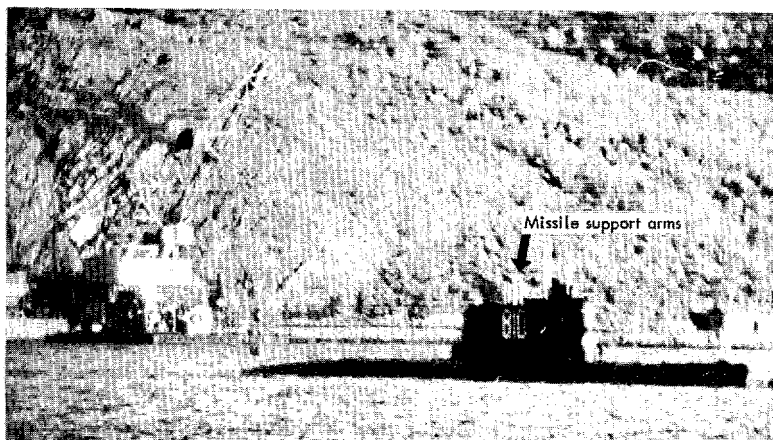


Cement arch building similar to those built at MRBM sites in Cuba.

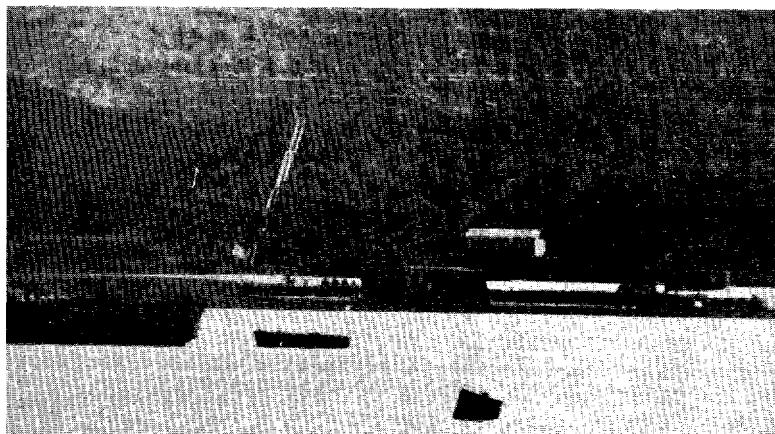
SOVIET MISSILE SUBMARINES PHOTOGRAPHED AT GUBA OKOLNAYA



Pendant 208, a Z-V class.



Pendant 810, a G class.



Pendant 777, a modified G.

630503 B

SECRET
NO FOREIGN DISSEM

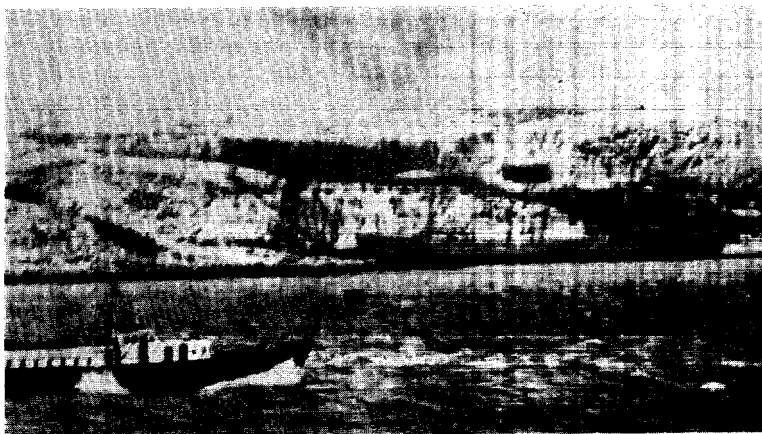
THE SOVIET SHIP ALEKSANDROVSK



At Guba Okolnaya on 3 October 1962, just prior to voyage to Cuba.



En route to Guba Okolnaya on 8 November.



At Guba Okolnaya on 23 November, immediately after return from Cuba. Probable missile nose cone vans are still on the afterdeck.

SECRET
NO FOREIGN DISSEM

SECRET

a cable-laying vessel, a destroyer carrying telemetry vans which probably has supported missile launch operations, and the Aleksandrovsk.

The Aleksandrovsk Voyage

Photography indicates that the Aleksandrovsk loaded a military cargo at Guba Okolnaya in early October 1962 and then left for Cuba, arriving there about the time the US blockade was established. The ship remained in Cuban waters until about 5 November, when it left and returned to the Soviet Union.

On the latter voyage six vehicles believed to be missile nosecone vans could be seen on deck. The ship was photographed

again at Guba Okolnaya on 23 November, with the vans still on deck.

The voyage of the Aleksandrovsk is unique in several ways: no other merchant vessel has been noted at Guba Okolnaya; the Aleksandrovsk is the only merchant vessel known to have carried missile-associated equipment from Cuba to the Soviet Arctic; and it was one of the first to depart after the Soviet decision had been made to remove strategic weapons from Cuba. The vessel may have carried nuclear warheads to and from Cuba, perhaps without ever having offloaded them. By transferring nuclear warheads via this Arctic facility, the Soviets probably hoped to avoid any possible radiological monitoring or surveillance in the Danish or Turkish Straits. (SECRET NO FOREIGN DISSEM)

* * *

SECRET

SECRET

1

SECRET