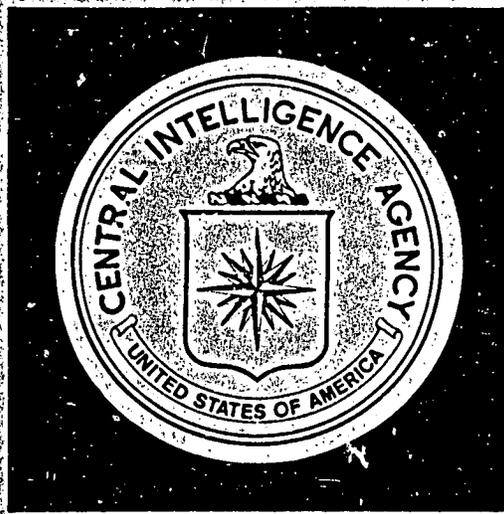


CIB/G MID 77-294 JX

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The
National Intelligence

Daily

Published by the Director of Central Intelligence for Named Principals

TUESDAY 20 DECEMBER 1977

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 294

USSR: Mobile Missile Base

[redacted] the Soviets are building another support base for their mobile SS-20 IRBM [redacted] in the central USSR. [redacted]

We have now identified nine SS-20 mobile missile bases in the USSR. [redacted] base at [redacted] is assessed to be operational; it has at least six launchers. The eight other bases—four in the western USSR, two in the eastern USSR, and the two [redacted]—could be completed next year or in early 1979.

The locations of the nine support bases suggest that the Soviets are, at least initially, attaching about equal importance to coverage of the Far East and Western Europe. Five of the bases seem well suited for coverage of China and other areas in East Asia; the other four provide extensive coverage of Western Europe. On the other hand, almost all of the older medium- and intermediate-range ballistic missile force consisting of SS-4 and SS-5 launchers is targeted against

Western Europe.

Construction of the newest base apparently began in September or October at a dismantled SS-7 ICBM site. [redacted]

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