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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION BRIEF

POSSIBLE ICBM LAUNCH SITE NEAR KOSTROMA, USSR



ARMY



NAVY



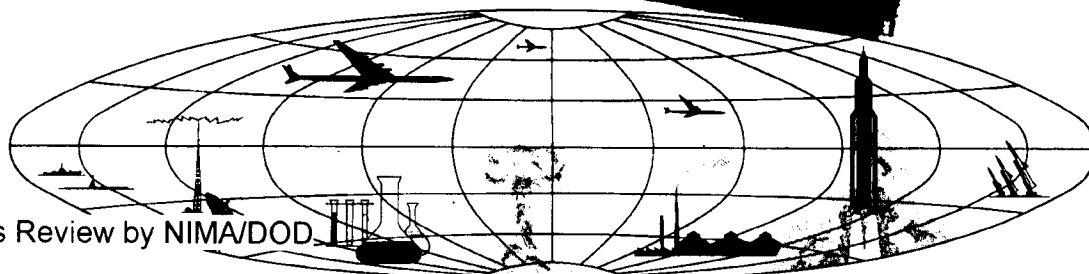
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POSSIBLE ICBM LAUNCH SITE NEAR KOSTROMA, USSR

A possible ICBM launch site, not evident on Mission [redacted] August 1960, was observed under construction on Mission [redacted] July 1961. The site is located at 58-00-40N 41-19-20E in a forested area 19 nautical miles (nm) northeast of Kostroma (Figure 1). Although the possible launch site at Kostroma is partially covered by clouds, four elongated clearings interconnected by a system of straight roads are visible. The road pattern and the arrangement and orientation of the elongated clearings are similar to Launch Areas B and D at Yur'ya, the Launch Area at Yoshkar-Ola, and Launch Area C at Tyura Tam (Figure 2). The only security measure discernible is a possible guard building located on the service road at the entrance to the site. There is a large unidentified scarred area 0.5 nm southeast of the possible launch site.

Three roads -- two under construction -- lead to the site area from the Kostroma/Buy highway. One of these roads has wide radius turns (approximately 350-foot radius) at its intersection with the highway.

The Kostroma/Galich railroad is 13 nm to the south and the nearest rail yard is at Kostroma. A search of 1960 photography of this rail line revealed no rail spurs under construction in the vicinity of the site. Most of the rail line was cloud covered on 1961 photography. Kostroma Airfield [redacted] located 18 nm to the southwest, is the nearest air facility.

A search of the area within a 25-nm radius of the site did not reveal any SAM defenses. However, approximately 50-60 percent of the Kostroma area was cloud covered on [redacted]

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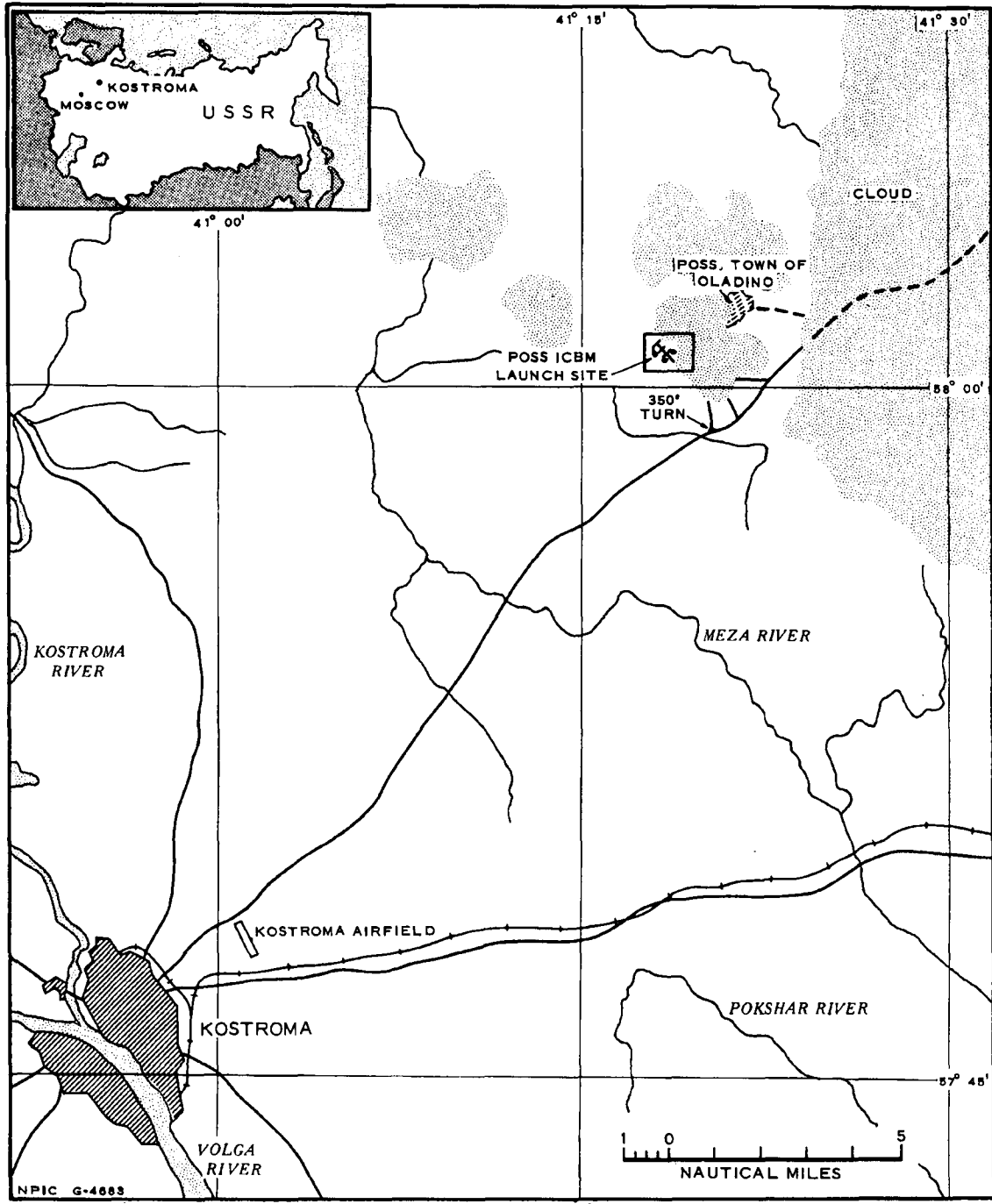


FIGURE 1. LOCATION OF POSSIBLE ICBM LAUNCH SITE NEAR KOSTROMA, USSR.

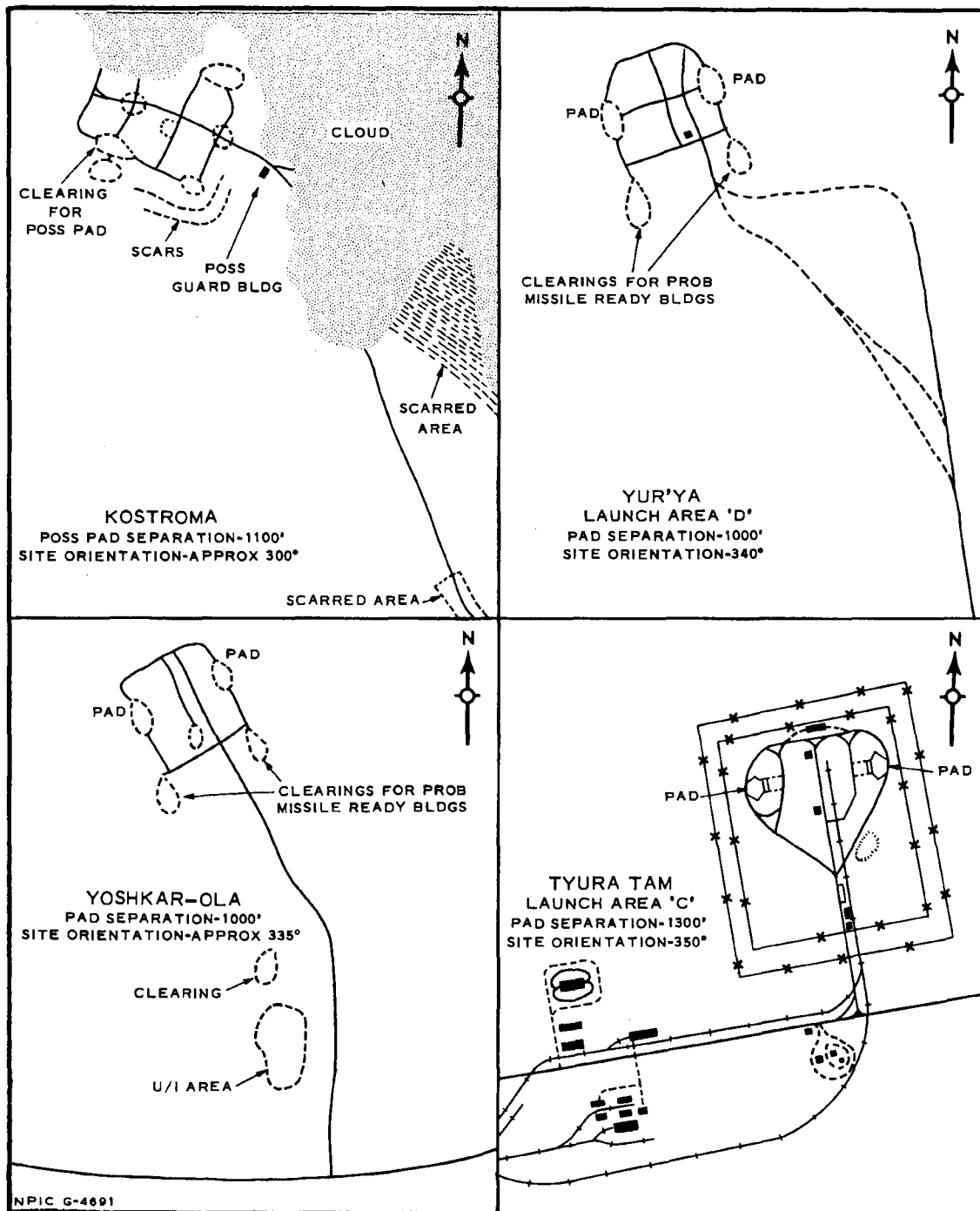


FIGURE 2. COMPARISON OF POSSIBLE LAUNCH AREA NEAR KOSTROMA WITH OTHER LAUNCH AREAS.

REFERENCES

PHOTOGRAPHY

<u>Mission</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Frames</u>	<u>Class</u>
[]	Jul 61	[]	[]	TSR
	Jul 61			TSR
	Aug 60			TSR

MAPS OR CHARTS

- ACIC. ONC 154, 1st classified ed, Jun 59, scale 1:1,000,000 (C)
- SAC. US Air Target Chart, Series 200, 0154-14A, 1st ed, Nov 58, scale 1:200,000 (S)
- AMS. Series N501, Sheet No 37-6 (Danilov), 2nd ed, Mar 56, scale 1:250,000 (U)
- AMS. Series N501, Sheet No 37-9 (Kostroma), 2nd ed, Mar 57, scale 1:250,000 (U)

DOCUMENTS

25X1

- NPIC. OAK [] Supplement 1, Kostroma Area, Suspect ICBM Launch Site, July 61 (TSR)
- NPIC. R-1/61, ICBM Launch Complex, Yur'ya, USSR, Jul 61 (TSCR)
- NPIC. R-2/61, ICBM Launch Complex, Yoshkar-Ola, USSR, Jul 61 (TSCR)
- CIA. PIC/JR-8/61, Tyura Tam Missile Test Center, A Comparison of 1957, 1959 and 1960 Photography, Aug 61 (TSCR)

REQUIREMENT

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