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INFORMATION REPORT / INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY #24

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CHICKADEE

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Western USSR

1. Strategic Missile units of Marshal of the Soviet Union K. S. Moskalenko's command [i.e. Marshal Biryuzov's command] are located only in the rear, echeloned in depth (eshallonirovanny v glubine). Some of these units are stationed in the Carpathian and Baltic Military Districts; there

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are none in East Germany. However, storage depots are located in East Germany which hold empty warheads for either nuclear or conventional charges. These depots are at the disposal of both Moskalenko and Chief Marshal of Artillery S. S. Varentsov.

North: Murmansk Area

2. Missile launch sites with reinforced concrete pads are located in the Murmansk Oblast, in the former Northern Military District, which has now been transferred to the Leningrad Military District. These sites are directed against England. The exact geographic coordinates of these sites are known only to a strictly limited number of individuals in the General Staff. Troops stationed at the sites live completely self-contained, isolated lives under strict KGB surveillance.

South: Transcaucasus

3. Launch sites are located in the Transcaucasus directed against Turkey, Iran, and Pakistan. From bases in the Georgian SSR missiles can be fired to ranges of 2,000 to 3,000 kms. Adana, Turkey, can be hit, but so far (mid-1961) there are not enough missiles available to strike all targets in these countries.

4. At the time of the U.S. landing in Lebanon (July 1958), Khrushchev ordered a state of battle readiness; Marshal of the Soviet Union Konstantin K. Rokossovskiy went down to the Transcaucasus and the Commander of the Artillery of the Ground Forces visited Tbilisi and toured the area. This alert was repeated at the time of the protest to Turkey and Pakistan over the U-2 incident. Launch pads were made ready, equipment was prepared nearby underground, in bunkers and all camouflaged. Battle readiness implies that when necessary the missile can be set up and loaded; there is no "readiness" whereby everything is loaded and ready to fire. They were ready to strike Adana.

Far East

5. In early 1961, an artillery corps commander named Ioffe was stationed in the Far Eastern Military District "on the islands". He had previously served in missile units, is a "Hero of the Soviet Union", and was described as one of the few Jews left serving in a position of importance.

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Troop Training in the Use of Tactical and Strategic (Medium Range)
Missiles

6. All training exercises these days include live firing - either free flight rockets or guided missiles, though the latter are only fired from a limited number of ranges. The recent exercises in Rumania also included live firing of missiles, which were of the first type to be issued to troops about three years ago. There have been cases of failure on the launch pad even on occasions when Khrushchev has been present.

7. During the summer of 1960, large-scale maneuvers were held in the Transcaucasus under the direction of Marshal of the Soviet Union Vasily I. Chuikov, which were attended by Khrushchev and Minister of Defense Malinovsky. Practice training was carried out in which missiles were fired to the Tadkestan (sic) impact area. Senior officers visited Tbilisi and Baku, and inspected all the missile units in the area.

8. The range in the Lvov area is in fact two ranges close together, located near Shklo and Yauer respectively.² They have come into use recently, and are controlled by both local (sic) and Soviet troops.

9. Lt. Gen. Goffe, who was killed in the helicopter accident on the Nikolayev range, was until late summer 1960 Artillery Commander for the Lvov (Carpathian) Military District.³ He had had a long-standing association with missiles, and was a noted theoretician.

1. [REDACTED]

2. Cf. para 15 of [REDACTED] for previous reference to these ranges with a different spelling for Yauer.

3. Cf. para 16 of [REDACTED] for source's account of this accident.

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