

ATTACHMENT TO:

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Chinese Trenching Activity in the Damansky (Chen-pao)
Island Area

An analysis of Damansky (Chen-pao) Island, a site of Soviet and Chinese confrontations along the Sino-Soviet border, was performed to determine the amount of trenching activity that has occurred since September 1969. The study shows that most of the main defensive trench lines now present on the island and the adjacent shore line on the Chinese side of the Ussuri River were also present in early September 1969.

The comparative analysis of the area defined by the accompanying graphic was made [redacted] 25X1
dated prior to and after representatives of the two governments met in Peking [redacted] This imagery reveals that two new communications, 25X1
access trenches, several firing bays, and a possible bunker have been added to supplement the main defensive trenches present on the island in September 1969. Additional defensive trenches and firing bays have also been added to the existing trenches on the Chinese side of the river.

Individual firing bays are not shown on the accompanying graphic. Most such bays were present in September but a small number are new on the January imagery.

It appears that some of the trenches present in September may have been improved or modified. This interpretation is qualified because foliage present on the September imagery could obscure some of the defenses, and the light snow cover and absence of foliage on the January imagery could highlight the defenses.

It should be noted that the terrain of the entire area is flat and evidently subject to periodic flooding. This would probably require constant maintenance of defensive positions along this portion of the river.

The additional trenching, firing bays, and the modification of existing trenches does indicate that the Chinese have been gradually improving their defenses since September 1969.

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TOP SECRET RUSS