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Search Areas

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CIA/PIR-61094

ALGERIA SAM SEARCH

This report presents the result of searches within a 25 nautical mile (nm) radius of six locations (Figure 1-4) in Algeria, for evidence of SAM launch site construction, storage sites, training facilities, or SAM-associated equipment. The six locations are:

1. Cap Rosa (36-57N 008-14E)

2. La Calle (36-53N 008-26E)

3. Tipasa (36-36N 002-27E)

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4. Cherchel (36-36N 002-11E)

5. Ouargla Airfield (31-57N 005-25E)

6. Four nm south of Zurich (36-28N 002-19E)

The location of Area 6 was determined by using 10 nm triangulation south from Tipasa and Cherchel, as suggested in the requirement.

No SAM-related equipment or installations were identified in any of the six search areas, however their presence cannot be negated due to limitations of available photography. A previously unreported open storage area located approximately 2500 feet north of the main runway at Ouargla Airfield was observed during the search. This secured storage area contained unidentified equipment and materiel on ______ The searches were accomplished using ______ photographic missions and two U.S. Navy offshore photo reconnaissance missions. Interpretation of this photography was limited by the following factors:

1. _____ completely covers Search Areas 1 and 2, however, cloud cover obscures approximately 60 percent of each search area. Photo quality is poor.

2. ______ completely covers Search Area 5. This cloud free photography, although limited by overexposure, would probably have revealed a SAM site or SAM-related facility, had one been present.

3. _______ oblique photography of Search Areas 1 and 2 was taken parallel to the coastline with coverage extending approximately 1 to 5 nm inland. Photo quality is poor to fair, due to haze. Presence of SAM-related facilities in this area cannot be negated due to limitations of the photo quality.

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