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JOINT PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE BRIEF
ARMY-NAVY-AIR FORCE

(Published and Disseminated by CIA/PIC)

SUBJECT : Missile Launch Complex NO : PIC/JB-86/60
LOCATION : Approx. 50 nm WSW of DATE : 4 May 1960
Sary Shagan Support Base,
USSR WAC : 245

Coordinates Lat 46°10'N (Approx)
Long 72°25'E (Approx)

PHOTO DATA:

Mission	Camera	Frames	Date	Scale
[REDACTED]				

25X1D

REFERENCES:

- CIA. PIC/JB-76/60, Sary Shagan Support Base, 22 Apr 60 (TSC)
- CIA. PIC/B-4/60, Probable Missile Launch and Electronics Complex, 4 May 60 (TSC)

REMARKS:

This brief, which is the result of a preliminary photographic analysis, identifies a road-served missile launch complex approximately 50 nm (nautical miles) west-southwest of the Sary Shagan Support Base (see CIA/PIC/JB-76/60). The complex consists of a launch area, a network of instrumentation sites, an assembly and checkout area, and a large support area. A brief description of these areas and facilities follows (see Figure 1).

Although a major portion of the launch area is obscured by clouds, the following facilities are visible: a road-served rectangular launch pad (pad "A"), two road-served semicircular probable launch pads (pads "B" and "C"), and other associated facilities. The rectangular pad (pad "A") is located within a separately fenced site and measures approximately 300 by 120 feet, with the major axis oriented west-northwest/east-southeast. A probable rail launcher about 30 feet long is positioned on the north side of this pad. Nearby, to the north, are two earth-mounded structures, probably for launch control. The two semicircular probable pads (pads "B" and "C") are located within a double-fenced site, a major portion of which is cloud covered. Only pad "B" is visible on photography of a usable

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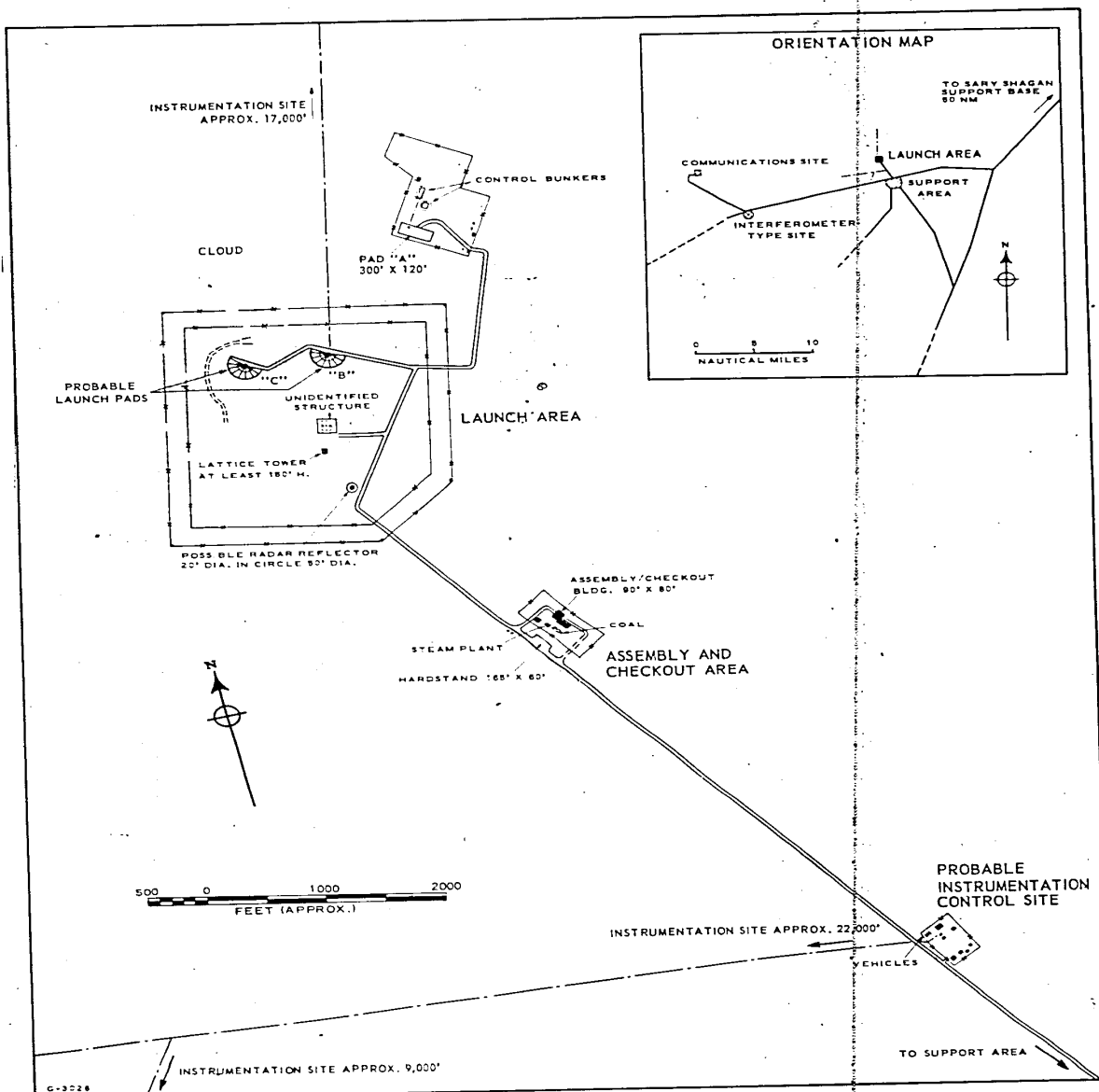


FIGURE 1. MISSILE LAUNCH COMPLEX ABOUT 50 NM WSW OF SARY SHAGAN SUPPORT BASE.

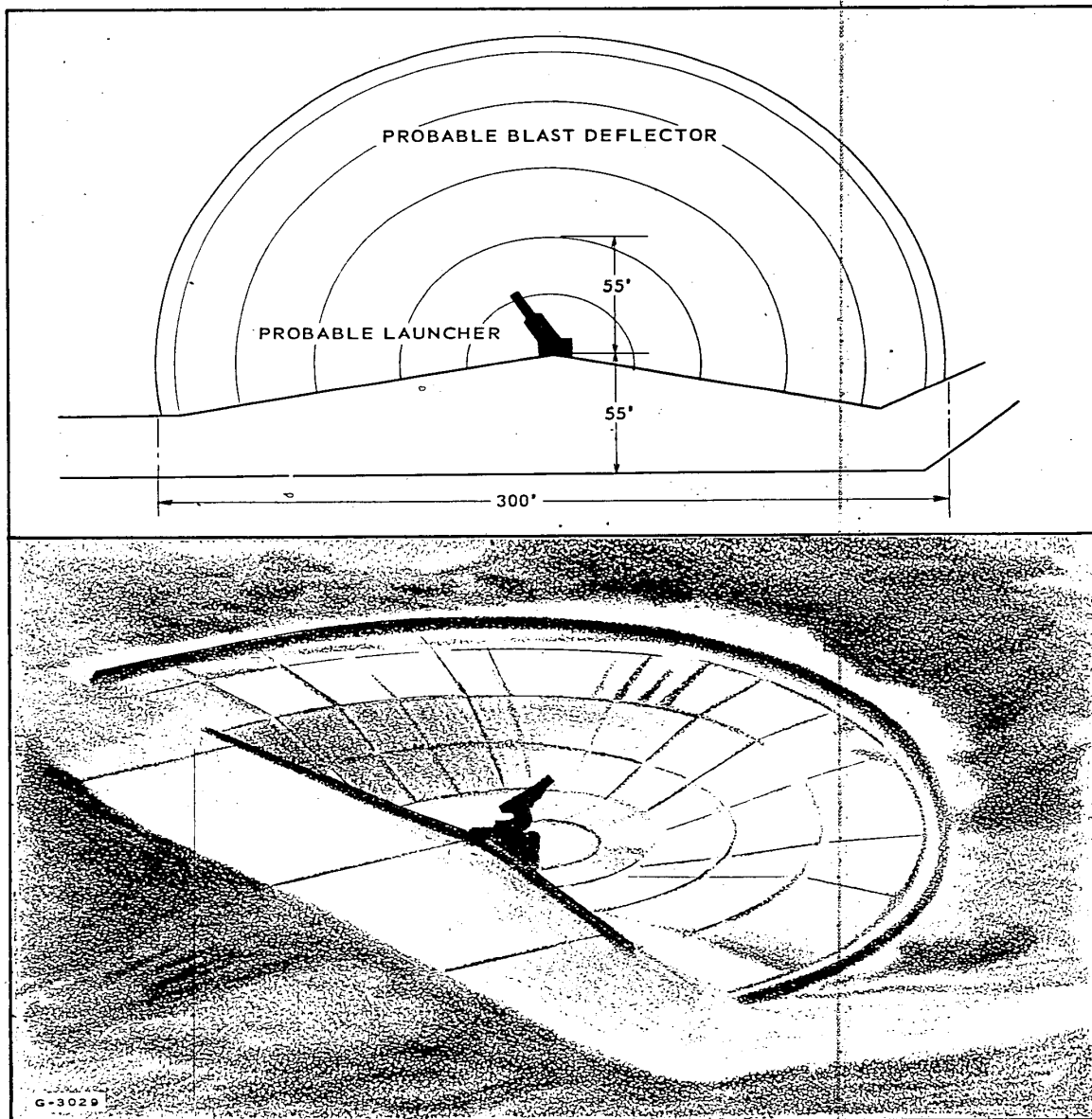


FIGURE 2. LINE AND PERSPECTIVE DRAWINGS OF PROBABLE LAUNCH PAD "B".

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scale, and only a small corner of "B" can be seen in stereo. The flat portion of this pad has a radius of approximately 55 feet, with a probable launcher positioned in the center (see Figure 2). Surrounding the flat portion is a semicircular concrete probable blast deflector about 300 feet across which rises at a slight angle from the flat surface. This launcher appears capable of at least a 180-degree traverse through an arc from west-northwest to east-southeast. Other facilities within the double-fenced site include a lattice tower at least 150 feet high, an unidentified structure, and a possible radar reflector about 20 feet across located within a circular area about 50 feet in diameter.

Within the vicinity of the launch area, the network of instrumentation sites includes three sites interconnected by cable lines and a fourth site which is connected by cable only with the launch site containing probable pads "B" and "C". The three related sites, located generally south of the launch area, form a modified "T" configuration by the joining of an approximately 22,000-foot east-west leg with an approximately 9,000-foot northeast-southwest leg. Each of these sites contains two similar instrumentation buildings and a hardstand containing two or three vehicles. One of these, the probable control site, is secured by a single wire fence and is located at the east end of the east-west leg. It contains 6 buildings, 2 sheds, a quonset hut, 3 vehicles on a hardstand, several masts, and other small objects. The site located at the southwest end of the other leg is positioned on a ridge line. It is enclosed by a single wire fence and contains 3 buildings, 3 vehicles on a hardstand, and a mast located outside the fenced area. The third site, located at the west end of the east-west leg, is also positioned on a ridge line. It is enclosed by a single wire fence and contains 4 buildings, 2 vehicles on a hardstand, and 3 unidentified objects. The fourth site, located about 17,000 feet north of the launch area, consists of a single instrumentation building with a parapet around the roof.

In addition to this network of instrumentation, an interferometer-type site is located about 12 nm to the southwest. It is connected to the complex by a good all-weather road. A long-range high-frequency communications site, with two 2-bay fishbone receiving antennas under construction and several mobile communications vehicles, is located about 16 nm west of the complex and about 6 nm north-northwest of the interferometer-type site. An all-weather road also connects the communications site with the interferometer-type site.

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The assembly and checkout area, secured by a single fence, is road-served and includes a drive-through assembly/checkout building with a connecting building, a steam plant, and several other support buildings. The assembly/checkout building measures about 90 by 80 feet and has a longitudinal monitor about 50 feet wide. The vehicle entranceway is about 35 feet wide.

The support area is approximately 2 nm southeast of the launch area. It contains housing for more than 1,000 persons, administrative facilities, several motor pools, and numerous other support facilities. A probable airstrip is under construction just north of the support area.

NOTE: Because of the poor quality of base maps of this area and the scattered cloud cover on the photography, it is emphasized that the geographic positioning of this complex is only approximate at this time.

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