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REPORTS 2-1

SC 01428/64-KH
M/EB 76/64
11 February 1964
Copy 8

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Military-Economics Division, ORR

25X1A

ATTENTION: [REDACTED]

THROUGH: Chief, Requirements Branch, Reconnaissance Group, CGS

FROM: Chief, CIA/PID (NPIC)

SUBJECT: Chita Surface-to-Air Missile Activity (52-53N 113-32E)

REFERENCE: (a) Requirement C-RR-4-80,928
(b) CIA/PID Project C 50-64
(c) NPIC R-135/62
(d) PID Informal Memorandum M/EB 331/63 (Aug 63)

1. This memorandum is in response to your requirement dated 3 January 1964 requesting information concerning the surface-to-air missile activity located approximately 50 nautical miles north of Chita, USSR.

2. This missile activity, located at 52-53N 113-32E, consists of three cleared areas aligned in a general north-south direction, and a support area several miles to the west of the cleared areas (see Attachment 1).

The memorandum is in five parts. The first part deals with the cleared areas and the surface-to-air missile activity found therein. The second part deals with road construction and activity between the cleared areas and the support area. The third part deals with the support area and other activity in proximity to that facility. Within the first three parts, information has been presented chronologically by mission date. Part four of the memorandum describes the nature of the terrain immediately surrounding the cleared areas, and part five reports the results of a 75 nautical mile radius search, centered on the above coordinates, for electronics and/or instrumentation facilities.

Mensuration was not accomplished on some of the buildings where definition was poor, however, all of the major buildings and facilities have been mensurated. All mensuration, whether it concerns buildings, or measurements within the cleared areas, has been accomplished with "best-guess" ephemeral data. Thus all figures presented are approximate.

25X1D

Part One---concerning the three cleared areas. Attachment 2 depicts the cleared areas as they appeared on latest coverage [REDACTED] and the overlays graphically show the chronological development of the areas.

DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW BY NIMA / DoD

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GROUP 1
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Subject: Chita Surface-to-Air Missile Activity
(52-53N 113-32E)

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- 25X1D [REDACTED] The location of the cleared areas was cloud-covered on this mission. It is unlikely that any activity was present at that time, however, since the road which now serves the cleared areas, terminated at the Konda River bridge, several miles to the west. The bridge appeared to be under construction at that time.
- 25X1D [REDACTED] Work had progressed on the road right-of-way during this time period, since right-of-way clearing was visible in the vicinity of the sharp turn where the road now proceeds down to the cleared areas. Visibility was afforded only by the fact that the right-of-way was being cut through a stand of timber at this location.
- 25X1D [REDACTED] The right-of-way clearing for the access road had, by this time progressed a slight bit further, and had reached a point just short of the present location of Area A.
- 25X1D [REDACTED] Considerable progress had taken place between the time of this mission and the time of Mission [REDACTED] a difference of slightly more than [REDACTED]. This mission indicated that the access road had been extended to its present limit at the entrance to Area C. It was also apparent from this mission that preliminary clearing work had begun at all three of the cleared areas.
- 25X1D [REDACTED] Areas A and B had been completely cleared by this time. Area C was cloud-covered. Clearing activity at the small probable support area, near the sharp bend in the access road, was also visible for the first time on this mission.
- 25X1D [REDACTED] Area C had been completely cleared by this time, and the clearing activity at the small probable support area had become quite apparent.
- 25X1D [REDACTED] Photo quality on this mission did not permit close observation. The cleared areas were all visible, but snow-covered. The only visible sign of new activity was minor expansion at the small probable support area.
- 25X1D [REDACTED] Although portions of the area were faintly visible, the photography was too hazy and cloud-covered to permit any interpretation. (No overlay to Attachment 2 for this mission.)
- 25X1D [REDACTED] Portions of Areas A and B were visible on the edge of the frame, in the blurred area of the image. No apparent changes could be detected. (No overlay to Attachment 2 for this mission.)
- 25X1D [REDACTED] Coverage on this mission was hazy and rather dark. No changes were visible. (No overlay to Attachment 2 for this mission.)

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████████████████████ Considerable progress was evident on this mission. A road had been built into the small, probable support area, and a building had been constructed within the area which measured approximately 100 by 50 feet. The access road to the cleared areas appeared to be graded and probably surfaced, to a point just short of Area A.

Area A and Area C were cloud-covered on this mission. Area B was clear, however, and showed signs of extensive activity. The actual ring road areas for the launch sites had been scraped out, giving the two areas the appearance of a rough figure eight. It should be noted that approximately half of the southernmost ring extended out into terrain which had not previously been cleared. A squared area had been cleared out at the point of entrance to the two rings, giving the appearance of a hardstand under construction.

25X1D

████████████████████ The areas of interest were, again, on the edge of the photography, and quite blurred. Areas A and C showed no visible change. In Area B, construction was in progress on the short-radius bypass roads, those roads which now give the sites a scalloped appearance.

25X1D

████████████████████ The entire area was covered by clear, snow-covered photography. The small probable support area contained at least the building mentioned previously, and possibly contained another structure in the western corner of the area. In addition to these, there may be several sheds, or non-permanent structures present within the area.

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Area C showed no sign of progress or change from its former state. Area A, however, contained a surface-to-air type launch site, located in the southeast corner of the cleared area. The site consisted of six positions, arranged in a generally circular pattern with a central guidance area in the center. No service roads were visible and the entire site gave the appearance of being temporary in nature. Although the site appeared to be temporary, the dark image at each position, and in the center of the site was more substantial in each case than was the image in corresponding locations at the two sites which were located in Area B. Although no specific items of equipment could be identified or accurately mensurated at this site, there was a tower present, rising from the equipment in the central guidance position. Based on the length of the shadow cast, this tower was approximately 20 feet tall. This site has the same physical configuration as did the sites at Chita which appeared and disappeared over the ██████████ however, it is considerably smaller than those sites. The separation between adjoining positions at the site at Area A average approximately 185 feet and the distance across the site on a diagonal averages 360 feet. This latter dimension is not a true diameter due to the irregular configuration. For representative dimensions of this site see Attachment 3.

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Area B, on this mission, contained two surface-to-air type launch sites. These two sites, like the one in Area A consisted of six positions arranged in a generally circular pattern, with a guidance area in the center. Unlike the site in Area A, these two sites give the impression of permanence. These two sites are mirror images and are 765 feet apart center-to-center. Each site has the six positions located along a circular road with a short-radius bypass road constructed around each position. It is these bypass roads which give the sites a scalloped appearance. The roads within each site, including the bypass roads, all seem to have been graded and prepared. None of the positions around either site seem to be revetted. The separation between positions at these two sites averages approximately 200 feet while the distance across the site from position to position averages approximately 475 feet. See Attachment 4 for individual dimensions of these sites. The two sites are generally similar in dimension to the "original" Chita sites. (See NPIC Report 135/62)

In the center of each site is a road-served central guidance area. The guidance area in the southernmost site appears to consist of two major pieces (or groups) of equipment. The same situation probably exists in the northernmost site, although it is not as apparent. A tower rises from the equipment located in each central guidance area. Based, again, on the length of the shadows cast by these towers, they are approximately 20 feet tall. No detail concerning the towers or the rest of the equipment within either site can be determined.

It is interesting to note that all of the roads in this area, both the access road and those roads found within the sites themselves, have been graded to such a degree that they are all slightly raised above the surrounding terrain.

Part Two---concerning the construction and activity along the roads between the cleared areas and the support area.

For ease of reference the road which presently runs east from the Konda River bridge, and provides access to the cleared areas has been designated as Road No. 1, while another road, originating from this road and running north of it, has been designated as Road No. 2. Attachment 5 with three overlays depicts the development of this activity.

25X1D [REDACTED] The area east of the Konda River bridge was cloud-covered. The bridge site was visible, and the bridge appeared to be under construction. The road had progressed as far as the bridge by the time of this mission.

25X1D [REDACTED] Nothing could be seen of the road between the bridge site and the sharp corner where the road continues down to the cleared areas. The photography was snow-covered and of rather poor quality.

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25X1D [REDACTED] Right-of-way clearing for Road No. 1 had, by this time progressed all the way from the bridge, eastward to the sharp bend where the road continues on to the cleared areas. Also, for the first time, there were indications of Road No. 2, originating from Road No. 1 in the vicinity of the support area and running north of it into the hills.

25X1D [REDACTED] No changes were apparent in Road No. 1. Road No. 2 was not visible.

25X1D [REDACTED] Mission [REDACTED] consisted of poor quality photography 25X1D in this area and was not usable.

25X1D [REDACTED] The areas of interest were not covered by this mission.

25X1D [REDACTED] No change was apparent in Road No. 1 on this mission. Again the photography was snow-covered. Road No. 2 was visible and obviously being used. The termination point of this second road could not be determined on this coverage.

25X1D [REDACTED] This mission was cloud-covered in this area, and not usable.

25X1D [REDACTED] Areas of interest were not covered on this mission. No changes were apparent in either road on this coverage.

25X1D [REDACTED] Road No. 1 was visible on snow-free photography. This road appeared to be in the process of being surfaced. There were several long, light toned linear scars visible, parallel to and immediately alongside the roadway. These do not appear to be of significance, and were probably related to road construction and surfacing operations.

Road No. 2 was visible and quite apparent on this mission. It proceeded through the hills for several miles (out of the area covered by the graphics) and was lost from view under a cloud, in the vicinity of a small stream. No facilities were visible along this road.

25X1D [REDACTED] Most of the areas of interest were not covered. Small portions of Road No. 2 were visible, however.

25X1D [REDACTED] Road No. 1 was visible on clear, snow-covered photography. No changes were apparent, although the road now gave the impression of being graded to a visible degree.

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Road No. 2 was visible and again was obviously being used. On this mission, this road could be followed past that point where it disappeared from view on Mission [REDACTED]. The road proceeded past that point to another stream and apparently terminated there. No facilities could be seen at the apparent termination point.

The area north of Road No. 1 exhibited a number of small trails, or unimproved roads in the snow, which were being used. No facilities could be seen along these roads, and no pattern, or purpose for them could be discerned at this time. One of these roads originated near the support area and terminated in a small clearing (53-11-20N 113-37-20E) approximately 17 nautical miles north of the three cleared areas.

Part Three---the support area and surrounding activity. Attachment 6 depicts the support area as it appeared on latest photography [REDACTED], and Attachment 7 with seven overlays depicts the chronological development. 25X1D

25X1D

[REDACTED] On this mission, the support area, located just east of the Konda River bridge, contained five small buildings, and one larger building with a possible secured area next to it. Immediately north of the five small buildings, which were probable barracks-type structures, ground scars were apparent, indicating activity in the area where the long storage-type buildings were to appear.

On the west side of the bridge, at the sharp bend of the road, two very faint possibly circular areas were visible, each with an object, or objects in the center (Annotations 1 and 2). These areas were connected by track activity to two additional areas of scarring (Annotations 3 and 4).

25X1D

[REDACTED] The support area was cloud and haze-covered. There were, however, indications of activity at a location east of the support area on the south bank of the river (Annotation 5). The activity consisted of several dark objects spaced at random along trails or unimproved roads, in the snow. It is interesting to note that track activity from the two circular surface-to-air type launch sites which were present on this mission, led into this area.

25X1D

[REDACTED] The support area was cloud-covered, and the area of Annotation 5 was in cloud shadow. No detail was discernible in this latter area. For the first time, there were indications of a new, unimproved road which originated from the main road east of the support area (Annotation 6). There were no facilities evident at the end of, or along this road.

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[REDACTED] This mission first revealed the presence of another large storage-type building in the support area. At this time there were also signs of unidentified activity north of the support area in an old meander of the Konda River (Annotation 7). The activity appeared to be rather localized, as though it were one structure or one small facility.

25X1D

Although the surface-to-air type sites reported on [REDACTED] had disappeared, there were signs of continuing activity east of the support area at Annotation 5. The activity formed no particular pattern and seemed of a rather nondescript nature. South of the main road, and just east of the bridge site, at Annotation 9, there appeared to be several dark trails or scars within this small grove of trees. To the west of the bridge, the two scarred areas at Annotations 3 and 4 seemed to show some signs of activity, while the areas at Annotations 1 and 2 were barely visible and no indications of activity could be seen there.

25X1D

[REDACTED] Photography from this mission was cloud-covered and not usable in this area. (No overlay to Attachment 6.)

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[REDACTED] Support area was not covered.

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[REDACTED] The area in question was covered, however, very little interpretation was possible, due to photo quality. Road and track activity were visible in the immediate vicinity of the support area. Three surface-to-air type sites appeared on the coverage in this area; however, there was no direct association between them and the area at Annotation 5, as there seemed to be on Mission [REDACTED] (No overlay to Attachment 6.)

25X1D

[REDACTED] This mission was cloud-covered over this area.

[REDACTED] Support area was not covered.

25X1D

[REDACTED] Two large storage-type buildings had been added to the support area. There were signs of activity alongside one of these large buildings, indicating that the foundation was probably under construction at that time for a third building. No activity could be identified in this area of Annotation 5, or in any of the areas west of the bridge. On the coverage, the three surface-to-air type sites, seen on [REDACTED] had disappeared.

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25X1D

[REDACTED] This mission revealed the presence of general activity within the support area. The location which was reported as secured space within the support area, on Mission [REDACTED] now appeared to be a possible motor pool. There was a significant increase in activity in the vicinity of the small barracks-type structures along the river.

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North of the actual building area, there were again signs of activity in the old river course (Annotation 7). On this mission, for the first time, there was also ground scarring present at Annotation 8. Nothing could be determined about the nature of the activity at either of these locations. South of the support area, on the south side of the main road there was again noticeable activity within the grove of trees which stretches along the road (Annotation 9). To the east, in the area denoted by Annotation 5, there were signs of recurring activity, and several objects were visible within this area, which may have been non-permanent structures, such as tents. To the east of this area a new center of activity was visible (Annotation 10). This definitely appeared to be tent camp, containing approximately 15 tents of varying sizes. To the west side of the area at Annotation 5 there was a heavily scarred area of probable construction (Annotation 11).

West of the bridge, the scarred areas (Annotations 1 through 4) were barely visible in deep cloud shadow.

[REDACTED] Support area was not covered.

25X1D [REDACTED] In the support area, signs of continuing activity were apparent on this mission. Another large building had been constructed, and there may have been a foundation present for another large building in this row. Another small barracks-type structure was now visible, also. Road activity was quite obvious within the area on this mission, revealing several roads which were not apparent up until this time.

The activity located north of the support area, in the old stream course (Annotation 7), was visible and showed up as a very dark area, with several small lighter toned areas within it. The road serving this activity had been cleared of snow, and was quite apparent.

In two locations, just north of the building area and at the area of annotation 8, there are centers of rather concentrated activity which cannot be identified. There were undoubtedly several structures present within the area; however, they were not well enough defined to determine the limits, or to measure them.

A tower measuring approximately 45 feet high is located at Annotation 12. This height calculation was based on the length of the shadow cast by the tower. Nothing could be interpreted from the tower itself. Its proximity to the river might suggest that it is related to the water supply for the area.

The area at Annotation 5 again seemed active, and on this coverage, there were still several possible structures within this area, appearing as very dark, dense areas, with no sharply defined limits. Immediately west of this area at Annotation 11, the construction activity previously reported here has resulted in what appears to be a bunkered building or structure. There is a considerable amount of track activity in the snow around this area.

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This mission also indicated, for the first time, the presence of a small area of unidentified function located well east of the support area at Annotation 13. At the end of the road, serving this feature, there are several objects creating a very dark, dense image, very similar to those found at Annotation 5. These too may be structures, though a positive determination could not be made on this mission.

All of the areas of activity (Annotation 1 through 4) to the west of the bridge were visible on this mission, though they were snow-covered. Track activity was present at these areas.

Part Four---concerning the nature of the terrain surrounding Areas A, B and C.

These three areas are located along the crest of a long, low ridge which runs generally northwest-southeast at an elevation of approximately 1,000 meters. At the base of the ridge on the southwest side runs the Kurlukta River, more on the magnitude of a large stream, than a river. To the northeast, the ground rises slightly and then recedes again to another stream. Expansion of activities appears possible, probably to the southeast of Area C. The vegetation in the immediate area consists of grasses and low shrubs, with scattered stands of timber, probably coniferous.

Part Five---concerning the results of an electronics search.

A search for related electronics and/or instrumentation was conducted in an area 150 nautical miles in diameter, centered on the activity north of Chita. This search of all coverages revealed no electronics facilities which could be related to this missile activity.

3. The photo analyst on this project is [REDACTED] who may be contacted on extension 2079 should you have any further questions concerning this project. 25X1A

4. This project is considered to be complete.

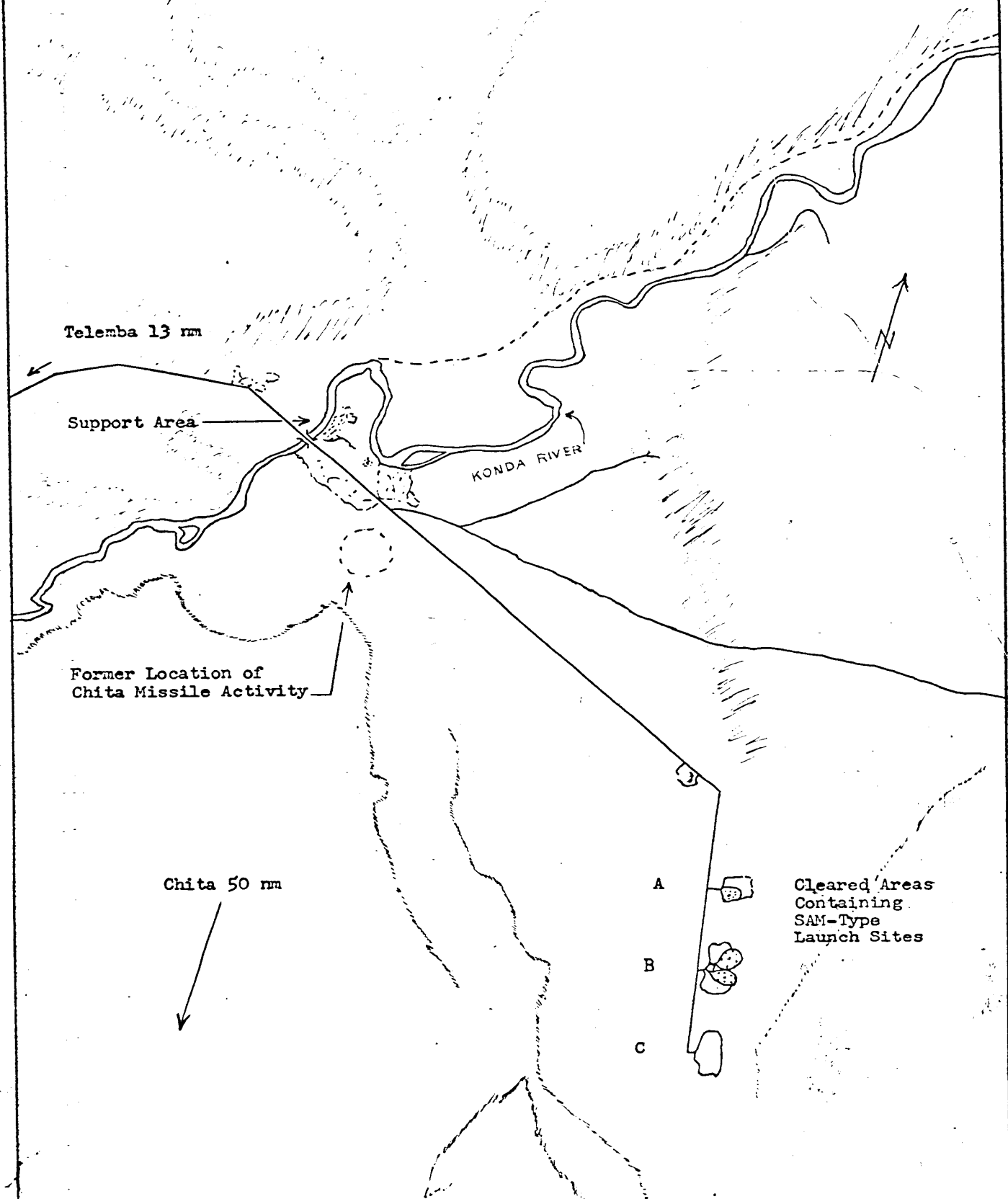
[REDACTED] 25X1A

Enclosures:

- 1 - Seven (7) line drawings
(CIA/PID/MEB-P-170/64 through
P-176/64)
- 2 - Nineteen (19) overlays

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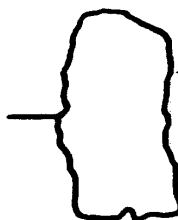
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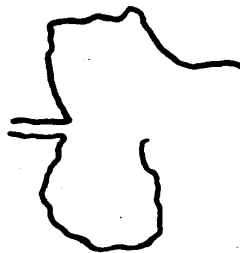
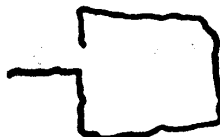
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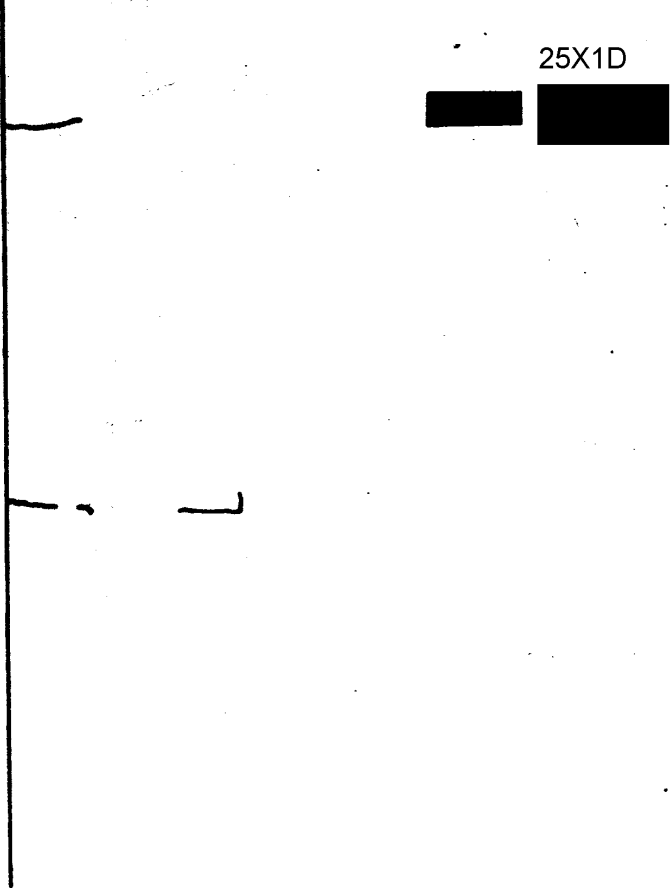


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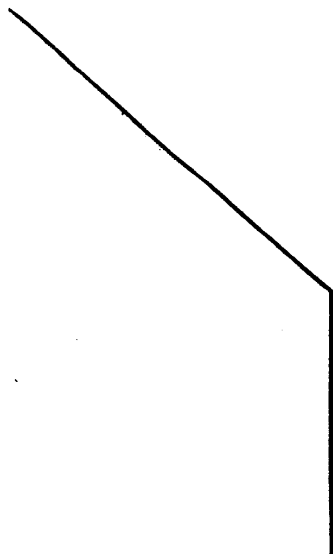


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SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE
ACTIVITY
CHITA, USSR

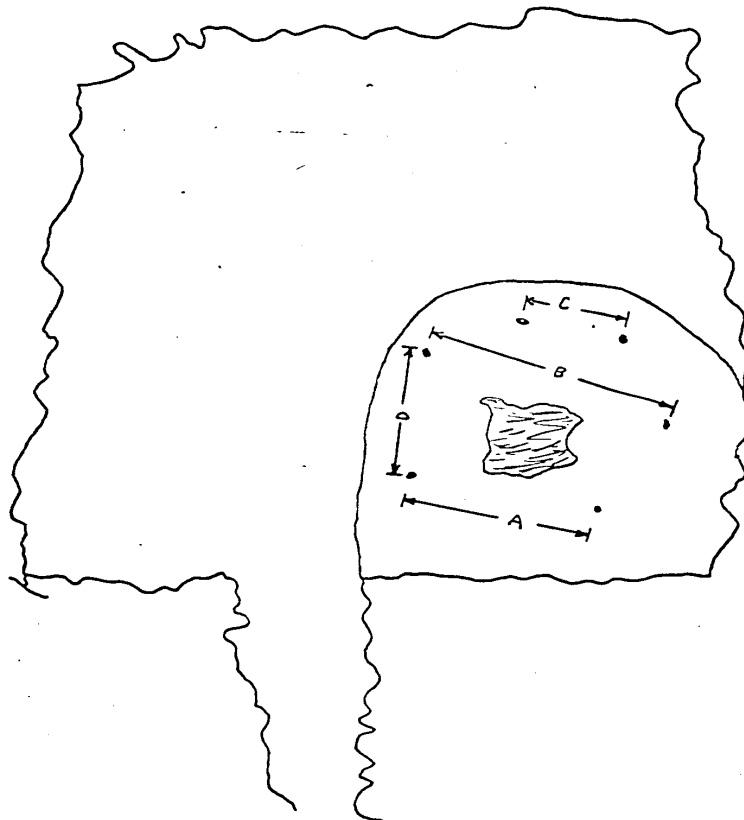
To KONDA River

Small, Probable
Support Area

Area A

Area B

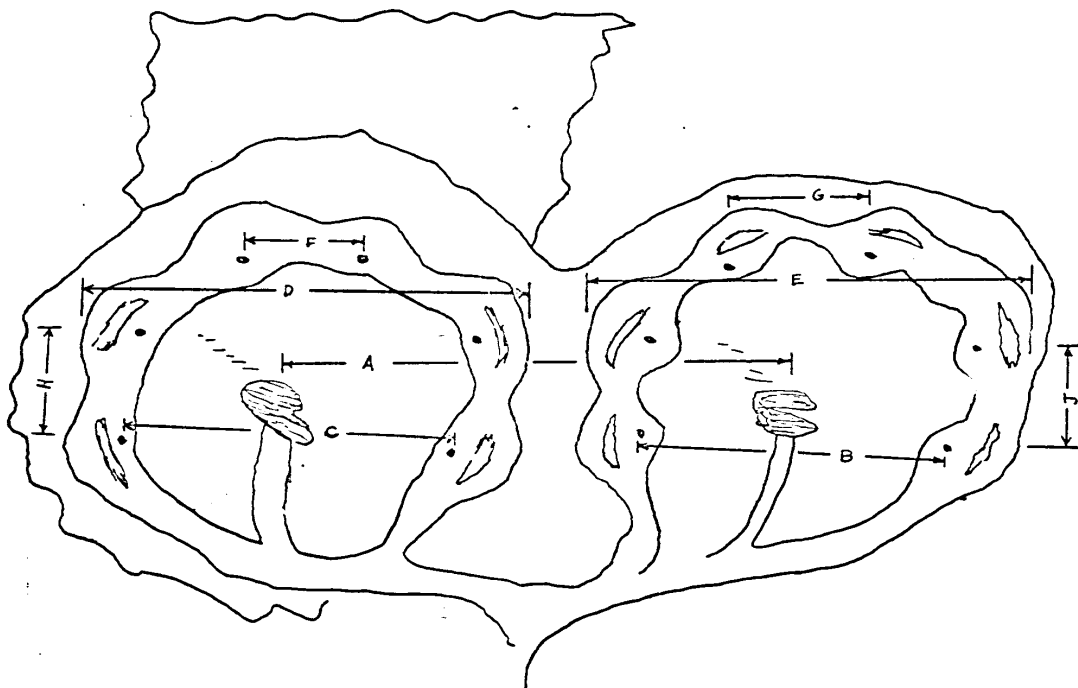
Area C



Measurements, Area A, CHITA USSR

- A. 305'
- B. 350'
- C. 165'
- D. 205'

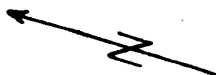
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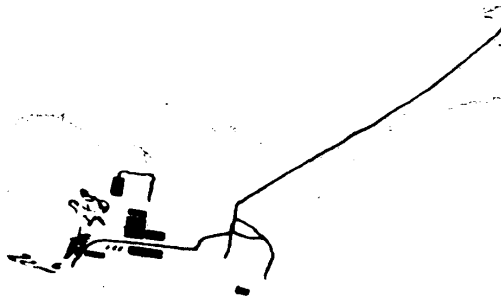
Measurements, Area B, CHITA USSR

- A. 765'
- B. 450'
- C. 450'
- D. 680'
- E. 680'
- F. 185'
- G. 190'
- H. 190'
- J. 185'

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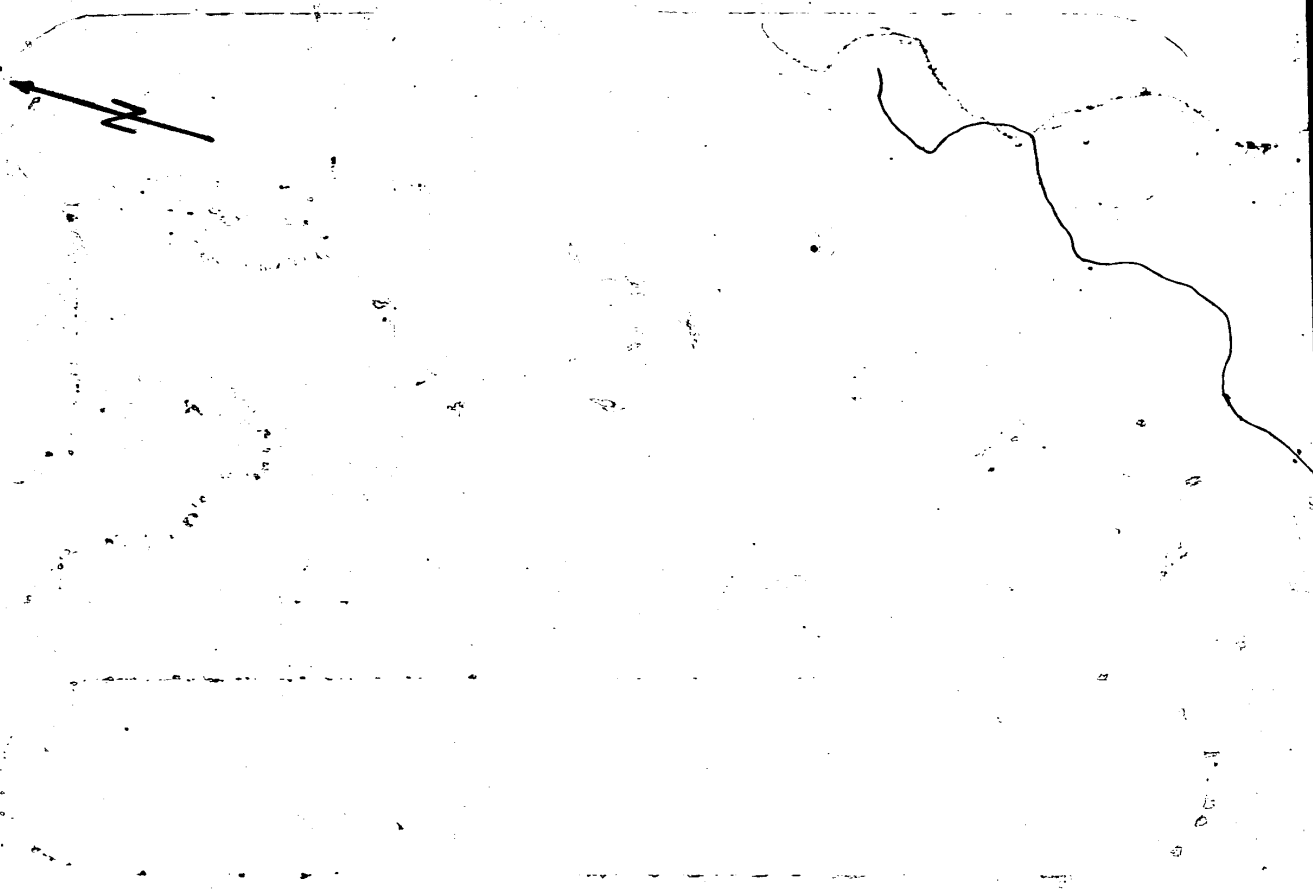
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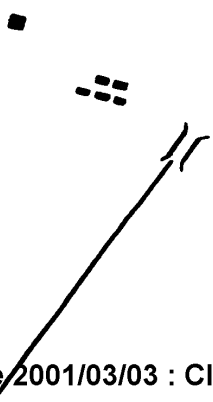


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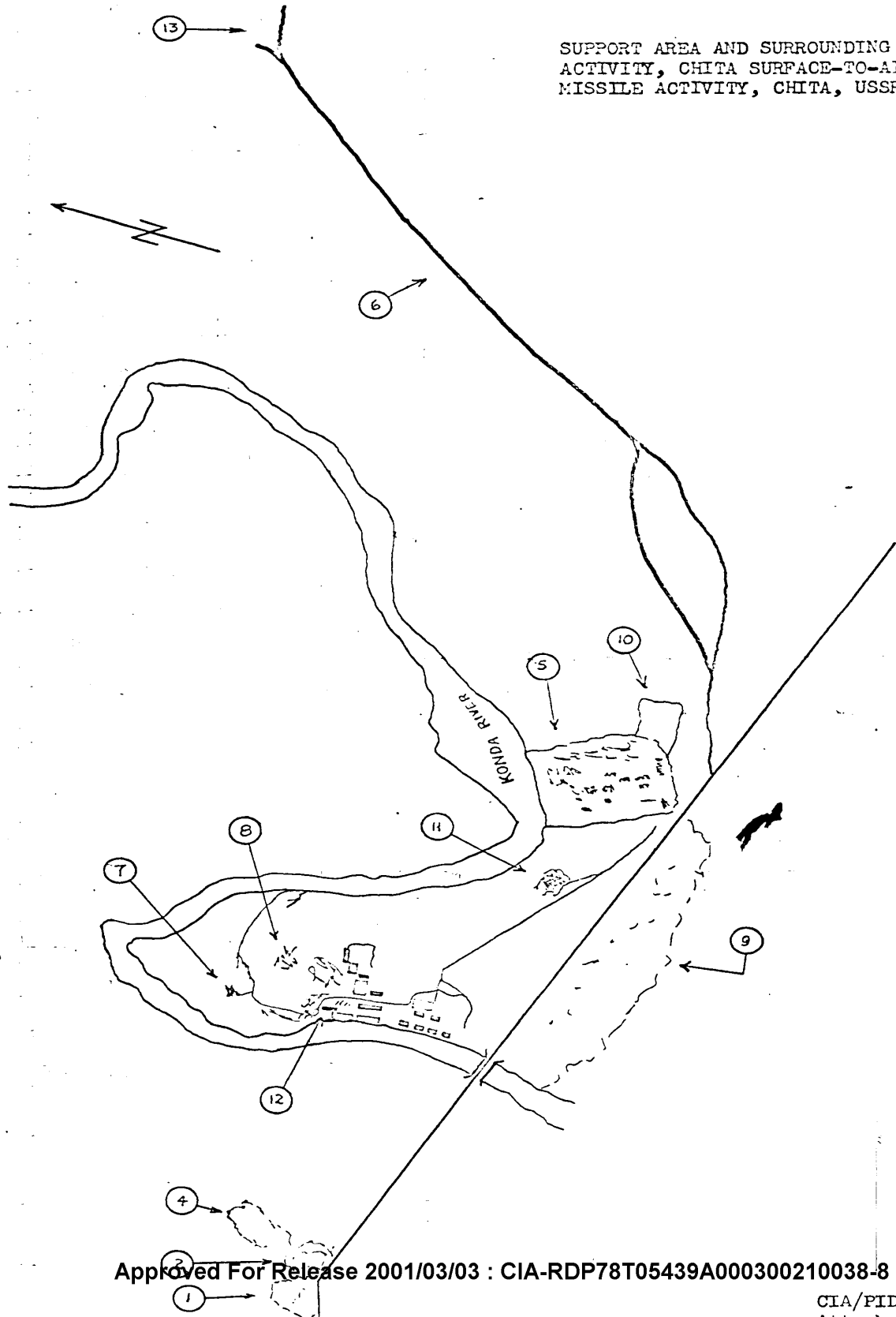
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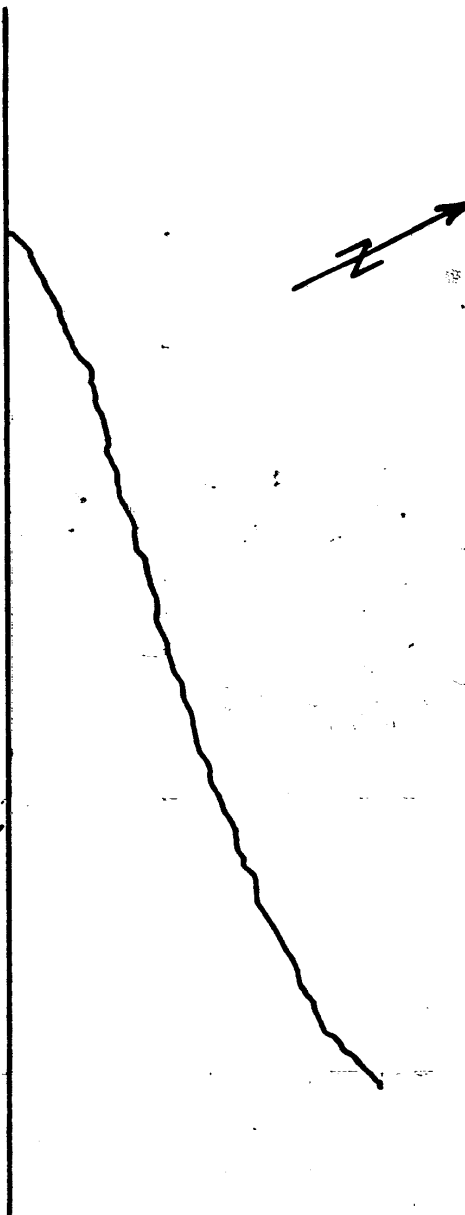
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SUPPORT AREA AND SURROUNDING
ACTIVITY, CHITA SURFACE-TO-AIR
MISSILE ACTIVITY, CHITA, USSR



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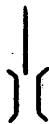
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KONDA River Bridge

Chita Area: Roads between
KONDA River
and cleared areas

Road No. 1

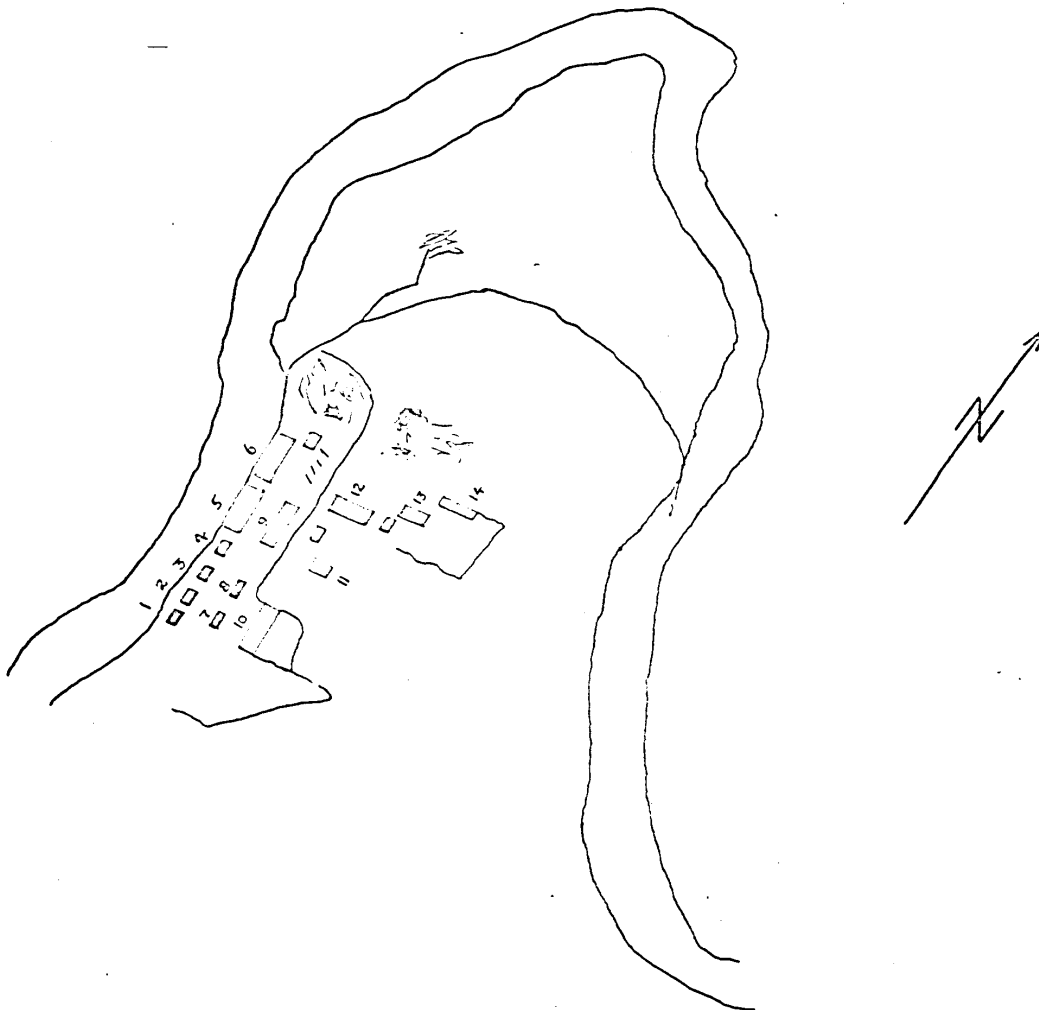
Road No. 2

To Cleared Areas

CIA/PID/MEB-P-174/64
Attachment 5 to:
SC 01428/64-KH
M/EB 76/64

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Support Area near Surface-to-Air Missile Activity
CHIAA Area, USSR

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. 70' x 35' | 8. 60' x 35' |
| 2. 70' x 35' | 9. 190' x 45' |
| 3. 70' x 35' | 10. 200' x 60' |
| 4. 70' x 35' | 11. 45' x 45' |
| 5. 175' x 60' | 12. 155' x 75' |
| 6. 175' x 60' | 13. 120' x 70' |
| 7. 70' x 45' | 14. 120' x 35' |

CIA/PID/MEB-P-176/64
Attachment 7 to:
SC 01428/64-KH
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