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TCS 1900/64-KH  
M/EB 229/64  
29 April 1964  
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DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW BY NIMA / DoD

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Forces Division, ORR

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ATTENTION: [REDACTED]

THROUGH: Chief, Requirements Branch, Reconnaissance Group, CGS

FROM: Chief, CIA/PID (NPIC)

SUBJECT: Search for Microwave Towers on the Kola Peninsula

REFERENCES: (a) Requirement C-RR-4-81,296  
(b) CIA/PID Project C 688-64

1. This memorandum is in response to your requirement dated 16 April 1964 which requests a 100 nautical mile search north and south of the Taybola IRBM Launch Complex for evidence of microwave towers similar to the one identified in this area on KEYHOLE Mission [REDACTED]. This microwave tower is located on the top of a hill near Taybola at 68-27-00N 33-23-00E and consists of two circular appearing objects placed at the top of a lattice type tower which is supported by four guy wires. Ground scars from emplace-

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2. A search north and south of Taybola was made for evidence of additional microwave towers and the results will be subsequently described. However, it should be mentioned at this point that coverage of most of the area in question is limited [REDACTED]. Because of this, the identification of microwave towers becomes very tenuous since structures of this size are visible only on the very best stereo photography and even then do not reveal many significant details. For the aforementioned reasons, such items as tower measurements and descriptions of structural components are impossible to obtain from this photography.

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3. As a result of this search the following statements can be made:

(a) A probable tower was identified on top of a hill near Monchegorsk at 67-54-00N 32-56-00E, approximately 50 nautical miles south-southwest of the tower near Taybola. It appears similar in size to the one near Taybola;

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(b) Roads lead to a number of hilltops near Kandalaksha (67-10N 32-25E); however, towers could not be identified on available photography.

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(c) To the north of Taybola there are many small items that might be microwave towers but are not identifiable as such due to the small scale of the coverage.

(d) Throughout the entire search area numerous communication facilities are visible, anyone of which might have as a component a microwave tower.

4. The appearance of two circular objects at the top of the tower near Taybola and the location of the tower near the main Murmansk-Leningrad railroad suggests that it could function as a portion of a major microwave line connecting Murmansk with other portions of the USSR.

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

6. This project is considered to be complete. [REDACTED]

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