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NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC  
INTERPRETATION CENTER

## Summary Report

# SIGNIFICANT AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY AT AKHTUBINSK FLIGHT TEST CENTER, USSR (S)

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SR-095/77

JANUARY 1978

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**DISSEMINATION CONTROL ABBREVIATIONS**

NOFORN-	Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals
NOCONTRACT-	Not Releasable to Contractors or Contractor/Consultants
PROPIN-	Caution-Proprietary Information Involved
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## **SIGNIFICANT AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY AT AKHTUBINSK FLIGHT TEST CENTER, USSR (S)**

(TSR) A BEAR C with an unidentified probable air-dropped vehicle (ADV) under the starboard wing and fuselage (Figure 1) was observed at Akhtubinsk/Vladimirovka Area Airfield [REDACTED], USSR [REDACTED]. This airfield is the auxiliary airfield supporting flight test activity at the test center.

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(TSR) The trailing edge of the probable ADV projected [REDACTED] behind the wing root trailing edge. The nose of the probable ADV was not visible; however, the portion of the probable ADV that was visible was similar in appearance to the aft portion of the probable lifting body (Figure 2) observed at the Akhtubinsk/Vladimirovka AAM Support Complex [REDACTED]

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(TSR) A high level of activity was observed in the immediate vicinity of the BEAR C. Nine pieces of ground support equipment/vehicles and at least 15 personnel were observed in the area. At least one piece of ground support equipment was connected by cable to either the BEAR C or the probable ADV.

(TSR) A modified FENCER (Figure 3) was observed in the northwest parking area at Akhtubinsk/Vladimirovka Airfield [REDACTED]. An air-launched missile was on the pylon under the glove portion of the starboard wing. The missile appears to have a tapered, probably conical, nose. Small probable forward-control surfaces and larger aft-control surfaces were observed. These control surfaces appear to be delta-shaped; however, from observations it cannot be determined if they are clipped delta. The missile fuselage appears to project behind the trailing edge of the missile's aft-control surfaces. The forward-control surfaces are obscured by slight halation and degraded photographic quality.

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(TSR) A modified FENCER with two missiles (Figure 4), one under each wing, was observed on the southeast edge-connecting link [REDACTED]. The wings were fully extended, precluding a detailed photographic and mensural analysis of the missile at that time.

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(TSR) Two modified COOT/IL-18 were observed [REDACTED]. One was on the southeast crossover link taxiway (Figure 5), and the second was parked on the northwest alert/runup apron. The modified COOT (BORT No 75481) on the alert/runup apron was also present [REDACTED]

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(TSR) The modification consists of a large, boat-shaped, probable radome mounted on the dorsal surface of the fuselage [redacted] The leading edge of the probable radome is [redacted] aft of the nose of the aircraft.

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(TSR) A COOT with this type of probable radome was observed at Ramenskoye Flight Test Center [redacted] The modified COOT at Ramenskoye Flight Test Center also had a tail extension, which the modified COOT at Akhtubinsk Flight Test Center did not have.

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