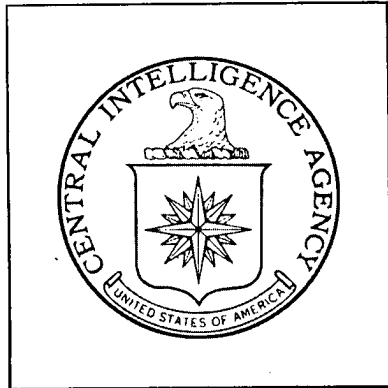


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**DIRECTORATE OF  
INTELLIGENCE**

**Industrial Facilities  
(Non-Military)**

*Basic Imagery Interpretation Report*

**Tash-arik Refinery and Oilfield**

**A-ta-ao-ti-ao-hsi-lo, China**



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**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**  
 Directorate of Intelligence  
 Imagery Analysis Service

INSTALLATION OR ACTIVITY NAME

COUNTRY

Tash-arik Refinery and Oilfield

CH

UTM COORDINATES

GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES

NA

42-09-00N 083-47-00E

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MAP REFERENCE

AMS. Series 1505, Sheet NK 44-6, 1st ed, Jul 68, Scale 1:250,000

(SECRET)

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LATEST IMAGERY USED

NEGATION DATE (If required)

NA

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**ABSTRACT**

Tash-arik Refinery and Oilfield produces and refines crude oil on a small scale, probably for local use. The products of the refinery include straight-run and probably cracked gasoline, kerosene, and diesel and fuel oils. The processing units are a crude oil distillation unit and a probable thermal cracking unit.

In February 1966, when the refinery was first seen on photography, both processing units appeared complete and support facilities were still under construction. The refinery was first seen in operation on November 1968 photography and it has been operating on all subsequent coverages through June 1971.

This report includes a photograph and line drawing of the refinery, a location map, a detailed listing of equipment and facilities with dimensions of storage tanks, and a discussion of the status of facilities.

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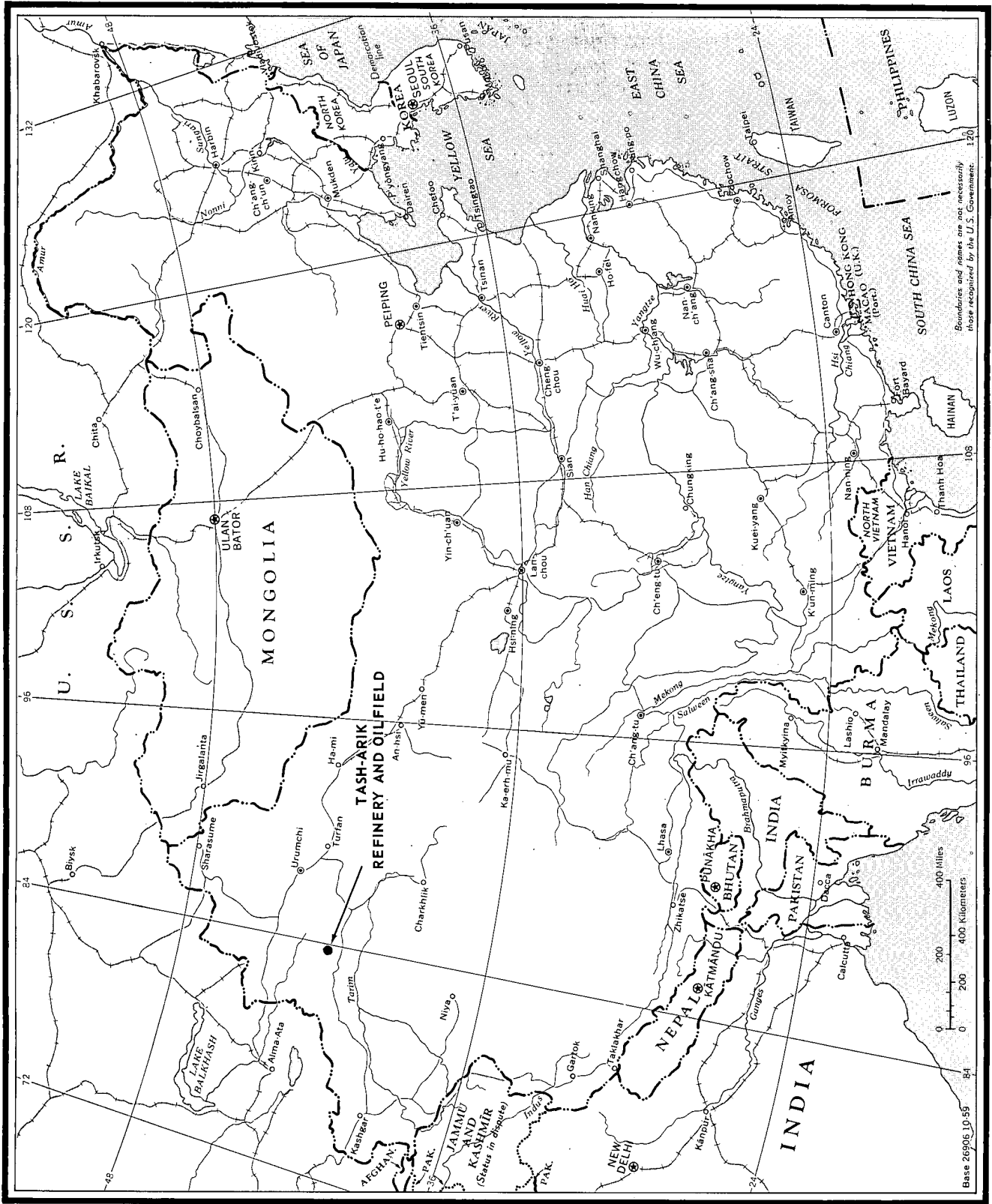


FIGURE 1. LOCATION MAP.

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## INTRODUCTION

Tash-arik Refinery and Oilfield is located about 50 nautical miles (nm) northeast of Kucha, Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region (see Figure 1). A-ta-ao-ti-ao-hsi-lo, a housing, storage, and support settlement for the refinery and oilfield, is adjacent to the refinery.

Steam is provided by a collocated steam plant. A small heat and thermal power plant is being added. The refinery is road served. The only security for the refinery is provided by its remote location.

Oil to charge the refinery comes from two small oilfields located just north and northwest of the refinery. A pipeline connects the oilfield to the northwest with the refinery.

## BASIC DESCRIPTION

The refinery and its support facilities (not including the large housing, support, and storage area) occupy about 45 acres in an area measuring 1,550 by 1,350 feet. The oil storage and processing area occupies about 15 acres (see Figures 2 and 3).

Operational Functions

This is a small refinery in size and charge capacity. The only processing units present are a crude oil distillation unit and a probable thermal cracking unit.

The products of the refinery, which are probably for local use, include straight-run and probably cracked gasoline, kerosene, and diesel and fuel oils.

Construction and Operational Status

In February 1966, when the refinery was first seen on photography, both processing units appeared complete but the refinery was not in operation. The steam plant was under construction and 70 percent of the storage tanks were in place. Construction had not been started on the pipeline to the oilfield or on the loading rack. In the housing, support and storage area adjacent to the refinery, about 30 percent of the present buildings were in place.

The refinery was first seen operating on photography of November 1968. The steam plant, the pipeline to the oilfield, the loading rack, most of the storage tanks, housing, support, and storage facilities were present.

No changes were observed on photography of December 1969. On the next available photography, in June 1971, a heat and thermal power plant was nearing completion. It was probably constructed to serve the housing, support, and storage area since no processing units had been added to the refinery.

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The refinery was operating on all coverages from November 1968 through June 1971.

Facilities and Equipment

Table 1 lists the functional areas and equipment within the refinery.

Table 1. Equipment and Facilities at Tash-arik Refinery  
(Keyed to Figure 3)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Functional Description</u>	<u>Equipment and Facilities</u>
A	Water Storage	2 Support buildings 1 Large water storage basin
B	Storage	5 Support buildings 9 Cylindrical storage tanks 5 45-foot-diameter 3 35-foot-diameter 1 20-foot-diameter
C	Crude Oil Distillation	1 Unit with 1 atmospheric column 1 other column 2 clusters of processing equipment 1 furnace 1 pump building 10 cylindrical storage tanks 8 15-foot-diameter 2 10-foot-diameter 4 Support buildings
D	Probable Thermal Cracking	1 Unit with 4 columns (one is probably for vapor recovery) 2 clusters of processing equipment 1 furnace 3 horizontal storage tanks, 15 feet long 3 Support buildings

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<u>Area</u>	<u>Functional Description</u>	<u>Equipment and Facilities</u>
E	Storage and Shipping	1 Truck loading rack 2 Support buildings 18 Cylindrical storage tanks 2 45-foot-diameter 5 40-foot-diameter 6 35-foot-diameter 4 20-foot-diameter 1 10-foot-diameter 1 Tank base
F	Support	23 Support buildings

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REFERENCES

Map

AMS. Series 1505, Sheet 44-6, 1st edition, July 1968, Scale 1:250,000  
(SECRET, [redacted])

Requirement

COMIREX N06  
Support Number 428906

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