

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY USSR (Far East) REPORT [redacted]

SUBJECT Soviet Naval Bases and Posts in the Southern Kurile Islands DATE DISTR. 13 July 1955

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. 50X1-HUM

1. A Soviet naval base, housing 20 small boats of 200 tons each, is located on the southeastern coast of Shikotan Island in the Kuriles.
2. There are woodworking, mechanical, and radio shops, as well as a radio station, located in Shikotan Bay. Boats are repaired here, primarily in the winter, and 1,000 tons of fuel can be stored at this location. Three large hunter (sic) boats operate from this base.¹ Each ship has three motors, can make more than 30 km per hour, and is equipped with both radio and radar. The radar has an operational radius of 30 kilometers.²
3. A "major" Soviet naval base is located on Kunashiri Island at approximately N 44-06, E 145-45. An airfield with propeller-driven and jet aircraft (type not identified) is located near the naval base.³
4. Soviet Navy military posts (sic, possibly Marine Border Guard posts), connected by radio communications, have been established in the Kuriles for the purpose of maintaining a watch over the surrounding sea and air approaches. These posts are located on Kunashiri Island, at approximately N 44-06, E 145-48; on Shikotan Island, at approximately N 43-45, E 146-48; on Shibotsu Island, at approximately N 43-30, E 146-06; and at approximately N 42-48, E 146-30, and N 43-36, E 146-54.⁴

5. Soviet frontier naval division [redacted] is based on Shikotan Island. 50X1-HUM

Comments:

1. "Large hunter" [redacted] probably means BOLSHOY OKHOTNIK type. 50X1-HUM
2. It is not clear from the original whether the locations given in Paragraph 1 and 2 are identical.
3. [redacted] may be referring to Furukamappu Airfield (N 44-02, E 145-52). 50X1-HUM
4. These coordinates are given as received. The latter two readings are points located at sea off Hokkaido and Shikotan Islands.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

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