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Imagery analysis report

**39th Army, Shenyang Military  
Region, China**



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**39TH ARMY, SHENYANG MILITARY REGION, CHINA**

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**ABSTRACT**

- 1. [ ] This report discusses the status of the 39th Army in the Shenyang Military Region (MR), China, as of [ ] It describes physical and functional changes in the facilities and order-of-battle changes and fluctuations for the period [ ] The functions and locations of these units were derived primarily from KEYHOLE imagery. [ ]
- 2. [ ] The 39th Army has been highly active in training during the reporting period as evidenced by the amount of track marks on the wheeled- and tracked-vehicle training courses throughout the army area. The small-arms firing ranges, infantry training areas, and tank subcaliber ranges have also been used extensively during the period, suggesting that all elements of the army are being trained simultaneously.
- 3. (U) This report contains two location maps, one organizational chart, one table, and nine annotated photographs.

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**INTRODUCTION**

- 4. [ ] The 39th Army is one of six main force armies in the Shenyang MR and has the same general organizational structure as the ground forces units throughout China—the rule of three. Three infantry divisions are subordinate to the 39th Army.
- 5. [ ] The 39th Army is in southern Liaoning Province (Figure 1) and protects the area from the ingress of unfriendly forces into China. The 39th Army Headquarters and its subordinate units are at Yingkou Xian. The three infantry divisions subordinate to the 39th Army are tactically deployed two forward and one to the rear, based on the perceived threat from the east or southeast. The two forward divisions, the 115th and 116th, are at Gaixian and Haicheng, respectively. The rear division, the 117th, is at Shishan. All of the units of the 39th Army are situated near rail transportation (Figure 2) which gives this army a high degree of mobility and flexibility.
- 6. [ ] The 39th Army, previously the 2nd Column of the Northeast China People's Liberation Army, was organized in March 1947 from troops who moved into northeast China from Shandong in 1945. At the time of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) reorganization in November 1948, the 2nd Column and its subordinate 4th, 5th, and 6th Divisions were redesignated the 39th Army with its organic 115th, 116th, and 117th Infantry Divisions, respectively.<sup>1</sup>
- 7. [ ] The 39th was one of the first Chinese armies to fight UN forces in Korea during the first campaign. It had many successes from October 1950 to November 1952, then returned to the Yingkou/-Dashiqiao area in March 1953 where it has remained. Some time prior to February 1971, the 117th Division moved from Fuxian to Shishan. This was the previous location of the 119th Inf<sup>n</sup>try Division, 40th Army.<sup>1</sup>
- 8. [ ] The organizational chart (Figure 3) is based on analysis from photographic intelligence; the numbered unit designators used in Table 1 were acquired from referenced documents 2 and 3.

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**BASIC DESCRIPTION**

- 9. [ ] The 39th Army comprises the 39th Army Headquarters, the 115th Infantry Division (inf div), the 116th Inf Div, and the 117th Inf Div (Figure 3).

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**39th Army Headquarters and Subordinate Units**

- 10. [ ] The 39th Army Headquarters at Yingkou Xian consists of an army headquarters unit, an antiaircraft artillery (AAA) regiment, an engineer battalion, and an artillery regiment.
- 11. (S/D) The headquarters is housed at Yingkou Xian Headquarters Army and Barracks AL-5. No physical or functional changes have been observed here during the reporting period.
- 12. (S/D) The subordinate AAA regiment is housed at Yingkou Xian Army Barracks AL-6. There has been no physical or functional change to the facility during the reporting period. AAA order of battle (OB) has been observed here in the past when the AAA was parked in the open; however, there is sufficient vehicle storage space to house the organic equipment of this unit.
- 13. (S/D) One AAA battery (six AA guns) has been frequently seen parked in area B1 of Yingkou Xian Army Barracks West AL-2. These weapons are probably associated with the AAA regiment normally housed at Yingkou Xian Army Barracks AL-6 .
- 14. (S/D) The engineer battalion subordinate to the army headquarters is housed at Yingkou Xian Army Barracks AL-8. This facility has not changed functionally during the reporting period, but area A1

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FIGURE 1. LOCATION OF SHENYANG MILITARY REGION AND THE 39TH ARMY, CHINA

of the facility on the National Basic Reference Graphic<sup>4</sup> (NBRG) should be expanded to include two small areas approximately 0.5 nautical miles (nm) east of the existing facility (Figure 4). One area probably houses the support elements for the engineer battalion and contains five barracks, three quarters, one messhall, two vehicle storage buildings, 16 arch-roofed vehicle storage bays, and five storage/support buildings. The second area, probably housing the POL elements of the engineer battalion, is immediately southwest of the first area and contains two probable barracks, one messhall, two probable vehicle/equipment storage buildings, nine support buildings, and four large POL storage tanks. The addition of the two aforementioned areas to the existing facilities now incorporated under the NBRG will provide sufficient vehicle storage space to house all the elements of the battalion. It also provides the unit with sufficient POL storage to support unit operations.

15. [ ] The probable 142nd Artillery Regiment subordinate to the army headquarters is housed at Yingkou Xian Army Barracks AL-3. There have been no physical or functional changes at this facility during the reporting period. The OB count observed here has been low, but the facility contains sufficient vehicle and equipment storage space to house the organic assets.

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16. [ ] This facility is assessed in the latest NBRG<sup>4</sup> as housing the howitzer and mortar battalions from the 395th Artillery Regiment, 115th Inf Div, housed at Yingkou Xian Army Barracks Southeast AL-1; however, the low counts of OB at Yingkou Xian Army Barracks AL-3 do not substantiate this assessment.

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**115th Infantry Division**

17. [ ] The 115th Inf Div is in Yingkou Xian, Gaixian, and Maoji Tun. The units are adjacent to the rail line traversing north and south through the Liaotung Peninsula. This division contains a headquarters and its support units, three infantry regiments, one artillery regiment, and one tank regiment (Figure 3).

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Table 1.

## 39th Army Units Derived from All-Source Information

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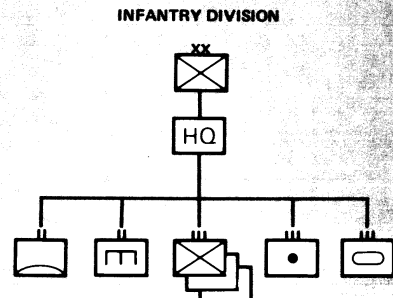
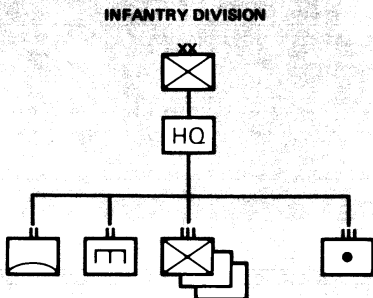
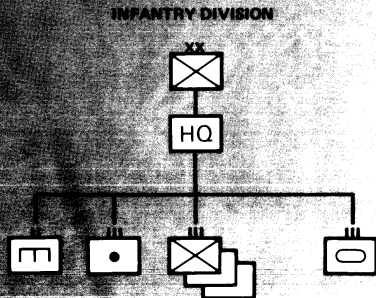
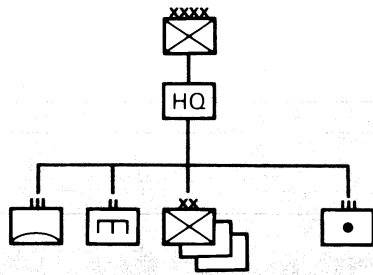
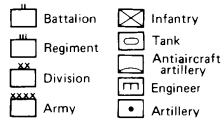
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Unit	Installation Name	Coordinates	BE No	Remarks*
<b>39th Army HQ and Support Units</b>				
Hq 39th Army	Yingkou Xian Hq Army and Bks AL-5	40-38-14N 122-30-16E		
Unid AAA regt	Yingkou Xian Army Bks AL-6	40-38-00N 122-27-30E		When OB was last seen here on [REDACTED] it consisted of 20 AA guns, 9 prob ZPU-2/4 AAHMG, 3 poss FIRE CAN, 2 poss PUAZO-6, and 3 poss cargo trailers
Unid engr bn	Yingkou Xian Army Bks AL-8	40-38-45N 122-31-15E		See text para 14 and Fig 4
Prob 142nd Arty Regt	Yingkou Xian Army Bks AL-3	40-37-39N 122-33-01E		See text para 15 and 16
<b>115th Infantry Division</b>				
Hq, 115th Inf Div	Gaixian Hq Inf Div and Army Bks AL-1	40-24-28N 122-21-10E		
Unid engr bn				18 ponton sections and 18 cargo trucks last here on [REDACTED] see text para 18 and Fig 5
343rd Inf Regt	Maoji Tun Army Bks AL-1	40-45-10N 122-37-02E		
344th Inf Regt	Yingkou Xian Army Bks W AL-2	40-38-01N 122-27-59E		See text para 20 and Fig 6
345th Inf Regt	Gaixian Army Bks NW AL-2	40-26-04N 122-19-53E		
395th Arty Regt	Yingkou Xian Army Bks SE AL-1	40-37-26N 122-31-14E		When OB was last seen here on [REDACTED] it consisted of 3 AA guns, 2 poss FA pieces, 1 cargo truck, and 2 pieces of equipment; see text para 22, and Fig 7
Prob 320th Tank Regt	Yingkou Xian Army Bks AL-7	40-34-18N 122-30-16E		
<b>116th Infantry Division</b>				
Hq 116th Inf Div	Haicheng Hq Inf Div & Army Bks NE AL-1	40-51-40N 122-44-52E		
Unid AAA bn				When OB was last seen here on [REDACTED] it consisted of 18 37mm AA guns, 2 van trucks, 27 cargo trucks, 1 bus, and 1 vehicle
Unid engr bn				
346th Inf Regt	Haicheng Army Bks North AL-3	40-52-40N 122-44-30E		
347th Inf Regt	Haicheng Army Bks S AL-5	40-47-50N 122-45-17E		
348th Inf Regt	Haicheng Army Bks SW AL-6	40-48-05N 122-40-51E		See text para 28 and Fig 8
396th Arty Regt	Haicheng Army Bks E AL-2	40-50-57N 122-45-52E		When OB was last seen here on [REDACTED] it consisted of 15 prob FA pieces, 9 cargo trucks, and 3 probable derelict tanks; see text para 29 and Fig 9
<b>117th Infantry Division</b>				
Hq 117th Inf Div	Shishan Hq Inf Div and Army Bks AL-1	47-17-17N 121-34-01E		
Unid AAA bn				See text para 31 and Fig 10
Unid engr bn				
Probable 322nd Tank Regt				
349th Inf Regt	Shishan Army Bks SW AL-2	41-15-12N 121-28-44E		
350th Inf Regt	Luyang Army Bks SW AL-2	41-20-40N 121-35-11E		See text para 33 and Fig 11
351st Inf Regt	Luyang Army Bks NW AL-1	41-23-38N 121-38-07E		
397th Arty Regt	Shishan Army Bks SW AL-3	41-14-34N 121-30-06E		See text para 35 and Fig 12

## \*KEY

AAHMG - Antiaircraft Heavy Machine Gun  
 PUAZO-6 - AAA, Fire Control Director  
 FIRE CAN - AAA, Fire Control Radar  
 FA - Field Artillery  
 ZPU-2/4 - Antiaircraft Heavy Machine Gun





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FIGURE 3. 39TH ARMY UNITS CONFIRMED FROM IMAGERY ANALYSIS

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18. [ ] The 115th Division Headquarters and the engineer battalion subordinate to the division headquarters are housed at Gaixian Headquarters Infantry Division and Army Barracks AL-1 (Figure 5). The division headquarters portion (Area A1) of the installation remains physically and functionally unchanged; however, in the engineer portion (Area B1) of the facility three vehicle storage buildings containing a total of 38 arch-roofed storage bays have been added since the latest NBRG<sup>4</sup> was published. These new buildings are adjacent to the hospital in the northeast corner of the installation and should be incorporated into the engineer battalion area (B1). This added vehicle storage space gives this facility the capability of housing all of its organic equipment under cover. 25X1
19. [ ] The 343rd Infantry Regiment is housed at Maoji Tun Army Barracks AL-1. There have been no physical or functional changes at the facility during the reporting period. 25X1
20. [ ] The 344th Infantry Regiment is housed at Yingkou Xian Army Barracks West AL-2. The facility has remained unchanged physically and functionally during the reporting period; but, Area B1, which is now separately delineated by the NBRG<sup>4</sup>, and assessed to contain an AAA battalion, should be incorporated into Area A1 as the ammunition/munitions storage area (Figure 6). The AAA battalion frequently seen parked in the small field adjacent to this area is probably from the AAA regiment housed at Yingkou Xian Army Barracks AL-6. Additionally, extensive infantry training and antipersonnel trenches are immediately west and south of this facility. 25X1
21. [ ] The 345th Infantry Regiment is housed at Gaixian Army Barracks Northwest AL-2. No physical or functional changes have been observed during the reporting period. 25X1
22. [ ] The 395th Artillery Regiment is housed at Yingkou Xian Army Barracks Southeast AL-1 (Figure 7). The facility has not changed functionally during the reporting period. Physical changes, however, were extensive and the facility now contains seven barracks, three messhalls, seven vehicle/equipment storage buildings, and four support buildings. The facility appears to have the capability of housing its organic weapons under cover; however, no field artillery has been identified here since [ ] 25X1  
[ ] The NBRG<sup>4</sup> assesses Yingkou Xian Army Barracks AL-3 as housing the mortar and howitzer battalions of the artillery regiment, but the low counts of OB at AL-3 do not substantiate this assessment. The two installations may, however, share the same maintenance facilities. 25X1
23. [ ] The probable 320th Tank Regiment subordinate to the 115th Inf Div is housed at Yingkou Xian Army Barracks AL-7. There have been no physical or functional changes at this facility during the reporting period. Only ten armored vehicles have been seen here during the reporting period, but the facility has the storage capacity to house all of its organic equipment. 25X1

### 116th Infantry Division

24. [ ] The 116th Infantry Division is at Haicheng. Like the 115th Inf Div, it is along the rail line traversing north and south through the Liaotung Peninsula. The division contains a division headquarters and its support units, three infantry regiments, and one artillery regiment (Figure 3). 25X1
25. (S/D) The division headquarters unit and the supporting AAA and engineer battalions are housed at Haicheng Headquarters Infantry Division and Army Barracks Northeast AL-1. There have been no physical or functional changes at this facility during the reporting period. 25X1
26. [ ] The 346th Infantry Regiment is housed at Haicheng Army Barracks North AL-3. There have been no physical or functional changes at the facility during the reporting period. 25X1
27. [ ] The 347th Infantry Regiment is housed at Haicheng Army Barracks South AL-5. No physical or functional changes have been observed here during the reporting period. 25X1
28. [ ] The 348th Infantry Regiment is housed at Haicheng Army Barracks Southwest AL-6 (Figure 8). This installation has been reconstructed since the NBRG<sup>4</sup> was published on [ ] 25X1  
The new facility contains 50 barracks, two C-shaped probable administration buildings, one auditorium, 15 messhalls, 18 storage/support buildings, three vehicle storage buildings containing 45 arch-roofed sections, four vehicle/equipment storage buildings, an exercise/parade field containing two dual-lane obstacle courses, seven dependents quarters buildings, and 27 livestock pens. The function of the facility remains unchanged. 25X1
29. [ ] The 396th Artillery Regiment and the 321st Tank Regiment (Areas A1 and B1, respectively, of the NBRG<sup>4</sup>), both subordinate to the 116th Infantry Division, are assessed by the NBRG as being housed at Haicheng Army Barracks East AL-2. Analysis of available imagery covering this installation indicates the presence of the 396th Artillery Regiment only. No armor or track activity has been observed within the installation since [ ] Three derelict tanks remain present; however, they are probably being used for training. Additionally, field artillery has been seen throughout the entire facility, indicating that the old armor facilities are being utilized for weapon maintenance. For these reasons, this installation is assessed as not containing any armor or armor-related functions. Area B1 should be deleted as a separate area from the NBRG and the entire facility marked as A1 housing the 396th Artillery Regiment (Figure 9). 25X1

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**117th Infantry Division**

30. [REDACTED] The 117th Infantry Division is at Shishan. The units are situated along the rail line between Shenyang and Jinzhou. The division contains a division headquarters and its support units, three infantry regiments, one artillery regiment, and one tank regiment (Figure 3). 25X1

31. [REDACTED] The infantry division headquarters unit, the engineer battalion, the AAA battalion, and the probable 322nd Tank Regiment are housed at Shishan Headquarters Infantry Division and Army Barracks AL-1 (Figure 10). Since the NBRG<sup>4</sup> was published, extensive physical changes have been observed within the installation. The division headquarters unit area (A1) and the AAA battalion area (A2) remain virtually unchanged; however, extensive renovations have been made within the other unit areas of this installation. In the engineer battalion area (A3), 35 additional arch-roofed vehicle storage bays have been added and foundations for four additional buildings have been laid in the ammunition/munitions storage area. In the tank regiment area (B1), six barracks have been newly constructed or renovated and the subcaliber range adjacent to the maintenance and storage facility has been refurbished. Extensive facilities for antitank, antipersonnel, infantry, and small-arms training are throughout the installation. No functional changes within unit areas in this facility have been observed. 25X1

32. [REDACTED] The 349th Infantry Regiment is housed at Shishan Army Barracks Southwest AL-2. There have been no physical or functional changes at the facility during the reporting period. 25X1

33. [REDACTED] The 350th Infantry Regiment is housed at Luyang Army Barracks Southwest AL-2. No physical or functional changes have been observed at this facility during the reporting period, but the regimental rear-support units were omitted when the NBRG<sup>4</sup> was published. The boundaries of A1 should be extended to include the area adjacent to and immediately north-northeast of the installation (Figure 11). 25X1

34. [REDACTED] The 351st Infantry Regiment is housed at Luyang Army Barracks Northwest AL-1. No physical or functional changes have been observed here during the reporting period. 25X1

35. [REDACTED] The 397th Artillery Regiment is housed at Shishan Army Barracks Southwest AL-3. The facility encompasses two areas (A1 and A2; Figure 1f). No physical or functional changes at Area A1 have been observed during the reporting period. Extensive changes have been observed in Area A2. The area now contains eight barracks, one administration building, four messhalls, four storage/support buildings, one maintenance building, one workshop, three vehicle storage buildings containing a total of 47 arch-roofed vehicle storage bays, and a separately secured dependent housing area containing eight dependents housing buildings and six support buildings. The NBRG<sup>4</sup> assesses this area as containing a mortar battalion only. However, when last observed, both mortars and howitzers were seen in this area, suggesting both types of weapons are housed here. 25X1

**IMAGERY ANALYST'S COMMENTS**

36. [REDACTED] In general, few changes have been observed in the units or facilities comprised in the 39th Army. The predominant changes observed have been of a physical rather than of a functional nature. 25X1

37. (S/D) Each of the artillery regiments subordinate to the infantry divisions appears to contain two howitzer battalions and one mortar battalion. There is no evidence that either the army- or division-level artillery regiments in this army have received the truck-mounted BM-14/17/19 multiple-rocket launchers.

38. (S/D) None of the AAA battalions subordinate to the infantry divisions has been identified. Although one AAA battery was frequently seen near Yingkou Xian Army Barracks AL-2, NPIC assesses this battery as being an integral part of the army-level AAA regiment housed at Yingkou Xian Army Barracks AL-6.

39. [REDACTED] No tank regiment was observed with the 116th Infantry Division. 25X1

40. [REDACTED] Although small amounts of equipment were seen in open storage throughout the 39th Army, this army appears to have the bulk of its organic equipment. The army is highly active as evidenced by the extensive training activity observed and the continued upgrading of many of the facilities throughout the army area. 25X1

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(TSR) All applicable KEYHOLE imagery acquired through [redacted] was used in the preparation of this report. 25X1

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(S) Comments and queries regarding this report are welcome. They may be directed to [redacted] Asian Forces Division, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, [redacted] 25X1  
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(S) This report has been coordinated with members of the Shenyang subgroup of the interagency China Ground Forces Working Group.

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