

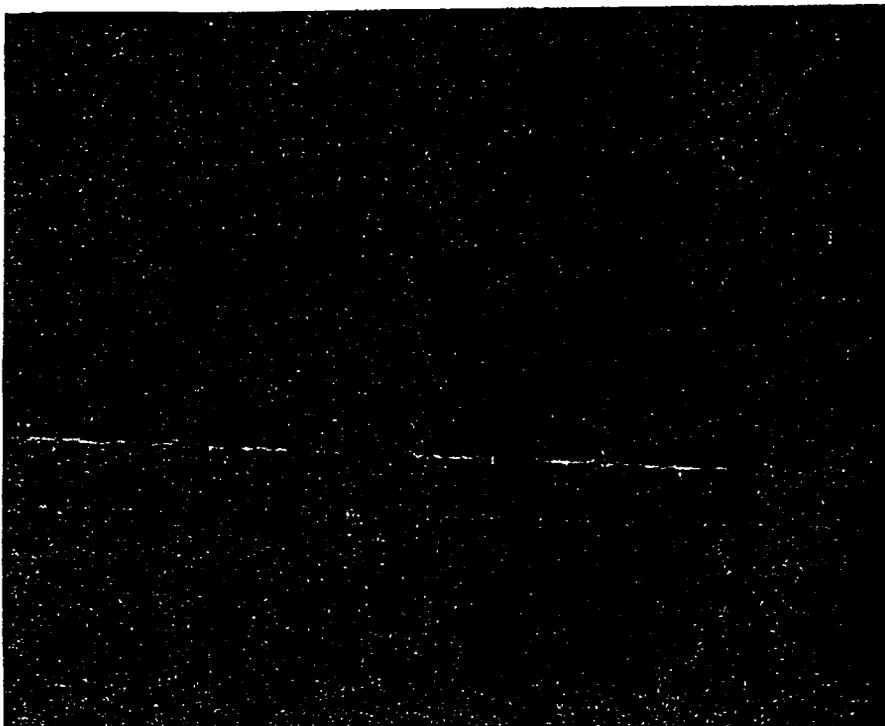
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CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY REVIEW

Office of Current Intelligence
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



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PART III

PATTERNS AND PERSPECTIVESPOSSIBLE SOVIET PREPARATIONS FOR FLIGHT TESTING
AN INTERCONTINENTAL BALLISTIC MISSILE OR AN EARTH SATELLITE

The USSR may be preparing to test an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) or to launch an earth satellite within the year. At two locations 3,500 nautical miles apart--the Novokazalinsk/Dzhusaly area in the Kazakh SSR and Klyuchi on the Kamchatka Peninsula--high-priority construction for the Soviet Ministry of Defense has been under way since 1955.

both have been associated with the Soviet guided missile program. Stations on Kamchatka could be used for monitoring the terminal phase of an intercontinental ballistic missile test flight or for observation and tracking of an earth satellite launched from the Novokazalinsk/Dzhusaly area.

Construction Activity

In mid-1955 units of the Chief Directorate of Special Construction of the Ministry of Defense began interrelated high-priority construction projects in the Novokazalinsk/Dzhusaly area and at Klyuchi. This chief directorate is concerned with construction work for the Soviet defense establishment, indicating that the ultimate user of these facilities will be some segment of the Soviet military.

The area encompassed by the construction project in Kazakhstan appears to extend northwest from Kzyl Orda through Tyura-Tam and Dzhusaly to Novokazalinsk. The center of the area is about 150 nautical miles southeast of the far range (650 nautical miles) impact area of the Kapustin Yar missile test range. Up to ten "sites" and at least 13 structures were planned for this project, which required shipments of large quantities of pipe, cement, and

other heavy construction materials. Other facilities under construction included a spur rail line from the Uralsk-Tashkent line, possibly a concrete motor road, and a narrow gauge railroad.

The Klyuchi project, which began in the summer of 1955, apparently extends considerably beyond Klyuchi itself since materials consigned to this activity have been off-loaded at Uka and Ozernaya, as well as at Ust Kamchatsk, the principal port for Klyuchi. Klyuchi itself lies in inhospitable marshy country at the foot of an active volcano, the highest mountain--16,000 feet--in the Soviet Far East. Several other active volcanoes are in the vicinity. Periodic inundations of lava and boiling mud and precipitation of volcanic ash--4.1 pounds per square foot on Klyuchi on 30 March 1956--and the rigorous climate combine to make this region an unlikely location for large-scale activity.

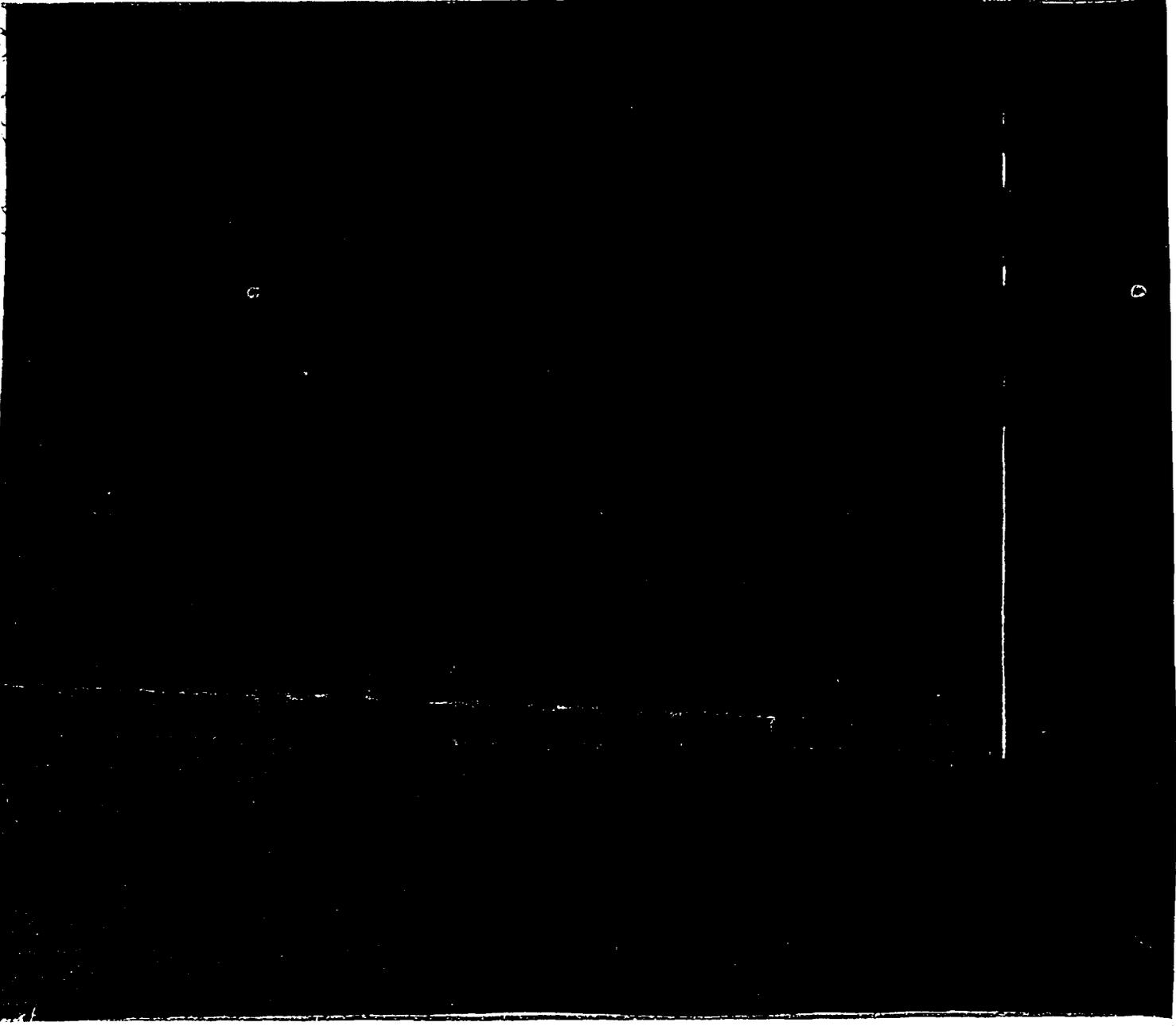
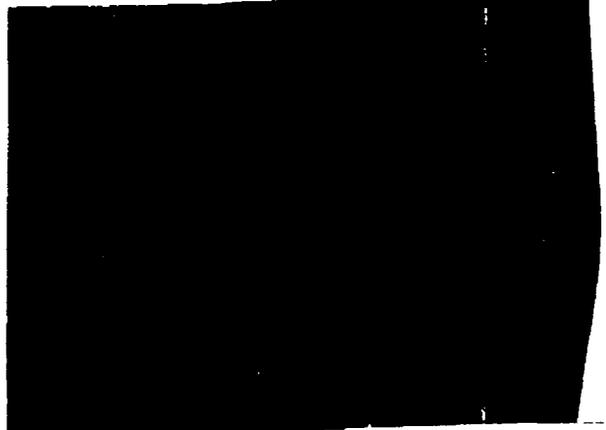
The types and amounts of cargo and the number of workers shipped into Klyuchi during the past two years indicate permanent construction of considerable magnitude. Between April and August 1956 almost two thirds of the known total of 33,000 tons of cargo off-loaded at Ust Kamchatsk was destined for the Special Construction Unit at Klyuchi.

Another special construction project has been noted at Bukhta Ugolnaya on the east coast of Magadan Oblast. This project has been associated with the guided missile program, but

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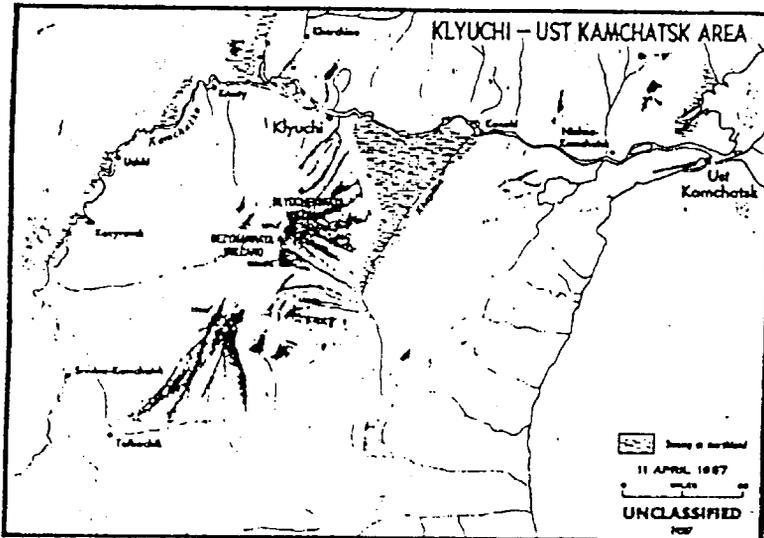
only tenuously linked to the other two construction projects. The association and function of a Bukhta Ugolnaya facility in the launching of an ICBM from the Novokazalinsk/Dzhusaly area toward Kamchatka cannot be explained; facilities there could serve, however, in tracking an earth satellite from that area.





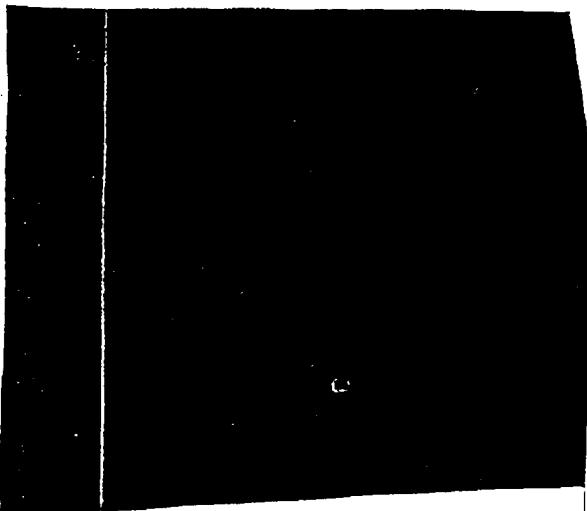
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is the location of installations engaged in the development and production of fire-control equipment which has application to missile tracking and guidance work, while at Bol'shevo is a research institute believed to be involved in the Soviet ballistic missile program.

Until recently, however, there was little evidence

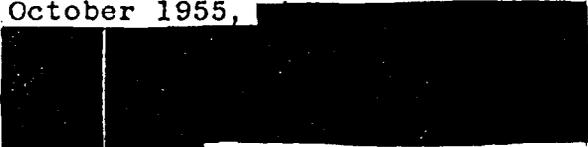


to associate the Novokazalinsk/Dzhusaly project with the guided-missile program.



Connection With Guided Missiles

The special project site at Klyuchi was possibly associated with the Soviet guided missile program as early as October 1955,



the Klyuchi project has purchased goods and/or services from an organization at Kapustin Yar and has possibly employed personnel formerly located at Kapustin Yar.



Kuntsevo



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[REDACTED]

included pressures and temperatures up to 25,000 meters (82,000 feet), considerably higher than altitudes normally reported from Kapustin Yar. Weather information of the type reported is necessary for successful launchings of either an ICBM or an earth satellite.

activity in the Dzhuzaly area, together with such factors as physical location and transportation facilities, suggest that the construction project may be a new rangehead. Such an installation could be used in the testing of either an ICBM or an earth satellite.

The preponderantly military associations of the special construction projects suggest that these preparations are for a military purpose such as the test of an ICBM. However, there is also evidence that these developments may be related to Soviet plans to launch an earth satellite during the International Geophysical Year (IGY).

According to Moscow TASS broadcasts, a series of communications tests involving IGY stations was carried out in February and March 1957 to determine their readiness to participate in observations related to ionospheric and other research planned for the IGY. IGY stations have been listed at Kzyl Orda and at Petropavlovsk, Kamchatka.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] referred to one Bulatov-- possibly the N. D. Bulatov listed as a member of the ionosphere research group of the Soviet committee for the IGY. There is also some possibility that this activity in the Far East may represent the construction of a launching site or sites at Klyuchi.

[REDACTED]

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