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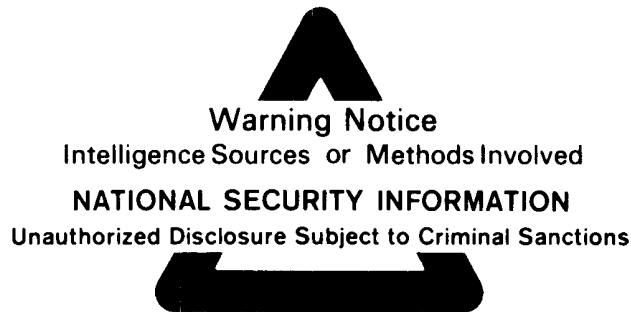
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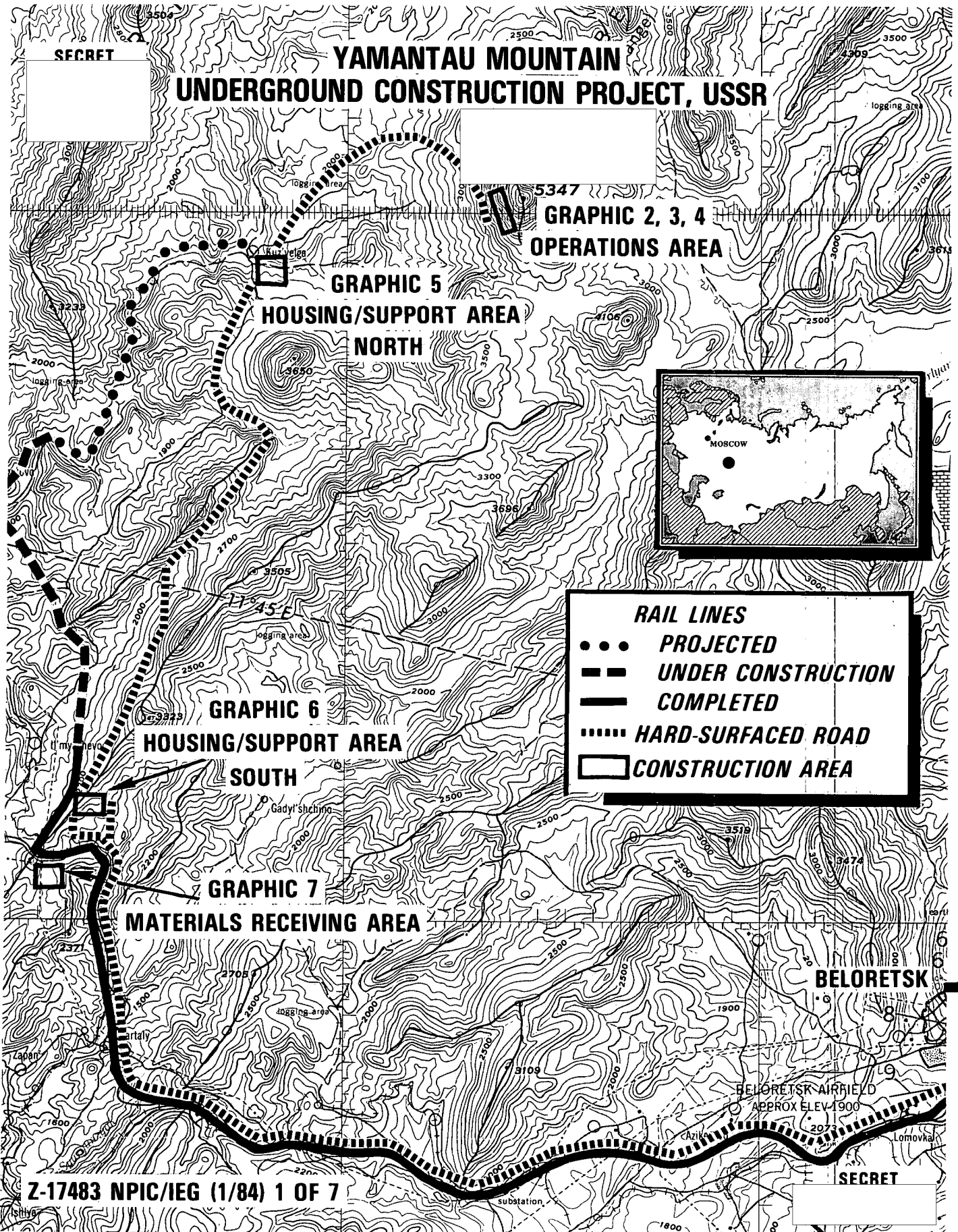


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NPIC/IEG (1/84)

10 JANUARY 1984

YAMANTAU MOUNTAIN UNDERGROUND CONSTRUCTION PROJECT, USSR (SWN)

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1. SIGNIFICANCE: AN EXTENSIVE UNDERGROUND CONSTRUCTION PROJECT HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED ON THE SOUTHEASTERN SLOPE OF THE HIGHEST PEAK IN THE SOUTHERN URAL MOUNTAINS. (SWN)
2. REMARKS: YAMANTAU MOUNTAIN UNDERGROUND CONSTRUCTION PROJECT IS AN EXTENSIVE UNDERTAKING CONSISTING OF AN OPERATIONS AREA, TWO HOUSING/SUPPORT AREAS, AND A LARGE MATERIALS RECEIVING AREA. IT IS ON THE SOUTHEAST SLOPE OF YAMANTAU MOUNTAIN IN THE SOUTHERN URAL MOUNTAINS, APPROXIMATELY 650 NM EAST OF MOSCOW AND 20 NM NORTHEAST OF BELORETSK (GRAPHIC 1). YAMANTAU MOUNTAIN IS THE HIGHEST PEAK IN THE SOUTHERN URALS, WITH AN ELEVATION OF 1,630 METERS, AND IS COMPOSED OF HARD CRYSTALLINE ROCK. THE FUNCTION OF THE PROJECT, WHICH DOES NOT RESEMBLE A MINING OPERATION, HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED. (SWN)

THE PROJECT WAS IN A VERY EARLY STAGE OF CONSTRUCTION IN MARCH 1978. ON SUBSEQUENT COVERAGE IN MAY 1979 AND JULY 1980 CLOUD COVER PRECLUDED THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE NUMBER OF SITES AND THEIR INTERCONNECTION. IMAGERY [REDACTED] REVEALED THAT THE PROJECT EXTENDS FOR ALMOST 20 NM OVER RUGGED TERRAIN AND IS INTERCONNECTED BY A NEW ROAD SYSTEM WHICH IS BEING PAVED. A NEW RAIL LINE IS BEING CONSTRUCTED FROM THE MATERIALS RECEIVING AREA TOWARDS THE NORTH SUPPORT AREA. THIS LINE WILL BE APPROXIMATELY 30 NM LONG WHEN COMPLETED AND WILL REQUIRE AT LEAST SIX BRIDGES. BOTH THE NEW ROAD AND RAIL LINES JOIN RECENTLY UPGRADED EXISTING ROADS AND RAILS THAT CONNECT THE MATERIALS RECEIVING AREA WITH THE TOWN OF BELORETSK, 30 NM TO THE SOUTHEAST. IN ADDITION, A RECENTLY CONSTRUCTED HIGH VOLTAGE TRANSMISSION LINE PROVIDES THE PROJECT WITH ELECTRICAL POWER. (SWN)

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THE YAMANTAU MOUNTAIN OPERATIONS AREA IS APPROXIMATELY 20 NM NORTHWEST OF BELORETSK AT 54-15-30N 058-04-10E (GRAPHIC 2). THE AREA CONSISTS OF SEVEN SEPARATE AREAS ON THE SIDE OF YAMANTAU MOUNTAIN. INCLUDED ARE AT LEAST ONE PROBABLE VERTICAL SHAFT BUILDING (GRAPHIC 3), ONE PROBABLE HORIZONTAL TUNNEL

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ADIT (GRAPHIC 4), A LARGE EXPLOSIVES STORAGE AREA, AND AN ELECTRICAL POWER SUBSTATION. THE PROBABLE VERTICAL SHAFT BUILDING IS SITUATED AT AN ELEVATION OF APPROXIMATELY 1,400 METERS AND THE PROBABLE HORIZONTAL ADIT BUILDING IS AT APPROXIMATELY 1,100 METERS. THE TWO BUILDINGS ARE ALIGNED ON THE SLOPE OF THE MOUNTAIN. NO MULTIPLE SECURITY FENCES ARE EVIDENT. (SWN)

THE YAMANTAU MOUNTAIN HOUSING/SUPPORT AREA NORTH IS APPROXIMATELY 5 NM WEST-SOUTHWEST OF THE OPERATIONS AREA AT 54-14-10N 057-56-30E (GRAPHIC 5). THE AREA CONSISTS OF A MAIN HOUSING AREA, THREE OTHER CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, AND CLEARINGS FOR AT LEAST THREE MORE AREAS OF CONSTRUCTION. THE MAIN HOUSING AREA CONSISTS OF NUMEROUS LARGE APARTMENT/ADMINISTRATION-TYPE BUILDINGS IN VARIOUS STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION, NUMEROUS OTHER MULTISTORY STRUCTURES AND SMALLER SUPPORT STRUCTURES. THIS FACILITY HAS BEEN CONSTRUCTED NEXT TO THE VILLAGE OF KUZYELGA. (SWN)

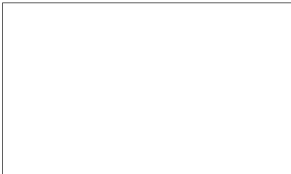
THE YAMANTAU MOUNTAIN HOUSING/SUPPORT AREA SOUTH IS APPROXIMATELY 15 NM SOUTHEAST OF THE OPERATIONS AREA AT 54-03-25N 057-51-30E (GRAPHIC 6). THE FACILITY CONSISTS OF A MAIN HOUSING/ADMINISTRATION AREA, A RAIL SIDING, A MOTOR POOL, A POL STORAGE AREA, AND SEVERAL SURROUNDING CONSTRUCTION SUPPORT AREAS. THE MAIN HOUSING/ADMINISTRATION AREA CONTAINS NUMEROUS APARTMENT/ADMINISTRATION-TYPE BUILDINGS IN VARIOUS STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION, NUMEROUS SMALLER BUILDINGS, ONE PROBABLE HOSPITAL, AND ONE PROBABLE SCHOOL. (SWN)

THE YAMANTAU MOUNTAIN MATERIALS RECEIVING AREA IS APPROXIMATELY 18 NM SOUTHEAST OF THE OPERATIONS AREA AT 54-01-15N 057-49-29E (GRAPHIC 7). THE FACILITY CONSISTS OF A NEW LARGE CANDELABRA-TYPE RAIL OFF-LOADING AREA, A PREVIOUSLY EXISTING RAIL SIDING, A NEW RAIL SPUR WITH AN ADJACENT PAVED MATERIALS APRON, AND A SUPPORT AREA. THE NEW RAIL OFF-LOADING AREA CONSISTS OF AT LEAST FIVE RAIL SPURS, TWO MATERIALS STORAGE AREAS, AND A POL STORAGE AREA. (SWN)



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COORDINATES 54-14-00N 058-00-00E (S)  
COORDINATES 54-15-30N 058-04-10E (S)  
COORDINATES 54-14-10N 057-56-30E (S)  
COORDINATES 54-03-25N 057-51-30E (S)  
COORDINATES 54-01-15N 057-49-20E (S)

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