

CHINA: PEKING APPARENTLY HAS UNDER WAY A PROGRAM TO DEVELOP PHOTORECONNAISSANCE SATELLITES.

THE CHINESE HAVE MADE AT LEAST FOUR ATTEMPTS IN THE PAST YEAR TO BUY EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY FOR AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY 50X1
50X1 THEY HAVE PURCHASED EQUIPMENT AND FILM 50X1 . SOME OF THE EQUIPMENT THE CHINESE HAVE SOUGHT HAS BEEN OF A QUALITY AND TYPE REQUIRED FOR PHOTORECONNAISSANCE FROM SATELLITES. A CHINESE 50X1 SEEKING STEREO PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY 50X1
50X1 REFERRED TO SUCH TECHNOLOGY AS AN "ABSOLUTE NECESSITY FOR CHINA'S SPACE PROGRAM." 50X1 INDICATED THAT CHINA WISHES TO BUILD ITS OWN PLANT TO MANUFACTURE AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT.

CHINA HAS ONE, AND POSSIBLY TWO, LAUNCH VEHICLES THAT COULD ORBIT PHOTORECONNAISSANCE SATELLITES BUT HAS NOT YET DEMONSTRATED GUIDANCE AND CONTROL TECHNOLOGY ADEQUATE FOR SUCH MISSIONS. CHINA'S LARGE, DEVELOPMENTAL ICBM, THE SCT-3, HAS SUFFICIENT THRUST TO PLACE ABOUT 5,000 POUNDS INTO A 100-NM CIRCULAR POLAR ORBIT. SIMILAR ORBITS WOULD BE SUITABLE FOR PHOTORECONNAISSANCE. ADDING A THIRD STAGE TO THE SCT-3 WOULD ENABLE IT TO PLACE SEVERAL THOUSAND MORE POUNDS INTO THE SAME ORBIT. THE VEHICLE USED TO LAUNCH CHINA'S TWO SATELLITES, A THREE-STAGE VERSION OF THE CSS-X-3, MAY BE CAPABLE OF ORBITING SOME TYPES OF RUDIMENTARY PHOTORECONNAISSANCE SATELLITES, INCLUDING THOSE USED FOR MAPPING. ANALYSIS OF THIS VEHICLE SUGGESTS IT COULD PLACE ABOUT 1,600 POUNDS INTO A 100-NM POLAR ORBIT.

THE CHINESE HAVE CONSTRUCTED OVER 30 INSTRUMENTATION FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, SOME OF THEM APPARENTLY INTENDED TO SUPPORT SPACE OPERATIONS. NONE OF THE FACILITIES SEEMS TO BE UNIQUELY DEDICATED TO PHOTORECONNAISSANCE MISSIONS, BUT SEVERAL TRACKING STATIONS APPROPRIATE FOR SUCH SUPPORT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED.

(continued)

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E.O. 13526, sec. 5.3(b)(3)
ISCAP Appeal No. 2018-074, doc. 3; Decl. Date: Nov. 6, 2023

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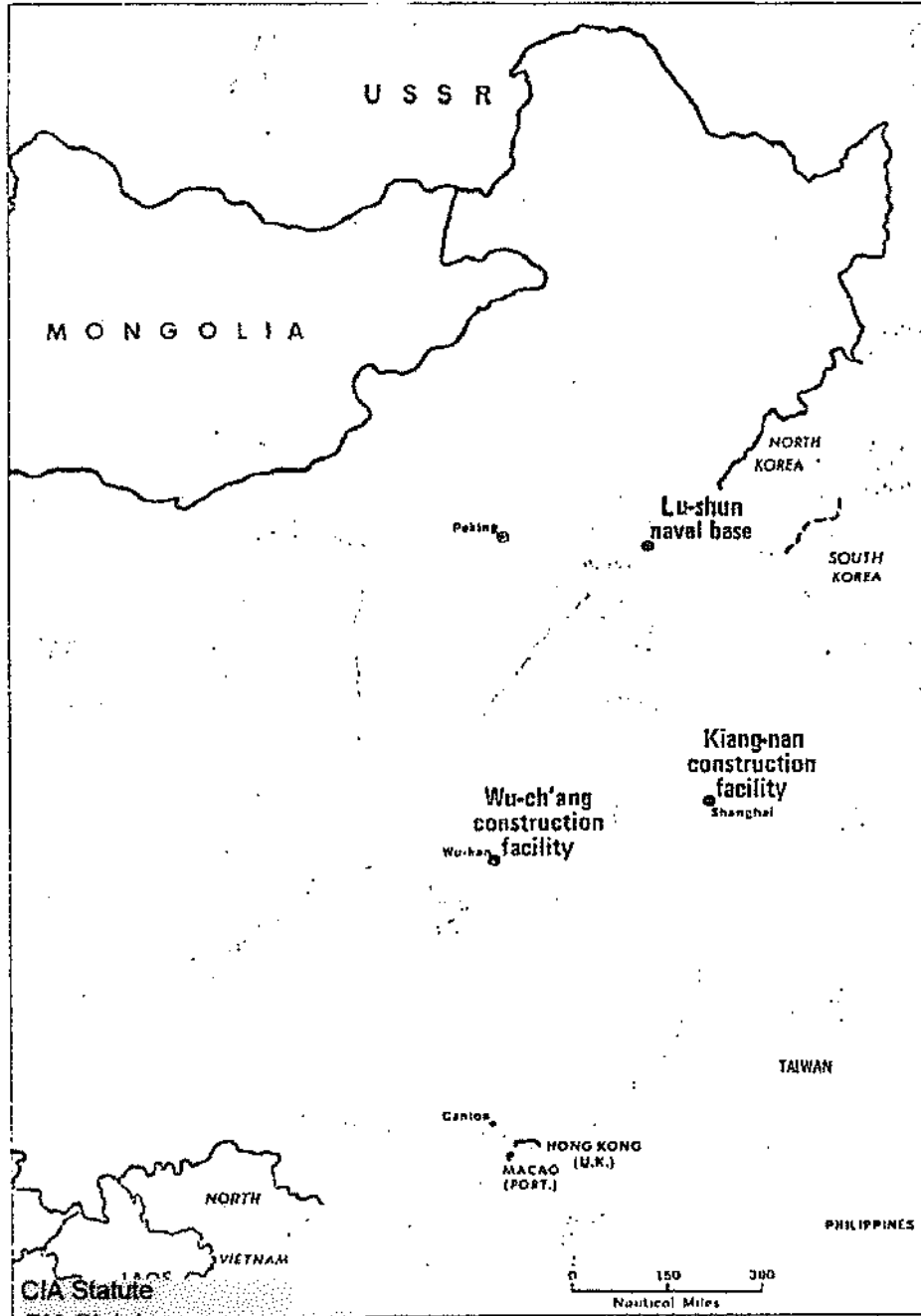
THE PRIMARY MISSION OF CHINA'S RECONNAISSANCE
SATELLITES WOULD BE TO COLLECT MILITARY INTELLIGENCE,
ESPECIALLY TARGETING AND GEODETIC DATA FOR ITS STRA-
TEGIC MISSILE FORCE. CIA Statute
CIA Statute

4 Oct 72

Central Intelligence Bulletin

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Ming-Class Submarine Facilities in China



CIA Statute
CIA Statute