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DIRECTORATE OF
INTELLIGENCE

Imagery Analysis Service Notes

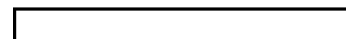
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Directorate of Intelligence
Imagery Analysis Service

IMAGERY ANALYSIS SERVICE NOTES NO. 24/70

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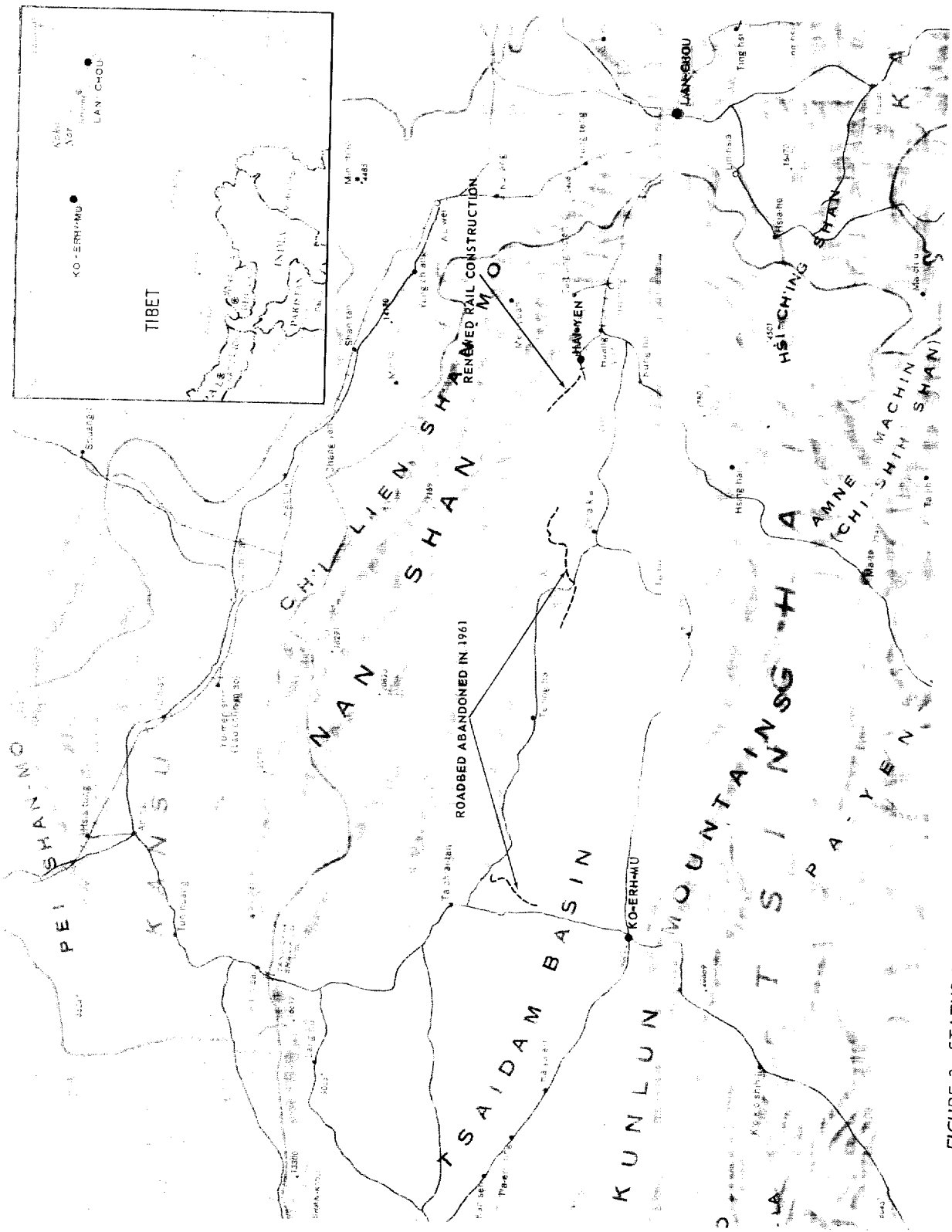


FIGURE 2. STATUS OF RAIL CONSTRUCTION BETWEEN LAN-CHOU AND THE TSAIDAM BASIN, CHINA.

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[Redacted]

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CHINA

Renewed Rail Construction Toward the Tsaidam Basin in Western China

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Recent photography shows that after about nine years of inactivity the Chinese have renewed construction on a rail line between Lan-chou and the Tsaidam Basin. On large-scale imagery of [Redacted] roadbed construction had been resumed, work was under way on culverts and bridges, and construction camps had been set up for approximately 10 nm northwest of the existing portion of the line near Hai-yen. There is no recent large-scale coverage beyond this point, but small-scale imagery of [Redacted] showed new camps up to 25 nm northwest of the existing railhead.

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Work was initially begun on this rail line [Redacted] When it was abandoned [Redacted] three segments of roadbed had been started: the one near Hai-yen and two segments farther west toward the Tsaidam Basin (see Figure 2). There was no sign of renewed rail construction on the latter two segments when they were last seen in [Redacted]

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In [Redacted] no major installations were seen in the general area which the new rail line will serve. It may be intended to provide access to minerals in the Tsaidam Basin and to improve logistical lines to Tibet.

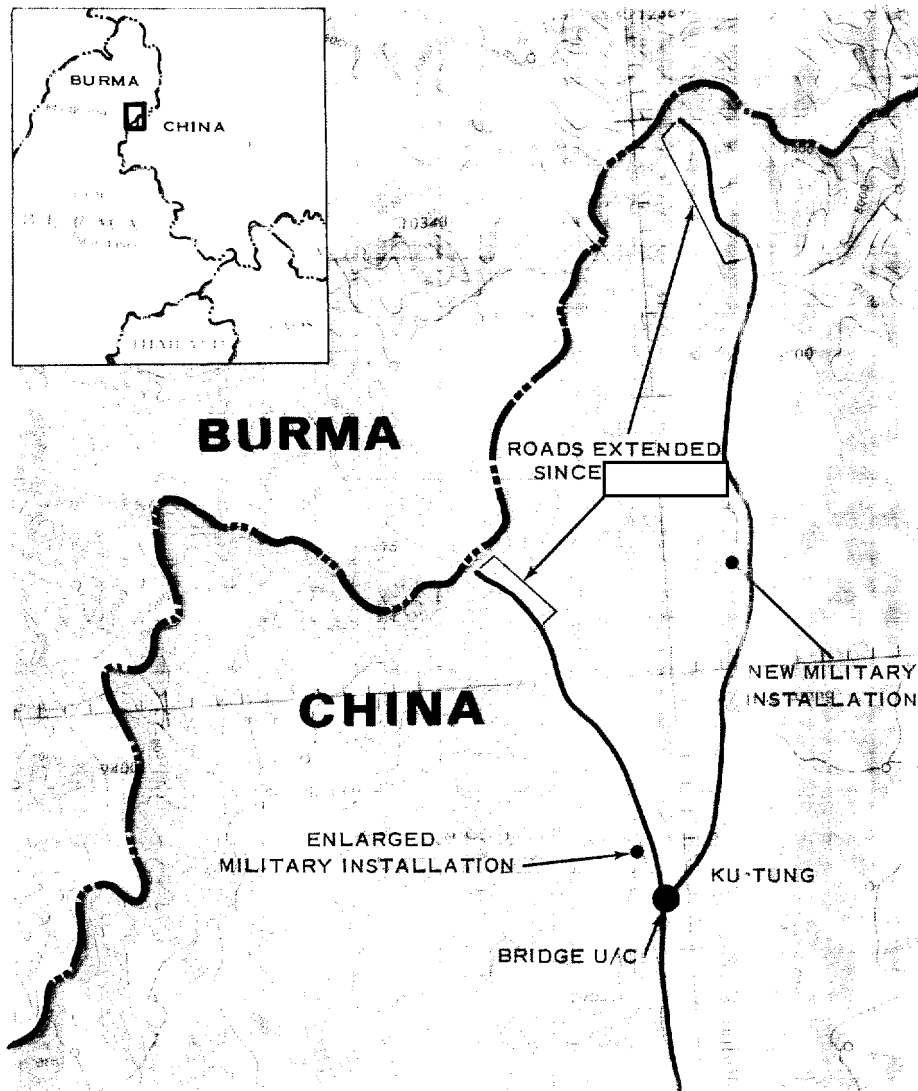
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FIGURE 3. LOCATION MAP.

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[Redacted]

CHINA

Continuing Chinese Construction Along the Sino-Burma Border

The Chinese are continuing to improve their lines of communication into the border area adjacent to Burma. Satellite photography of [Redacted] reveals that a 325-foot dual-lane highway bridge is being constructed near the town of Ku-tung, 15 nm from the Burma border. This bridge will either replace or supplement the adjacent single-lane masonry bridge currently in use. 25X1D

Two roads have been extended from the Ku-tung area to the Burma border within the past three years (see Figure 3). Also, during this period, approximately 35 buildings have been added to a military installation near Ku-tung and a small military camp of about ten structures has been constructed farther north. Reports from various sources indicate that the major portion of the insurgent Kachin Independence Army (KIA) is located in the adjacent Burma border area.

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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