



The President's Daily Brief

4 October 1972

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~~Top Secret~~

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

The Soviets have dismantled two ABM launchers at a launch site at Sary Shagan that had been used to test two new ABMs. Satellite photography showed the launch site intact [redacted] with an ABM canister in one of the two launchers. [redacted] the canister had been removed, both launchers had been dismantled, and the turntables and vehicle guide rails had been bulldozed over.

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Each of the two new ABMs had been tested from this site five times, but we have not detected any firings since last December.

Under the terms of the ABM treaty, the Soviets are allowed 15 ABM launchers at their R&D test facilities. The Soviets had 17 completed launchers at Sary Shagan. With these two dismantled, they are within the treaty limit.

The Soviets have been working on as many as five additional launchers at various times. None has been completed, and at least two may have been abandoned.