

North Korea Imagery Analysis of Camp 14

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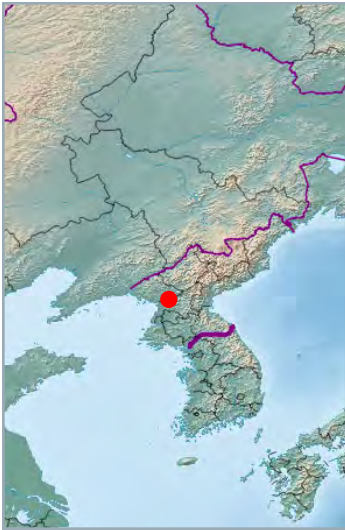
THE COMMITTEE FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS IN NORTH KOREA
북한인권위원회



ALLSOURCE ANALYSIS



North Korea: Imagery Analysis of Camp 14



Location:

Kaech'ŏn-si and Pukch'ang-gun,
P'yŏngan-namdo

Coordinates:

39.557817, 126.011499

Date of Report:

November 24, 2015

Date of Imagery:

December 2002-December
2014

Size of Facility:

153 sq km (59 sq mi)
14 by 21 km (8.7 by 13.0 mi)

Overview of North Korea's political prison camp system

Despite North Korea's adamant denial that political prison camps exist—most recently again in a letter dated February 5, 2015, addressed by the North Korean permanent representative to the UN Office in Geneva to the UN Human Rights Council¹—research based on interviews and satellite imagery reveals a shocking and detailed operation of a vast system of arbitrary and extra-judicial, unlawful detention. In its findings released in February 2014, the United Nations Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in North Korea (COI) determined that “crimes against humanity have been committed in North Korea, pursuant to policies established at the highest level of the State.” Many of these crimes against humanity take place against persons detained in political and other prison camps—persons who the Commission determined are among the “primary targets of a systematic and widespread attack” by the North Korean regime—including: murder, enslavement, torture, imprisonment, rape, forced abortions and other sexual violence, persecution on political

¹ NK Letter dated 5 February 2015,] and at the Nineteenth Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in Geneva.

² NK National Report; for the UPR report, see [Report of the Working Group](#).

grounds, and the enforced disappearance of persons. According to the COI:

In the political prison camps of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the inmate population has been gradually eliminated through deliberate starvation, forced labour, executions, torture, rape and the denial of reproductive rights enforced through punishment, forced abortion and infanticide. The commission estimates that hundreds of thousands of political prisoners have perished in these camps over the past five decades. The unspeakable atrocities that are being committed against inmates of the *kwan-li-so* political prison camps resemble the horrors of camps that totalitarian States established during the twentieth century.³

Through this vast system of unlawful imprisonment, the North Korean regime isolates, banishes, punishes and executes those suspected of being disloyal to the regime. They are deemed “wrong-thinkers,” “wrong-doers,” or are seen as having acquired “wrong-knowledge” or have engaged in “wrong-associations.” Up

³ UN Human Rights Council, “Report of the commission of inquiry on human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,” A/HRC/25/63, 17 February 2013, para. 60, available at http://hrnk.org/uploads/pdfs/A_HRC_25_63.pdf.

to 120,000 are known to be held in the *kwan-li-so* political prison camps where they are relentlessly subjected to induced malnutrition, forced labor, and other cruel and unusual punishment. Thousands more are forcibly held in other detention facilities. North Korea denies access to the camps to outsiders, whether human rights investigators, scholars, or international media, and severely restricts the circulation of information across its borders.

Based on research conducted by the Committee for Human Rights in North Korea (HRNK), three trends have defined the human rights situation under the Kim Jong-un regime: 1) an intensive crackdown on attempted defections; 2) an aggressive purge of senior officials, aimed to consolidate the leader's grip on power; and 3) a “restructuring” of the political prison camp system, with some facilities, closer to the border with China, being shut down, while inland facilities have been expanded.

Introduction

As part of a joint undertaking with HRNK to use satellite imagery to shed light on human suffering in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK, more commonly known as North Korea), AllSource Analysis (ASA) has been monitoring activity at political prison facilities throughout North Korea. This report details activity at the



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facility commonly known as *Kwan-li-so* No.14, Kaech'ŏn Political Prison Camp, Political Prison Facility 14 or more simply Camp 14.⁴ Prisoners detained at Camp 14 are thought to never be eligible for release. Available historic satellite imagery and escapee reports indicate that this *kwan-li-so* has been in existence at least as far back as 1965.

Executive summary

AllSource Analysis analyzed imagery of the North Korean political prison facility known as Camp 14 and its immediate environs using pan-sharpened multi-spectral satellite imagery collected by DigitalGlobe, Airbus Defense and Space and Landsat from December 2002 through December 2014. Additional declassified KH-9 satellite imagery was used to provide limited historical context. Imagery analysis helped determine the operational status of Camp 14 based on *changes* in the following features:

- ▶ Ferry crossings
- ▶ Guard positions and entrances
- ▶ Housing and agricultural support facilities and activity
- ▶ Hydroelectric facilities
- ▶ Internal road network
- ▶ Light industrial facilities

⁴ The Korea Institute for National Unification (KINU) White Paper on Human Rights in North Korea 2014 identifies Camp 14 as "Gaechon No. 14 Kwan-li-so."

- ▶ Mining and forestry activity
- ▶ Miscellaneous activity
- ▶ Railroad network
- ▶ Security perimeter and associated road network.

Based on analysis of these features, Camp 14 has been and remains an operational prison camp. Economic activity within Camp 14 is focused primarily on logging and agriculture, with smaller instances of mining, light industry, and hydroelectric power production. These activities, however, are at a significantly lower level than those at Camps 15 or 16 and some mining and light industrial activities have been curtailed or abandoned. Camp 14 is one of North Korea's oldest operating political prisoner camps and is, by North Korean standards, a mature and generally well-maintained facility as is indicated by general activity, road construction and maintenance throughout the camp.

It is important to reiterate the analytical caution presented in previous reports (such as *North Korea: Imagery Analysis Camp 15*⁵ and *North Korea's Camp No. 25 Update*⁶) produced by HRNK and ASA. North Korean officials, especially

⁵ Available at https://hrnk.org/uploads/pdfs/ASA_AnalysisReport_HRNK_Camp15_Final.pdf.

⁶ Available at <https://www.hrnk.org/uploads/pdfs/Camp%2025%20Update%20Good.pdf>.

those within the Korean People's Army and the internal security organizations, clearly understand the importance of implementing camouflage, concealment, and deception (CCD) procedures to mask their operations and intentions. It would be reasonable to assume that they have done so here.

Location and organization

Established during the mid-1960s Camp 14 is located approximately 61 kilometers (km) northeast of the capital city of P'yŏngyang and approximately 19 km southeast of Kaech'ŏn, on forested slopes of the Changan-sanmaek⁷ ⁸ (Figure 1). It occupies an irregularly shaped area that measures approximately 14 by 21 km (8.7 by 13.0 miles). The camp's perimeter extends approximately 58.5 km and encompasses 153 sq km (15,300 hectares), with 25 named villages and numerous unnamed villages (Figure 2). The camp straddles Kaech'ŏn-si and Pukch'ang-gun, P'yŏngan-namdo, and is bordered on the south by the Taedong-gang (i.e., Taedong River) and is generally divided into three sections by the Kumgwang-ch'ŏn and Kilsang-ch'ŏn⁹

⁷ Korea Institute for National Unification, 2010 White Paper. Seoul: KINU, 2010, p. 172.

⁸ "Sanmaek" means "mountain range" in Korean.

⁹ "Ch'ŏn" means "stream" in Korean.

that run generally from north to south. Functionally, the majority of villages and agricultural, mining, and light industrial activities are located along these waterways. It is significant to note that the Taedong-gang also served as a common border with Camp 18 to the south until that camp's deactivation.

The primary entrance to Camp 14 is located in the southwest corner of the camp, along the Taedong-gang and approximately 19 km southeast of the city of Kaech'ŏn in Kaech'ŏn-si, P'yŏngan-namdo. The area includes a road entrance and checkpoint and a rail entrance and checkpoint. There are also five secondary entrances: one on the southeastern perimeter along the Taedong-gang at the village of Sangdoryŏng-ni; one on the northeast perimeter, 2.3 km northeast of the village of Sanjunae-dong; and one each at the ferry crossing, road and rail bridges across the Taedong-gang.

Electric power for the camp is likely provided by both the hydroelectric power plants across the Taedong-gang, 1 km west of Chamsang-ni, and by local generators. The camp is connected to the national rail network via the station at Naenjŏngcha'm, 1.7 km east of the main entrance and within the camp. The closest air facility is the Korean People's Air Force Pukch'ang-ni Airbase 7 km



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to the southwest of the main entrance. This is a transport base for airborne or airborne sniper troops and due to its mission, organization and location very likely provides no support to Camp 14.

Imagery analysis

For analytical purposes, the camp is divided into the security perimeter, 23 discrete locations that provide insight into changes and typify activity in the camp, and miscellaneous activities (Figure 3).

Security perimeter

Camp 14 is enclosed within a 58.5-km-long network of security fences, patrol paths and roads that are secured by a total of 38 barracks, guard positions and checkpoints broken down as follows:

Barracks	10
Guard Positions	3
Perimeter Guard Positions	19
Entrance and Checkpoint	6
Total	38

The absence of any vehicles observed along the perimeter or at the guard positions in the imagery analyzed, along with the size and quality of the perimeter roads/trails, suggests that guards patrol

primarily on foot rather than by vehicle. Vehicles are often seen at the larger guard barracks around the camp. A majority of the perimeter guard positions are not sited to provide overlapping fields-of-view of the camp, however, they are located along the most obvious routes of escape and appear to be well maintained and in good repair (Figure 4).

With one exception (see Area 11), the size, composition, and nature of the security perimeter does not appear to have changed during the period under study.

Although Camp 14's main entrance and checkpoint is on the southwest corner of the camp, the administrative center is located 4 km to the east at Yasach'am.

Area 1 - Naenjongch'am

The farming village of Naenjongch'am is located in the southwest corner of Camp 14 and is bordered by the camp's perimeter and the Taedong-gang. It contains the camp's main entrance and is surrounded by agricultural fields. Approximately 780 meters east of the village is a small coal loading facility, rail station and the remains of a light narrow-gauge electrified mine railroad. This mine railroad runs from the loading facility to a mine portal approximately 1 km further

to the east. Both the mine railroad and the mine portal appear to have been abandoned before 2004 (Figure 5). No significant changes are noted in the imagery collected between September 3, 2013 and December 13, 2014 (Figure 6).

Area 2 - Main camp entrance and guard barracks

Located in the extreme southwest corner of Camp 14 on the north shore of the Taedong-gang and 940 meters west of Naenjongch'am is the main entrance to Camp 14 (Figure 7). It consists of a walled guard barracks with both road and rail entrance checkpoints. The road is the primary access route for Camp 14, while the electrified rail line is a spur line feeding the coal mines to the southeast at Pongch'ang-ni within the former Camp 18. There is a small livestock confinement and agricultural area immediately north of the main entrance and adjacent to the edge of the camp's western perimeter fence that may be associated with the guard barracks. A new structure associated with the guard barracks has been built directly east (Figure 8, Figure 9)

Area 3 - Yasach'am - Headquarters, administration, support, housing area

The village of Yasach'am, located along

the banks of the Taedong-gang, serves as the camp's primary administrative, support, training, and housing area. On the northwest side of the village, leading up a small valley, is Camp 14's Ministry of State Security headquarters, main barracks and training area.

On the south side of the village are two bridges across the Taedong-gang. The first is a 300-meter-long rail bridge that, as noted above, carries the electrified spur line to the coal mines at Pongch'ang-ni within the former Camp 18. The second is a 200-meter-long road bridge 500 meters upstream of the rail bridge that also leads to Pongch'ang-ni. While the rail bridge is well maintained and usable year-round, the road bridge is often submerged and is only marginally usable when the river level is low. The rail bridge has entrances and guard positions on both ends.

The village and Ministry of State Security areas are active in all imagery analyzed and all buildings and roads are well maintained. The only significant changes in this area identifiable on imagery between September 2013 and December 2014 were the construction of two new buildings along the river in early 2013 (Figure 10, Figure 11, Figure 12).



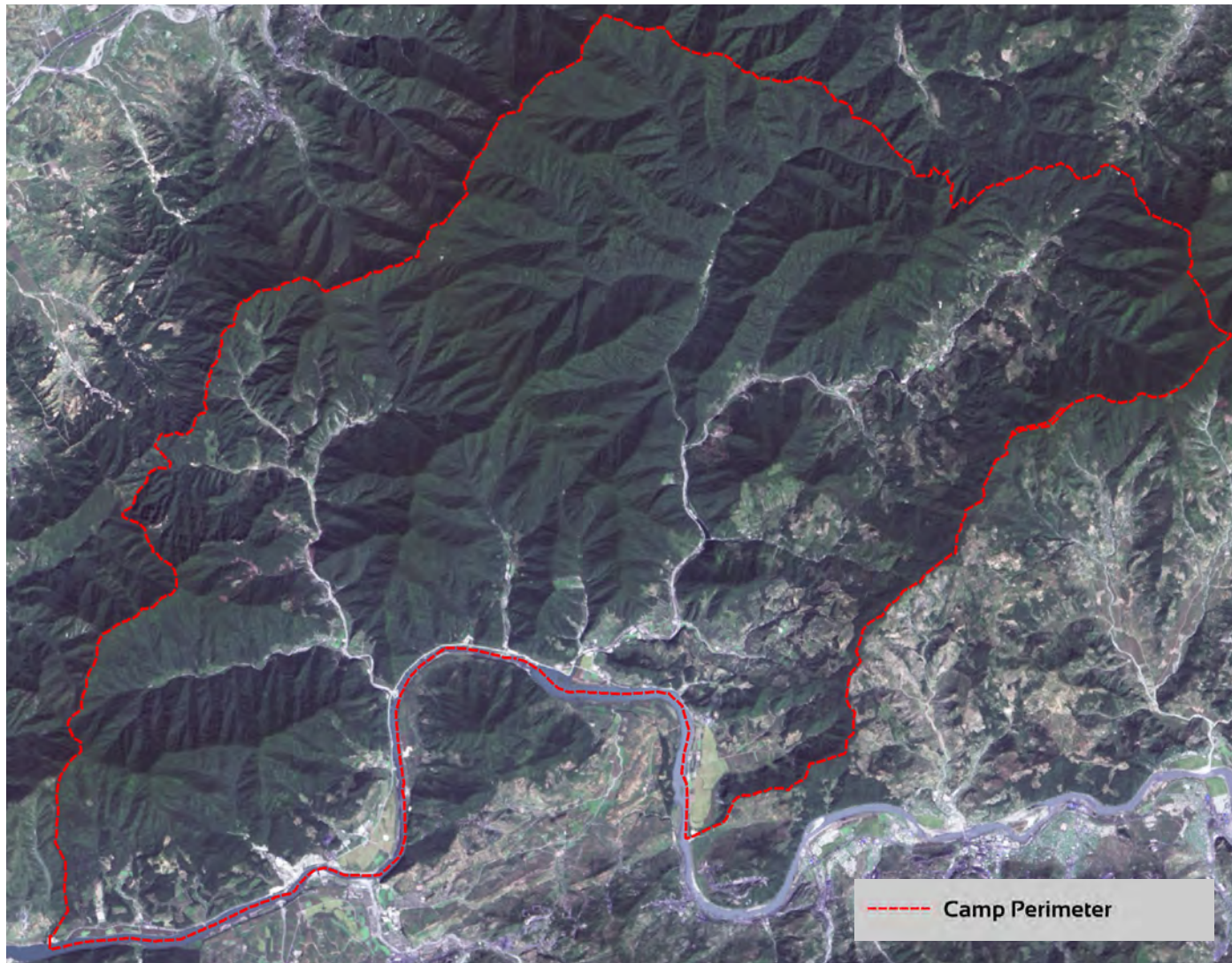
Figure 1



An early partial overview of Camp 14, as seen in a declassified KH-4 satellite image, March 17, 1970.



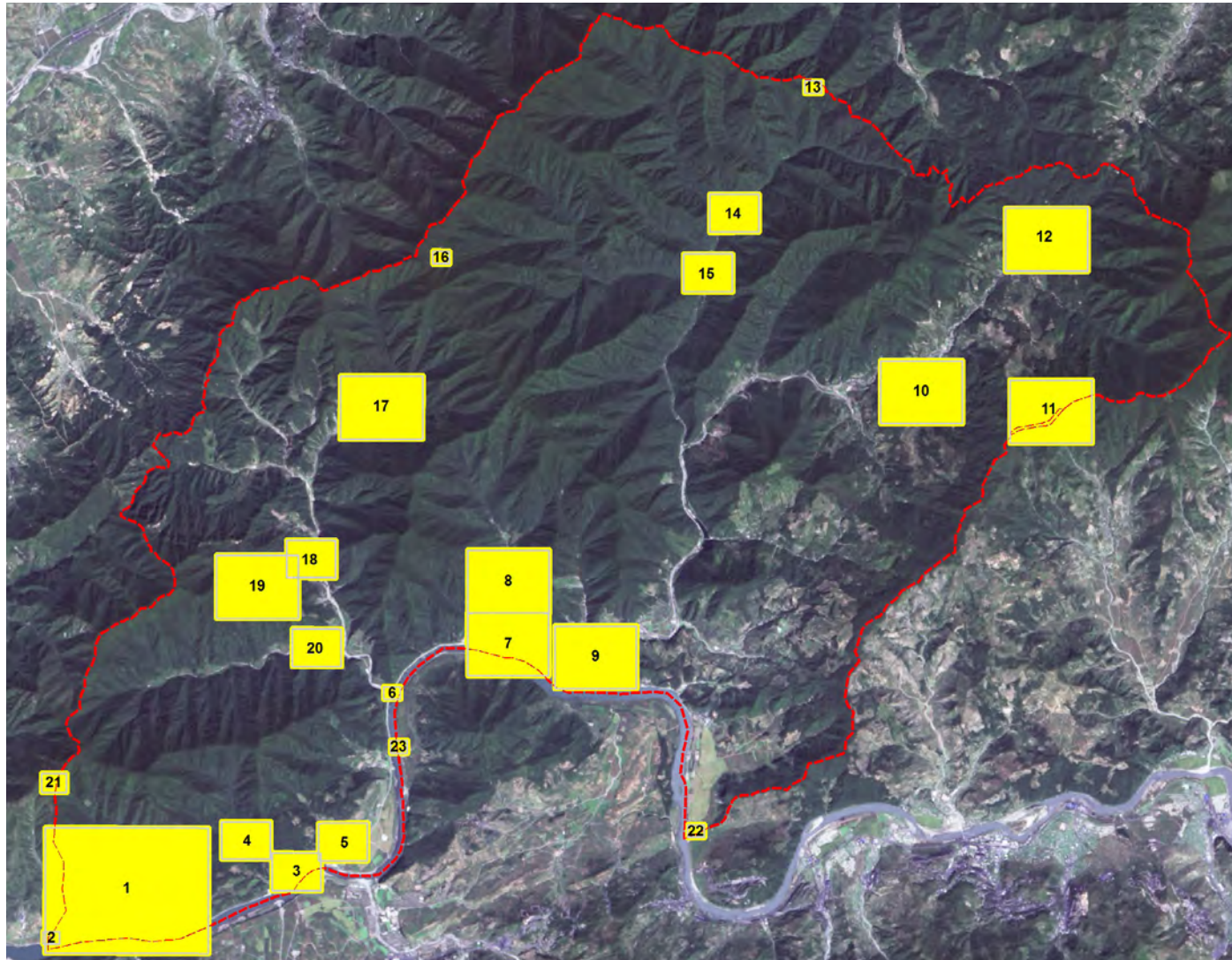
Figure 2



Overview of Camp 14



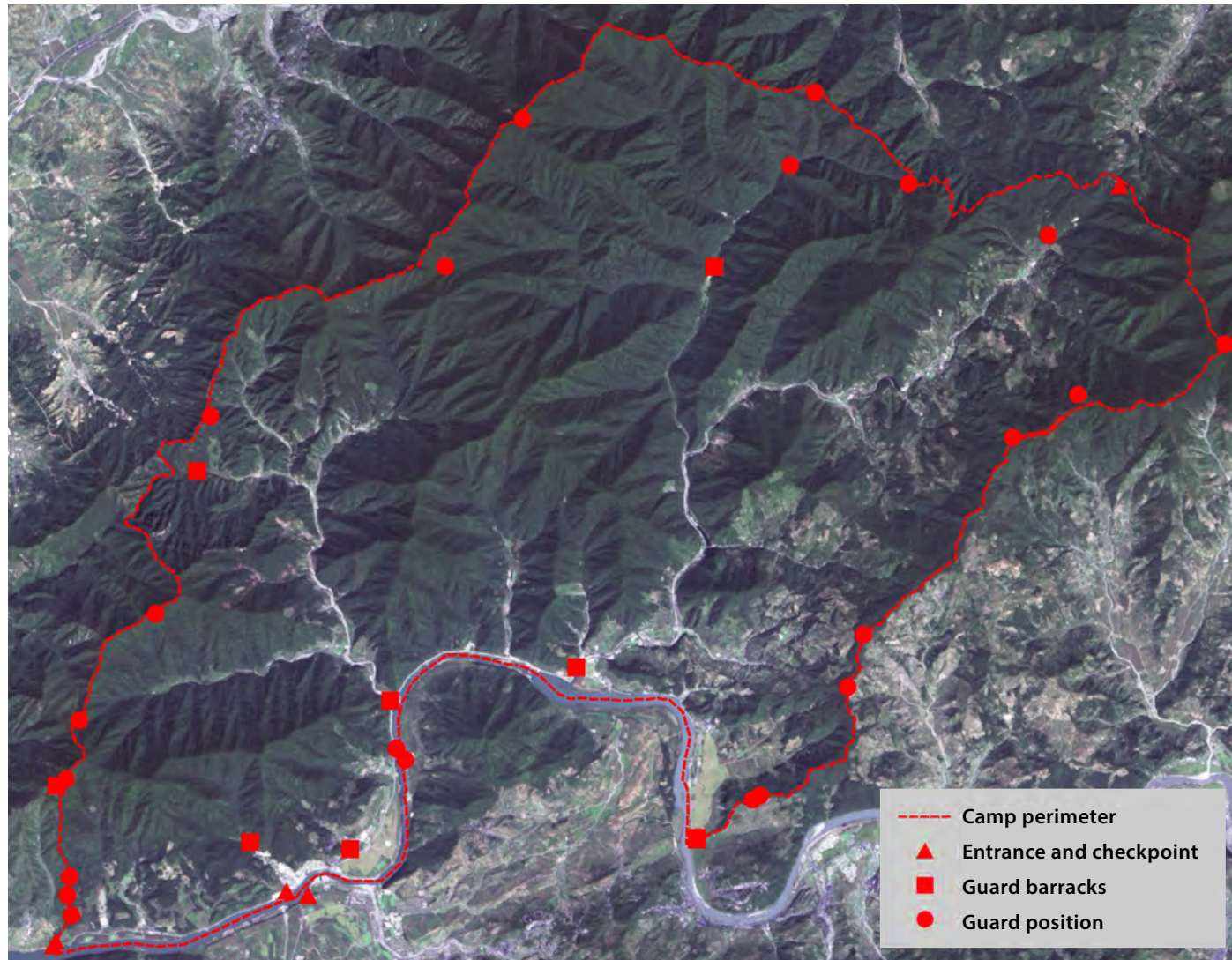
Figure 3



Camp 14 report areas



Figure 4



Camp 14 perimeter



Figure 5



Area 1 - Naenjongch'am



Figure 6



Area 1 - Naenjongch'am



Figure 7



The area of Camp 14's main entrance as seen in a declassified KH-9 Hexagon satellite image, October 27, 1983



Figure 8



Area 2 - Main Camp Entrance and Guard Barracks



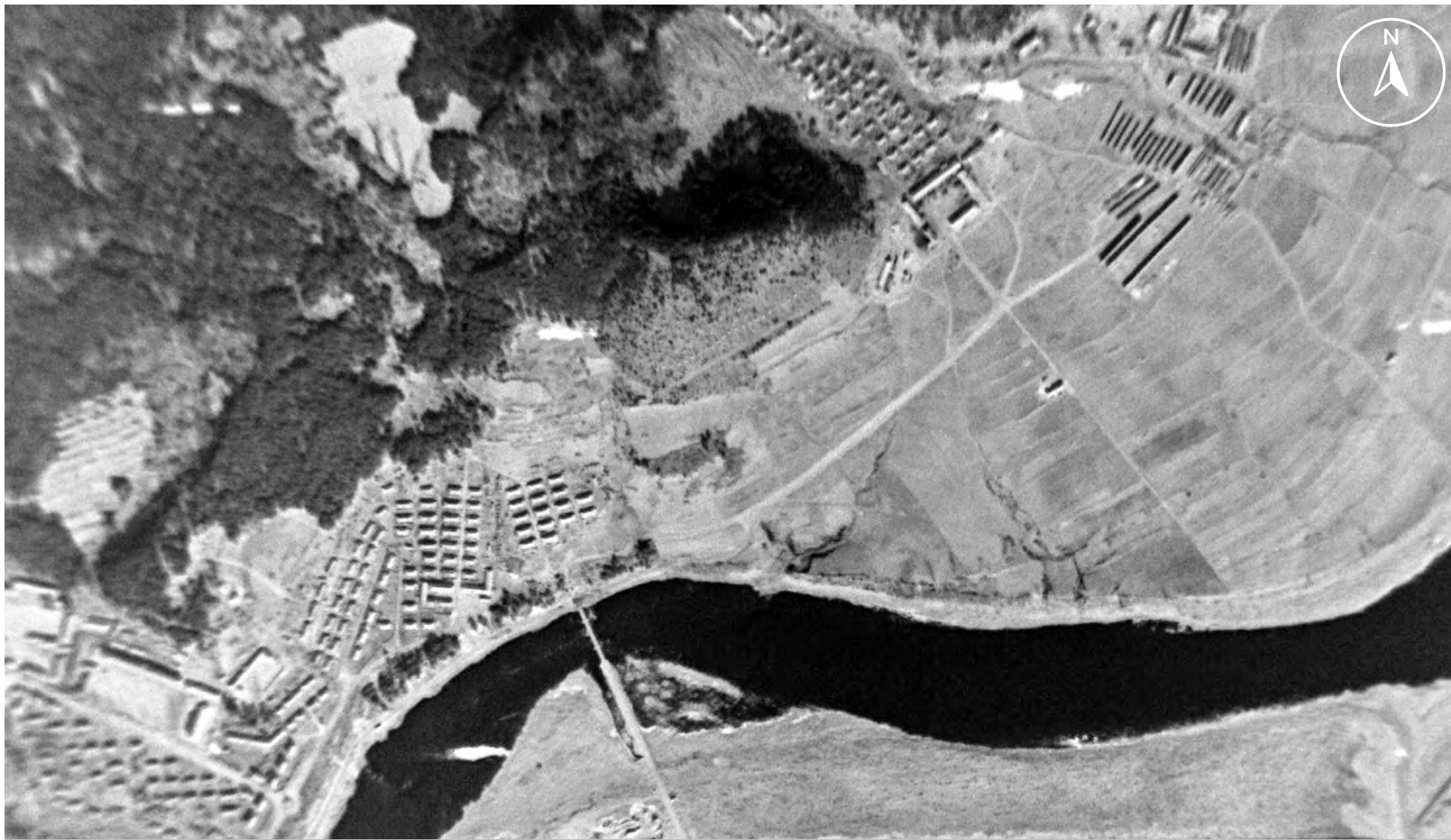
Figure 9



Area 2 - Main Camp Entrance and Guard Barracks



Figure 10



The village of Yasach'am with its security headquarters, administration, support, and housing areas as seen in a declassified KH-9 Hexagon satellite image, October 27, 1983



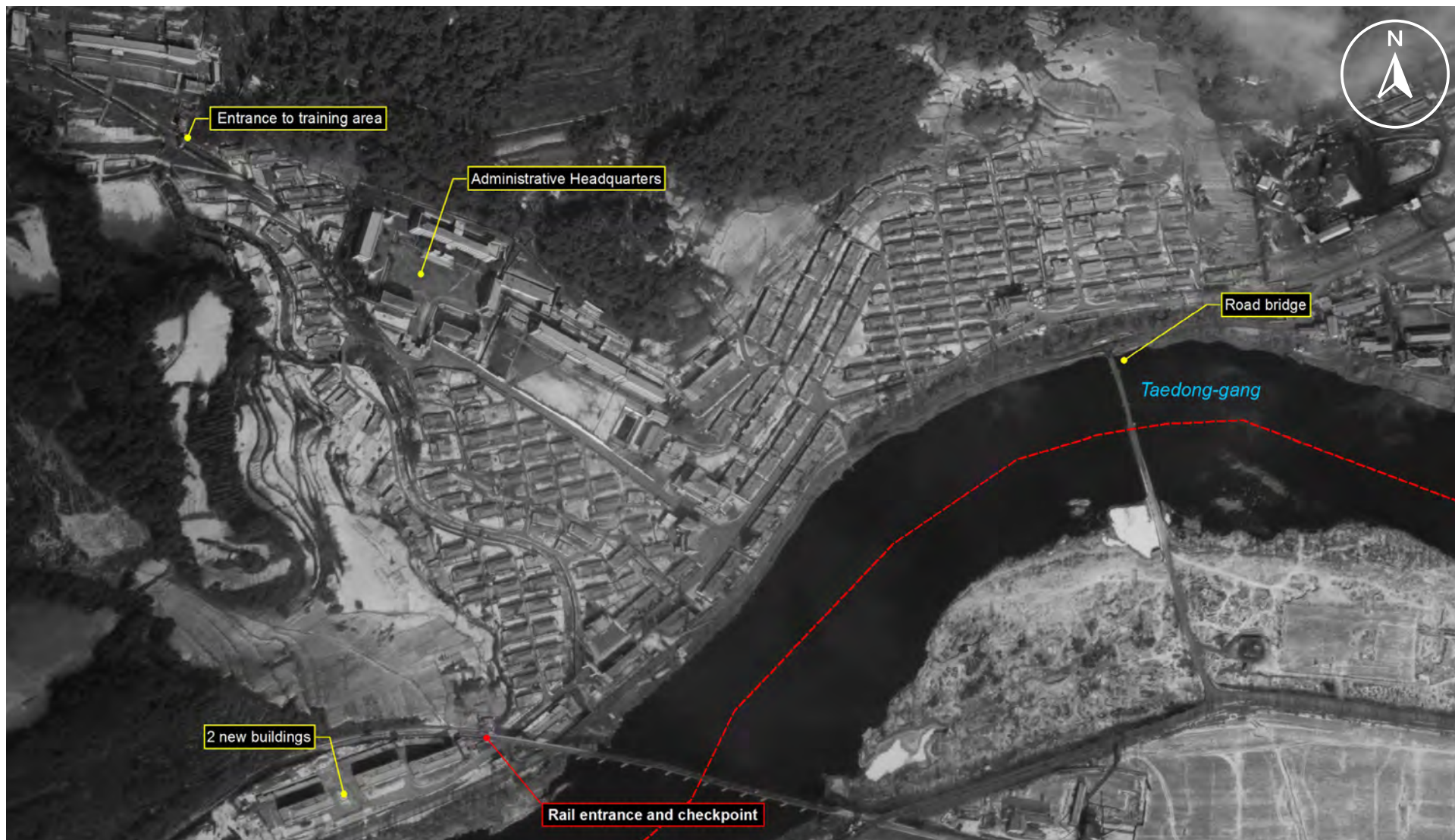
Figure 11



Area 3 -Yasach'am - Headquarters, Administration, Support, and Housing Area



Figure 12



Area 3 -Yasach'am - Headquarters, Administration, Support, and Housing Area



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Area 4 - Yasach'am - Ministry of State Security barracks and training area

Immediately up-valley from the primary administrative area at Yasach'am is the entrance to the Ministry of State Security's main barracks and training area. Within the training area, at the head of the small valley, are several clearings (likely used for training or gardens for the troops), a likely firing range and what may be an armory. No changes of significance were observed on imagery between September 2013 and December 2014 (Figure 13, Figure 14).

Area 5 - Tongch'ang-gol

Immediately northeast of Yasach'am is the village of Tongch'ang-gol. Aside from agricultural fields surrounding it, this area consists of a coal mine portal and tailings pile, two likely prisoner housing areas, guard barracks. No changes of significance were observed on imagery between September 2013 and December 2014. (Figure 15, Figure 16)

Area 6 - Guard barracks

Approximately 2.6 km north-northeast of Tongch'ang-gol at the confluence of the Taedong-gang and Kumgwang-ch'on, sits a guard barracks with a small agricultural field.¹⁰ The confluence of these two water features creates a delta of sediment that extends out halfway (i.e., 50 meters) across the Taedong-gang. No changes of significance were observed in this area on imagery between September 2013 and December 2014 (Figure 17, Figure 18).

Area 7 - Kadök-kol

Located approximately mid-way along Camp 14's southern perimeter is a small unnamed stream that runs north-south through the villages of Kadök-kol and Sangmu-gol and into the Taedong-gang. A diversion dam and two hydroelectric power plants are situated on the northern bank of the Taedong-gang approximately 420 meters east of this stream. Given their location and size it is likely that

¹⁰ The name Kumgwang-ch'on should be considered a tentative designation until the national designator can be confirmed.

these power plants provide electricity to Camp 14, the coal mines around Pongch'ang-ni within the former Camp 18 and the local railroad network. A roadway checkpoint is situated at the eastern most hydroelectric power plant.

The light industrial plant on the west side of the confluence of the stream and Taedong-gang contains a five-story building—the tallest within Camp 14.

During the period under study one small structure at this plant was razed.

Approximately 500 m up the stream is the small village of Kadök-kol that consists of a fish farm and a few buildings. Previously, this area reportedly also contained a prisoner housing area on the west side of the stream. This was razed sometime between 2007 and 2011.

The light industrial plants and the roads and bridges serving them appear in a good state of repair. Aside from the minor change noted above, no significant changes were observed in imagery from October 2013 and December 2014 (Figure 19, Figure 20, Figure 21).

Area 8 - Sangmu-gol

Approximately 500 meters upstream from Kadök-kol is a prisoner housing area that consists of approximately 30 structures. Approximately 400 meters north of this is the village of Sangmu-gol, which consists of a light industrial plant and barracks-style prisoner housing. The area immediately surrounding the village consists of a number of small agricultural fields. Although not visible in the imagery analyzed for this report, there was previously a much smaller light industrial plant along the same stream, but 870 meters northwest of Sangmu-gol. This was razed before 2007. The light industrial plants, prisoner housing areas and the single road serving them appear to be in a good state of repair. No changes of significance were observed in this area on imagery between October 2013 and December 2014 (Figure 22, Figure 23).



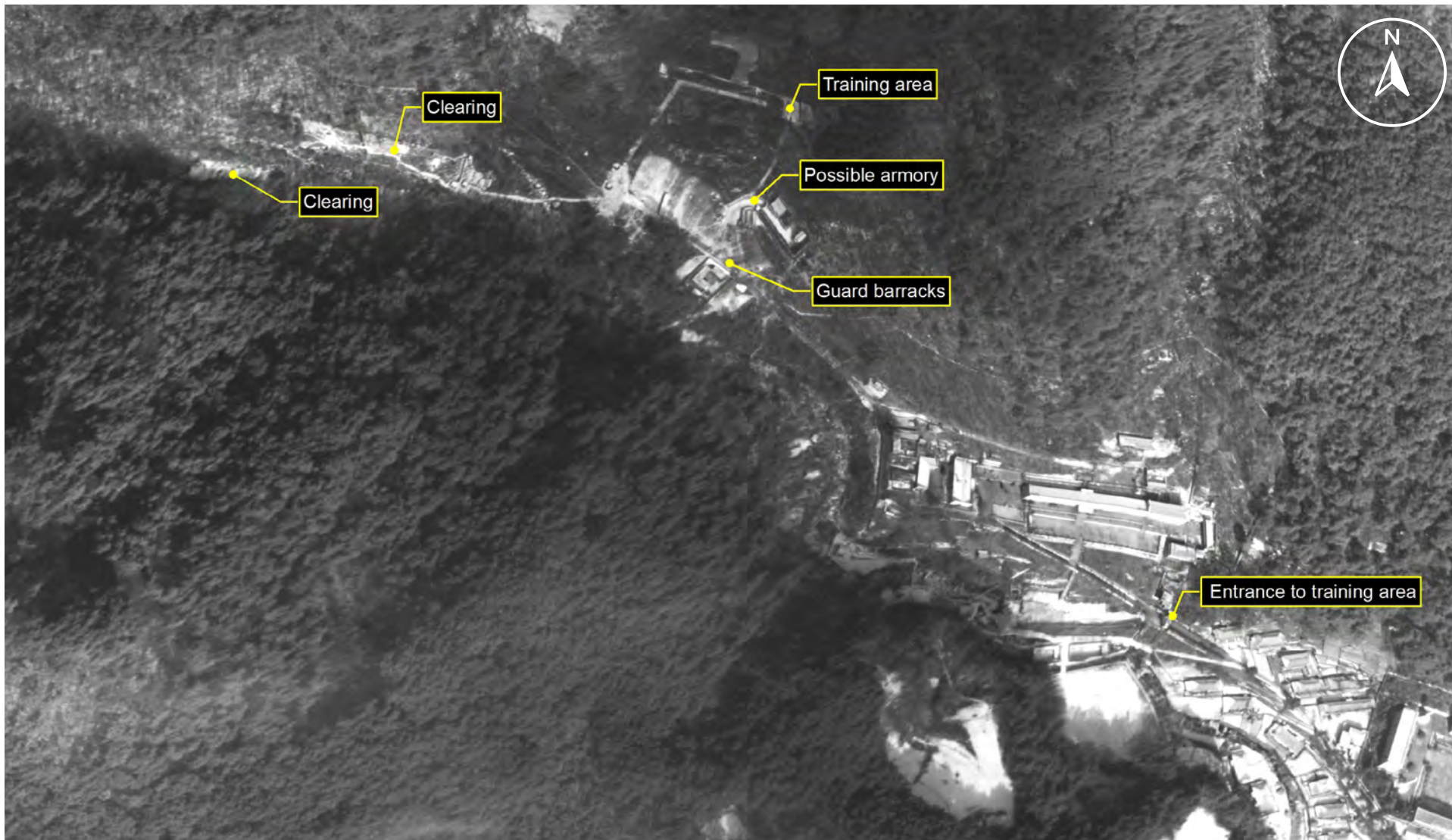
Figure 13



Area 4 - Yasach'am - Ministry of State Security Barracks and Training Area



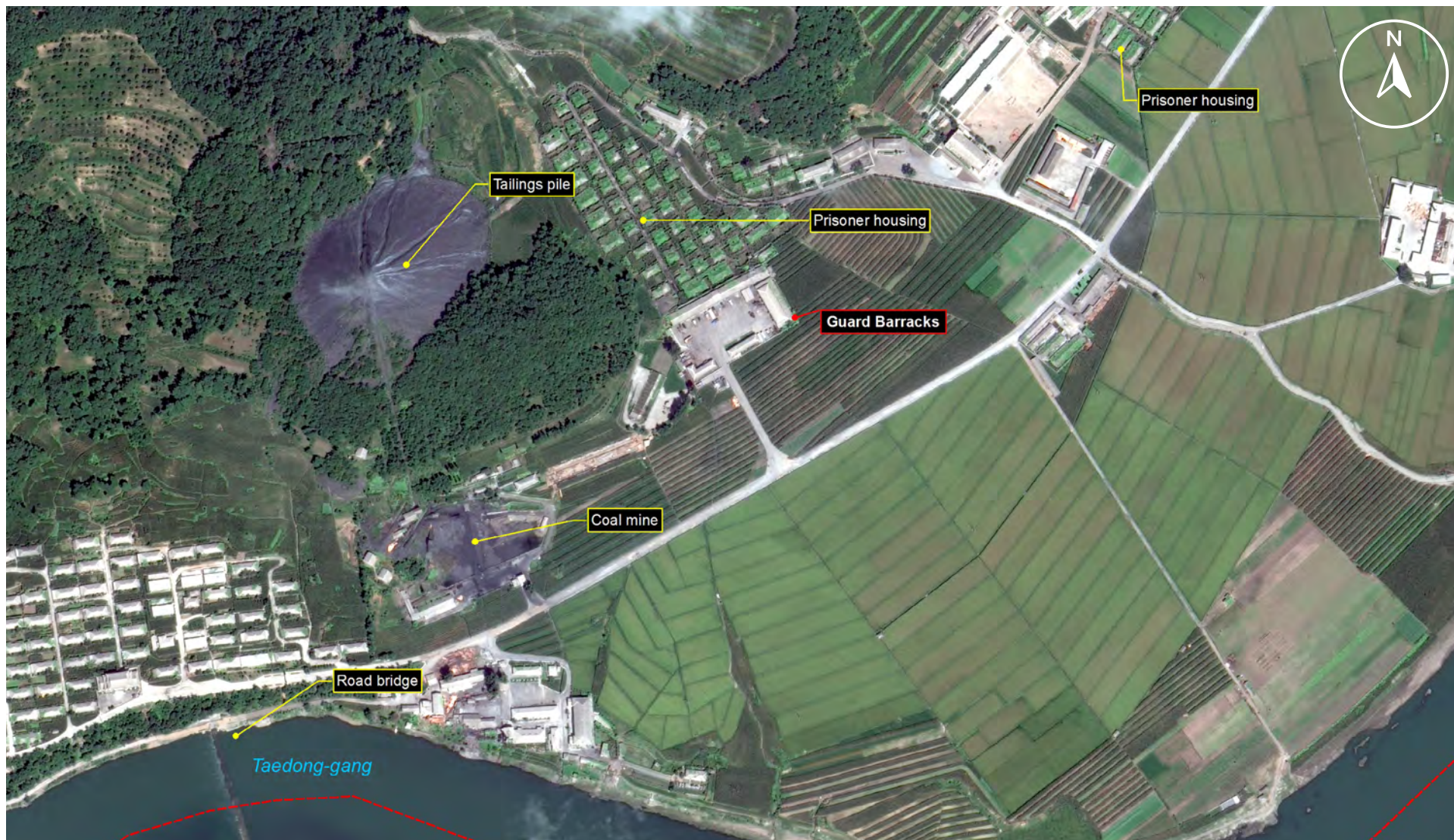
Figure 14



Area 4 - Yasach'am - Ministry of State Security Barracks and Training Area



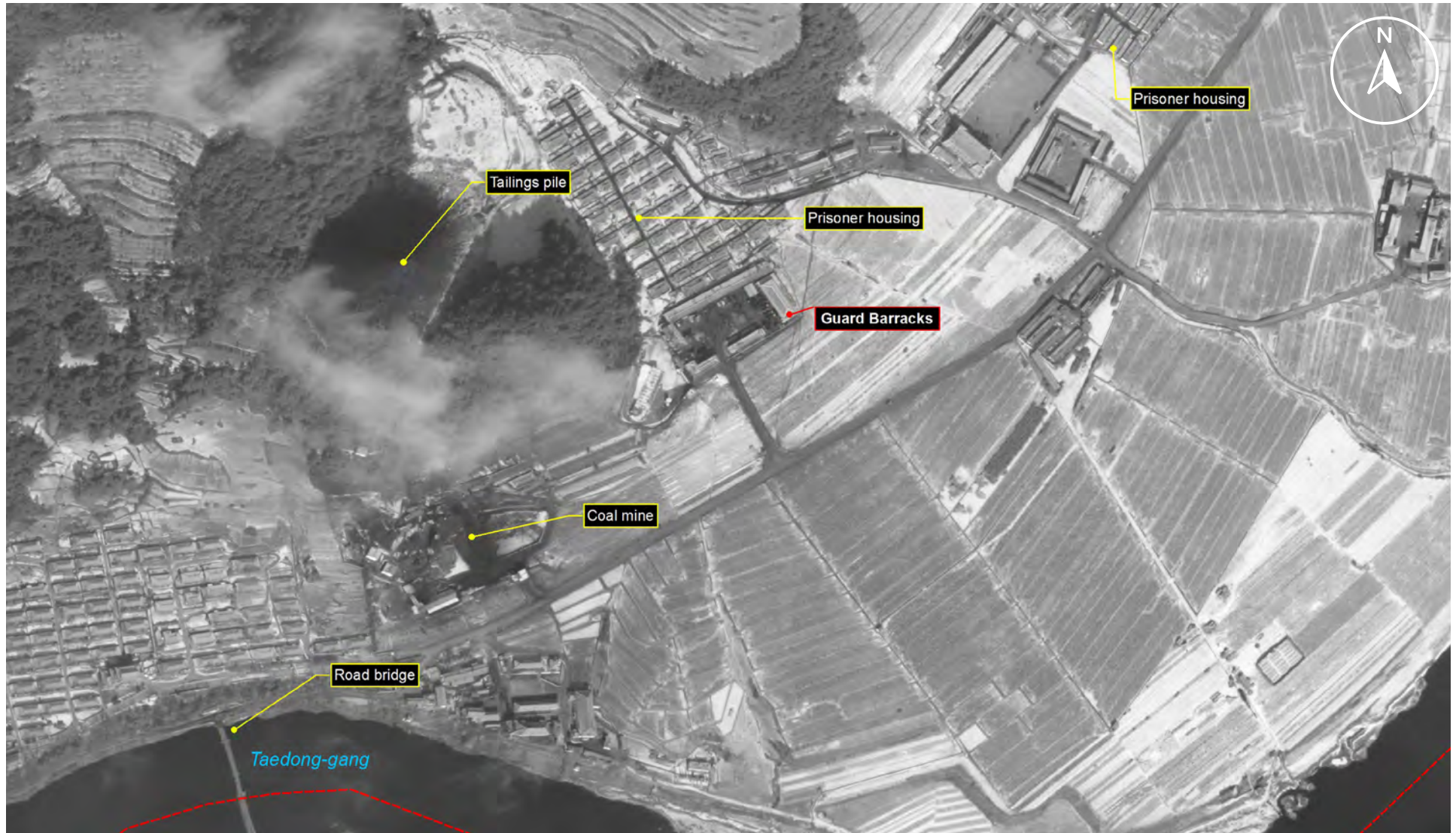
Figure 15



Area 5 - Tongch'ang-gol



Figure 16



Area 5 - Tongch'ang-gol



Figure 17



Area 6 - Guard Barracks



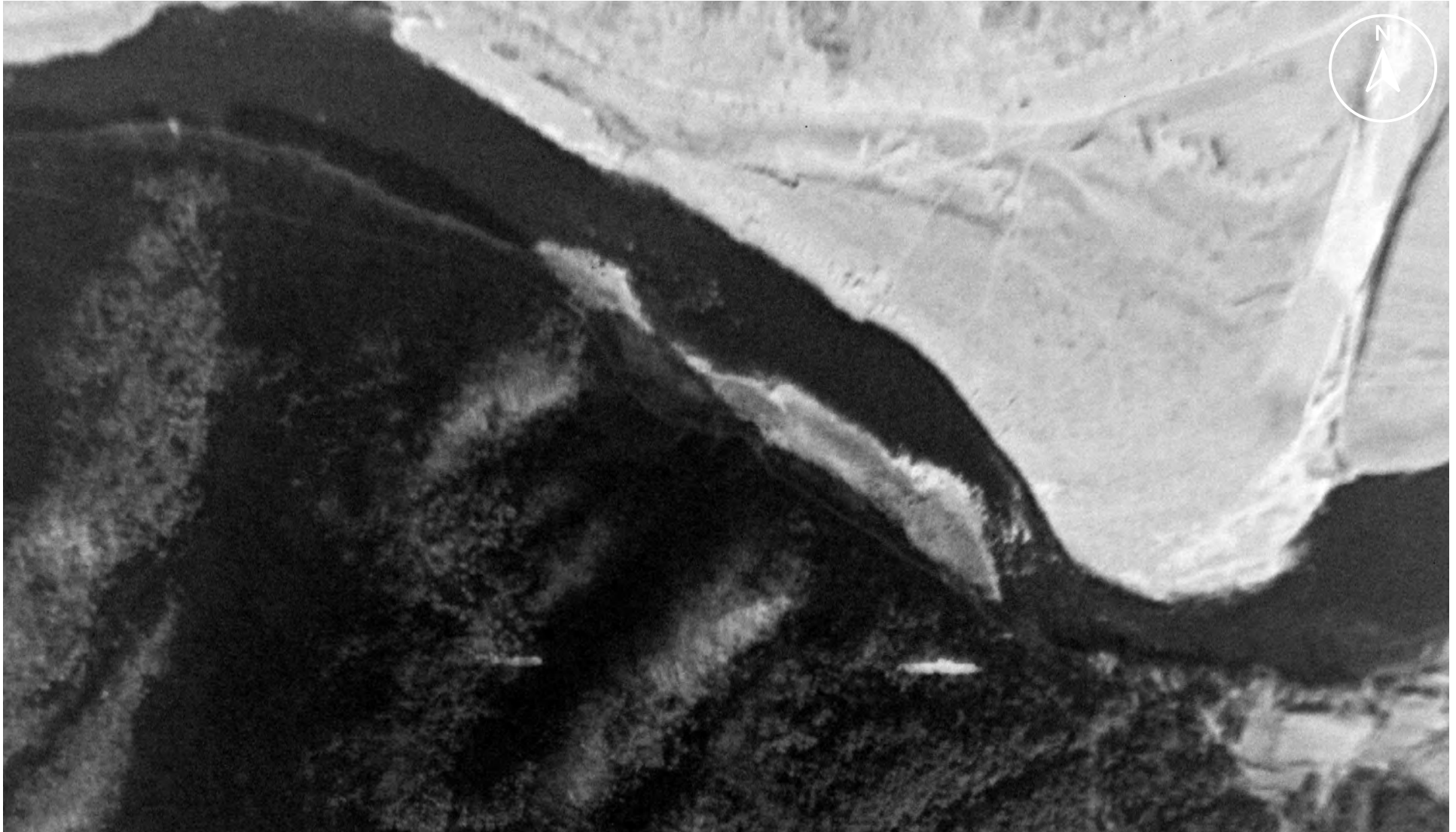
Figure 18



Area 6 - Guard Barracks



Figure 19



The portion of the Taedong-gang just east of the village of Kadŏk-kol where the hydroelectric power plant will be built, as seen in a declassified KH-9 Hexagon satellite image, October 27, 1983



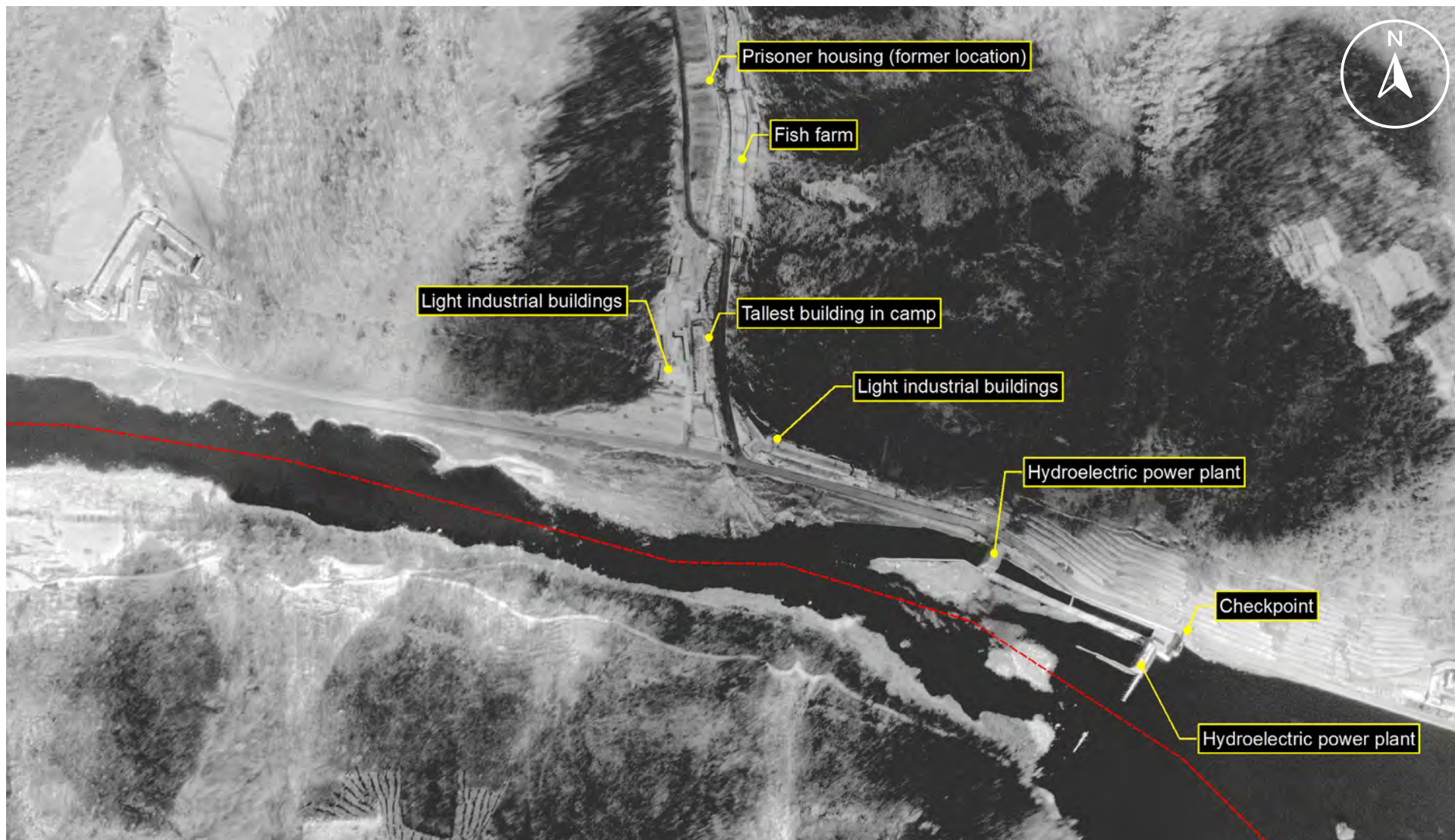
Figure 20



Area 7 - Kadök-kol



Figure 21



Area 7 - Kadök-kol



Figure 22



Area 8 - Sangmu-gol



Figure 23



Area 8 - Sangmu-gol



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Area 9 - Chamsang-ni, Kiyang-mal, Sadun and Yongsu-mal

The four villages of Chamsang-ni, Kiyang-mal, Sadun and Yongsu-mal are located along the Kilsang-ch'ŏn at its confluence with the Taedong-gang. While this area is dedicated to agriculture, there is a light industrial plant with a small fish farm and what is likely a guard barracks located on the west side of the Kilsang-ch'ŏn. On the north side of the Kilsang-ch'ŏn, and up a small valley is the village Kiyang-mal. Immediately east of this, straddling the Kilsang-ch'ŏn and connected by an 8-meter-long footbridge, are the sister villages of Chamsang-ni and Sadun. The area south of the stream contains a housing area and numerous agricultural support structures. The area immediately north of the stream contains a housing area and a threshing house and is primarily dedicated to cultivating a number of orchards. Approximately 500 meters to the northeast is the village of Yongsu-mal. Of significance here is a large vehicle maintenance and storage facility, which likely serves the entire camp. At times as many as 20 vehicles have been seen within the facility. With the exception of several new small agricultural structures no changes of significance were observed in this area in imagery between October 2013 and

December 2014 (Figure 24, Figure 25, Figure 26).

Area 10 - Hajunaedong

Located along the upper reaches of the Kilsang-ch'ŏn is the village of Hajunaedong. This village has seen some significant changes during the period under study. A group of five agricultural support and 17 worker housing structures were razed between May 2003 and December 2014. Between 2002 and 2007, 15 housing structures were razed; between 2007 and 2011 three agricultural and one housing were razed. By December 2014, there were only 10 remaining structures—a threshing house, six agricultural buildings and two housing units. (Figure 27, Figure 28).

Area 11 - Perimeter Fence Relocation

Located approximately 2.3 km east of Area 11 is a 1-km section of the perimeter security fence that has been relocated approximately 50 meters to the south sometime after May 2011. The reasons for this move are unclear, however, there are two guard positions present in the area, one near each end of the relocated fence section, possibly indicating a history of perimeter breaches in the area (Figure 29, Figure 30).

Area 12 - Sanjunaedong

The agricultural village of Sanjunaedong is located on one of the tributaries of the Kilsang-ch'ŏn in the northeast corner of Camp 14. The area consists of agricultural fields, support buildings, a housing area, and a fish farm. Additionally, there is what appears to be a guard position on the northwest corner of the village along a road that leads to a secondary camp entrance and guard position 1.5 kilometers to the northeast. No changes of significance were observed in this area on imagery between September 2013 and December 2014 (Figure 31, Figure 32)

Area 13 - Reinforced guard position

Located along the northeast section of the security perimeter, 1.5 km north of the village Nujinmogi, is one of Camp 14's two remote reinforced guard positions with double walls. The walls of the guard position appear to have been updated or rebuilt during the period under study (Figure 33, Figure 34).

Area 14 - Inactive mine facility

Approximately 1 kilometer north of the village of Kilsang-ni, in the isolated mountainous north-central region of Camp 14, is an abandoned mine with two vertical shafts and a processing plant at the base

of Paekt'ap-san.¹¹ Although the mine is abandoned, there is evidence of probable small-scale scavenging or unauthorized activity at the facility during the period under study (Figure 35, Figure 36).¹²

Area 15 - Kilsang-ni

The small village of Kilsang-ni is located along the upper reaches of the Kilsang-ch'ŏn. It consists of approximately eight structures, which may be barracks with a livestock pen. It is likely that at one time this village supported the activities of the mine 1 kilometer to the north. No changes of significance were observed in this area on imagery between September 2013 and December 2014 (Figure 37, Figure 38, Figure 39).

Area 16 - Reinforced guard position

Located along the northwest section of Camp 14 and 400 meters east of the security perimeter is the second of two remote reinforced guard positions with double walls. The walls of the guard position appear to have been erected during the period under study (Figure 40, Figure 41).

¹¹ "San" means "mountain" in Korean.

¹² The type of ore mined here is unknown, however, there are a number of gold mines immediately east of the camp.



Figure 24



The area of Chamsang-ni, Kiyang-mal, Sadun, and Yongsu-mal, as seen in a declassified KH-9 Hexagon satellite image, October 27, 1983



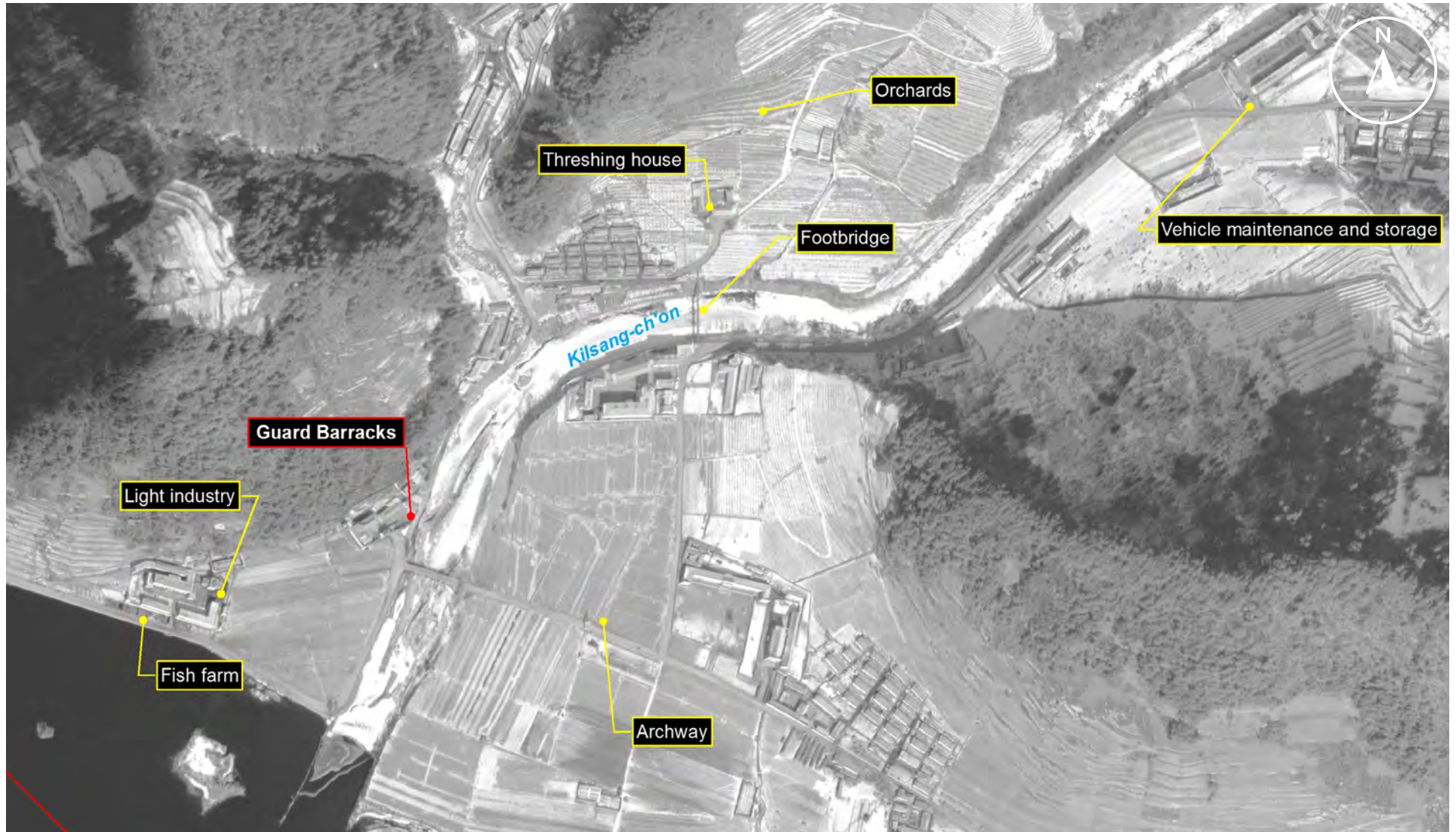
Figure 25



Area 9 - Chamsang-ni, Kiyang-mal, Sadun, and Yongsu-mal



Figure 26



Area 9 - Chamsang-ni, Kiyang-mal, Sadun, and Yongsu-mal



Figure 27



Area 10 - Hajunae-dong



Figure 28



Area 10 - Hajunae-dong



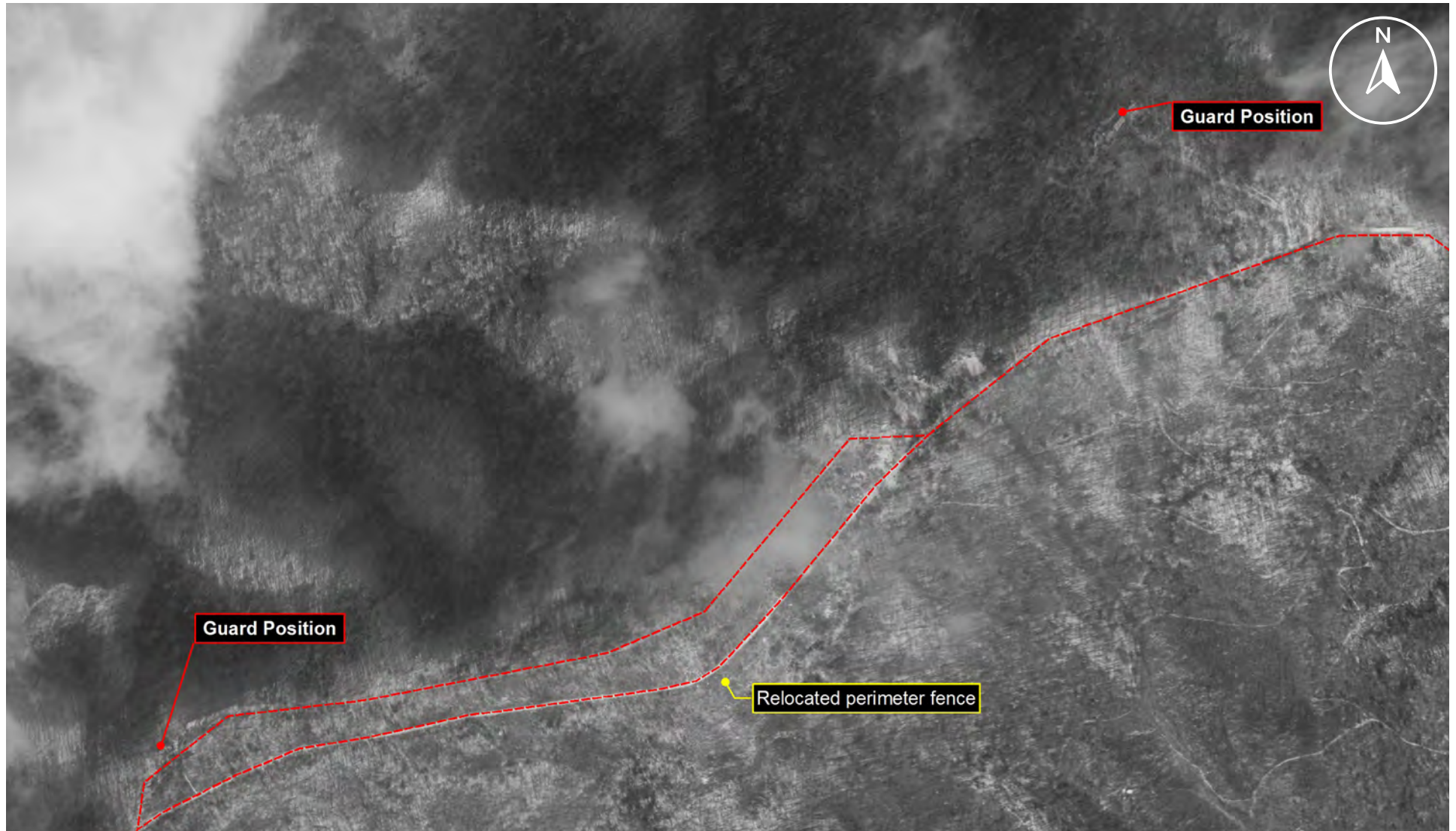
Figure 29



Area II - Perimeter



Figure 30



Area II - Perimeter



Figure 31



Area 12 - Sanjunaedong



Figure 32



Area 12 - Sanjunae-dong



Figure 33



Area 13 - Reinforced Guard Position



Figure 34



Area 13 - Reinforced Guard Position



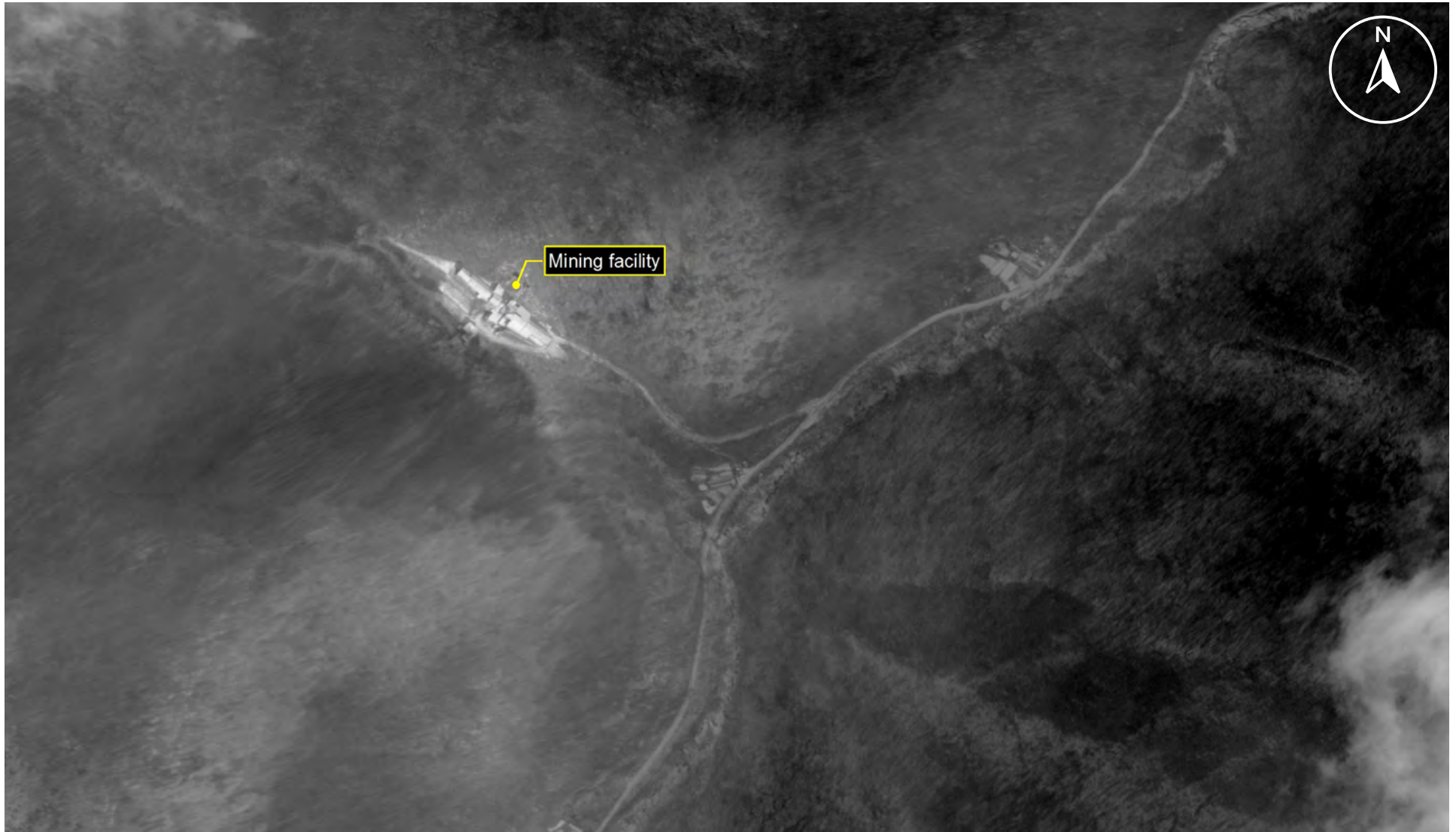
Figure 35



Area 14 - Inactive Mining Facility



Figure 36



Area 14 - Inactive Mining Facility



Figure 37



The area of Kilsang-ni and the mine to its north, as seen in a declassified KH-9 Hexagon satellite image, October 27, 1983



Figure 38



Area 15 - Kilsang-ni



Figure 39



Area 15 - Kilsang-ni



Figure 40



Area 16 - Reinforced Guard Position



Figure 41



Area 16 - Reinforced Guard Position



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Area 17 - Road construction activity

One of three areas within Camp 14 that show significant road repair or construction activity is located in the western section of the camp. This area, along the Kumgwang-ch'on and approximately 1 kilometer northeast of the village of Kumgwang, has three new logging roads during the period under study. These provide access to the forest west of an agricultural support area consisting of two large buildings where there is evidence of logging activity (e.g., thinning of the forest) (Figure 42, Figure 43).

Area 18 - Road construction activity

The second of three areas within Camp 14 that show significant road repair or construction activity is located in the western section of the camp between the villages of Ch'ang-dong and Kumgwang. Here a new road has been built during the period under study on the east side of the Kumgwang-ch'on. This road provides access to support increased logging activity in the area. This road was most likely built to replace the original road on the west side of the Kumgwang-ch'on that suffered damage caused by seasonal flooding (Figure 44, Figure 45).

Area 19 - Road construction activity

Between September 2013 and December 2014 a new 3-kilometer-long road was constructed approximately 1.5 kilometers northwest of the village of Ch'ang-dong. The new road provides access to support new agricultural and logging activity in the area (Figure 46, Figure 47).

Area 20 - Ch'ang-dong

One kilometer northwest of the guard barracks discussed in Area 6 is the agricultural village of Ch'ang-dong located on the Kumgwang-ch'on. This village consists of worker housing and livestock confinement areas, a fish farm, and on the west side an industrial facility. This is the largest industrial facility within Camp 14 and consists of several large buildings—the longest of which is 140 meters—with two tall smoke stacks. The purpose of this facility is unclear. A road leading west from Ch'ang-dong, past a checkpoint at the industrial facility, continues 3 kilometers up a small valley past agriculture fields and a fish farm. No changes of significance were observed in this area on imagery between October 2013 and December 2014 (Figure 48, Figure 49).

Area 21 - Communications facility

Located approximately 2.5 kilometers north of the main entrance, and 100 meters west of the security perimeter (i.e., outside Camp 14) is a microwave communications facility with a large communications tower, guard barracks and guard position along the perimeter fence. While the communications facility is part of a nationwide network it is likely that it is also used by the camp. No changes of significance were observed in this area on imagery between October 2013 and December 2014 (Figure 50, Figure 51).

Area 22 - Southeast Entrance to Camp

A secondary camp entrance is located along the Taedong-gang at the camp's southeast corner adjacent to the village Sangdoryong-ni. It consists of an entrance, walled guard barracks and several support buildings. No changes of significance were observed in this area on imagery between September 2013 and December 2014 (Figure 52, Figure 53).

Area 23 - Ferry Crossing

Located on the Taedong-gang, 400 meters north of the village of Sol-gol, is a ferry crossing connecting Camp 14 to the former Camp 18. The crossing was built sometime during 2007-2011 and consists of an entrance checkpoint, a landing

ramp on both sides of the Taedong-gang and a 12-meter-long ferry. The reason for constructing this crossing is unclear, however, it may be to replace the road bridge (Area 3) at Yasach'am that is often submerged and only marginally useable when the river level is low (Figure 54, Figure 55).

Assessment

Observations and analysis derived from DigitalGlobe, Airbus Defense and Space and Landsat satellite imagery collected from December 2002 and December 2014—combined with declassified KH-9 satellite imagery and publicly available information—indicate:

- ▶ Camp 14 has been and remains an operational political prison camp. It is one of North Korea's oldest operating political prisoner camps and is, by North Korean standards, a mature and generally well-maintained facility.
- ▶ Given the physical security measures observed, it is likely that the majority of the camp's population are prisoners. They maintain the agricultural fields, orchards, and livestock, and work in the camp's logging activities and wood products, light industrial facilities and mines.



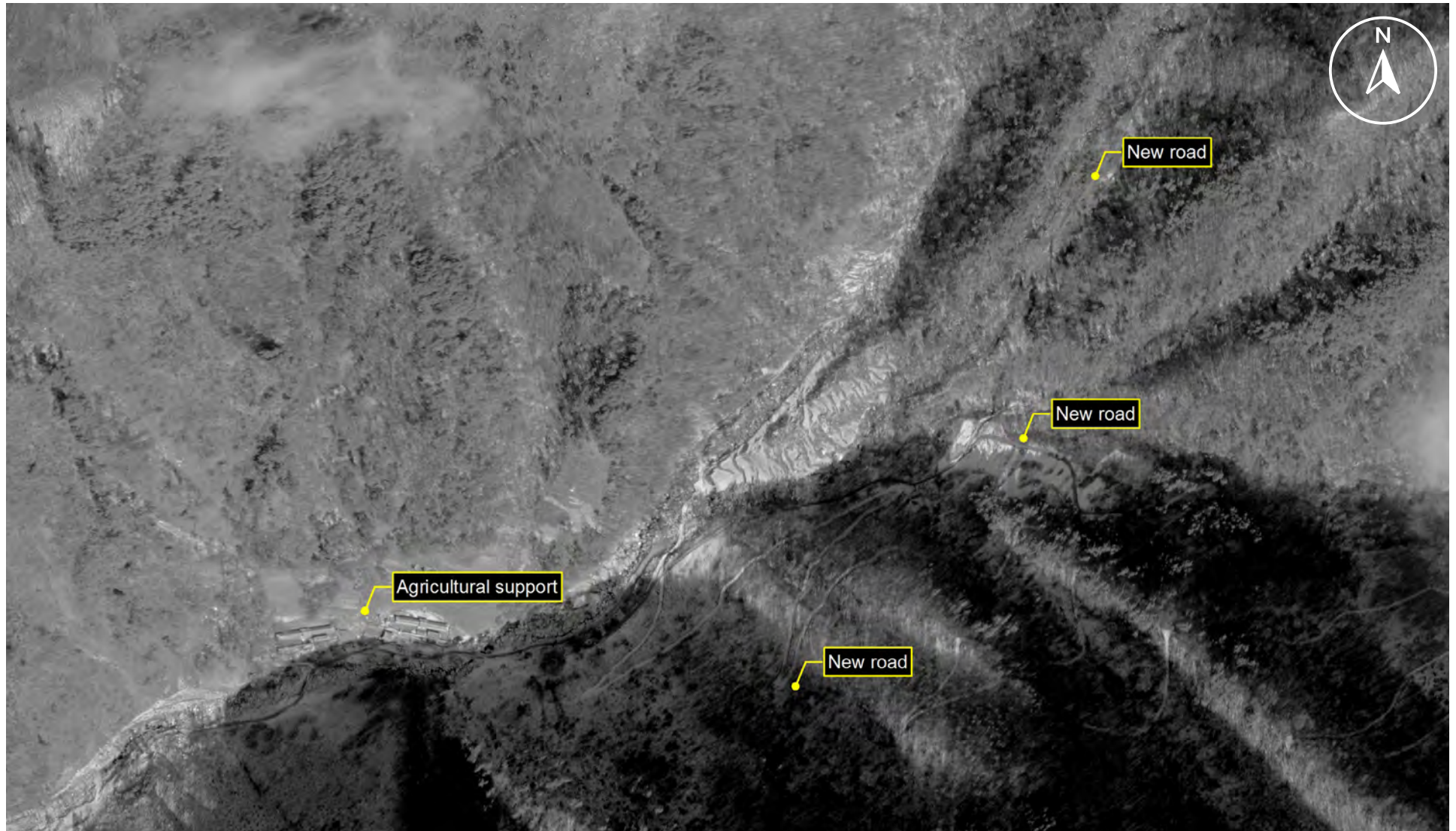
Figure 42



Area 17 - Road Construction Activity



Figure 43



Area 17 - Road Construction Activity



Figure 44



Area 18 - Road Construction Activity



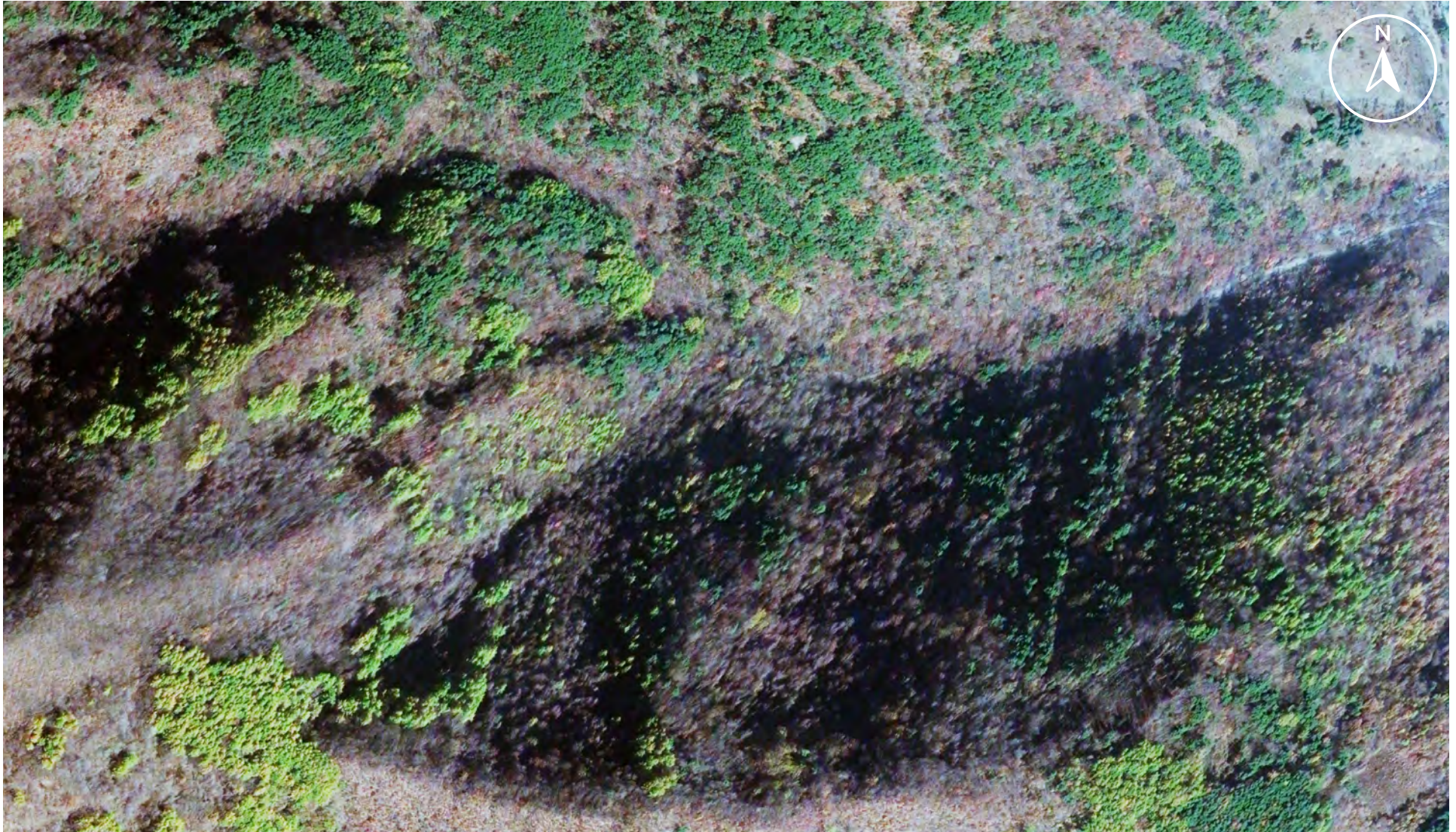
Figure 45



Area 18 - Road Construction Activity



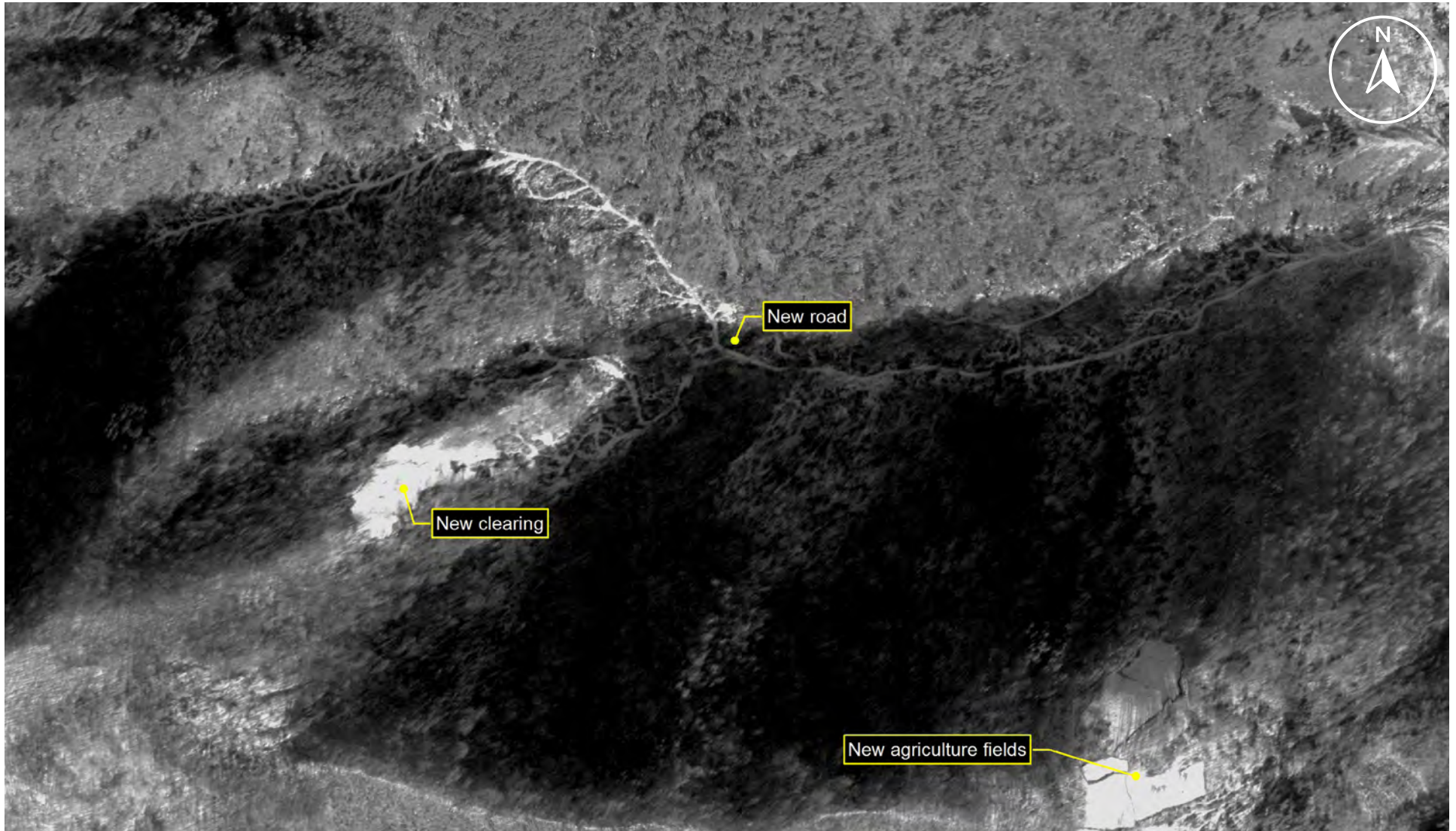
Figure 46



Area 19 - Road Construction Activity



Figure 47



Area 19 - Road Construction Activity



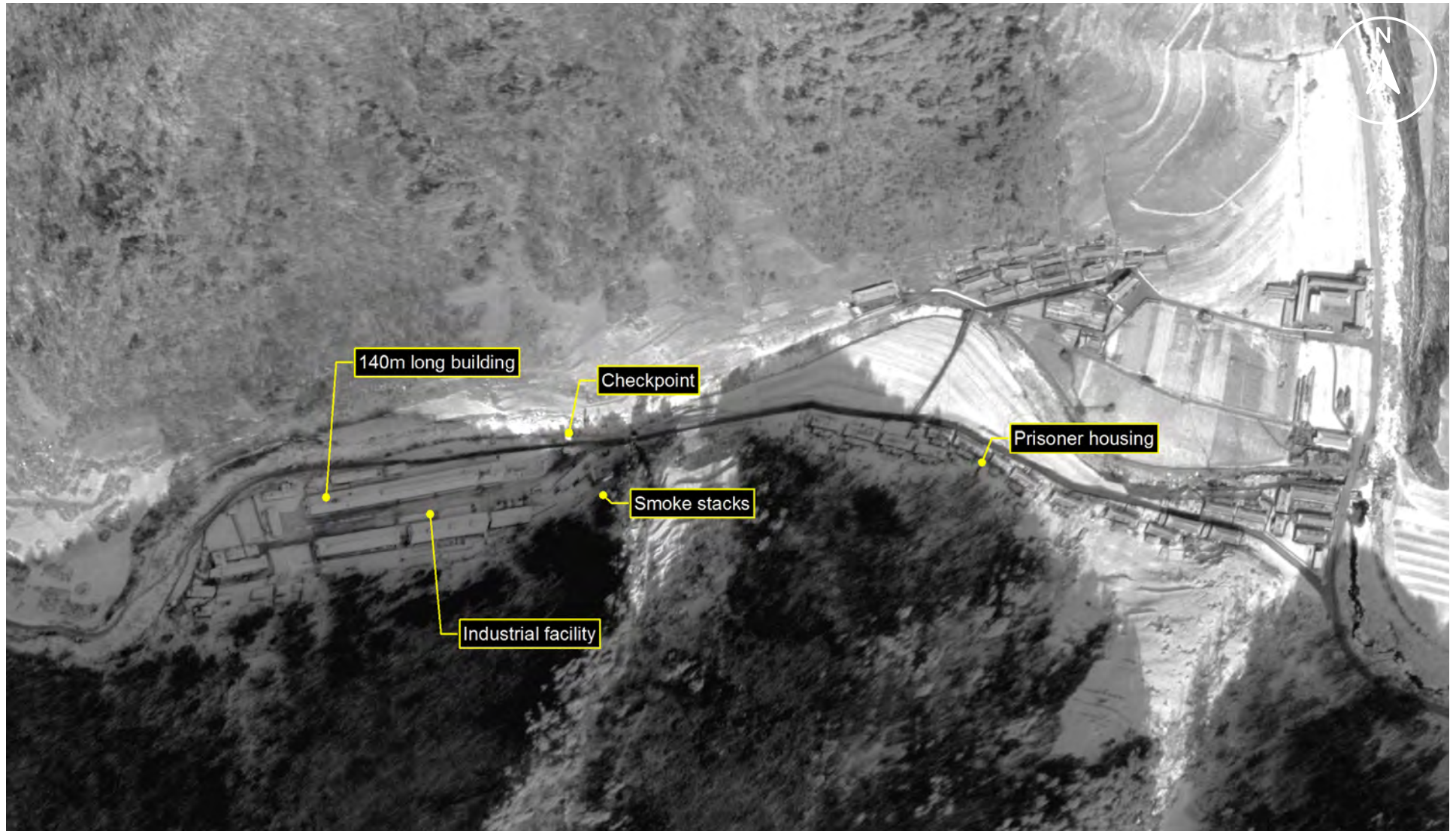
Figure 48



Area 20 - Ch'ang-dong



Figure 49



Area 20 - Ch'ang-dong



Figure 50



Area 21 - Communications Facility



Figure 51



Area 21 - Communications Facility



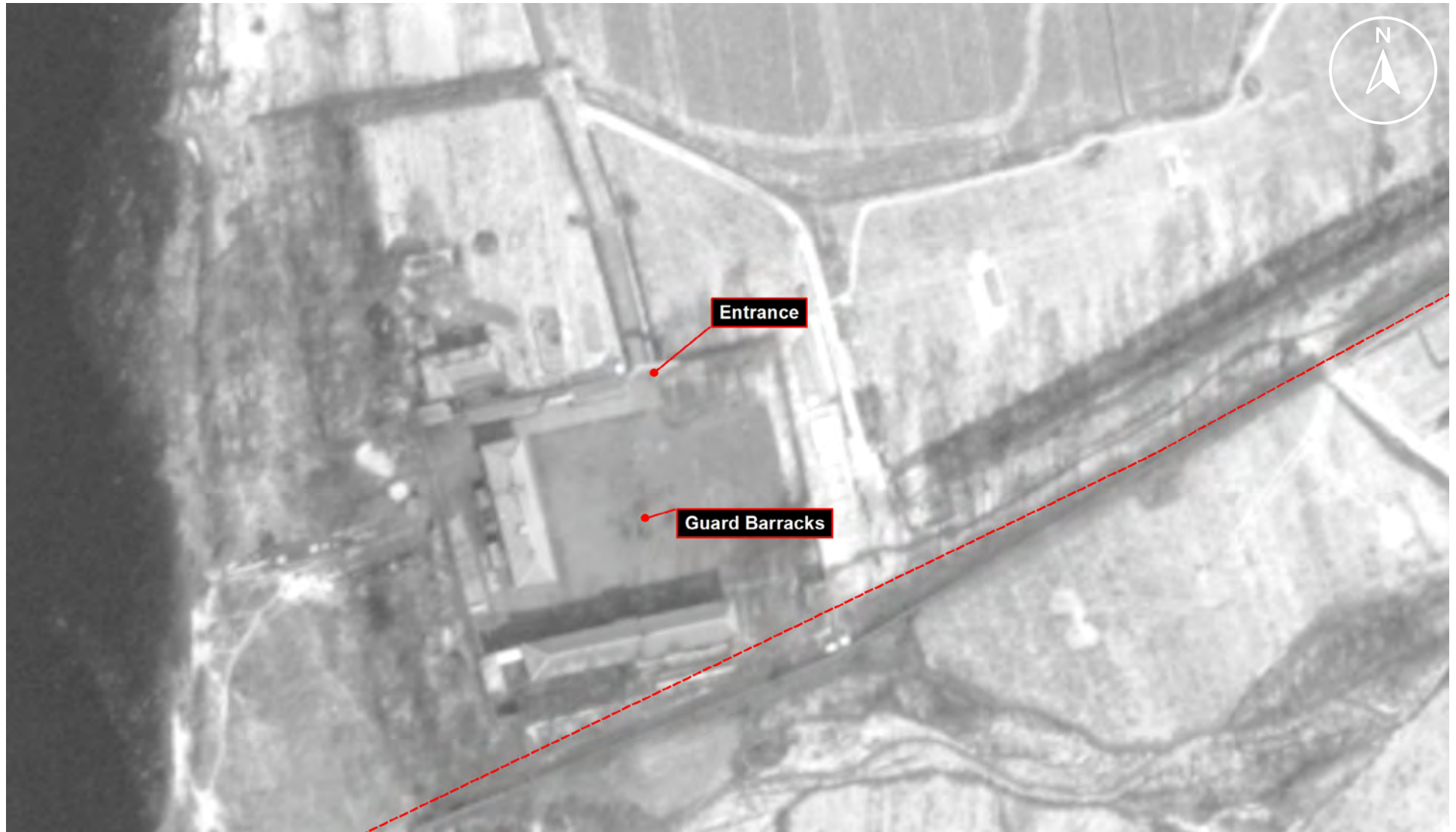
Figure 52



Area 22 - Southeast Entrance to Camp



Figure 53



Area 22 - Southeast Entrance to Camp



Figure 54



Area 23 - Ferry Crossing



Figure 55



Area 23 - Ferry Crossing



North Korea: Imagery Analysis of Camp 14

- ▶ During the period under study the camp's population has likely remained relatively constant or declined slightly.
- ▶ While Camp 14 is surrounded by a security perimeter, it is not completely enclosed within a single dedicated fixed security fence. Rather, it consists of a 119-kilometers-long network of security fences, patrol paths and roads, and 35 guard positions secure it. As noted above, the southern section of the camp's perimeter fence is secured by the Taedong-gang. This river, due to its fast current and width, represents a significant obstacle to any who are not strong swimmers. The rugged wilderness area to the camp's north serves as significant, but not insurmountable, deterrent to escape as there are large population centers within 5-10 kilometers.
- ▶ During the period under study, the number of housing units and support buildings has remained relatively stable.
- ▶ Administrative, barracks, housing, light industrial, and support buildings are well maintained and in good repair. The grounds around these structures and the road network throughout the camp are well maintained as is typified by the road construction/maintenance operations undertaken in the western section of the camp along the Kumgwang-ch'on.
- ▶ Logging, wood products production, and light industries appear to be the primary economic activities within the camp.
- ▶ There is a moderate diversity of agricultural production and all agricultural fields and orchards are well defined and maintained. Some of these are irrigated from mountain streams and rivers.
- ▶ The few livestock facilities and small fish farms identified are well maintained and show no sign of change.
- ▶ The majority of the electric power for the camp is likely provided by the two hydroelectric power plants situated on the northern bank of the Taedong-gang. These power plants likely also provide electricity to the coal mines around Pongch'ang-ni and the local railroad network.

Recommendations

Continued monitoring of Camp 14 is recommended to develop an objective baseline understanding of the camp's activities, maintain an evidentiary catalog of physical changes at the facility, update its status, develop more conclusive evidence of prisoner population size, and assist with the identification of human rights abuses.



North Korea: Imagery Analysis of Camp 14

Gazetteer

Location	Latitude (N)	Longitude (E)
Camp 14 Ferry Crossing	39.589	126.076
Camp 14 Main Entrance	39.557	126.011
Camp 14 Northeast Entrance	39.678	126.214
Camp 14 Rail Bridge	39.567	126.057
Camp 14 Road Bridge	39.570	126.062
Camp 14 Southeast Entrance	39.577	126.136
Chamsang-ni	39.602	126.114
Ch'ang-dong	39.604	126.063
Hadoryŏng-ni	39.588	126.136
Hajunae-dong	39.648	126.180
Kadŏk-kol	39.608	126.098
Kaech'ŏn	39.700	125.893
Kilsang-ni	39.663	126.135
Kiyang-mal	39.607	126.112
Kŭmgwang	39.628	126.059
Malguri	39.644	126.125
Naenjŏngcha'm	39.567	126.025
Nŭjinmogi	39.675	126.148
Oedong-ni	39.578	126.073
P'yŏngji-ri	39.609	126.152
Paegŏriha-ri	39.644	126.141



North Korea: Imagery Analysis Camp 14

Location	Latitude (N)	Longitude (E)
Pongch'ang-ni	39.559	126.078
Sadun	39.604	126.119
Samhŭng-ni	39.649	126.179
Sangdoryŏng-ni	39.577	126.140
Sangmu-gol	39.615	126.098
Sang-ni	39.644	126.162
Sanjunae-dong	39.665	126.197
Sindŏk-tong	39.623	126.146
Sinhŭngch'am	39.558	126.005
Sol-gol	39.586	126.074
Toch'ŏng-mal	39.652	126.128
Tongch'ang-gol	39.576	126.071
Yasach'am	39.570	126.056
Yongsu-mal	39.607	126.124



THE COMMITTEE FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS IN NORTH KOREA
북한인권위원회

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