

American Air Force Guided Missile Takes Radar Ride Over Libya Desert

By ARTHUR HIGBEE
United Press Correspondent
Tripoli, Libya—(U.P.)—X minus 90.

Ninety minutes to launching time. Ninety minutes until an American Air Force guided missile flashes into the sky with an ear-shattering roar on a radar ride to the target.

The target is a huge "X" marked with whiteline far out in the desert. The Air Force isn't saying how far but it's a lot more than a hundred miles.

Nobody will get hurt, not this time. The nearest sign of human life to the target is a camel trail 10 miles distant. And this time the stubby-winged Matador carries only a block of cement in its nose.

Dozen of Platforms
But if the day came, Matadors with atomic warheads could be launched against enemy armies in Europe. There are dozen of launching platforms around the forests and fields of Western Germany, each about the size of a baseball infield.

The American airmen have been brought here to Wheelus Base because heavily-populated Germany is no place for firing

Matadors even in practice. But here they have a desert three times as big as Texas.

X minus 30. The Matador, brought in seven pieces to the launching site on a trailer, has been assembled on the rubber-tired platform. Each one of these missiles costs about \$85,000 plus the warhead, or half to a fifth the cost of a fighter plane. But the Matador makes only one flight.

A New Breed
X minus 15. The launching crew makes final checks. Missile men are an eager bunch. Maj. Benjamin F. Smotherman, Fort Worth, Tex., chief of the 12th Air Force tactical missile branch, calls them "a new breed in military circles, as new as their weapons."

Airman 1/c Ernest Steele of Great Falls, S. C., puts it this way: "There's no kick like watching that missile take off."

X minus seven minutes. The men button on the final fuselage panel. The launching vehicle, cradling the 39-foot Matador on two huge Y-shaped racks, raises it to firing position. Painted an atomic orange it looks deadly in the African sun—and is.

X minus three. The jet engines rev up with a rush. The launching officer, Capt. Russell E. Selby, Ludington, Mich., a former bomber flight engineer, is last on the platform. He pulls the safety plug from the fuselage and sprouts to a sandbagged trench 100 feet away.

From now until the Matador dives on its target it will be under remote electronic control. Selby dials the launching. Then the operation center 10 miles back takes over by radar.

X minus two. Twisting a dial, Selby revs the engine up to full power. A master sergeant starts the second count: "Thirty, 29, 28..." Selby's thumbs are poised over two jet buttons.

X hour.
Selby presses the buttons. The rocket bottle attached to the Matador's tail ignites with the thunderclap of a 16-inch gun. The Matador strains forward for a split instant and then surges into space in blinding yellow flame.

Within seconds it has dropped its burned-out rocket bottle and streaks for its target.

Selby lights a cigar.
"Do a lot of sweating for that one last second."



ATTEND DAV MEETING—Members of Disabled American Veterans chapters and auxiliaries from Klamath Falls, Grants Pass, Roseburg, Oakland and Coquille attended a meeting in Medford March 18 of district 5, department of Oregon DAV. Included were (above, left to right) Mrs. Edward Neff, Medford, commander of the district auxiliary; Miss

Irene Poteet, Klamath Falls, district commander elect, to be installed at the state convention; Baden Robinson, district commander, who is receiving the new district charter from Department Commander Arch L. Brewster, Salem; and Mrs. Brewster.

—(Sanford Payne Photo)

HORNBROOK Pioneer Residence Burns

By MRS. H. H. CHAPMAN

Hornbrook—Another link in the chain of early day history of this area was broken March 16 when the old home on the former E. R. Grieve ranch burned to the ground.

Although the local fire department responded, and was assisted by many volunteers, lack of facilities at the scene made it impossible to control the fire, which was believed started by defective wiring in the attic. The house, long a landmark, was an interesting example of the type of construction much in use at the time of its erection.

Well over 100 years old, it was built of 1 by 12 pine lumber which had been reclaimed from old sluice boxes, the boards placed vertically and the cracks between covered with batten board. The builder was W. H. Smith, a prominent pioneer who was active in developing many enterprises in the Henley-Hornbrook district, and was purchased from him in 1899 by the Grieve family, in whose possession it has remained ever since.

It had been continuously occupied until the past few months, but was vacant at the time of the fire. Present owner of the ranch is Luke Lang of Yreka who bought it from his father-in-law, E. R. Grieve, when he retired last year and moved to Nevada City.

Mrs. Fred Cavin, who fractured her hip in a fall some time ago and has not been too well since, is enjoying a little vacation with her sisters, one of whom lives in Chico, Calif., and the other in Willows.

A/3c Raymond Moffett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Cummins of old Highway 99, has finished radar school at Keesler Air Force base in Mississippi and is spending a 30-day leave at home. At the end of his leave, he goes to New York to be "processed" in preparation for being transferred to Italy.

Mrs. Mollie Cole, Hornbrook justice of the peace, returned March 16 from a two week's visit with her daughters, Mrs. Gladys Seagrave and Mrs. Helen Clark, both of San Carlos, Calif.

Frank Stables, chairman of the 1956 Siskiyou county Red Cross drive, reported on March 14 that Copco, 16 miles up the Klamath river from Hornbrook, was the first in the county to complete the drive, and that their quota was more than filled. Mrs. Agnes Finch was chairman of the Copco committee.

Mrs. Lester Nye of Henley rd. was hostess on March 13 for the Contract Bridge club. Following a dessert luncheon, members playing were Mrs. James Hodge, Mrs. Marshall Horn, Mrs. Bertha Bradley, Mrs. Dave Holland who won second, Mrs. Duane Hamner, Mrs. Laura Swinerton, and the hostess, Mrs. Fred Mills, a guest player, won high score.

Mike Barnum, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Barnum, returned home Sunday after taking part in "Operation Icicle," the fourth annual adventure trip to Camp McLoughlin, the Scout camp at Lake of the Woods, Mike's dad, who is employed by the Forest Service, has long been active and interested in Scouting, and Mike himself has taken a leading part in the Scout movement ever since he first became a Cub.

Funeral services were held March 16 at the Henley-Hornbrook cemetery for Mrs. Iva Holzhauser who died in Grants Pass, Ore. Holzhauser lived here for many years prior to moving to southern Oregon 12 years ago, and had numerous friends here. Mr. Holzhauser died in January 1954. Survivors include a son, Richard of Eagle Point, and a daughter Julie Starr, of Fresno, Calif.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Nelson and small twin daughters are moving to Yreka. Nelson is connect-

ed with Willamette Builders Supply and he and his wife are active members of the local Grange.

M/Sgt. and Mrs. Samuel W. Henderson and daughter of Dixon, Calif., were week end visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James W. Hodge on Old Highway 99. Henderson is a brother of Mrs. Oliver Hodge, also of Dixon. At present, Sergeant Henderson is stationed at Hamilton, but on March 25 is being transferred to Manila, P.I.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Johnson and family of Portland, are moving into the Mendes house next door to the James Hodge residence. Johnson is a nephew of Mr. and Mrs. Matt Johnson who moved here recently from Oakland, Calif.

On March 16, Mrs. Minnie Bloomingcamp attended a layette shower for her daughter, Mrs. Dick Wyatt of Central Point, Ore. Mrs. Bloomingcamp stayed overnight with her daughter, then Mrs. Wyatt came home with her mother the next day and returned to Central Point Sunday.

Frank Lowe is in the Southern Pacific hospital in San Francisco where he is recuperating from surgery performed March 17. He is expected to remain a week or ten days. During his absence, Mrs. Lowe is being visited by her sister, Mrs. Joe Gilmore of Klamath Falls.

Mr. and Mrs. James Farmer of Portland, visited over the week end with their brother and their families, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Farmer, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Farmer. On returning to Portland Monday, Jim received word that their father was seriously ill, so he returned here, and he, Bob and Bill left Tuesday morning for Nashville, Tenn., their former home, to visit their father.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Farmer and family enjoyed visits from several friends last week. On Tuesday Mrs. Frank Kassik Sr. and son Frank Jr., of Bogus, and Mrs. Orine Willis of Montague spent the evening with them, and guests on Thursday were Mr. and Mrs. Tony Labate and three daughters of Yreka.

Mrs. L. C. Walsh entertained the Sewing club at her home on March 20. Members present beside the hostess were Mrs. Marshall Horn, Mrs. James Hodge, Mrs. S. D. Haworth, and Mrs. Harry Chapman. The meeting was in the form of a birthday party honoring Mrs. Horn.

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Klontz of Seattle, Wash., were overnight guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bear March 20. Klontz is a brother of Mrs. Bear. The Klontzes have been spending the past five weeks at Palm Springs from which point they visited friends and relatives in other California cities. They also spent some time in Mexico, and made a tour of Disneyland.

Ronnie Hagen of Seattle, a University of Washington student, has been spending his spring vacation here with his friend, Leonard Bear, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bear. Ronnie enjoyed a complete change of occupation on his vacation, as he could be seen every day running the tractor and helping in the spring seeding and disking on the ranch.

Mrs. Harry Chapman and son Oliver Fick were week end guests in Canyonville, Ore., at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rimell and daughter, Joyce.

The Hornbrook Grange requests that all members make a special effort to come out and enjoy "Fun night" on Friday, March 23, at the Grange hall.

Chrysler Wins Mobilgas Drive

Colorado Springs, Colo.—(U.P.)

—An Imperial Southampton averaged 21.04 miles per gallon over the 1468-mile stretch from Los Angeles to Colorado Springs yesterday to win the Mobilgas Economy Run sweepstakes.

The big luxury car, manufactured by Chrysler Corporation, was driven across the finish line here by Mel Alsbury Jr.

The winner of the sweepstakes was decided by the ton-mile performance of the cars. This is calculated by multiplying the total weight of the car and its load by the miles traveled, and dividing the result by the number of gallons of gasoline consumed. The drivers also were required to average 41.257 miles an hour on the trip.

Followed by Pontiac
The ton-mile performance of the Imperial was 61.37 followed by a 51.72 ton-mile mark turned in by a Pontiac that averaged 21.10 miles per gallon to win second place in the sweepstakes and first place in the low medium price class.

Other winners, and their performance, in the four-day economy run were:
Medium price class: Oldsmobile 88, 50.80 ton-mile mark and 19.70 miles per gallon.

High medium price class: Oldsmobile 98, 50.94 ton-mile mark and 18.66 miles per gallon.

Low price class: Ford Customline Victoria 8, 47.76 ton-mile mark and 20.52 miles per gallon.

Special limited displacement class: Rambler DeLuxe 6, 48.22 ton-mile mark and 24.35 miles per gallon.

Diamond Match Plans Plant at Red Bluff

New York—(U.P.)—Diamond Match Co. said today it will release shortly, probably within a week, further details on its plans for a \$5 million integrated forest products plant at Red Bluff, Calif.

The company already has acquired a 375-acre site to build on, adjacent to its principal timber holdings, totaling 220,000 acres, on the western slope of the Sierra.

At a press conference last January Robert G. Fairburn, president, said construction would start this summer. He indicated the plant would employ at least 1200 persons, including woods personnel.

Fairburn said the mill would be part of the company's overall program to achieve increased utilization of their resources.

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District 5 of DAV Holds Meeting Here

Members of Disabled American Veterans chapters and auxiliaries from Klamath Falls, Grants Pass, Roseburg, Oakland and Coquille attended a meeting in Medford March 18 of district 5, department of Oregon DAV. Included were (above, left to right) Mrs. Edward Neff, Medford, commander of the district auxiliary; Miss

ment Commander and Mrs. Arch L. Brewster, Salem, and Gerald S. Kelsey, national service officer in charge of the Portland office of DAV. Mrs. Brewster is commander of the state auxiliary.

An intensive campaign of service and welfare work for veterans was outlined at the meeting and a campaign for increased membership was started.

Resolutions were passed recommending certain liberalization

of existing veterans' benefits, as well as one endorsing the selection of the department senior vice commander, George Simmons, Medford, as state commander at the June election at the convention in Salem.

Simmons has been active in the Jackson county chapter since World War II.

Kentucky produces more coal in a year than France and Spain combined.

Laughs of the Day . . .

New York—(U.P.)—A man wearing a false nose, false glasses, false moustache and false eyebrows tried to hold up bank Teller William Blaha Thursday but apparently he overdid the makeup.

Blaha took one look at the stickup man, said "Are you kidding?" and laughed. The would-be bandit fled.

Patterson, N. J.—(U.P.)—Expert counsel on dice rolling came from an unexpected source in court Thursday.

A question arose as to whether a bet could be placed while the dice were rolling and the defense asked for a conference in the issue. Judge Howard Barret said it was customary to bet only before shooting and added, "I am an authority on the matter."

Santa Monica, Calif.—(U.P.)—Mrs. Letha Juanita Lebert, 29, was granted a divorce after testifying her husband, Richard, 29, turned her over his knee and spanked her with a shoe when she asked him about lipstick stains on his shirt.

Oklahoma City—(U.P.)—Robert Simms Popejoy, 18, paid a \$7 fine for taking a bite out of someone else's hamburger.

The youth told Judge James Demopolis he thought he saw a friend eating a hamburger in a restaurant, picked it up and took

a healthy bite before he realized he never saw the man before.

Amarillo, Tex.—(U.P.)—Leon Ray Hays, 23, returned to the local jail eight hours after he broke out and told officers he escaped "to see what you fellows would do."

France Proposes Big Three Meeting

Paris—(U.P.)—France has proposed a Big Three conference on the Middle East, it was announced today.

Foreign Minister Christian Pineau told the Foreign Affairs Commission of the National Assembly that notes went out several days ago to Washington and London, informed sources said.

The foreign ministry confirmed this report.

The announcement here came shortly after officials said in Washington that President Eisenhower's administration may ask Congress for standby authority to use American military forces in the Middle East if U.N. peace moves fail.

Astoria—(U.P.)—Marvin J. Hallett, 19-year-old airman stationed at the Portland air base, died in Seaside hospital Wednesday from injuries suffered in a beach accident Sunday.

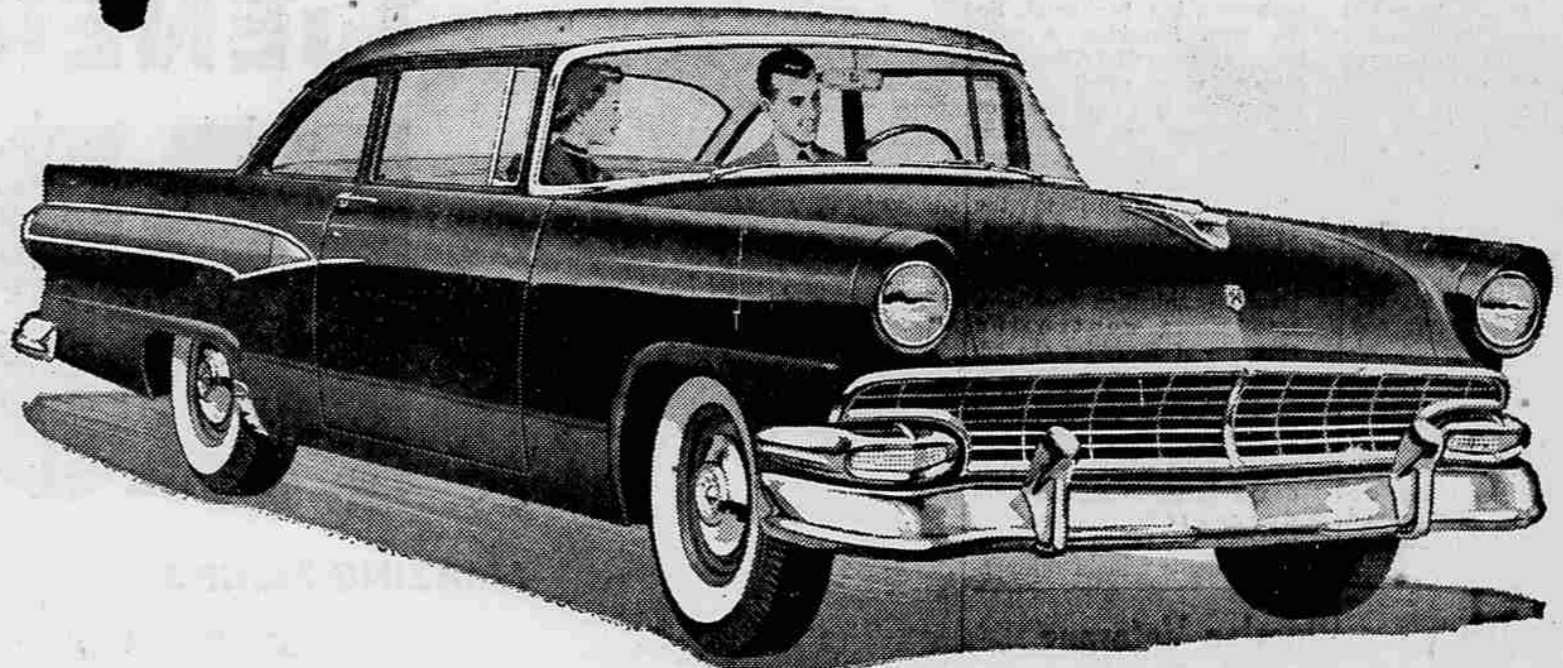
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