

Small Electronic Fort Holds Key to U.S. Air Defense

By Frank H. Bartholomew
President, United Press

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Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

The mightiest peace-keeping force in the world is contained in a little electronic fort of a room forty-five feet below the surface of winter-bleak Sarpy County, Neb.

It is the absolute control center of the great fleet of American fighting aircraft carrying atomic bombs and thermo-nuclear weapons in all skies over the Western world, ready for deadly reprisal against any aggressor.

Absolute control, except for the fact that only the President of the United States can order the release of the first atomic bomb over enemy territory.

General Thomas S. Power, commander in chief of the Strategic Air Command, the long range nuclear striking arm of the United States Air Force, can get his bombers into position over enemy territory with unbelievable rapidity. But only the President can authorize the first airplane commander to touch the first bomb release button.

Continually In Flight
Today's giant B52, B47 and B36 bombers no longer carry conventional high-explosives, nothing but atomic and thermo-nuclear bombs.

Efficiency of the air cover is such that a jet aircraft is being refueled in mid-air every three and one-half minutes around the clock; an American bomber, fully armed, may be presumed to have accepted additional fuel from a KC97 or KC135 jet tanker since you started to read this dispatch.

Two hundred and fifty million gallons of fuel—the jets use a grade gasoline just a cut above kerosene—were transferred in the skies over your head in the last year alone.

"Our mission is to remain on the alert 24 hours a day and to maintain the deterrent posture," General Power, SAC's vigorous, youthful-appearing commander in chief, said.

Unprofitable For Enemy
"We are dedicated to making it instantly unprofitable for any enemy of the United States to resort to that oldest military tactic known to man—the surprise attack."

"We are today in position to prevent any sane enemy from testing us out. We cannot, of course, prevent an enemy miscalculation or prevent a madman from pushing a button.

"In such case, we fall back upon our second responsibility—quickly to destroy the war-making potential and the enemy's will for further fighting."

A guided missile, launched within the limits of the U.S.S.R. would take 30 minutes to strike the United States. The North American radar and defense network is such that SAC counts upon having 15 minutes' warning, so that the first flight of jet bombers would be nine minutes on its way toward the enemy's cities before the guided missile struck this country.

"But the Soviet's won't launch a single guided missile in our direction," one officer in this quiet underground room observed. "They won't trade a nation for a city."

Agree on Attack Route
The Air Force command is agreed that if an attack against the United States is made, it will probably be by the polar route, in force whether by missile or bomber, and will depend upon surprise. The military rates a surprise attack as possessing a 3-to-1 advantage over an equivalent force on the defensive.

"It will come from the madman impulse or from miscalculation," General Power said. "Goering told Hitler that the Allies could never bomb Berlin. Khrushchev says his scientists tell him he is ahead of us in aerial warfare. It is always possible he will miscalculate his own strength and his estimate of our weakness."

"We should never bluff with the peace of the world at stake. But we certainly should not invite attack by appearing weaker than we are."

"I think if Khrushchev thinks he can attack us with impunity, he will do it in the next minute."

Describes Operation Setup
IMPOSSIBLE?
Who says you can't walk on air with your head in the clouds? You can, lady, if you're wearing the amazing dalsan Flights shoes. Ask for a test flight. No flight plan needed. Just fly in.

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The United States Air Force has revealed that it now files a proximity to a tely twenty thousand first line military aircraft of all types, under a complement of 860,000 officers and men.

Some 3,000 of these aircraft are the long-range bombers and tankers of the Strategic Air Command, operated and supported by more than 200,000 officers and men. SAC's force is grouped into three numbered air forces in the United States and one in Spain, an air division in the Mariannas and another in England. Its planes operate from nearly a hundred forward bases, with the central control here at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska.

What is this central control room like and is it prepared at any instant to send to war every American jet bomber anywhere in the world?

The room itself, 45 feet below a bluff along the Missouri river, might easily be mistaken for the control room of a broadcasting studio although considerably larger and filled, except for the passageways, with electronic gear.

Sees Map Layout
Similarity lies in the fact that at senior controllers set there abreast, each wearing headphones and facing a microphone, looking through a wide-view window down on to a lighted stage—like area still deeper in the earth. In this area are great panel maps of the entire world with the changing status of the force continuously indicated.

Like every Air Force map in the war room at the Pentagon or here at the solar plexus of the Strategic Air Command, these maps are based on polar projection; looking down on the earth from a point above the North Pole.

The Air Force obviously believes the great invasion route of World War III will cross the pole, coming or going.

High on one wall is a small closed-circuit television set, showing every person approaching or leaving the area through the concrete corridors overhead.

On the opposite side of the room is a device for firing shut with a powder charge each of the approach doors to the whole underground complex, in event of an enemy attack, and for showing the amount of radiation or poisoned air outside.

Drawers of War Plans
Elsewhere there are drawers of war plans—each slide when unlocked has a large placard in front marked "open" and most of them remain so, for instant reference.

—teletypes and telephones. The communications system is complex and impressive. In a cubbyhole of a room outside this central control point, this correspondent stood behind a Negro sergeant at a small switchboard and heard him check every advanced Air Force base in the world, from Thule through Africa to Hawaii, and heard their voice responses "loud and clear." This within a span of less than five minutes.

The metallic communications circuits radiating from SAC run underground for fifty miles before emerging to connect with the conventional overhead circuits.

The United States if attacked will go to war by telephone.

Dewline Detects Attack
Any transpolar invasion by missile or bomber will be picked up by the "Dewline," distant early warning in Canada and flashed to the Air Defense Command Headquarters in Colorado Springs.

The Key Question
At the same time, another controller would simultaneously lift a second telephone from a small container and dial not a series of digits but one of three colors—red, yellow or blue. This would start an alarm throughout the vast SAC headquarters establishment and summon General Power and key officers to the control room. The color dialed would indicate the urgency of the initial alert.

At the same moment Washington would be notified that SAC's bombers were on their way. A three-way evaluation of the alarm by Washington, SAC and ADC would begin. Key question to be determined:

"Is the enemy attacking?"
Thus far there have been numerous alarms and alerts, numerous dispatch of bombing stories, but always and in time the final negative answer: "no enemy attack."

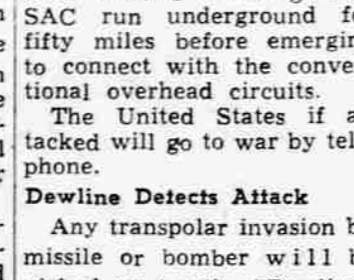
Two Replaced in Mutiny on Vessel
London — The captain and executive officer of the mine-laying cruiser Apollo were replaced today in a surprise follow-up to a "mutiny" aboard her two weeks ago.

An Admiralty announcement shortly after midnight said Capt. Stuart Lombard-Hobson and his first lieutenant, Lt. Cdr. Percy Brown were being replaced "after due consideration of all the circumstances."

Both were transferred to other commands. The Admiralty announcement said the transfers were not a disciplinary matter.

The Apollo, flagship of Britain's Home Fleet, sails from Portland Naval Base today for maneuvers in the English Channel. Her departure was twice delayed after crewmen complained she was a "hell-ship" with too much spit and polish.

They'll Do It Every Time
By Jimmy Hatlo



HOWCUM? IT'S THE KID WHO PRACTICALLY LIVES ON THE SCHOOL DOORSTEP WHO'S ALWAYS LATE FOR CLASS.

THANK AND A TIP OF THE HATLO DUNCE CAP TO LAMAR DAVIDSON, RENTZ, GA.

Don't Delay — Do It Today Mail That Income Tax Now!

Washington — If you've put it off this long don't delay further in filling out your 1957 income tax return. Persons who wait until the last minute often make costly mistakes.

That is the advice of the Internal Revenue service to taxpayers who still haven't faced up to their annual reckoning with Uncle Sam.

This year more than 60 million persons are filing returns. Officials estimate that more than two-thirds of them have already mailed their return. The deadline is mid-

night, April 15, a week from Tuesday.

But taxpayers who wait too long often slip up in their haste and pay more than they have to. Or they may understate their tax and later have to pay 6 per cent interest and possibly a penalty for negligence.

And the longer you delay in filing, the later you will get a refund check—if you have one coming.

Common errors made by those who file hastily the last day or so are: mistakes in arithmetic, failure to take all

allowable deductions, omission of special sources of income, and failure to include W-2 form estimate of 1958 income.

Last year there were mistakes in arithmetic in 1,705,000 personal returns. Of these, 1,090,000 taxpayers shortchanged the government and had to pay later.

Officials estimate from last year's experience that the IRS is helping one taxpayer in six this year to make out his return. To provide this service some 8,400 regular IRS employees spend part of the "tax season" — Jan. 1 through April 15—assisting taxpayers who telephone or visit one of more than 1,000 IRS offices throughout the country.

To cope with the seasonal tide of mail and paper work, the 64 district offices put on more than 4,500 temporary employees. They open and sort mail and perform book-keeping and other clerical operations. On the average they earn about \$1.50 an hour and are employed from 15 to 90 days.

Many are assigned to the big job of getting out refunds to taxpayers who overpaid. Last year some 33 million taxpayers received the checks for an average refund of \$95.

As in the past, the IRS tries to make refunds within 30 days and hopes to have all refunds in the mail by May 31. Officials ask the taxpayers not to write in if they do not get their checks within a month. They invariably get the check before the IRS can answer the letter.

ATTENTION—OLDER RESIDENTS

I would like to belong to a recreation club of men and women aged 50 years or more. I (can—cannot) attend the party and program of the Rogue Valley Council on Aging Friday, April 11, 2 to 5 p.m., at the Red Cross auditorium on Hawthorne st. I will bring—friends with me.

I am also interested in your work on better low-cost housing, part-time employment after retirement, or anything that makes life better and happier for older people.

Please keep my name on file and notify me of council meetings.

Name _____ Telephone _____
Address _____
(I do _____ do not _____ need transportation to the April 11 party.)
Clip and mail to:
FRANK GLONNING, Chairman
Rogue Valley Council on Aging
Camp White, Oregon

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Photos Seek Clue In Death of Agent

Tokyo — Thirty-thousand and photographs of U.S. Army intelligence Agent M.Sgt. Emmett E. Dugan, 39, were distributed today to hotels, bars and restaurants frequented by foreigners in an attempt to obtain information about Dugan's death.

Dugan's body was found floating in Tokyo Bay March 2. He had been missing since Feb. 4. Japanese reports said the agent was investigating Communists. The U.S. Army confirmed only that his work was investigative.

The Army said the cause of Dugan's death "may never be known."

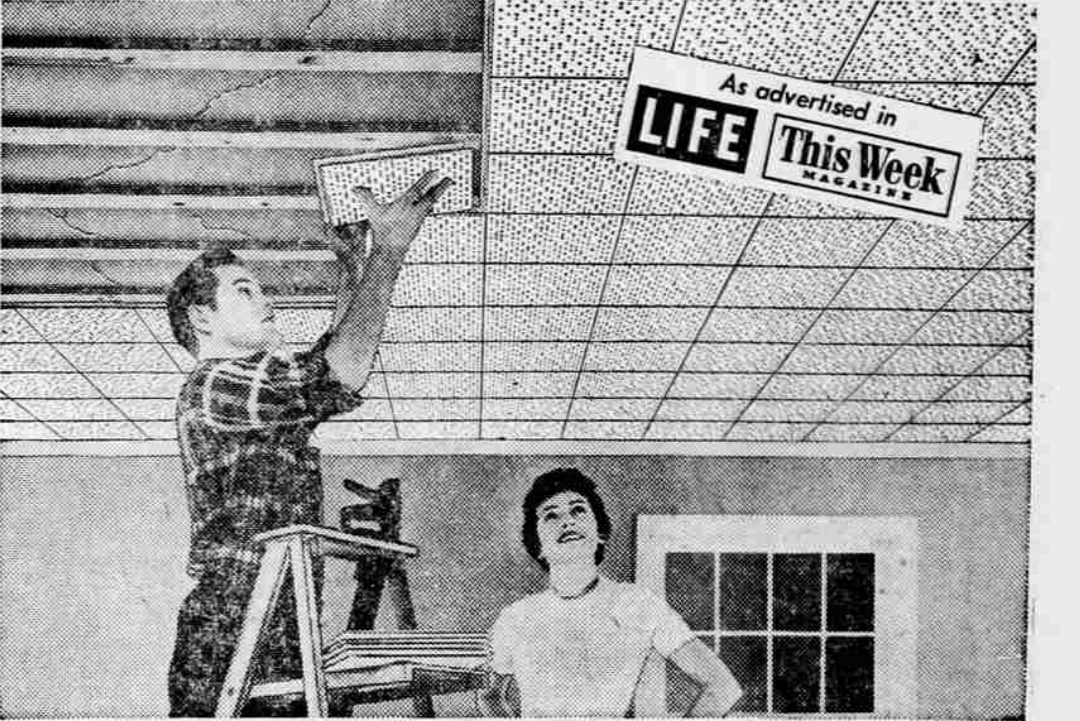
Malaya became the 82nd member of the United Nations on Sept. 17, 1957. Twenty-six countries signed the original UN declaration in 1942.

MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Oregon, Monday, April 7, 1958 5

DIEFENBAKER FISHES
Hamilton, Bermuda — Canadian Prime Minister John Diefenbaker today planned some deep-sea fishing as he enjoyed a brief vacation following his victory in last week's elections. Diefenbaker arrived here Saturday with his wife.

CHIEF IN QUANDARY
Rio De Janeiro — Rio Police Chief Danilo Sunes said on Sunday that a court order overruling the arrest order against Brazilian Communist leader Luis Carlos Prestes has made it impossible for police to combat Communism.

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April 7, 1958

Twenty-five years ago today beer returned to America. By an act of Congress, the brewing and consumption of beer became legal and millions of temperate people could once again enjoy the true beverage of moderation.

Since the dawn of recorded history, beer has helped fulfill man's desire for refreshment and pleasure. As civilization developed, beer accompanied the migration to the new world and arrived in this country aboard the Mayflower with the early colonists. Samuel Adams, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and many others prominent in our early history encouraged the formation of a brewing industry. Beer soon assumed the same role of moderation and refreshment in the culture of the New World that it had enjoyed for centuries in Europe.

As our country grew, the brewing industry served and grew with it. Then, for thirteen dark years, tradition was broken. An ugly, unwanted period of prohibition was thrust upon the American people. On April 7, 1933, common sense again prevailed.

Today the brewing industry is observing the 25th anniversary of the day beer returned to America... 25 years in which age-old traditions of brewing have been fully restored... 25 years of sound, sensible operation under Federal and State laws which were wisely conceived and equitably administered... 25 years in which the brewing industry has generously contributed to the growth and the economy of our country.

The Olympia Brewing Company and our 550 employees are proud of the part we have played in this quarter century. On this anniversary date, we repledge our adherence, not only to the laws of the land, but equally important, to the business precepts established by our founders—to maintain the highest standard of quality, service and square-dealing with everyone—be they customer, buyer, seller, employee, government or competitor.

Sincerely,
OLYMPIA BREWING COMPANY
Adolph Schmidt
PRESIDENT

A significant anniversary
...and a word about moderation



OLYMPIA BREWING COMPANY, Olympia, Washington, U.S.A.

Since 1896... "One of America's Exceptional Breweries"