

Morty Meekle



Army Unveils New 'Missile Master' Electric Brain

PT. MEADE, Md. (UP)—The Army today unveiled the "Missile Master," a huge electronic brain whose lightning-like action can launch scores of Nike guided missiles against enemy air raiders.

Army Secretary Wilber M. Brucker said that missile masters will be installed at major industrial, population and military centers to control the fire of Nike batteries against attackers.

The secretary created a flurry by asserting that the electronic brain can detect aircraft "and missiles," and control counter-attacks on such invaders.

Army officers conducting a demonstration here at first refused to say what kind of missiles Brucker referred to. But eventually it became clear that he meant the winged types that travel about the same speed as modern bombers.

He did not mean, it was clear, ballistic missiles against which defenses still have not been devised.

The Army said that plans for constructing missile master facilities throughout the country are included in its program for the fiscal year beginning next July 1 and are currently being considered in Congress. It made public its plan at a time when the Senate Armed Services Committee has raised questions about the comparative effectiveness of the Army's Nike and the Navy's Talos missile.

Army officers said that the missile master, a combination of electronic computers and long range radar, can be used to control the firing of "any current anti-aircraft missile," including the Talos.

Up to now, Nike batteries, ranging from major target areas, have had to operate independently. As a result, there was danger that in a mass air raid uncoordinated fire would result in some planes eluding the Nikes while others were attacked by more than necessary.

The Army revealed that an experimental control center has been operating here for two years. It now can control the fire of 11 Nike batteries in the Baltimore-Washington defense area. A battery normally has eight launchers.

The range of a Nike missile is about 25 miles. The surveillance radar at the control center here can pick up targets 200 miles away sweeping a circle fringed by New York, Pittsburgh and Norfolk, Va.

Another radar determines the height of approaching attackers. The missile master is, in effect, a local counterpart of the air force SAGE system which will operate on a continental basis. The two are closely tied together.

NEW STAFF
YREKA—Siskiyou Sheriff Al Cotlar has announced the addition of three members to his staff. They are Robert E. James, J. Catrone and John Joseph McCollan. Lee, a resident of Yreka, has been appointed deputy sheriff. Catrone and McCollan are relief jailer and jailer.

National League batman hit 30 grand slam home runs in 1955. This was five under the all-time league mark of 35 set in 1950.

USAF, Industrial Housing Situation Said Critical

A re-study of the housing needs and supply of the Klamath Falls area shows that industrial and military projects being built, or planned, here will further aggravate the already critical shortage of adequate housing. This conclusion was announced at a meeting of the Klamath County Chamber of Commerce housing division of the Military Affairs Committee held Thursday in the chamber offices. The housing group is chairmanned by Ed Bell.

Lt. Col. Robert Larson, senior U.S. Air Force project officer at the Klamath Falls municipal airport, said that his available information indicated that the Air Force is still planning to man the local base by some time this year. Plans for manning the base have been delayed somewhat due to bad weather halting some of the construction, said Col. Larson. It is expected that the building will be resumed and Air Force personnel be assigned to the base in increasing numbers during the summer, he indicated.

AUGUST CONTRACT
Major Oscar Whitten, installations and engineering officer at the base, said it is expected that the contract to build 220 family units near the air base will be let sometime in August, Maj. Whitten stated that it would be at least a year's job but that some of the units could be built and occupied by February, 1957.

Yreka Elks Club Elects Officers
YREKA—Five new officers and two new trustees were elected at Tuesday's meeting of the Yreka Elks Lodge. They were O. E. Ben, exalted ruler; Lloyd Coatsney, leading knight; Bert Franklin, lecturing knight; and Ken Wilson, secretary.

The new trustees are Holt C. Wardrip and Judge John Kinstry. Retained in office were Charles O'Donne, treasurer; Joe Matthews, tiler; Chico Baumbach, trustee; Joe P. Correia, and Sam Avery, trustees. Charlie Harris will retire from the position of trustee this year.

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A union official said that an adequate supply of building trades workers will be available for all the construction planned here this year even with the construction

at the air base and the other industrial developments planned. The meeting was attended by representatives of local financing institutions, Air Force officers, labor and building supply officials.

The Air Force is seeking to have this project start as soon as possible, stated Maj. Whitten. At present, Leo Huls, Klamath Falls contractor, is renovating 16 apartments located in buildings already on the base. The bids for the renovation of eight more apartments on the base will be let in the next few months, Maj. Whitten announced.

The Air Force has estimated a need for 445 family housing units for use by the air personnel manning the base when the full complement of 1,009 officers and airmen are assigned here. This will mean approximately 200 family housing units in Klamath Falls will be needed over and above the housing units to be built by the Air Force.

Added to these military housing needs it was brought out at the meeting that the industrial developments planned by the Johnson-McCormick Corp. and California Oregon Power Co. will make the need for more housing even more acute.

Chamber of Commerce Manager R. Frank Tucker said the figures compiled by his office show a shrinking of available rentals over the past several months.

A representative of one of the financial institutions of Klamath Falls said his firm is processing the plans for approximately 100 new homes to be built here this spring and summer. The homes will all be built under FHA ap-

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