

Residents Of Surf Get Used To Evacuating The Town During Rocket Work

SURF, Calif. (AP) — Evacuate! The cry sweeps through this tiny beach town and everything stops. Navy buses roll down the dusty streets and 35 to 40 men, women and children climb aboard. At 7 minus 45 minutes, the buses roar away—and everyone in the countryside knows a big rocket is about to be fired. Surf, Calif., is a stop on the Southern Pacific Railroad, which runs along the coast through the West's new missile launching area. North of Surf is the 64,000-acre Vandenberg Air Force Base. To the south is Pt. Arguello, the Navy's 19,000-acre missile launching facility. Discoverer satellite rockets arc southward from Vandenberg toward an orbit around the earth's poles. If one of them should explode or have to be destroyed, the debris might fall on Surf and Pt. Arguello. The day before a Discoverer firing the people at Surf are alerted to get ready for evacuation. A few grumble but most of them, families of track maintenance workers, welcome this interruption of their quiet existence among the sand dunes. Mrs. Nick Juarez, mother of three says, "It's like a picnic, except that you have to go whether you want to or not. The kids think it's wonderful." Station master Bob Wolfe is the only one who doesn't leave. Just before shot time he ducks into a crude bomb shelter made of an old fuel tank and covered with sandbags. The civilians evacuated from Surf go shopping in nearby Lompoc, see movies at Vandenberg, or visit friends. After the launching they are hauled back home. The government foots the bill and reimburses the railroad for the time its workmen are off the job. This is a fairly inexpensive operation. But everything also stops at the Pt. Arguello facility, where missile and space vehicle launch sites are under construction. Twenty-four hours before a Discoverer firing, all workmen are notified to take the next day off. A contractor source estimates this cost currently at \$25,000 a day. Discoverer V, originally scheduled to be fired Tuesday, was postponed to Wednesday, then Thursday because of weather and technical problems. Late Thursday the shot was postponed again, for at least 48 hours. Each day the people at Surf were evacuated and the work at Pt. Arguello shut down.

Well Digger Hits Gold Ore

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (AP)—Horace J. Tuttle is a well-digger with a problem. He's struck a vein of gold ore he can't mine. His firm drilling at a new housing development has struck gold twice—at 120 feet and at 194 feet. H. D. McKnight, a certified mineralogist, says the strike at 194 feet apparently is a low-grade gold ore vein. But the two won't turn Winston-Salem into a gold rush town. McKnight says the ore can't be mined. "It's too near the city and the law wouldn't allow it," he says sadly.

Stolen Wire Not For Bail

EAST GREENWICH, R.I. (AP)—Three men charged with being idle persons recently put up a truck and 1,500 pounds of wire for bail. District Court Judge James W. Leighton said Friday police discovered that the wire had been stolen from the Connecticut Light and Power Co. Judge Leighton declared Robert F. Smith, 37, Indianapolis, Ind., and John W. Devine, 29, and Thomas C. Cooper, 38, both of Las Vegas, Nev., in default of bail. He said, he hasn't decided what to do about the truck and wire, which have been in the Warwick police garage since July 13.

OVER THE GARDEN GATE

MALIN GARDEN CLUB. MALIN—At the July meeting of the Malin Garden Club held at Mrs. J. Perry Haley's home, Mrs. Haley presented a study on the troleus flower, chosen this year for horticulture study by the organization. Other business brought up at the meeting by President Mrs. Karl Kujac was the district Centennial Flower Show to be held Saturday, August 1, and Sunday, August 2. The members were reminded to bring two dozen cookies and at least one arrangement. Under the garden therapy chairmanship, Mrs. Hubert Morelock reported that old fashioned bouquets had been taken to Mrs. H. T. Tout, Mrs. A. E. Street and Mrs. Ann Weatherby. She also announced that the arrangement of the month was made by Mrs. Rudolph Jelinek and Mrs. Robert Byrne. Malin will be host for the district garden club meeting to be held in September. Mrs. Haley was appointed chairman for this activity. The next gathering for the club will be on August 26 in Malin Park at 9:30 a.m. Mrs. E. Hammond Loveness will conduct the group on a bird tour, with a potluck luncheon following. Anyone interested is invited to come it was announced. The meeting closed with a demonstration on propagation by air wrapping given by Mrs. Haley and Mrs. Kenneth Huffman. Refreshments were served by hostesses, Mrs. Haley and Mrs. Jelinek.

'Take God Along' Officials Urge

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP)—State safety officials have called on the clergy to help put over the theme "that we should not leave God behind when we enter our automobiles." A booklet of suggested sermons was mailed to the New Mexico clergy by Safety Administrator D. K. Kelly. The booklet was mailed out just at the start of the traditional peak of the tourist travel season. It includes one-minute sermons which could be used for each of 12 Sunday services, timed to run into October.

Shark Exhibited; Surf Still Full

SANTA CRUZ, Calif. (AP) — The seacoast folks here are shark-curious. But they're not shark-scared. A 1,300-pound man-eater, 14 feet in length, was put on display at a pier here Friday by the fisherman who netted it. Crowds gathered around for a view — then most of them went swimming in the same Pacific waters where it was caught.

Door Smashed, Firemen Late

OWATONNA, Minn. (AP)—Volunteer firemen at nearby Claremont were repairing the door of their station Saturday. As they started to answer an alarm Friday, the overhead door slammed shut and stuck there—so they drove the fire engine right through it. They still weren't in time to save a blazing barn.

PEARL NEWBURGH, N.Y. (AP) — Joseph G. Mecca's wife is getting a new pearl—one that Mecca said he found in a clam. That's right, a clam. Mecca was preparing clams in his restaurant in nearby Salisbury Mills this week. In one shell, he said, he found a pearl three-eighths of an inch in diameter. A Newburgh jeweler, William H. Griffin, confirmed the find was a pearl.

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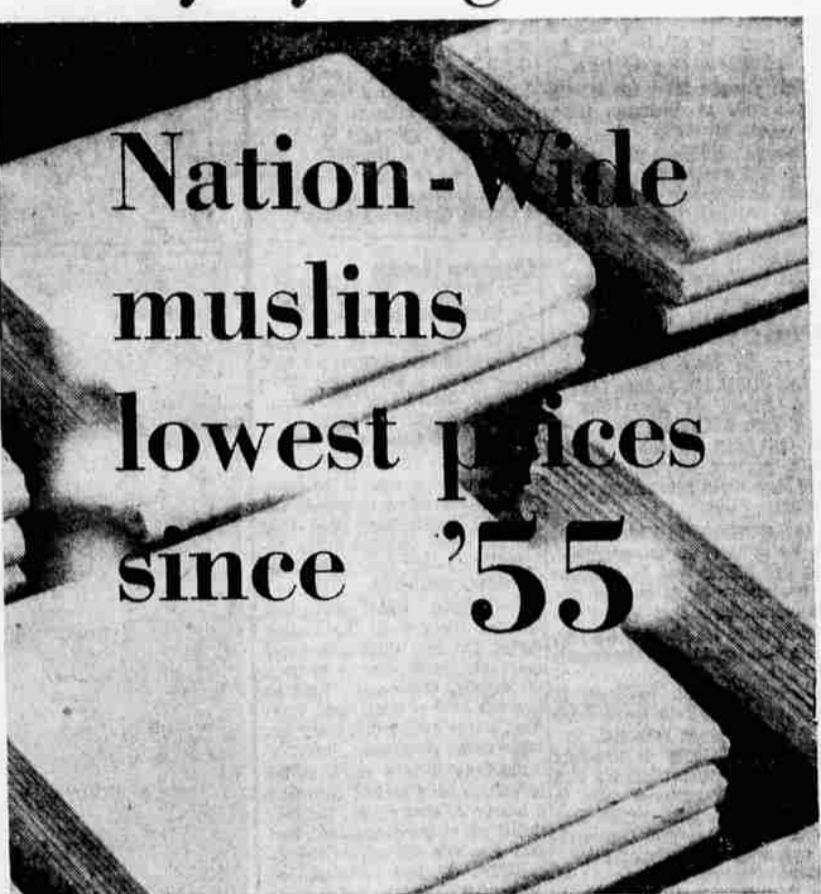


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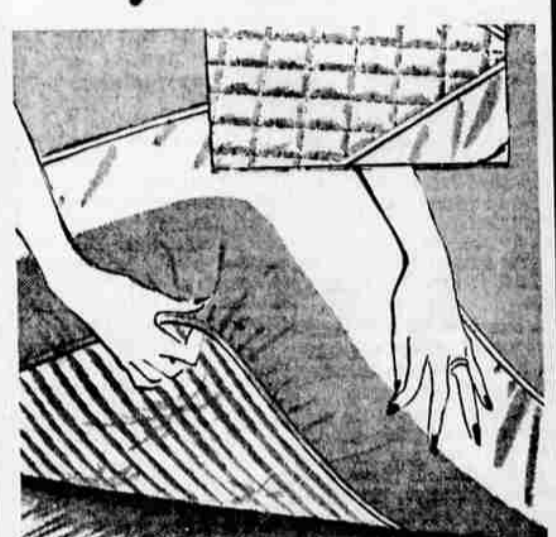


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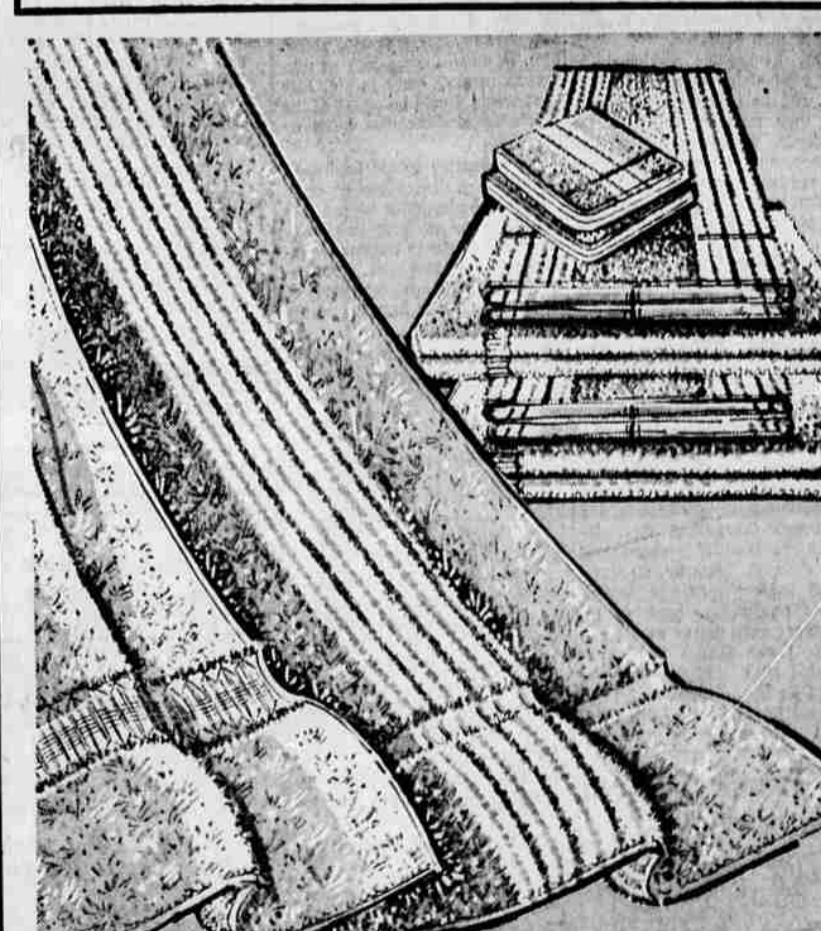


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