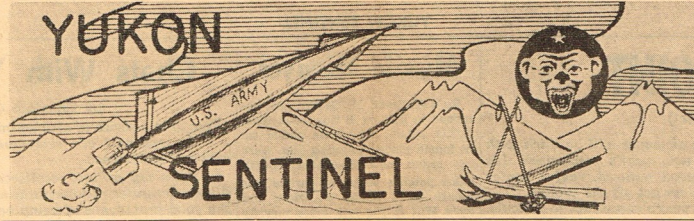


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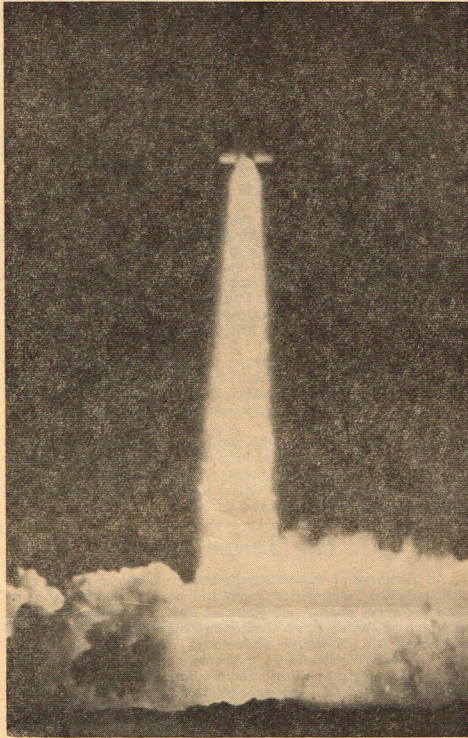


Vol. 1, No. 6

YUKON SENTINEL

December 18, 1959

WHEN YOU
SPEED ON ICE
DEATH LOADS
THE DICE



THE FIRST MISSILE FIRED IN ALASKA soars into the night sky above "B" Battery, 2nd Missile Bn Tuesday afternoon. This first Nike-Hercules is part of the annual service practice to be conducted by the 2nd and 4th Missile Battalions.

PERFECT HIT BY SECOND MISSILE AFTER FIRST FIRING FAILS—SAFE

The second Nike-Hercules missile to be fired in Alaska roared from its launching pad at 11:11 yesterday morning and soared through the air toward an approaching simulated B-57 Stratofortress bomber flying at 45,000 feet. Within seconds the deadly Nike-Hercules speed reached Mach 3, or three times the speed of sound,

and destroyed the oncoming target some fifty miles away at a "kill point."

Chaplain Was WWII B-17 Gunner

Thirty-four missions over Europe as a belly gunner in a B-17 and the winning of the Distinguished Flying Cross are part of the record of the mild mannered chaplain in the 1st Battle Group, 9th Infantry, 1st Lt. Lyle H. Shaw.

Before he became a minister in the Lutheran Church, Chaplain Shaw was drafted into the old Army Air Corps. That was in 1943, after he had finished high school in Estherville, Iowa, and when the idea of becoming a minister was still just an idea.

Twice, the bomb group to which staff sergeant Shaw belonged, flew to Russia and undertook missions from Russian bases. From Russia, the planes bombed strategic locations in Rumania, and undertook a supply mission for the Polish underground near Warsaw. Chaplain Shaw recalls that anti-aircraft fire was particularly bad that trip.

Two supply missions to French underground forces in the Alps were extremely hazardous. They flew at 20,000 feet, safe from anti-aircraft fire, until they were south of Paris, then it was necessary to fly low enough to drop supplies.

Chaplain Shaw kept a diary of his experiences which was confiscated by US Intelligence in 1944 as he prepared to return to the States. Unexpectedly he received it back after the war.

In 1946 he entered Augsburg College, Minneapolis, Minnesota; he graduated in 1950 with a BA degree and then took theological training at Luther Theological Seminary graduating in 1953. He was pastor for a time of the First Lutheran Church, Sioux Rapids, Iowa before volunteering for the Army.

Chaplain Shaw came to Alaska on August 30 of this year from Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Denver, Colorado.

Military leaders, civic representatives and the press watched tensely as the Hercules blasted off in a flame-spurring climb and then plummeted in a sure, swift sweep to hit and explode within killing proximity of the simulated B-57, high above the frozen snow-covered tundra of Alaska.

It was a perfectly planned and executed mission," said Captain Marvin Alexander, commanding officer of the Battery and the man behind the "button." Firing of the Nike-Hercules was a practice exercise and not a tactical shoot for missilemen in Alaska. Yesterday morning's shoot was performed by the men of Battery B, a remote site located east of Eielson AFB.

The missile, nicknamed "Easy-flow" aptly demonstrated its effectiveness in case of an actual attack on this area in Alaska. This was the second of 16 firings to take place during the annual service practice for Alaskan missile units. Its predecessor "Scourge of the Yukon" failed after a premature explosion which is called a "fail-safe."

The "fail-safe" explosion occurred when the missile received no command from the tracking radar after launching, and is a safety control measure built into the missile. Technicians from the 199th Ordnance worked throughout the night to locate the reason for the explosion of the first missile. It was discovered that two small electronic components in the missile-tracking radar failed.

The next firing will be sometime during the first part of January.

The Nike-Hercules is the successor to the Nike-Ajax. It is 27 feet long and weighs 5,000 pounds, compared to the Ajax's 21 feet and 1100 pounds. It uses solid fuel instead of the touchy liquid fuel system of the Ajax.

Concert Assn. To Present Handel's Messiah

Handel's Messiah will be presented to all military and dependents by the Fairbanks Concert Association, on Friday night at 8:00 p.m., at the Robert Sullivan Theater.

The Fairbanks Concert Association, with a full schedule of concerts this season and sponsoring the concerts at Lacey Street Theater, is made up of 50 orchestra members and will be accompanied by 100 voices from Ladd and the Fairbanks area.

The orchestra under the direction of Glenn Berg will start the traditional Christmas program with a selection of Yuletide arrangements and then will be joined by the Chorus with more well known Christmas carols.

Next on the program the Chorus will sing the Messiah's more popular pieces and at the end the orchestra will join in with the Hallelujah Chorus climaxing the program.

The following Sunday the concert will be given at the Lathrop High School which will be opened to everyone. There will be no admission charge.

SOLDIERS FEATURED ON CHANNEL 11 TONITE

It'll be a "Green," Rock 'n Roll type Christmas when talent from the Army's Yukon Command is featured in a special Holiday show tonight at 8:30 on Channel 11, presented by the Yukon Command Special Services.

Featured acts include the "poor man's Stan Freberg," Larry Kelley doing "Green Christmas," Joe Toledan and his classical guitar lend an air of culture to the bright Holiday show, and Russ White and his group make it a Rock 'n Roll Holiday.

Bob Hope show due to perform at Ladd on 22 Dec. Performance will be in Hangar No. 1, 2:00 p.m.

Christmas Mail Triples As Yule Gifts Roll In

"It's here," said SFC Buel B. Pearson, Yukon Command Postal chief, one day this week as he walked into the Information Office, "All that mail you wanted for a picture." Sergeant Pearson was describing what seemed to be mountains of mail destined to brighten Christmas for personnel of the Yukon Command.

Santa, or his substitutes, the U.S. Post Office, first started pouring in the Christmas goodies about the first of the month.

The load at the Post Office has nearly tripled during the period since.

"It's still picking up" says Pearson.

About 15 sacks of mail a day have poured into the Post Office during the Christmas rush, as against a usual average of 5.

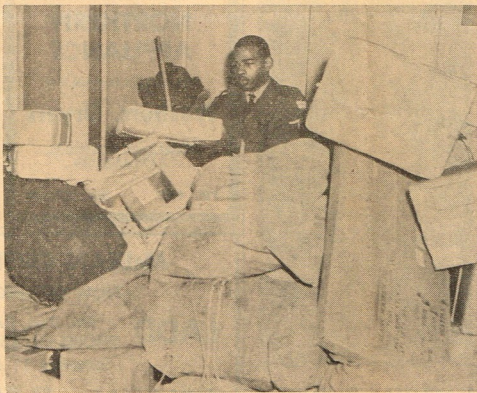
In addition, nearly 100 boxes have filled the mail room floor, a tremendous increase over the usual flow.

Air mail for the season has been far above usual as cards and letters from friends in the "Lower 48" pour in.

"Outside" friends of Yukon Command personnel are not being neglected, either, as mailings for "below" increase.

Over twenty pounds of airmail have gone out each day from the Post Office here, as well as several hundred packages.

Postal staff members assisted by personnel from the Battle Group have maintained the flow of mail to the units, despite the increase.



Piles of incoming mail appear to have Pfc Cecil Jackson backed into a corner, as mail from all over the country pours in to brighten the Christmas of many Yukon Command soldiers.



Sp/5 Edward Loomis sacks mail for shipping to the "Lower 48." Loomis has handled several thousand packages as Yukon Command personnel rush to get something under the Christmas tree at home.