



Frank A. Armstrong Jr.

#35.12

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WESLEY W. SPINK-DOCTOR AND FISHERMAN

BISHOP O'FLANAGAN, BISHOP

PAT, JIMMY AND NICK

PHIL SIGNS -30-

P-35/504



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JUNE 1956--UP FROM BARKSDALE TO LOOK OVER THE PLACE

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ARRIVAL TO TAKE OVER AAC--JULY 1956

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GOOD LUCK EARL

P-35/509



MR. WATSON, WELCOME TO AAC

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WELL DESERVED RAY

### General Back At AAC Helm After 5 Years

The Alaskan Air Command has a new commander, Maj. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, Jr.

The position of commander Alaskan Air Command has been temporarily occupied since Maj. Gen. George R. Acheson's departure by Lt. Gen. J. H. Atkinson, top military officer in Alaska.

The new Alaskan Air Command commander appointed by Headquarters USAF, is presently commander of the 2nd Air Force at Barksdale AFB, Shreveport, La., a major component of the Strategic Air Command.

#### No Newcomer

General Armstrong is no newcomer to Alaska military operations. He was appointed chief of staff of AAC in January 1948, and in 1949 became commander AAC. In September 1949, he pioneered an air route non-stop from Alaska to Norway, and from Norway to New York City.

He left Alaska in January 1951 and assumed command of Sampson AFB, N. Y., prior to becoming commanding general of the 6th Air Division at McDill AFB, Fla.

As commander of the 6th, he trained and equipped the Air Force's first B-47 Strato-jet bomber wing.

#### Much Decorated

The general is a much decorated World War II combat veteran of both the European and Pacific theaters. He was born in Hamilton, N. C., May 24, 1902.

General Armstrong's exact date of arrival in Alaska is unannounced but is expected to be mid-July.



MAJ. GEN. FRANK A. ARMSTRONG ... returns as chief of Alaskan Air Command

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AT THE CHATEAU—SUMMER 1956

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# ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1956

## Armstrong Named New Alaskan Commander

### Atkinson Taking Over At Ent AFB



CHANGE COMMANDS—Lt. General Joseph H. Atkinson, commander in chief of all U. S. military forces in Alaska, pins the insignia of the Alaskan Air Command on his successor, Lt. General Frank H. Armstrong Jr. Lt. General Atkinson has been named as new commander of the Air Defense Command with headquarters at Ent Air Force Base, Colo. The incoming commander-in-chief has headed the Alaskan Air Command for the past two months. (U. S. Air Force Photo.)

Lt. General Joseph H. Atkinson, commander in chief of all U. S. Military forces in Alaska, was named today as the new commander of the Air Defense Command with headquarters at Ent Air Force Base, Colorado Springs, Colo.

He will be replaced here by Major General Frank H. Armstrong Jr., who has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant general, according to announcements made today by Headquarters U. S. Air Force at the Pentagon in Washington, D. C.

General Atkinson has completed over six years of military duty in Alaska, more than any other general officer in the Armed Forces. He and his staff are speeding up activities here in preparation for the general's departure scheduled for Friday.

The Air Defense Command which General Atkinson will now head has the responsibility of protecting the United States against enemy air attack. It is one of the U. S. Air Force's largest major commands.

Lt. General Armstrong who has headed the Air Force's Alaskan Air Command for the past two months is no stranger to Alaska. During 1948-51, he served first as chief of staff and later as commander of the Alaskan Air Command.

General Atkinson first arrived in the Alaskan theatre in 1946 and assumed duties as commanding general of the Alaskan Air Command with headquarters at Fort Richardson.

While in Alaska, General Atkinson has worked in close harmony with other military forces to build up the air defense in the territory. He has monitored a huge military construction program which has molded Alaska into a bastion "capable of rapidly countering any possible attack against Alaska or any Polaris air movement against the United States," military officials noted.

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IT'S ALL YOURS FRANK

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THESE ARE YOUR COMPONENT COMMANDERS

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THE NEW FOR THE OLD  
HONORARY MEMBERSHIP IN ELMENDORF AFB  
NCO CLUB REPLACES THE ONE AT BARKSDALE AFB

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LOU COIRA WATCHES JOE GOVOCEK PRESENT  
\$60,000 CHECK FOR AIR FORCE AID SOCIETY

[Handwritten mark]

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ANCHORAGE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM—SEPTEMBER 1956

## 'Freedom Shrine' Presented to School by General Armstrong

The United States is building up its defenses to ward off attack, so that the nation's youth can continue to enjoy its heritage of freedom, Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, Jr., commander in chief of the Alaskan Air Command, said this morning as he presented the "Freedom Shrine" to the high school and the city.

Louis Garcia, president of the school Student Council, received the 28 plastic-covered reproductions of historic American documents in a ceremony in the high school auditorium.

"The most urgent of these problems are concerned with the safety of our nation," General Armstrong said in his first public appearance since his appointment to the post.

"Do you know why we are so serious about doing these hard jobs now? Do you know why we refuse to take things easier and just hope for the best? It is because of you that we do not. You deserve the same chance to be free and happy that we older people had when we were young, and we are going to see that you get that chance.

"We want to pass on to you the same privilege of living the way you want to live that our fathers gave to us. In other words we are going to preserve for you the great heritage represented here — the priceless documents which spell out

the concept of democracy."

Armstrong reminded his listeners, the entire high school student body, that all their knowledge comes from those who have gone before, and warned them that the task of preserving our heritage of freedom will fall to them.

The Freedom Shrine was donated to the Air Force by the National Exchange Club for presentation to an educational institution in Alaska. Here the exhibit will be on view to students and residents alike.

The reproductions in the collection were made at the National Archives, Washington, D. C., working directly from the original documents.

Lt. Col. Paul V. Porter, public information officer at the Alaskan Air Command, explained the background of the documents. Master of ceremonies was Frank Brink, speech director at the community college.

City officials present as guests included Mayor Anton Anderson, Dr. LeRoy V. Good, director of the college and Claire Banks, president of the Chamber of Commerce, among others.

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FREEDOM SHRINE PLAQUE GIVEN TO DON RENSHAW, SENIOR CLASS PRESIDENT

## Alaska Communication History Made by Dedication of Cable

Communication history was made yesterday as the Alaska submarine telephone cable was dedicated simultaneously in Washington, D. C., Seattle, Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau and Ketchikan.

Built by the American Telephone and Telegraph company, the cable stretches 750 nautical miles from Port Angeles, Wash., to Ketchikan.

Actually there are two cables, one for southbound and one for northbound transmission. The cables interconnect with Alaska Communications system, a division of the Army Signal Corps.

Anchorage dedications ceremonies were held at the Northern Lights Service club at Elmendorf. The invocation was given by Chaplain (Col.) L. Bartholomew, Chief of Chaplains, United States Army, Alaska.

Lt. Col. Glenn M. Vinquist, deputy commander, Alaska Communications system, acted as master of ceremonies and introduced distinguished guests present.

Brig. Gen. T. R. Stoughton (USA) Chief of Staff, Alaskan Command, praised the new cable saying, "communications such as this are vital to the military in Alaska in accomplishing its mission."

Maj. Gen. James F. Collins, commanding general, United States Army, Alaska, also praised the new communication milestone and commented, "it is a step forward in the development of Alaska which will benefit commerce and the residents of Alaska as well as the military."

Mayor Anton Anderson of Anchorage said, "I speak not only for the people of Anchorage but for Alaska as a whole when I say we are indeed appreciative of your efforts in providing the people of Alaska with this service."

Claire O. Banks, president of the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce, said transportation and communication such as this had speeded the growth of Alaska.

"As a radio man," he said, "I

am sure the cable will have a definite bearing on the production of live network radio and television programming."

After the formal ceremonies a short film on the actual laying of the cable was shown.

At precisely 11:30 a.m. Alaska time, Washington, D. C., Anchorage, Juneau, Seattle, Fairbanks and Ketchikan were "on the line."

From Juneau, Alaska's Governor B. Frank Heintzleman, talked with congressional delegate from Alaska E. L. Bartlett in Washington, D.C., and with the chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, G. C. McConaughy.

Secretary of the Army, Wilbur M. Brucker in Washington, talked with Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, commander in chief, Alaska and with General Collins at Elmendorf.

The mayors of the cities of Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau and Ketchikan also spoke to each other from their respective cities.

The approximately 50 persons present at Elmendorf during the ceremony were all amazed at the clearness with which the voices were transmitted.

There was no failure and no static throughout the conversations. Most of the men talking from Washington with those at Elmendorf talked about the cable . . . and the weather.

Secretary Brucker said Washington was enjoying 40 degrees above zero weather. General Collins invited him to come up and cool off in the 25 below here.

At the close of the ceremony the cable was turned over to ACS for "service to the public."

Christmas messages to the states will for the first time be free from atmospheric conditions which were present in the old radio-telephone system.

### First Call



MAKING the first call over the first link of a new defense communications network in Alaska is Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, Jr., Commander-in-Chief, Alaska. The network was put in operation at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska. After making the call, to a remote site, General Armstrong, turned the operation over to Maj. Gen. James H. Davies, Commander, Alaskan Air Command.

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DECEMBER 1956—DR. EUGENE CARSON BLAKE, PRESIDENT NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES PRESENTS A BIBLE—CHAPLAIN POCH LOOKS ON

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A WELCOME TO DISTINGUISHED GUESTS AT ALCOM TENTH ANNIVERSARY BRIEFING

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HOWARD CRAIG, FIRST CINCAL, HELPS CUT BIRTHDAY CAKE AT ALCOM TENTH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

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#### OBSERVE ALASKAN COMMAND ANNIVERSARY

Among those attending last night's special briefing session on the 10th anniversary of the Alaskan Command was Lt. Gen. Howard A. Craig, now retired. Craig, who is seated at extreme left in above photo, was the first commanding general of the Alaskan Command. Among others attending the celebration were left to right, J.

Gerald Williams, attorney general for Alaska; Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, Jr., present commander of the Alaskan Command; Brig. Gen. Tom R. Stoughton, chief of staff, Headquarters Alaskan Command; Judge Vernon D. Forbes of Fairbanks; and Maj. Gen. James F. Collins, head of all Army forces in Alaska. (Air Force Photo)

### General Cites Need For Aid From Civilians

Civilian support for the military in Alaska is essential, Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr., commander in chief, Alaska, told the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce yesterday.

Speaking at a Chamber-sponsored luncheon at Elmendorf Air Force Base in observance of the 10th anniversary of the Alaskan Command, Gen. Armstrong said:

"No military base is a success unless supported by the civilians. As civilians go, so goes the military."

"You help us in our moral support. We are nomads in a way. You civilians are the grass roots, so to speak. We cannot exist without you."

More than 150 persons attended the luncheon, arranged by the military affairs committee of the Chamber. Jack Anderson, committee chairman, was master of ceremonies.

The Chamber hosted senior officers of the territory, including the Army, Air Force and Navy. In addition, there were civic officials from Anchorage, Fairbanks, Kodiak and Seward.

Among the guests was Lt. Gen. Howard A. Craig, USAF, retired, who helped in the creation of the Alaskan Command Jan. 1, 1947, when he was commanding general, Alaskan Department. He was named commander of the Alaskan Command at that time.

"The Alaskan Command," said Gen. Craig, "has met all my expectations—and many more. The progress in the Anchorage area is absolutely amazing."

"I am delighted also with the growth of the University of Alaska. It is a keystone to the development, maturity and quality needed in Alaska."

"I think the next 10 years will be very critical. The people of Alaska will be well equipped to meet it—as civilians and as military."

Anderson, in his talk, reviewed facts about the military occupation of the territory. He referred to the Armed Services "as one of our principal industries and one of our most constructive public servants."

"Our development," he said, "here in the territory would have been delayed 50 years had it not been for the pioneering projects of the military establishment as we know it here in Alaska."

Anderson read a telegram of commendation to the Alaskan Territory from Gov. B. Frank Hartzman, who was unable to attend. Attorney General J. Gerald Williams represented the governor at the luncheon.

Claire Banks, Chamber president, read a Chamber resolution praising the Alaskan Command. Anderson read a similar resolution of the Anchorage City Council.

Banks presented a large globe map of the world. Gen. Armstrong, in accepting the gift, designated the following to share in the honor as recipients:

Maj. Gen. James H. Davies, commander, Alaskan Air Command; Maj. Gen. James F. Collins, commanding general, United States Army, Alaska, and Rear Admiral Ira E. Hobbs, commander, Alaskan Sea Frontier.



CLAIRE BANKS, ANCHORAGE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESIDENT, PRESENTS PLASTIC GLOBE AT CHAMBER SPONSORED LUNCHEON—OCCASION IS ALCOM TENTH ANNIVERSARY—FIRST CINCAL LOOKS ON

**ALMANAC**  
 Thursday, December 20, 1956  
 Daylight Today 5 Hrs. 28 Min.  
 Sunrise 9:13 a.m. Sunset 2:41 p.m.  
 Yesterday's Temperature  
 Maximum 13 Minimum 8

# Anchorage Daily Times

**FORECAST**  
 Fair and colder tonight and Friday.  
 Low tonight, -15. High Friday, 0.

READ BY ALASKANS EVERYWHERE

FORTY-SECOND YEAR

PHONE 56201

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1956

20 PAGES

PRICE 10 CENTS

# BOB HOPE SHOW GOES ON TONIGHT



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**ARMSTRONG GREETES HOPE TROUPE**

Hopper (left), comedian Bob Hope and his troupe are greeted by Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr., commander-in-chief, Alaska, in the Air Force hangar at Elmendorf Air Force Base. Hope will put on two shows Sunday for the troops, at 2 p.m. in Buckner Field House, Fort Richardson, and at 7 p.m. at Hangar D15, Elmendorf.

## Large Troupe Accompanies Comedian Here

**Network Show To Be Filmed Today, Friday At AHS Auditorium**

Comedian Bob Hope's 150-man troupe prepared today for the filming of his television show tonight in the Anchorage High School auditorium.

Hope's script for tonight calls for him to begin his monolog: "Here we are in Anchorage... That's a deep-freeze with a mayor."

Hope arrived at Elmendorf Air Force Base at about 6 p.m. yesterday. He was greeted by Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr., commander-in-chief, of Alaska.

The comedian surveyed Elmendorf's vast Air Rescue Squadron hangar, containing four rescue helicopters, a mammoth C47 and about 300 spectators. Remark to Gen. Armstrong:

"I see you fixed the garage up, Frank."

Arriving with Hope were Mickey Mantle, star New York Yankee slugger; Carol Morris, "Miss Universe," singer Peggy King, actress Ginger Rogers, columnist Hedda Hopper, comedian Jerry Colonna, Les Brown and his band and the Del Rubio Triplets, a singing trio.

As Hope stepped down the ramp from the Military Air Transport Service plane that brought the troupe here, he turned to Mantle.

## Hope Troupe Appearing At City Hall Tomorrow

Bob Hope and several members of his troupe will appear at 2 p.m. tomorrow in front of the city hall for a presentation ceremony.

Gifts will be presented to several of the entertainers by a committee headed by Anchorage Chamber of Commerce officials, according to Claire Banks, president.

The baseball player, regarded by the other performers as rather shy, was not beaming for the cameras as was the rest of the troupe.

"Live it up, Mickey," Hope said. "C'mon, smile."

Mantle smiled slightly. Hope turned to Miss Hopper.

"You don't think Mickey's over-acting, do you?" he asked.

Shows are scheduled at the auditorium at 8 p.m. today and tomorrow. These will be filmed and cut together to make the Hope TV show scheduled statewide for Dec. 28. Doors close at 7:30 p.m. both nights.

Saturday, Hope and the performers will put on two shows at Fairbanks.

At 2 p.m. Sunday, the troupe will be at the Buckner Field House on Fort Richardson. Military personnel must wear dress uniforms. Enlisted men must be in the field house by 1:15 p.m. No children under 18 will be admitted.

At 7 p.m. Sunday, the troupe will be at Hangar D15 on Elmendorf. Doors will open at 4:30 p.m. for unaccompanied airmen; they will be admitted until 6 p.m. From 6 to 6:45 p.m., doors will open for military with dependents or unaccompanied military dependents with the proper credentials. Parking will be available on the ramp adjacent to the hangar.

Accompanying the performers were 28 newspapermen, guests on a junket sponsored by the National Broadcasting Co. Scheduled to arrive today were 70 members of the Purdue University glee club.

The performers went into rehearsal at 8:15 p.m. yesterday. They ran through the show's sketches at the High School auditorium.

Script for the show calls for two sets: one, the inside of the Klondike Saloon; the other, the inside of an Army barracks.

Mantle and Miss Morris appear in the barracks skit as a new recruit and his girl. Hope appears as a crusty old Army sergeant.

Hope and Miss Rogers will do a dance before the curtains. Peggy King will sing "I've Grown Accustomed to Your Face" alone and "Mutual Admiration Society" with Hope. Colonna and Hope will exchange gags.

## Hope Show Tickets Out

Distribution of civilian tickets for the Bob Hope shows tonight and Friday night at Anchorage High School auditorium has been completed, according to Claire Banks, president of the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce.

He said today the civilian tickets were made available to the Chamber by the Alaskan Command.

"After considerable thought," he said, "the Chamber determined to distribute available tickets insofar as the quantity permitted to the respective heads of community-wide organizations, service clubs, school and city authorities."

Banks said "it is unfortunate that the Bob Hope troupe could not run two shows daily for 15 days to accommodate all those in the community, both military and civilian, who expressed interest in seeing the shows."

Banks said the show would be televised in Anchorage after release in the states.

"We really appreciate the military's effort in securing this fine group and the benefits to the community will be unlimited," he said.

The Chamber's military affairs committee chairman, Jack Anderson, acted as coordinator with the staff of Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr., commander-in-chief, Alaska.



**MANTLE AND HOPE BOW**

New York Yankee star Mickey Mantle and comedian Bob Hope will appear in a sketch tonight in the Anchorage High School auditorium where the first of two television shows will be filmed here.



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THEY ARRIVED

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CAST OF CHARACTERS—BOB, DEL, RUBIO TRIPLETS, JERRY, GINGER AND HEDDA

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HOUSE GUESTS

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READY TO RECEIVE—JANUARY 1957

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USARAL CG, GILMAN C. MUDGETT AND TOM STOUGHTON

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AIR RESCUE'S COL SPEER BRIEFS THE KARLOFFS, MRS BOB ATWOOD AND COCKIE COPENHAVER

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CONGRATULATIONS MRS SANDLIN ON TEN YEARS SERVICE--HER SUPERVISOR CAPT WARREN G. CORLISS APPROVES TOO

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BEST OFFICER KEGLERS--COL LONG, CAPT TIPPIN, CAPT DAILY, CWO SHUMAKER, COL WACKWITZ

**Alaska Commander-in-Chief To Attend Forum on March 25**

Heading the list of dignitaries from Alaska who will attend the Chamber's annual celebration of Alaska Day on Monday noon, March 25, will be Lieutenant General Frank A. Armstrong, Jr., USAF, Commander-in-Chief, Alaska.



A veteran of 27 years in the nation's air service, General Armstrong led the first U. S. daylight raid over Axis territory and his experiences during the bombing of Wilhelmshaven were the basis for the book and motion picture "12 O'Clock High."

He also led numerous bombing raids over Japan. He was first named Commander of the Alaska Air Command early in 1949 during which time he pioneered an air route non-stop from Alaska to Norway and on to New York. In 1951 he was assigned to the duty of training and equipping the Airforce's first B-47 Stratofortress wing and in 1952 was placed in command of the Second Airforce. Last year he returned to the post of Commanding General of the Alaskan Air Command and in September was promoted to his present duty.

**Anderson In Party**

In addition to several officers from Elmendorf Airforce Base, General Armstrong will be accompanied on his visit to Portland by Jack Anderson, former president of both the Anchorage Chamber and the All Alaska Chamber.

Principal speaker for the Chamber's Alaska Day celebration will be Hatfield Chilson, Undersecretary of Interior, the Department of the Federal government having major jurisdiction over Alaska's resources.

The March 25 luncheon will feature Denali Moose steak, Kodiak King Crab, Matanuska potatoes and carrots, Homer blueberries and other Alaska delicacies which are being flown here by Alaska and Pacific Northern Airlines.

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# Thai Air Force Officers Visit Base

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## 7 Officers Make Tour

Seven officers of the Royal Thai Air Force, including Marshal Fuen R. Riddhagni, arrived at Elmendorf Air Force base yesterday afternoon to inspect military installations here.

With the group was Maj. Gen. Walter E. Todd, vice commander of Far East Air Forces. The Thai Air Force officers previously visited U.S. Air Force installations in Japan.

Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, Jr., and key officers of his staff met the visitors who will be guests of the Alaskan Command during the week which they will spend in Alaska.

Other officers making the visit for the Royal Thai Air Force are Air Marshal Chalermkiat Watangura, Air Vice Marshal Kiat Mangalabrukasa, Air Vice Marshal Sirichai Watin, Group Capt. Chalerm Chittinanda, Wing Commander Bujit Bunnag and Squadron Leader Noi Panikabutr.

The visitors will be briefed by the Alaskan Command staff, visit Tenth Air Division's control center, tour Elmendorf, Fort Richardson and Eielson Air Force base.

Several functions are planned for the visitors during their stay in the territory.

Members of the RTAF will leave for Seattle Monday.



THEY ARRIVED

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HONORS

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THE HONOR GUARD

(27)

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GAY

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GAYER

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GAYEST

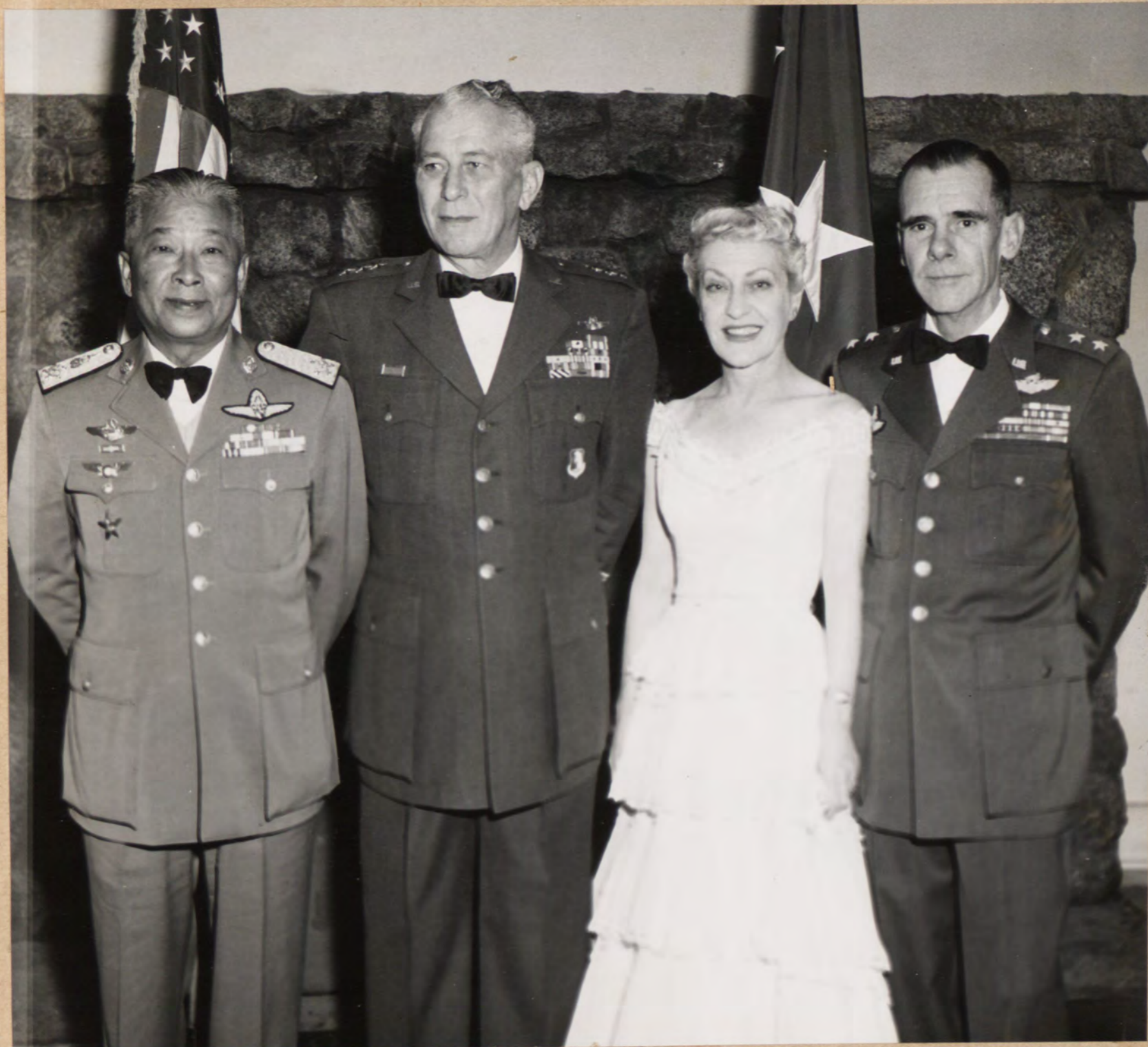
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THE VISITORS

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ALCOM PARTY

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GIFTS

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# She Cooks Real Southern Style

By ALMA KAHRS  
Times Society Editor

Just being a general's wife is a full-time job.

And it doesn't leave too much time for cooking, so Mrs. Frank H. Armstrong, wife of Lt. Gen. Frank H. Armstrong Jr., has a cook to help her.

But she has some pretty definite ideas about Southern cooking and party dishes.

Born and raised in Richmond, Va., Mrs. Armstrong is partial to that Southern favorite, Virginia ham. A dinner party just wouldn't be that without the specially-cured and smoked Smithfield ham.

"I won't degrade it with cherries and pineapple, either," the petite three-star general's wife said. "The golden brown, sugar coated black pepper top, seasoned so well by the pepper, brown sugar and sherry, is enough," she added.

Boasting, with true Southern pride, Mrs. Armstrong states that curing of the Virginia ham is entirely different than that of the regular ham.

The ham is placed in salt for 25 to 45 days. Then the salt is removed and the ham is allowed to drain and mature for about three weeks. A generous coating of pepper is applied and the ham goes into the smokehouse where it hangs for more than 30 days in a pungent hickory smoke.

"The final procedure," Mrs. Armstrong continues, "is when the ham attains a rich mahogany hue it goes to the aging rooms where it hangs, protected from light, from six to 12 months."

Cooking the actual ham itself is no less involved. For the general's birthday dinner of Friday last month, Mrs. Armstrong started preparing the ham on Tuesday.

Even had she not been raised in Southern atmosphere of gracious entertaining, blonde Mrs. Armstrong would have acquired the facility years ago when her husband started his distinguished career.

A good thing she started then, too, because now with the general in charge of all the military in Alaska as commander-in-chief of the Alaskan Command, there's a powerful lot of entertaining to be done.

"We have so many visitors up here and rotations come so frequently, so there are a great number of parties. It's fun, but sometimes everyone comes and leaves at the same time, and then it gets hectic," she added.

As honorary president of the Elmendorf Officers' Wives Club, the bright blue-eyed matron attempts to attend all club activities. And there's always something — teas, coffees, luncheons and banquets. "I just try to plan ahead and arrange my schedule accordingly," she said.

Were Mrs. Armstrong to complain about her busy life, she could blame no one but herself. When she met her future husband at a house party in his native state, North Carolina, he was already on his way up the ranks as a flying cadet. He was graduated from flying school at Kelly Field, Tex., and the next month they were married.

They celebrated their 23rd wedding anniversary in March. Their only son, Frank III, seems to be following in his father's footsteps. He's a first lieutenant at Craig Air Force Base in Selma, Ala.

Mrs. Armstrong's sparkling enthusiasm for the "exciting military life" is marred by only one thing — packing. Every time there's a change in base, it's just that much more packing that must be done.

Her Victorian period furniture is stored, for the first time in their travels, in Virginia, since the general's quarters are furnished here. "I'm enjoying this modern design, but I imagine my Victorian furniture will look good when I see it," she said. The huge quarters are decorated throughout in soft pink tones.

## VIRGINIA HAM

Soak ham 18 to 24 hours in cold water. Scrub thoroughly with a stiff brush in cold or tepid water. Place in broiler (skin down) and cover with water. Add two tablespoons of brown sugar, and sprinkle in several pepper corns. Simmer 20 minutes per pound, keeping ham covered by adding hot water.

When three-quarters cooked, add one cup cider or sherry. Allow ham to cool in cooking water. Before cold, take out ham and remove skin carefully — avoid tearing the fat. When cold, trim fat.

Sprinkle generously with black pepper; then cover with thick layer of brown sugar. Bake long enough to get a rich brown color, basting frequently with sherry, sweet cider or pineapple juice.

Slice paper-thin. Serve with beaten biscuits.

## SOUTHERN BEATEN BISCUITS

4 cups flour  
1/2 teaspoon baking powder  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 tablespoon sugar  
1/2 cup shortening

Milk or water, about 1 cup  
Sift flour, salt, baking powder and sugar and work in shortening with knife. Add enough water or milk to make a stiff dough.

Knead thoroughly; run through a biscuit machine or place on a wooden bread board and beat with a heavy mallet or the end of a rolling pin 20 to 30 minutes, or until the dough blisters and is creamy smooth. Fold the dough over continuously during beating, keeping it in a small round ball.

Roll 1/2 inch thick and cut with a small biscuit cutter. Prick top of each biscuit with a fork. Place on a greased baking sheet and bake in moderate (375 degrees) about 25 minutes, or until very lightly

browned. Makes about 3 or 4 dozen small biscuits.

Bring milk and water to a boil. Scald the meal with it. Let the mixture cool. Add the butter, salt, baking powder, and the well-beaten egg yolks. Then fold in stiffly-beaten whites. Bake in a deep buttered baking dish for 45 minutes in a 450 degree oven.

1 package gelatin  
1/4 cup water  
1 teaspoon lemon juice  
Drain the peaches and slice off of stones. Dissolve gelatin in water. Strain juice, add enough water to make 1 1/4 cups. Bring to boil and add gelatin and lemon juice. After it cools, add sliced peaches. Place

in mold. Top with dressing.  
Dressing:  
1 package Philadelphia cream cheese  
1/4 cup chopped olives  
1/4 cup nuts  
2 tablespoons mayonnaise  
Salt and pepper to taste  
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce  
Cream cheese and mayonnaise together and add other ingredients.



**TIME FOR VIRGINIA HAM**  
Come a special dinner party in the household of Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Frank H. Armstrong Jr. and it's time for real Virginia ham, Southern beaten biscuits and spiced peach salad mold. Mrs. Armstrong, in the large dining room of the Elmendorf quarters, prepares to slice the dinner party fare.



## PASTOR VISITS SERVICE CENTERS

The Rev. Lambert Brose, left, managing editor of the Armed Services Literature Commission of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, shows Lt. Gen. Frank H. Armstrong Jr., center, commander-in-chief, Alaska, and Alaskan Command chaplain,

Col. Martin C. Poch, the Lutheran servicemen's monthly publication, Loyalty, Christ and Country. He is on an inspection tour of Lutheran service centers in Alaska and the Far East.

# Anchorage Daily Times

READ BY ALASKANS EVERYWHERE

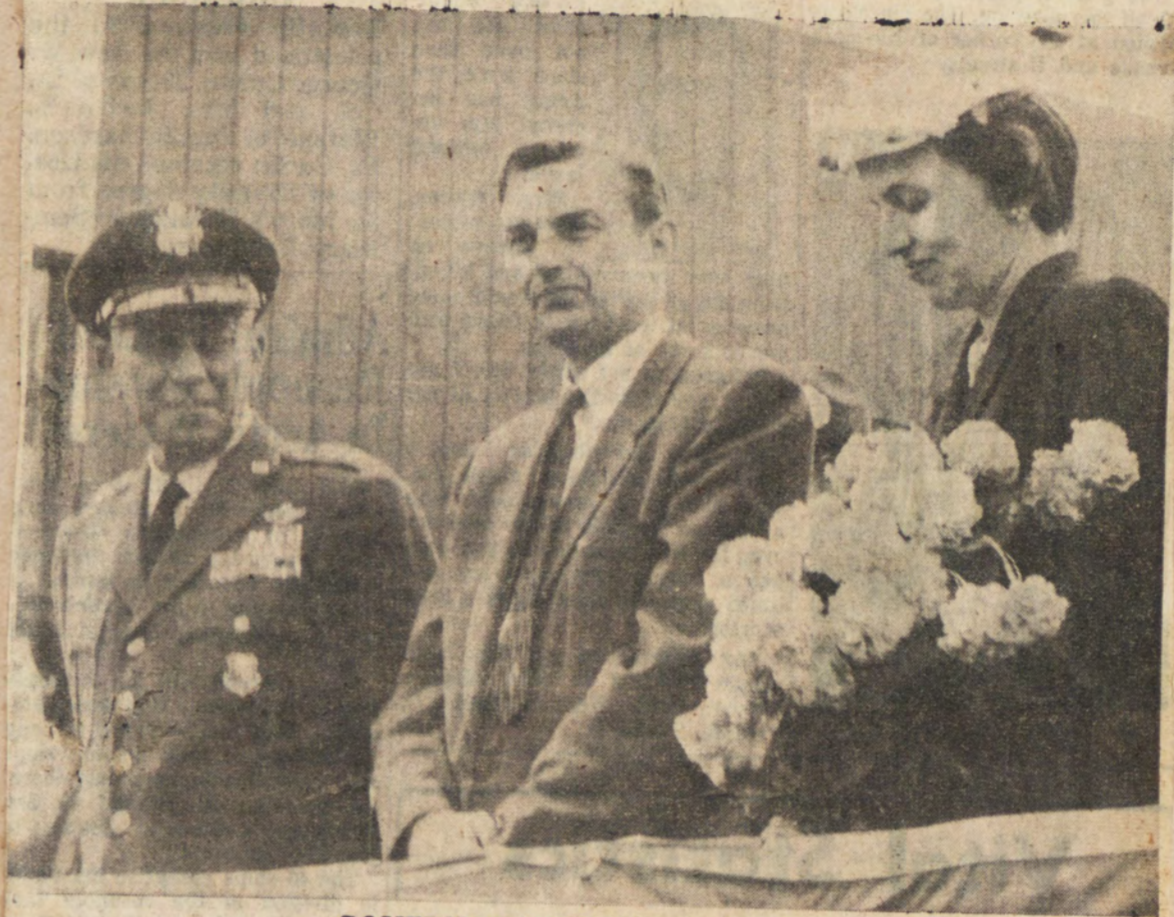
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA, SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1957

## MIKE PRAISES STATE BACKERS



**GREETED AT AIRPORT** — Governor Michael Stepovich (second from right) talks with Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr., commander of Armed Forces in Alaska, on the governor's arrival at International Airport this morn-

ing. Also shown are Mrs. Stepovich who is talking with Mayor Anton Anderson. Governor Stepovich is in Anchorage to speak at the Alaska Press Club banquet tonight and take part in other functions here. (News Photo)



### GOVERNOR REVIEWS PARADE

Alaska's governor, Mike Stepovich, was flanked by Lt. Gen. Frank Armstrong and Mrs. Stepovich yesterday as he viewed the parade held in his honor through down-

town streets. The Governor shared the stand with high ranking military officers and civic leaders shortly after his arrival on his first official visit to Anchorage.

P-35/542



**GOATEE--FIRST PUBLIC APPEARANCE**  
TSG E. L. PODRABSKY, AAC'S DELEGATE TO THE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY AFA CONVENTION GETS PARTING ADVICE

[35]



FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE--\$200 TO MISS SMITH  
(GLORIA GRZESZCZUK)



CONGRATULATIONS--60 YEARS OF SERVICE--20 EACH



OUR HOSTESS MRS RAY WILL AT BUFFET  
BEN EIELSON MEMORIAL DEDICATION



**GEN. TWINING HONORED**

In Washington, D.C. Gen. Nathan Twining, retiring as Air Force Chief of Staff, gets a hug from his wife after he was awarded an oak leaf cluster to the Distinguished Service Medal at ceremonies marking his retirement. Planes from a World War I vintage Curtiss Jenny to the latest in fighter and bomber aircraft staged a huge flyover at the Andrews Air Force Base ceremony. (AP Wirephoto)

P-35/546



ARMED FORCES EDUCATION PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEMBERS  
(l to r) DR. JOHN L. LOUNSBURY, PRESIDENT, SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY COLLEGE;  
DR. MARK ELLINGSON, PRESIDENT, ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, AND  
DR. ROBERT HANNELLY, DEAN, PHOENIX COLLEGE.

P-35/547



OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE AWARD--MRS DOROTHY WALKER

P-35/548



GORDON C. WHITTERIDGE, BRITISH CONSUL GENERAL  
FOR THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST AND ALASKA, STOPS IN

P-35/549



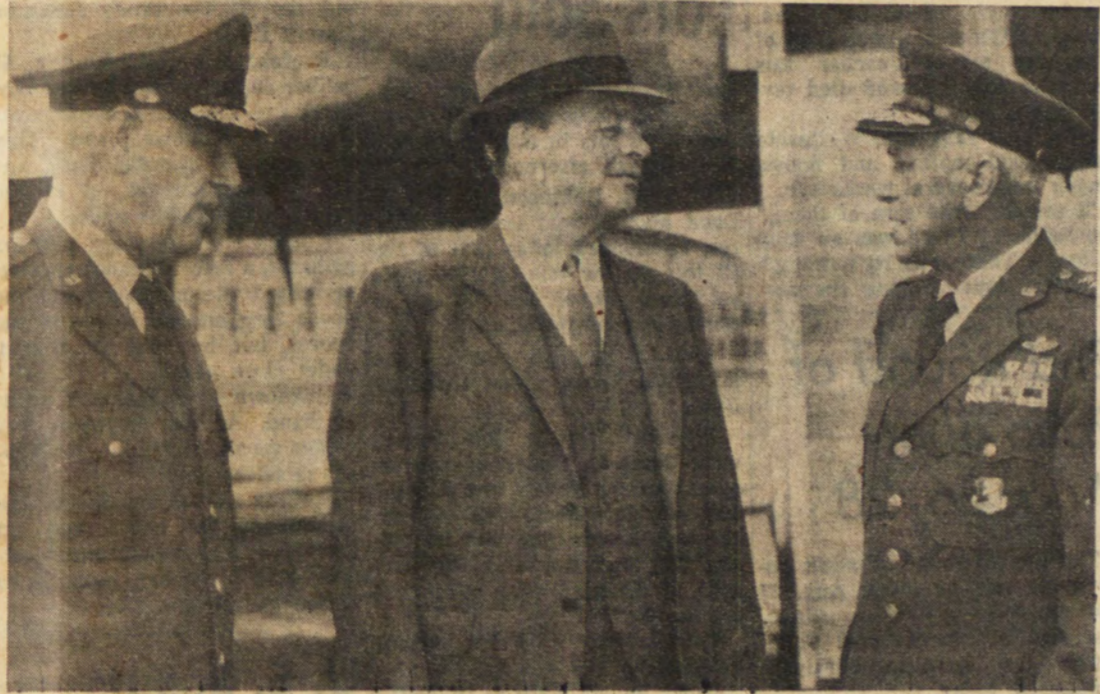
CIVIL AIR PATROL ENCAMPMENT--AUGUST 1957

# ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS

Vol. X, No. 96 Member United Press ANCHORAGE, ALASKA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 1957 Twelve Pages PRICE TEN CENTS

## Air Force Secretary Arrives Here

### James Douglas Plans Tour Of Base This Afternoon



Secretary of the Air Force James H. Douglas arrived here at 9 a.m. today for a tour of Elmendorf Air Force base. Arriving with the Air Force secretary were Gen. James H. Doolittle, USAF (Ret.), and Lt. Gen. William H. Tunner, Air Force deputy chief of staff operations.

The trio was briefed this morning on the Alaskan Command and the Alaskan Air Command. This afternoon a three-hour tour of the Air base is scheduled.

Included in the inspection will be headquarters of the 10th Air Division, the 66th Fighter Interceptors squadron, the hangar areas, living and dining areas, the chapels, schools, commissary and the 5005th hospital.

On hand to greet the secretary on his arrival this morning were Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, Jr., commander-in-chief of the Alaskan command and other military dignitaries. General Doolittle, one of the three officials making the inspection, is a well-known Congressional Medal of Honor holder.

AF SECRETARY HERE — Secretary of the Air Force James Douglas (center) is greeted by Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, Jr., commander-in-chief of the Alaskan Command (right), on his arrival this morning at Elmendorf. Arriving with Douglas were Lt. Gen. William H. Tunner, deputy chief of staff, operations (left), and Gen. James H. Doolittle (not shown). A tour of the Air Force base is planned for this afternoon. (Air Force Photo)



DEW LINE SITE



Members of Alaska National Guard, as directed by Admiral Sir Hubert G. Tupper and Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, Jr., Commander, Alaskan Command, will assist in the construction of new barracks at Elmendorf.



GALENA

47

P-35/553



CHIEF OF STAFF AND DISTAFF SIDE

P-35/554



GOVERNOR ARRIVES.— Governor of Alaska Michael Stepovich is greeted by Admiral Ira Hobbs, commander of the Alaskan Sea Frontier and Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, Jr., Commander, Alaskan Command, on his arrival at Elmendorf last week to participate in local observance of Navy Week. It was the governor's first visit to Elmendorf.

P-35/555



OPIE

P-35/556



"BUTCH" GRISWOLD

# Orlando Sentinel

'Tis a Privilege to Live in Central Florida

Orlando, Florida, Thursday, October 10, 1957

## B-47 Explodes Over Orlando

# McCoy, 3 Others, Die In Crash

Moment  
With  
TIMES - Oct 11<sup>th</sup>  
Morgan

The Real McCoy Went  
Out The Way He Lived,  
And It Was Only Right  
—By MIKE MORGAN—

COL. MIKE (The Real) McCoy was of the stuff, the kind of a flyer, around which legends are built. He was an airman with a verve, a dash and a flair. Mike was a man who inspired fierce loyalties in his subordinates.

There wasn't any mission too tough for Mike's people because they knew that Mike would be willing to lead them. Not only willing, but insistent that he do. McCoy was a solidly built, ruddy faced fellow with quick blue eyes which glinted with the joy of life. But they could flash steel sparks.



McCOY

He was extremely popular when he lived in Tampa where he commanded the 306th Bomb Wing and Tampans were sorry to see him leave when he was ordered to take over command of Pinecastle Air Force Base outside of Orlando.

I doubt if anyone knew the B-47 bomber as well as Mike did. He loved that plane. Early this week I saw Mike again when a group of Tampans stopped off in Pinecastle on the way to the Air Force firepower demonstration at Eglin Field.

AS EVER, he was full of enthusiasm for his bombers and men. And he urged me to visit the base in a few weeks when the best bombing crews in our Air Force will compete in the world series of bombers competition.

"It's not a spectator type of thing," I protested. "What is there to see and report about?" Mike looked at me pityingly at my lack of understanding.

"It's one of the most emotional and tensest events you will ever witness. You can't imagine the tension that builds up in the scoring hangar late at night when ground crewmen, commanders, and others wait and watch for the reports on bombing, navigation, and the other elements of the contest. Their crews might be thousands of miles away—but they live every action with them. You should see commanders argue about technicalities. Come see it, Mike—it's something you won't forget. You'll really understand how a plane and crew belong to each other..."

As I said before, The Real McCoy and The Air Force, especially those bombers, did belong to each other.

I'm told that Mike participated in the first American bombing raid held over Europe in World War II, and the last bombing mission in Japan.

Later he went on to set some records with the big bombers.

ANYHOW, it was just a few days ago that Mike was swapping yarns with us, striking a few informal blows for liberty, at the Langford Hotel, after speaking to our group formally at Pinecastle.

And the next day I chatted with him briefly at Eglin and told him I would try to see him again at Pinecastle and watch some of the bombing competition.

But Mike will never be present for that bombing competition. Along with friends all over the world I felt a sense of loss when I learned that Mike went to his death in a bomber explosion Wednesday afternoon, near Orlando.

I GUESS it's ironic that the bomber which McCoy loved so well should take his life. And yet, as with so many of his breed, I feel that is the way a man like The Real McCoy would want to go—quick and hard, and in the air.

Maybe I'm wrong when I say that Col. Mike (The Real) McCoy won't be on hand for that competition. Maybe when those great ships are thundering in the upper skies, sealed in by night, and a navigator is straining for a pinpoint course, a bombardier sweating out a perfect hit... maybe Mike will be around up there watching, hoping for his men—and urging them along.

Anyhow, I like to think it will be that way.



A Soldier Gives His All

## Pilot Dodges Youngsters In Death Fall

Col. Michael N. W. McCoy and three fellow fliers died yesterday when their six-jet B-47 bomber exploded and crashed in a cow pasture two miles north of Orlando.

They barely had time to turn their huge, swift Stratofortress around as it passed over the College Park section of the city and head it away from the populated areas before it exploded near the Ben White Raceway. Yesterday was Col. McCoy's 52d birthday.

ABOARD THE plane with Col. McCoy, commander of the 321st Bombardment Wing at Pinecastle AFB and a dominating figure in Orlando's civic life, were:

Group Capt. [equivalent to a USAF full colonel] John Woodroffe, about 43, commanding officer of the Wittering, England, Royal Air Force Base, and leader of the six bomb crews here to compete in the upcoming Strategic Air Command bombing competition.

Lt. Col. Charles Joyce, 38, director of operations of the 321st.

And, Maj. Vernon D. Stuff, 39, chief of the 321st's bomb division.

ALL WERE WAR heroes. All had been decorated for bravery many times.

At least one of the men, Col. McCoy, knew death was imminent.

According to reports from numerous observers, fuel was dripping from one of the aircraft's engines just prior to the explosion. Col. McCoy, apparently the plane's pilot, undoubtedly knew of the leak — knew that a single spark could ignite the jet into a fiery hell.



McCoy

Woodroffe



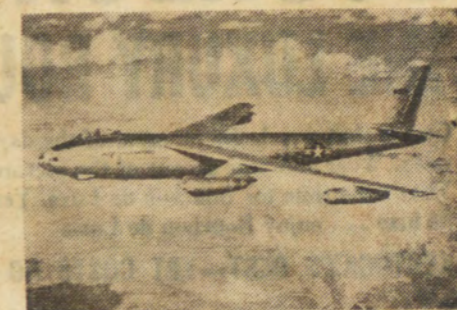
Joyce

Stuff

The bomber, which had left Pinecastle about an hour before the 11:10 a.m. disaster, blew up in the air just northwest of one of Orlando's most heavily populated areas — College Park.

TWO HUNDRED children were playing on the grounds at Lake Silver Elementary School on N. Rio Grande Ave. while classes were in session at Edgewater High School across Lake Silver. Outside at Robert E. Lee Junior High School on Maury Rd. were another 200 youngsters, and further down Edgewater Dr. closer to the

[CRASH, Pg. 3-A, Col. 4]



The B-47

Orlando Sentinel

6—A  
Thursday, October 10, 1957

## Community Shocked At McCoy Death

Community leaders were deeply shocked yesterday to learn of Col. Michael N. W. McCoy's death.

"His death is a terrific loss to the community," said Mayor Robert S. Carr. "His ability and willingness to help with any community problem will, Orlando."

Carr said the people of Orlando thought a great deal of McCoy and those who knew him personally admired him even more.

"HE DID A terrific job of making for good community-service relationships," said Charles O. Andrews Jr., general chairman of the United Appeal campaign. "He was always interested in this community and the United Appeal and last year did an outstanding job for the Appeal on the base."

"Gosh," he added, "it strikes home when a guy like that gets it."

McCoy was actively interested in Boy Scout work and only recently had donated a plot of ground at Pinecastle for use by Explorer Scouts.

J. STANLEY Bumby, president of the Central Florida Council, Boy Scouts of America, said Orlando and the entire national defense effort had lost an outstanding man.

"He was well-liked by everyone and the people of this community will certainly miss him," Bumby added.

McCoy was scheduled to address church leaders at a meeting tonight called by Mayor Carr in the interest of promoting Boy Scout work in the Orlando area.



P-35/557



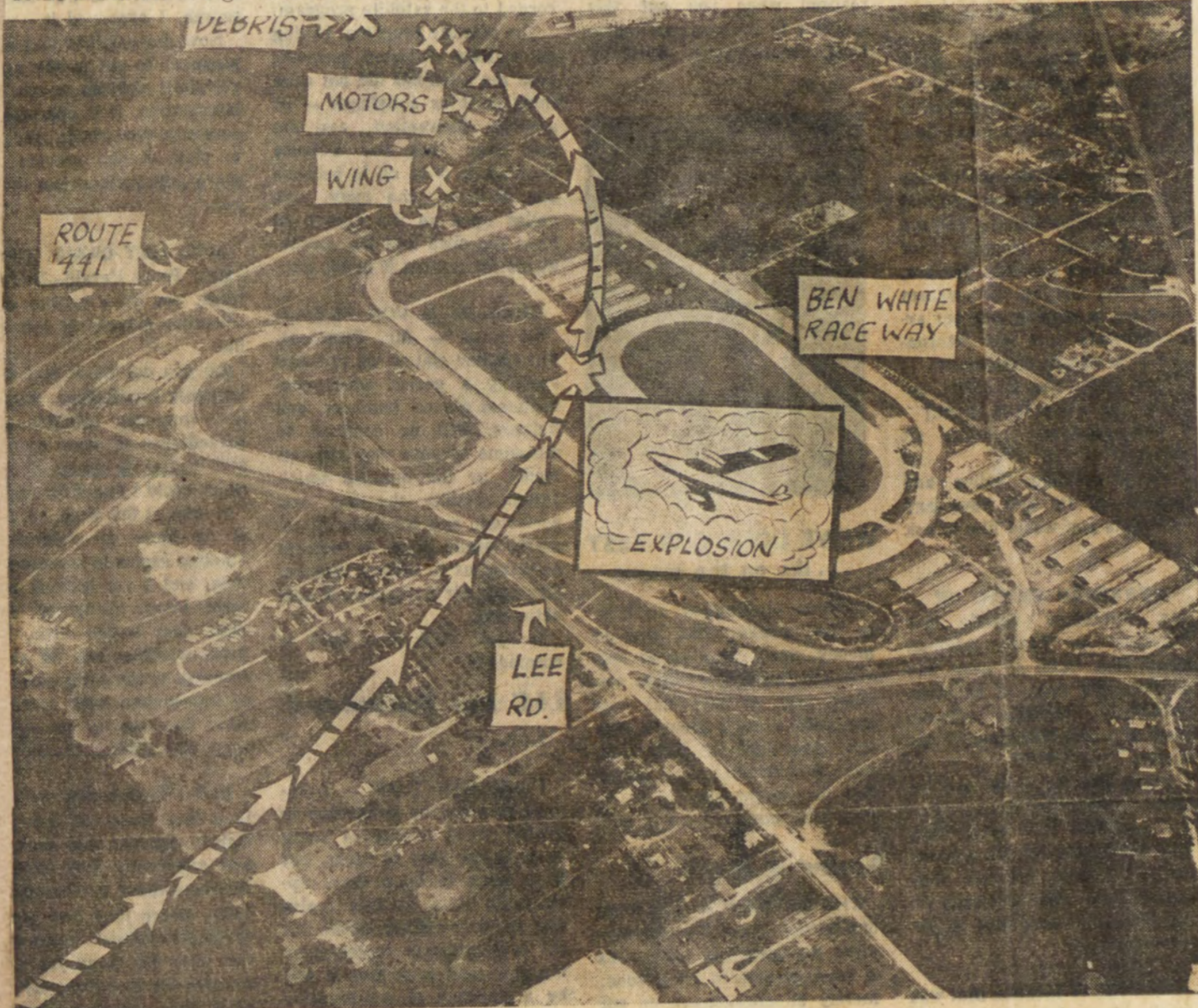
**Wings, Wheels And Other Parts Of Plunging B-47 Scattered Over Wide Area**

Picture at left shows two wheels of the wrecked B-47 Stratojet lying in cow pasture west of U. S. Hwy. 441 following crash yesterday. Two helicopters from Pinecastle AFB which brought air force personnel to the scene are in the background. The tire on the right wheel

is still intact while the other one has been cut and burned. Center picture shows a part of the plane's wing lying squarely across the track at Ben White Raceway. Portions of the blast-wrecked craft fell throughout the race track area, but no one in the area was hit by the debris.

At left is an air force vehicle carrying investigating personnel. In picture at right, scattered about in foreground are classified papers carried in cockpit of the ill-fated plane. In the background are the charred remains of the

aircraft. Debris from the demolished bomber was scattered over an area of about three miles by the force of the explosion and impact when the remains plunged to the ground. [Sentinel Photos]



HERE'S PATH OF ILL-FATED B-47 ... Showing site of explosion and where debris fell

**The End Of A Legend**

**Mike McCoy Dies On 52d Birthday**

By HENRY BALCH  
Associate Editor

There was high tragedy in the air. As calls poured into The Sentinel that a jet plane had exploded over Ben White Raceway, I grabbed a telephone and called Col. Mike McCoy's office at Pinecastle Air Force Base.

"Col. McCoy's office," said pleasant voiced Frances Burke, the colonel's secretary since January.

"This is Henry Balch," I said. "Is the colonel there?"

"NO I'M SORRY," she said. "He's in the air and due back shortly." I had a sinking feeling. With Mike in the air, it just might have been his plane that exploded.

"What time did he take off?" I asked.

"About 10," came the answer. "I'm sorry I can't tell you anything about the plane that crashed. We just don't know yet," said Miss Burke.

IT DEVELOPED that Col. McCoy, his guests and crewmen took off at 10:12 a.m. The explosion which disintegrated the plane over the raceway, Hwy. 441 and Walter Rose's pasture came at 11:08.

The flight was a routine one just around the local area with the colonel due back at the base before noon.

But the "Real McCoy" never came back. On his birthday, at 52, he was killed.

And he went out fighting to get his Stratojet B-47 away from residential areas and people.

HE FOUGHT his plane over the city and when he passed Edgewater Dr., people on the ground knew it was trouble—had trouble.

But the explosion came in the comparatively clear area at Ben White Raceway and the only casualty besides the four who died in the plane was a cow in the pasture.

So the warrior flier with a great heart went out fighting to protect the people of the city he loved.

Col. Mike McCoy's planes have been called the "City of Orlando" since he arrived here. A new "Orlando" was delivered to him recently and christened on Kids' Day two weeks ago. But yes-

terday he was flying another plane.

MIKE MCCOY had more flying time than anyone in Uncle Sam's Air Force—almost 20,000 hours in the air.

He started flying World War I type "Jennies" in Pomona, Calif., back in 1924.

When World War II came along, he had countless hours of barnstorming time to his credit, flying ships that look downright fragile compared to today's monsters.

He joined the Royal Canadian Air Force, taught young pilots in old Hudson planes.

IN 1944 the U. S. Army Air Force got him to transfer and gave him 10 years of service credit for his many hours in the air.

So Mike McCoy continued to pile up hours in the air and after the war when the air force became a separate branch of service, he went along with it.

SAC, the outfit charged with the defense of the nation and the free world, loved him and he loved his mission.

Col. McCoy twice was commanding officer at Pinecastle—just prior to Brig. Gen. Keith Compton's arrival and immediately following his departure to Homestead.

HE HAD LEARNED to love Orlando and Orlandoans who knew him certainly loved Mike.

Much in demand as a civic club speaker, he always prefaced a "yes" with a requirement that the club allow him to bring some Boy Scouts with him.

He believed in training youngsters to walk right when they were young. Any civic drive or city movement had his support.

HE RECENTLY had been appointed a member of the Orlando Port Authority, charged with seeking the answer to whether or not Orlando needed a new airport.

McCoy was a living legend type.

With the RCAF he bailed out of a crippled plane and his parachute failed to open. McCoy landed in a 40-foot snowdrift, walked away unhurt.

He flew the first mass flight of B-47s across the Atlantic.

He set a B-47 speed record from London to the U. S.

HE FLEW a B-29 from Japan to Washington, longest flight of the time. He planned the flight of a B-50 around the world.

At Egin Field Tuesday he stopped and chatted with Maj. Gen. Frederick Glantzberg who had commanded the 17th Air Force, a SAC outfit in Rabat, Morocco, at the time McCoy had his wing at Sidi Slaman, a base on the desert miles south of the capital.

He had been refused permission to fly a supersonic jet F-100 on the grounds he was too old.

Gen. Glantzberg had flown them and he was older.

BUT FINALLY Mike got in the cockpit of one of the air force's newest planes and he flew it like a youngster. They were laughing about it Tuesday and now Mike has joined the host of old fliers in the great blue yonder somewhere.

As he climbed aboard the plane on his last flight Col. McCoy lifted a clinched fist and yelled "charge," as was his custom.

Col. McCoy had four daughters who survive him. He married Rose Bernard Mosner here in 1954, just before his wing took off on a 90-day rotation to Great Britain.

HE AND HIS WIFE lived in a lovely home on Bay Lake near Pine Castle where he planned to retire in three years.

Each day saw them on horseback. At 52 Col. Mike stayed in physical condition almost like a prize fighter.

His ruddy face, pleasant smile and soft spoken manner already are missed by his fellow officers and men and friends in the city.

And the loss is borne anywhere flying men gather, for he was one of the greats of the air.

**CRASH - From Page 1-A**

**Pilot Dodges Youngsters**

crash scene, classes were in session at Bishop Moore Parochial School.

Not one civilian was even scratched by the tremendous explosion which was heard all over the city and blasted parts of the plane thousands of yards from the point of impact.

Mrs. Johnny Simpson, Matland, wife of the famous harness horse driver, was at the half-mile oval of the raceway and felt the heat of the blast above her.

CITY DET. Bob Chewing, and eye-witness, heard the plane and saw "it banking left about a mile away and 700 ft. in the air. The next second it was a ball of fire."

Thirteen-year-old Susan Mathews, a ninth grade student at Robert E. Lee Junior High School, said when she saw the B-47, one wing had started to come off. The plane turned, flames engulfed it, and the blast followed, she said.

WRECKAGE of the bomber was strewn for a distance of nearly three miles—from the east edge of the Ben White Raceway northwest to a point about half a mile beyond where the main fuselage hit on the west side of U. S. Hwy. 441 in the pasture of the How-Ann Dairy.

Apparently only one house was damaged by the falling debris, as a blackened, burned piece of metal struck a carport, breaking off a piece of the aluminum roof at an unoccupied dwelling on Harness St.

A portion of the starboard wing marked "fuel tank access" fell, burning, in the back of the Thermo-King refrigerator truck service garage on 441, where it was extinguished by the Killarney Volunteer Fire Dept.

A FOUR-FT. piece of aluminum tubing fell two feet from the front door of the home of Mrs. Lilly Hill, 51 Fourth St. north of the raceway.

A large section of the left wing fell in the middle of Carder Rd. at Harness St., temporarily blocking traffic and causing it to detour across private lawns.

At the crash scene, a group of blank-faced airmen in faded blue and khaki coveralls worked without conversation in the pasture across 441 and north of

Ben White Raceway.

Pieces of the big Stratojet bomber, chewed, torn and blackened, were strewn across the field. A dead cow lay partly covered by churned-up earth where the aircraft first fell.

Airmen walked carefully through the debris. Several carried axes and were splitting stakes from boards. The stakes were driven into the ground wherever a scrap of body, or personal belongings of the four flyers, was found.

THERE WERE many stakes in the field.

Gaudy orange and white parachutes salvaged from the crash covered two torsos.

A medical corpsman in white T-shirt and trousers and rubber gloves slowly packed away his equipment in an air force ambulance.

ARMED AIRMEN guarded the entrance to the field and waved of slow-moving sightseers.

Meanwhile, operations at Pinecastle stayed on an even keel. Col. Wilbur R. Grey, deputy commander of the 321st, was immediately appointed acting commander.

Gen. Paul S. Emrick, commander of the Sixth Air Division, MacDill Field, Tampa, who flew in immediately to investigate the tragedy, spoke for most of the men and officers at Pinecastle when he said:

"We will never forget Col. McCoy, one of the outstanding pioneers of the Stratojet bomber, nor the men who died with him today."

GEN. EMRICK announced that a complete investigation by a local actions board would get underway at once.

Memorial services for the officers will be held at the base later.

**Most Of Staff Covers Crash**

Most of The Orlando Sentinel's news staff took part in yesterday's coverage of the B-47 crash which claimed the lives of Col. Michael N. W. McCoy and three others.

On the scene were Reporters Frank Murphy, Steve Willis, Summer Rand, Jim Halbe and Pat Pinkerton and Photographers Charley Foley, Ralph Ward, Tom Dewberry and Duke Wy-

**Belser Resigns Senate Seat Over Mix Bill**

By JIM HARDEE  
Sentinel Tallahassee Bureau

TALLAHASSEE — Emotions reached such a high peak yesterday over segregation legislation that Sen. Harvie Belser, Bonifay, announced his resignation from the senate.



**Airman's Cap**

An airman's garrison cap is marked with an identification stake where it came to rest among wreckage of the Pinecastle Air Force Base B-47 jet bomber. The visor was ripped from the cap when air force personnel found it near the Ben White Raceway crash scene. [Sentinel Photo]

EDITED ON REVERSE SIDE

P-35/558



MRS AMANDA B SMITH, MAYOR OF OLYMPIA, WASH. AND HER SON, SPECIALIST THIRD CLASS TERRY B SMITH, USA, OF ACS. HE PLAYED THE LEAD IN "NO TIME FOR SERGEANTS".

P-35/559



GOODBYE TO IRA HOBBS

P-35/560



M/SGT HERBERT H WOLFE WATCHES HIS SONS, LARRY AND KENNETH, SELL THE FIRST TICKETS FOR "SHOW BIZ." PROCEEDS WILL SEND ANCHORAGE HIGH BAND TO LOS ANGELES.

P-35/561



CONGRATULATIONS KEY

# Alaska

## TOP O' THE WORLD CLUB

BE IT KNOWN THAT  
**Mrs Frank A. Armstrong Jr**

is a fully accredited member of the ALASKA TOP O' THE WORLD CLUB having duly visited and explored the Land of the Midnite Sun, and having been interviewed on

**FORT Richardson AFRS Elmendorf AFB**

one of ALASKA'S leading stations, shall be elevated from Cheechako to Honorary Alaskan Sourdough and TOP O' THE WORLD EXPLORER.

*Mrs. Louise Loran*  
 Station Representative

*Frank H. Whaley*  
 Representing The Alaska Visitors Association

PRESENTED BY  
**ALASKA VISITORS ASSOCIATION**

P-35/562



KEN AND PAT

P-35/563



ALCANUS CONFERENCE-THE PRESIDIO

P-35/564



DECEMBER 1957-CARDINAL SPELLMAN ARRIVES

P-35/565



RECEPTION AT CHATEAU

P-35/566



1 JANUARY 1958 THE NOBLES AT KING'S RECEPTION

[53]

P-35/567



1. JANUARY 1958-FT RICHARDSON

P-35/568



P-35/569



P-35/570



COMMANDERS CONFERENCE  
RAMEY AIR FORCE BASE  
JANUARY 1958

P-35/571



P-35/572



P-35/573



P-35/574



## DISTRICT SLATES COURT OF HONOR

The Chugach District, Western Alaska Council, Boy Scouts of America, will present a court of honor at the Sidney Laurence Auditorium on Scout Sunday, Feb. 9, at 2 p.m. The program has been arranged by H. R. Zinns and Max Bruton. Music will be provided by the 752nd Air Force Band under the leadership of CWO-2 Elmer R. Bruna.

Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr., Commander in Chief, Alaska, will present the Explorer Silver Awards, which is the highest rank to be achieved in Exploring, to: William J. Kramer, Post 803, sponsored by the Ft. Richardson Senior Youth Advisory Council; William F. LaMee, Post 803, sponsored by the Ft. Richardson Youth Council; and William T. Plummer Jr., Ship 1351, sponsored by the BPOE Lodge 1351.

Also the Eagle Scout Awards, which is the highest rank to be obtained in Scouting, to Terry Jones, Troop 502, sponsored by the Ft. Richardson Senior Youth Advisory Council; Curtis Hardee, Troop 502, sponsored by the Ft. Richardson Senior Youth Advisory Council; Dick Enberg, Troop 507, sponsored by the All Saints Episcopal Church; Fred H. Braun, Troop 507, sponsored by the All Saints Episcopal Church; Russell A. Taylor, Troop 678, sponsored by the Elmendorf Air Force Base NCO Club; and William D. Girard, Troop 679, sponsored by the Elmendorf Air Force Base Officers Club.

The candlelighting ceremony will be presented by George O. Matkin, chairman of the Chugach District Committee. Judge J. L. McCarrey Jr. will present the Governor's Award Ribbons to the following units for achieving a goal of 40 per cent First Class Scouts: Troop 502, sponsored by the Ft. Richardson Senior Youth Advisory Council; Troop 615, Crimont Society; Troop 673, Spenard Lions Club; Troop 677, The Salvation Army; Troop 678, Elmendorf NCO Club; Troop 679, Elmendorf Officers Club; Post 728, Central Lutheran Brotherhood; Post 815, Crimont Society; Post 820, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; and Ship 1351, BPOE Lodge 1351.

Parents and all friends of Scouting are invited to attend this court of honor.

## Boy Scout Honors Program Scheduled Here on Sunday

Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, Jr., Commander, Alaska command; will present Explorer silver awards and Eagle Scout awards Sunday at a Chugach Boy scout district court of honor starting at 2 p.m. in the Sidney Laurence auditorium.

The Explorer silver award is the highest rank in Explorer Scouting and the Eagle Scout rank is the highest rank in Scouting.

Music for the program will be furnished by the 752nd Air Force band under the leadership of CWO/2 Elmer R. Bruna. The Rev. Lowell M. Campbell of the Faith Presbyterian church will lead the invocation. Benediction will be asked by the Rev. Malcolm H. Miner of All Saints Episcopal church.

Judge J. L. McCarrey Jr. will present the governor's award ribbons.

George O. Matkin, chairman of the Chugach district committee will present the candlelighting ceremony.

Those slated for the rank of Eagle Scouts are:

Terry Jones, Troop 502, sponsored by the Fort Richardson senior youth advisory council; Curtis Hardee, Troop 502, sponsored by the Fort Richardson senior youth advisory council; Dick Enberg, Troop 507, sponsored by the All Saints Episcopal Church; Fred H. Braun, Troop 507, sponsored by the All Saints Episcopal Church; Russell A. Taylor, Troop 678, sponsored by the Elmendorf NCO Club; William D. Girard, Troop 679, sponsored by the Elmendorf AFB Officers Club.

Explorers slated for silver awards are:

William J. Kramer, Post 803, sponsored by the Fort Richardson Youth Council; William F. LaMee, Post 803, sponsored by the Fort Richardson Youth Council; William T. Plummer, Jr., Ship 1351, sponsored by the Anchorage Elks Lodge.

Governor's award ribbons will be presented to units achieving a goal of 40 per cent first class Scouts. Those slated for the honor are Troop 502 sponsored by Fort Richardson senior youth advisory council; Troop 615, sponsored by the Spenard Lions; Troop 677, sponsored by the Salvation Army; Troop 678 sponsored by Elmendorf NCO club; Troop 679, sponsored by Elmendorf Officers club; Post 728, sponsored by Central Lutheran Brotherhood; Post 815, sponsored by the Crimont Society; Post 820, sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and Ship 1351 sponsored by the Elks.

Parents and friends of scouting are invited to attend.



## Six Eagle Scout, Three Explorer Awards Presented



As part of a nation-wide observance of Boy Scout Week the Western Alaska Council of the Boy Scouts of America held a Court of Honor Sunday. Three Silver Explorer awards and six Eagle Scout badges were presented to the boys shown above by Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong. Left to right are William D. Girard, Troop 679; Russell Taylor, Troop 678; Terry Jones, Troop 502; Curtis

Hardee, Troop 502; William LaMee, Post-803; Dick Enberg, Troop 507; William Kramer, Post 803; William Plummer Jr., Shop 1351 and Fred Braun, Troop 507. The governor's awards were presented to 10 troops by Judge J. L. McCarrey Jr. The court was conducted by H. R. Zinns of the District Advancement Committee. (Air Force Photo)



Scouting Thanks You



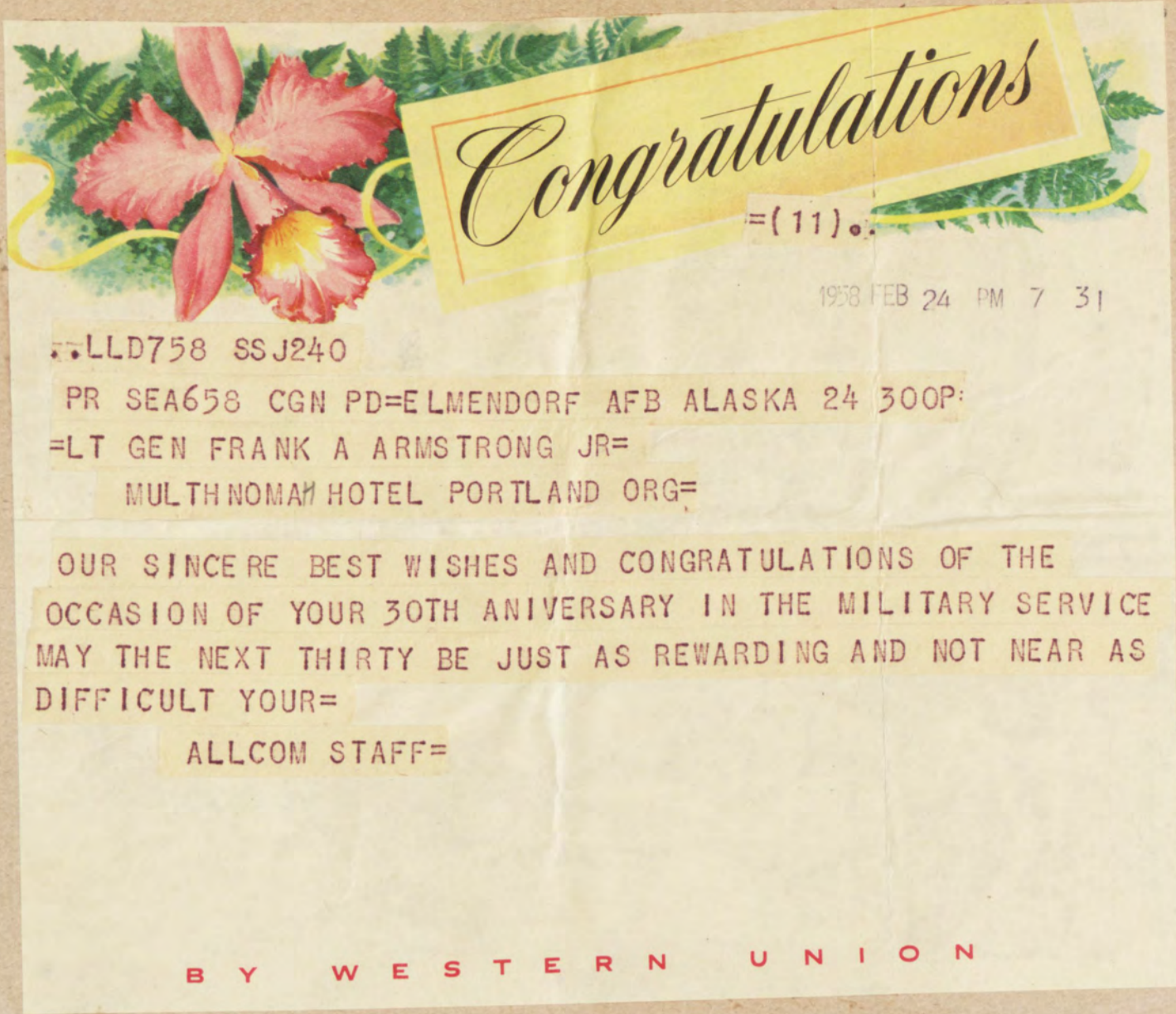
ARNOLD MCKECHNIE - ALSEAFRON



TO LOURDES -----\$523 FOR TONY JOHNSON



[10]



P-35/582



A STAR FOR BOB MILLER

P-35/583



EAGLES FOR AL BECH

P-35/584



P-35/585



COFFEE AND CAKE FOR JERI FULK

P-35/586



DR. HOUGHTON OF BOSTON UNIVERSITY

P-35/587



ROA PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT --- GENERALS MORRISON AND SUTHERLAND

P-35/588



# Gen. Armstrong Labels Charges As Propaganda

SEATTLE (AP) — "Strictly propaganda." The general at the head of the Alaskan Command tied that tag today on the charge by Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko that the United States is flying nuclear bombs toward Russia.

"I would be in position to know something like this if it happened," said Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong. He also disagreed with Gromyko's comment that a war could start "accidentally."

And to the Soviet minister's hint that the nerves of American generals "often give way,"

Armstrong said: "We're not jumpy."

The Commander-in-Chief of the Alaskan Command was here with Alaska Gov. Mike Stepoivich to attend the Annual Alaska Day Luncheon of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce. He is the head of all U.S. Military Forces in the territory.

"There could not be an accident," Gen. Armstrong asserted, "because the authority for starting or accomplishing such a mission (a flight toward Russia) is solely that of the President of the United States."

The commander noted that the International Date Line is the border between U.S. and Soviet territory, adding: "We observe the limits up there."

"We are not trying to promote anything. We stay on our own side of the date line."



WITH MIKE STEPOVICH AT SEATTLE PRESS CONFERENCE

# Armstrong Raps Reds' Accusations

SEATTLE (AP) — Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, Jr., commander-in-chief of the Alaska Command, today denied Russian charges that American weather planes were flying too close to Soviet territory.

"The pilots have orders to stay on this side of the international dateline and I don't believe that they would knowingly violate the orders," he said.

He explained that these planes were used for weather reconnaissance only, and are not armed even for their own protection.

The general told a press conference that at an altitude of 40,000 feet it was difficult to be sure from the ground whether a plane is across the line.

He said that if a Russian plane were to accidentally cross the line he didn't believe it would be bothered.

American and Russian planes never encounter each other during weather flights, he said.

# Gen. Armstrong Backs Defense Reorganization

President Eisenhower's proposed reorganization of the military would strengthen authority of Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, Jr., commander of the Alaskan Command, the general told Chamber of Commerce members today.

Purpose of the change would be to shorten the time needed to react to enemy attack, he explained.

Since the command was organized in 1947, the commander has functioned largely as a coordinator.

Individual units in the command, the Alaskan Sea Frontier, United States Army, Alaska, and Alaskan Air Command, have taken their orders in many matters from their respective departments, Navy, Army and Air Force.

Only in time of an emergency does the Alaskan Command take over direct control of the three units. This means that in case of war, at the most critical time when all possible speed is needed, the command headquarters would have to switch from purely coordinating to operational control.

According to the president's proposal, the Alaskan Command staff would control operations of all units in time of peace as well as in war. No longer would Army, Navy and Air Force give direct orders to the units in the Alaskan Command.

Line of command would be directly from the President and the secretary of Defense through the chairman of the Joint Chiefs

of Staff. One step, the Department of the Air Force, now executive agency for the command, would be eliminated from the chain of command.

"The demands of modern war require swift reaction," Armstrong said. "This can be achieved only if there are a

minimum number of organizational layers. The President's proposal is aimed at decreasing our reaction time. It would increase our state of readiness."

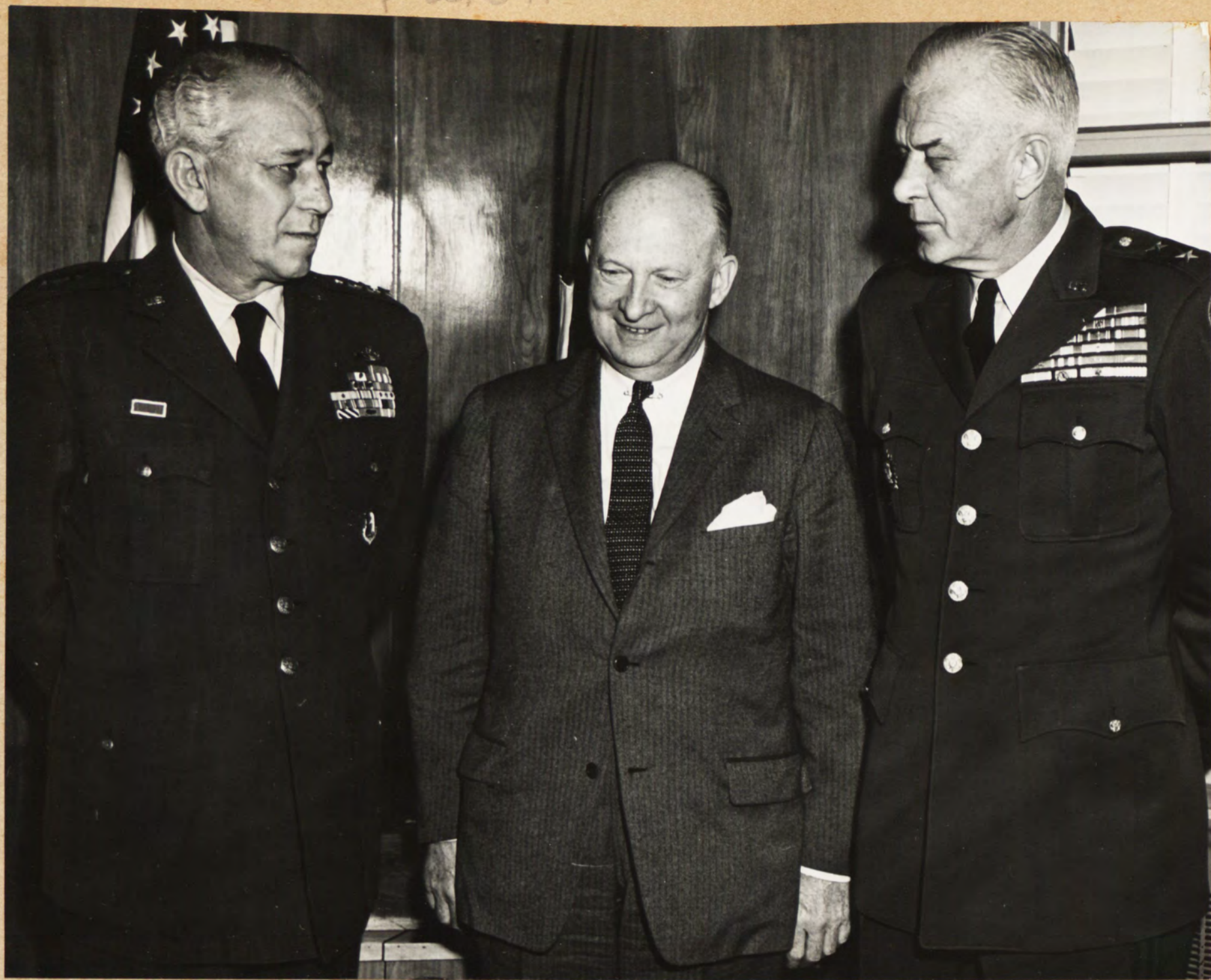
Armstrong invited his listeners to the Armed Forces Day celebrations at Elmendorf and Ft. Richardson on May 17.



ANCHORAGE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LUNCHEON -- 12 MAY 1958.  
TOM RECEIVES A GIFT FROM JACK ANDERSON -- DICK KENNARD, CHAMBER PRESIDENT, LOOKS ON.

67

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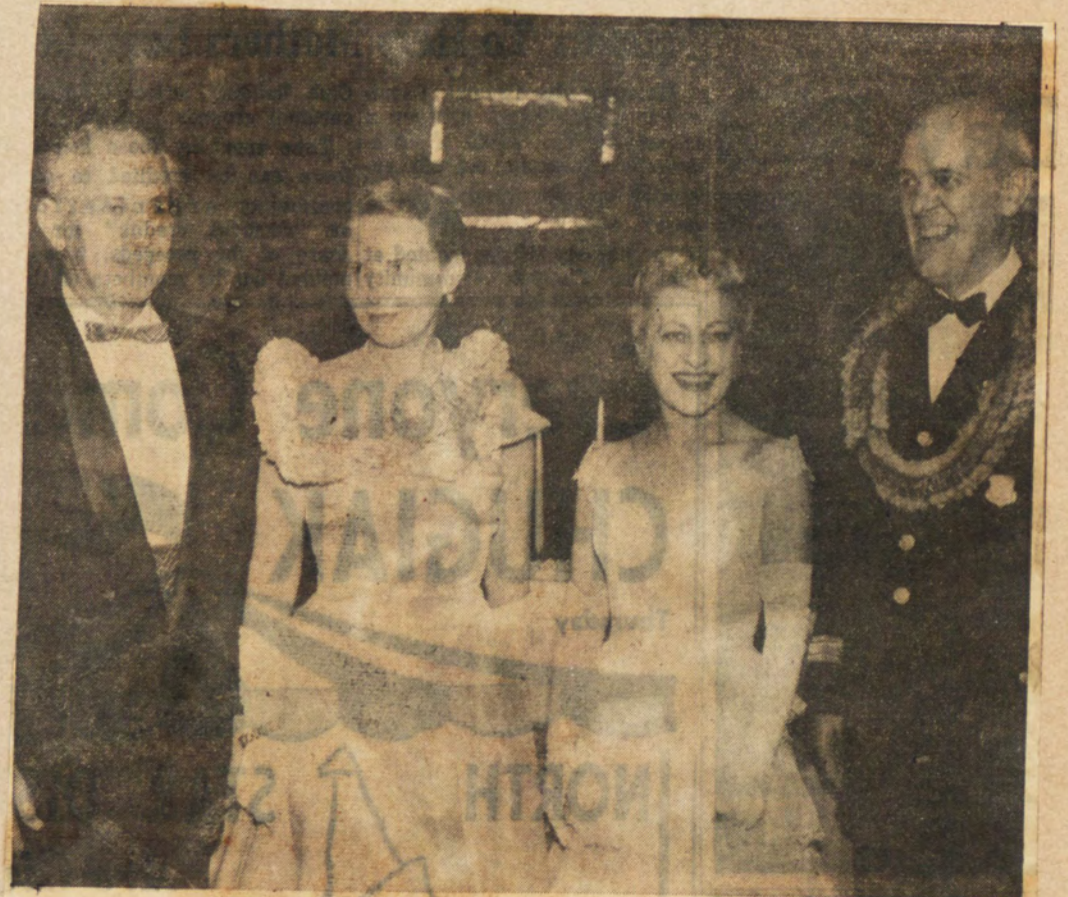
ARMY ASST. SECRETARY RODERICK AND GIL MUDGETT

P-35/592



RABBI MILLER VISITS.

P-35/593



**STOUGHTONS HONORED**

Alaskan Command officers hosted Brig. Gen. and Mrs. Tom R. Stoughton at a farewell party on Elmendorf Air Force Base last Saturday evening. The Stoughtons were presented the traditional leis before leaving for Wash-

ington, D. C. Monday. Pictured are left to right Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, Jr., Mrs. Stoughton, Mrs. Armstrong and General Stoughton. (Air Force photo)

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THE EDWARDS ARRIVE

P-35/595



TOM LEAVES WITH FIRST OLC TO LEGION OF MERIT

P-35/596



P-35/597



□□

In  
Memoriam

P-35/598



P-35/599



P-35/600



NOVICE WATCHES EXPERIENCE

P-35/601



ARMY AND AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE'S HARLAN C. PARKS

# STATEHOOD FOR ALASKA

EXTRA THE EXTRA  
DAILY ALASKA EMPIRE

VOL. NO. 14,000 JUNEAU, ALASKA, MONDAY, JUNE 30, 1958 MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS PRICE FIFTEEN CENTS

P-35/602



ASSISTANT SECRETARIES SHARP & SMITH

P-35/603



SHORTY WOODS

P-35/604



WILLARD WYMAN

P-35/605



COMPENT COMMANDERS -- JULY 1958

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### General's Aide Leaves Post For ADC Assignment

Maj. George L. J. Dalferes, Aide to Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr., Commander in Chief, Alaska, is leaving Alaska this month for an assignment at Headquarters, Air Defense Command.

A veteran of 15 years military service, Maj. Dalferes is a graduate of Louisiana State University with an LLB and a BA in political science.

He is a member of the Air Force Association and the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Replacing Maj. Dalferes is Maj. Harry D. Hink, USAF, presently assigned to the Alaskan Command.

P-35/607



AIR FORCE UNDER SECRETARY MALCOLM A. MACINTYRE

P-35/608



GLORIA GRZESZCZUK

P-35/609



(7)

# OUR TERRITORY IS DEAD.. STATE OF ALASKA BORN

P-35/610



HAM

P-35/611



BILL DANIEL -- HONORARY CITIZEN OF TEXAS

P-35/612



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FIRST ALCOM SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT -- RAMSEY



TWELVE O'CLOCK HIGH

## Gen. Armstrong Leading Hunt for Lost Rhode Party

Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr., commander-in-chief Alaska, is personally leading the search today for the missing Fish and Wildlife Service plane carrying Clarence Rhode, Alaska FWS regional director and two passengers.

According to Alaskan Command headquarters officials, General Armstrong issued an order to "find Rhode" early this morning and he later took off in his own plane to comb the area north of Fort Yukon where the plane disappeared.

The general also commanded 12 to 13 more Air Force planes to take to the air from Elmendorf, Eielson and Ladd Air Force bases to join the 21 Air Force, Fish and Wildlife, Civil Air Patrol and bush pilot planes which searched the Fort Yukon area yesterday.

According to Air Force officials the additional 12 to 13 planes in all rescue operations in the area can handle.

Rhode, accompanied by his son, Jack, 21, and Stan Frederickson,

game management agent for the Fairbanks district, left Peters lake Thursday for a flight to Porcupine lake and Fairbanks. When they failed to reach Fairbanks Saturday, an immediate hunt for the plane was started.

Rhode was piloting a Graumann Goose to set out a gas cache in preparation for air patrol during the hunting season. His headquarters are in Juneau.

Peters and Porcupine lake are approximately 200 miles north of Fort Yukon. Peters lake is 50 miles south of Camden bay and Porcupine lake is about 50 miles south of Peters.



COMMANDER PARKER BROUGHT DER FORSTER TO ANCHORAGE

# Music With Mary Martin

P-35/616



P-35/617



0230 6 SEPTEMBER 1958 ARRIVAL

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P-35/621



ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF MAXWELL TAYLOR AND MOE

P-35/622



SAC -- 10 YEARS AT OMAHA

# First SAS 'Over-Pole' Flight

P-35/623



EARLY MORNING TAKE OFF -- BOB BARTLETT AND SAS STEWARDESS

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### ED SULLIVAN LITTLE OLD NEW YORK

#### On the Safe Side

NEW YORK—It was 6 below zero and a biting Alaskan wind was sweeping off the Bering Strait. Even the heavy winter gear in which this reporter was wrapped couldn't hold out the bitter, damp cold. "Russian jet planes could reach this station in exactly 10 minutes," matter-of-factly observed the commanding officer of Kotzebue Air Force Station, Maj. John Perry, out of Attleboro, Mass. . . . In yesterday's papers, you read that Russia has agreed to an East-West conference of experts to study ways of preventing surprise attacks . . . Well, just to be on the safe side in the meantime the United States Air Force is maintaining a 24-hour radar vigil along the bleak Alaskan coast of the Bering Sea. The mission of the men at Kotzebue and other Distant Early Warning stations is to give America a 10-minute warning that the holocaust has started.

That signal would be flashed back to the jet fighters, SAC bombers, Army units and Navy units in Alaska that are under the unified Alaskan Command of Air Force Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, Jr. You probably remember his name. The movies told his World War II story in "Twelve O'Clock High," in which Gregory Peck played Armstrong. . . . As any Rus-

sian planes sped across the Kotzebue station, U. S. jet fighters armed with missiles would be zooming toward them at supersonic speeds. . . . The men at Kotzebue and other Distant Early Warning stations frankly are expendable. They would retreat into the snow-capped mountains, to spots where food and water have been cached and try to survive until the Russians had been driven out.

Along the Atlantic seaboard, we think of a war with Russia in terms of an attack across the Atlantic. Well, forget that because Russia has moved around our left end and now stands poised in threatening posture just 10 jet minutes from Alaska. . . . Fortunately, Gen. Nate Twining, chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, served as Alaskan commander in chief, so he's aware of this setup, understands fully that the threat is from our Northwest. Not from the East! But Americans must be made aware of this and must emphatically

urge our representatives in Washington to beef up the military establishment in Alaska. In the meantime, we can thank God that the Russia of the Tsars sold Alaska to us: what once was Seward's Folly turns out now to be the wisest real estate deal ever completed by Uncle Sam. It cost us only \$7,200,000. Otherwise, we would now have Russian jet planes based just a little beyond Seattle.



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### Armstrong Commands Defenses

Two outstanding authors, Biene Lay Jr. and Sy Bartlett, once wrote a best seller about the exploits of an Air Force general during World War II.



Later, Gregory Peck starred in the movie version of their "Twelve O'Clock High."

Now it's high time that Lay, ARMSTRONG Bartlett or some other competent scribe dust off his typewriter and give cognizance to other phases of the career of Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr., Commander in Chief, Alaska.

General Armstrong has spent most of the last 10 years in the shadow of the Arctic. Twice during the decade he's commanded the Alaskan Air Command and for the past two years he's led the combined Army, Navy and Air Force units assigned in the 49th state.

In addition, he teamed up with Col. Bernt Balchen back in 1949 and blazed an aerial route from Alaska to northern Europe. The duo made the trip in an Air Force C-54 and dined on thermos jug coffee as their aircraft flew along the Arctic Circle.

INTERESTING chapters could be included from other years and other places. He was chief pilot in the Army Air Corps unit which flew our nation's air mail on the dangerous Rocky Mountain run out of Salt Lake City in the 30s.

In Panama, he had an engine explode in mid-air, yet nursed his stricken amphibian to a successful crash landing on an emergency strip.

But the most important of the lot is the job he's doing today—commanding the military team in Alaska which stands between the United States and any enemy attack which might come from the northwest.



HUGHES TROPHY TO 31ST FIGHTER INTERCEPTOR SQ.

P-35/625



ERNEST GRUENING

P-35/627



RALPH RIVERS

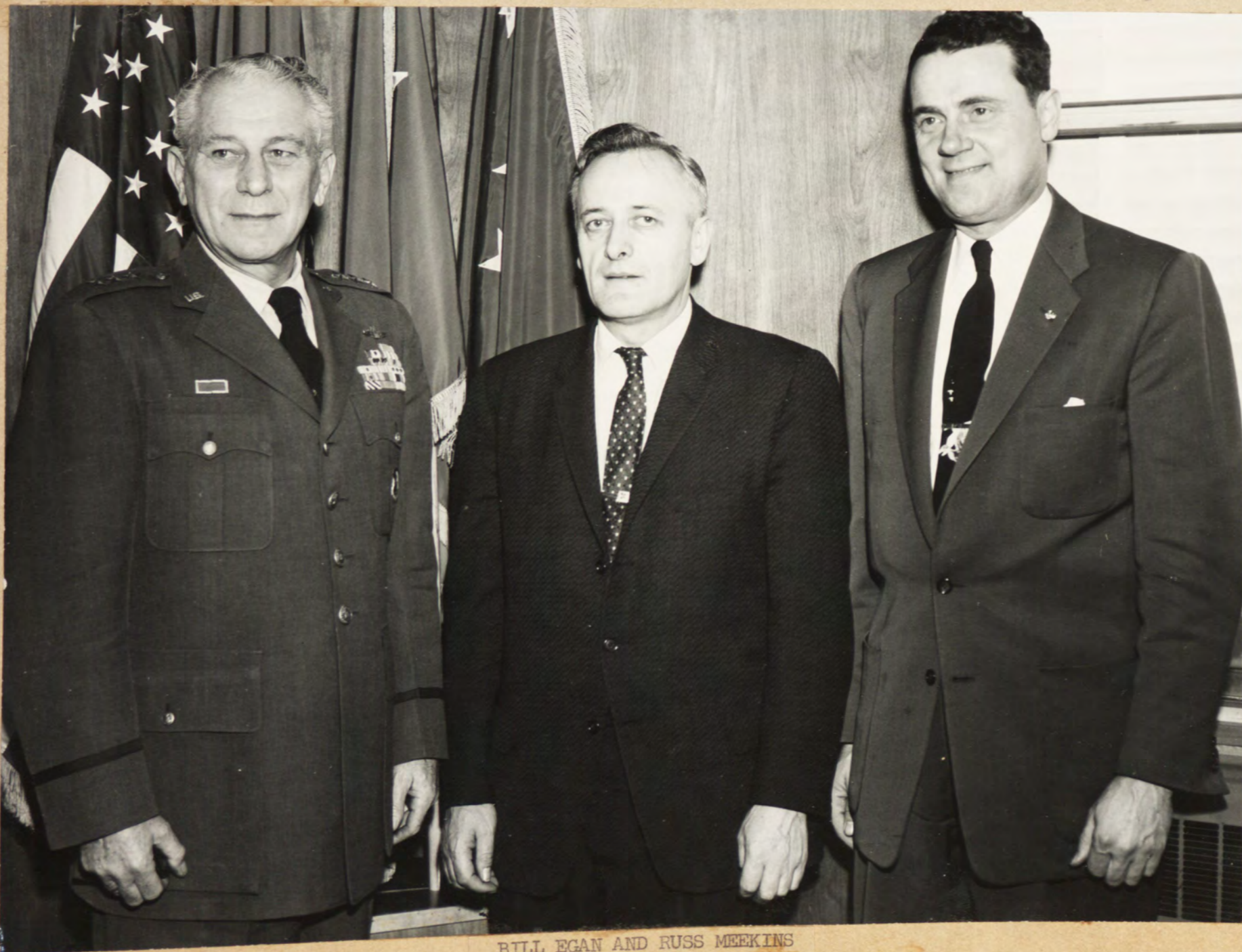
29 Nov. 1958 (Vol. 96, P. 371)

Army Navy Air Force Journal 3



VISITS ALASKA. Representative Bob Wilson (R-Calif.) is greeted at Ladd AFB on his arrival from Eielson AFB. As a member of the House Armed Forces Committee, he is making an inspecting tour of personnel facilities for all military forces in Alaska. In the welcoming party are, left to right, Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, Commander of the Alaskan Command for all military forces in Alaska; Representative Wilson; Brig. Gen. Gordon H. Austin, commander of the 11th Air Division (Defense); Col. Jack DeWitt, Ladd AFB commander.

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BILL EGAN AND RUSS MEEKINS

[89]

# On the Anniversary of Pearl Harbor, the Commander of Our Alaskan Defenses Outlines the Latest Strategy Against Soviet Surprise Missile Attack Along the Northern 'Perdition Perimeter'.

By Lt. Gen. FRANK A. ARMSTRONG, Jr.,  
Commander in Chief, Alaskan Command  
(As Told To James H. Winchester)



Lt. Gen. Armstrong

MOVIE-GOERS will recall Gen. Armstrong as the real-life hero of the film, "Twelve O'Clock High," which was based on a bomber raid he led over Germany. Later, he headed a B-29 Wing on Guam. He personally led the first and last heavy raids of World

War II. A native of North Carolina, Gen. Armstrong enlisted as a flying cadet in 1928. His current tour is his second in the Arctic. Previously he served there, as head of the Alaskan Air Command, from 1949 to 1951. His article takes on special significance in the light of Sec. of State Dulles' recent warning that the Soviet Union "has aggressive dispositions" in the Arctic "which it desires to conceal."

IN THIS JETOMIC age of missile and nuclear warfare, an attack against the United States—when and if it comes—may well be launched along the Arctic air lanes across the top of the world.

Take a look at any polar projection map and you'll easily see why the Great Circle is the shortest route between Communist soil and the North American continent.

The proximity exists not only in mileage, but in time. As the jet bombers fly today, it is four to six hours from Arctic Siberia to Chicago, Detroit and New York—a flight eased by the swift-running "jet stream" of wind flowing east and southeast from Siberia.

Alaska, linked by 12-foot-thick ice six months of the year across the narrow Bering Strait to Russia itself, sits squarely athwart this aerial super-highway between Siberia and Washington, D. C.

But manned jets, important as they will remain for many years to come, are giving way to unmanned missiles, and in this era of ballistic warfare, with all its frightening potentialities, Alaska—our 49th State—is strategically more important now than at any time since October 18, 1867, when "Seward's Icebox" officially became American domain.

Proximity to Siberia makes Alaska, of course, an ideal outpost from which to warn the United States of any impending attack. Already in operation is the famed DEW Line, strung along the rim of the Arctic from Cape Lisburne, on Alaska's northwest shoulder, across to Greenland. This is the billion dollar burglar alarm that secures America's backdoor against manned jets.

This engineering triumph over nature in one of the most inhospitable sections of the world,

where temperatures of 50 to 60 degrees below zero are not uncommon, is now being extended through a \$50,000,000 project, code-named "Stretchout," from the Alaskan mainland along a 650-mile length of the Aleutian chain.

These new stations will link Alaska's present early warning nets with surface and airborne early warning coverage provided by Navy picket ships and long range aircraft operating in the North Pacific, between the Aleutians and the Hawaiian area.

While admittedly not impregnable, the DEW Line is the best we have right now. Stations are equipped with both surveillance and "fluttar" radars, designed to warn of intruders both high and low.

### How Much Time?

OPINIONS vary on the amount of early warning the DEW Line outposts can supply the United States. The consensus—against manned jets—is approximately three hours.

Against intermediate or intercontinental ballistic missiles, however—which can span the distance between Moscow and New York in 30 minutes—the DEW Line as it stands today would be completely inadequate.

Against this growing missile threat to U. S. security, we are now constructing in Alaska a powerful, super-sensitive, long-range missile warning station. Work has already started on this site and will continue on a crash basis until completion.

It is located at Clear, just south of Nenana, in the shadow of Mt. McKinley, deep in Alaska's interior. Essentially it will provide missile detection coverage of an area where missiles might be launched. This Alaskan site is a part of the ballistic missile early warning system now under construction.

Today, many of our early warning stations can—and do—detect Russian planes in the air from Russian Air Force bases in eastern and northern Siberia. By the same token, Russian radar stations in those areas can keep track of our own plane movements over parts of Alaska.

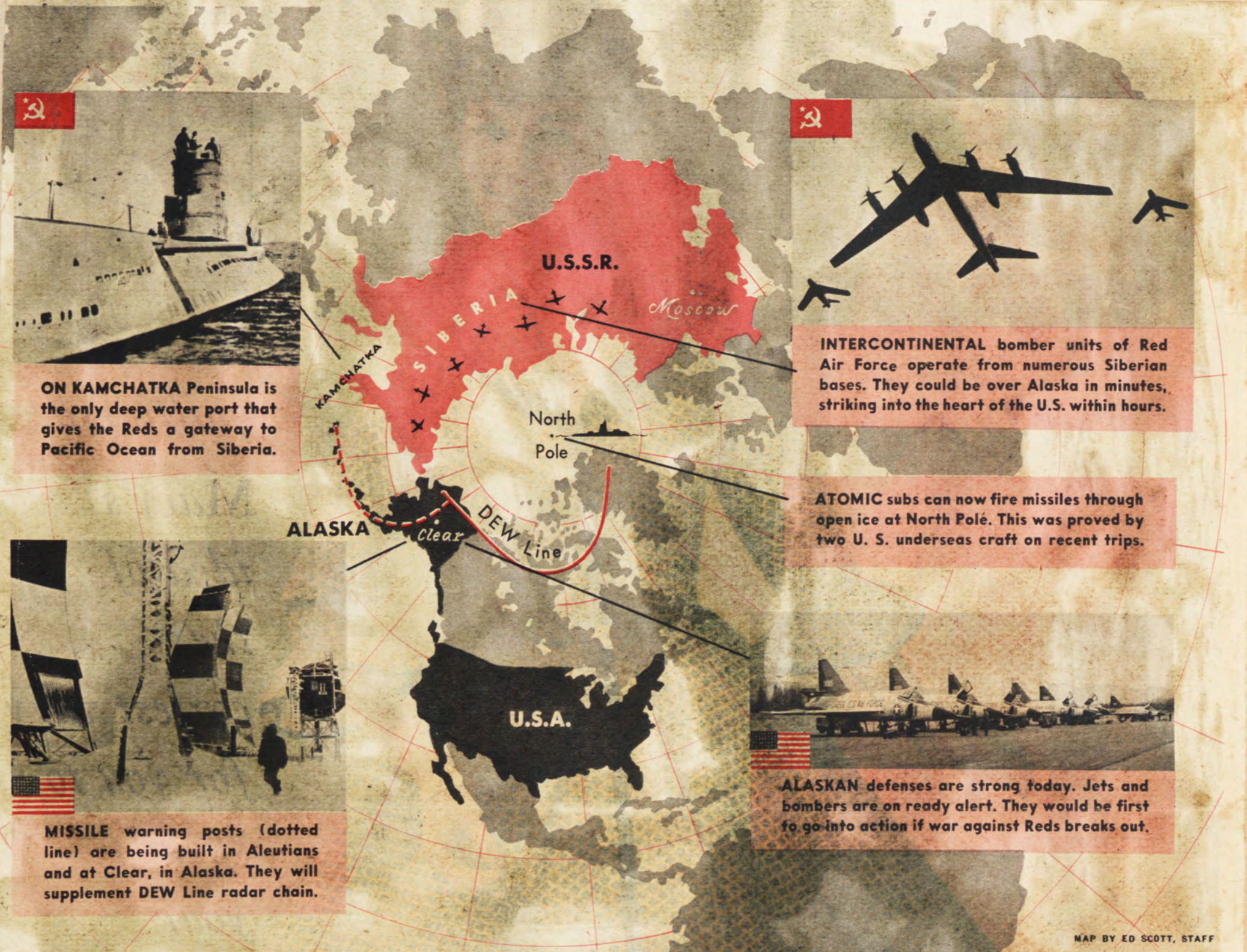
As important as Alaska is now and will be in the missile era ahead as a detection and warning area, it is my belief that—militarily—this vast 580,000-square-mile expanse of wilderness becomes ever important as a base for air operations, either by manned jet bombers or with missiles, if war is ever forced upon us.

In Alaska today we have always-alerted supersonic jet fighters, equipped with air-to-air Falcon and Mighty Mouse rockets. At Eielson Air Force Base, 26 miles south of Fairbanks, in the deep interior, is one of the world's longest runways. Jet bombers of the Strategic Air Com-

# Arctic Minute Men for Survival!

ALASKA is ideal for launching intermediate range missiles, such as this Thor. Siberia, in turn, provides Reds with good bases for attack on United States.

NEW YORK MIRROR MAGAZINE, December 7, 1958 © 1958, King Features Syndicate, Inc.



ON KAMCHATKA Peninsula is the only deep water port that gives the Reds a gateway to Pacific Ocean from Siberia.

INTERCONTINENTAL bomber units of Red Air Force operate from numerous Siberian bases. They could be over Alaska in minutes, striking into the heart of the U.S. within hours.

ATOMIC subs can now fire missiles through open ice at North Pole. This was proved by two U. S. overseas craft on recent trips.

MISSILE warning posts (dotted line) are being built in Aleutians and at Clear, in Alaska. They will supplement DEW Line radar chain.

ALASKAN defenses are strong today. Jets and bombers are on ready alert. They would be first to go into action if war against Reds breaks out.

MAP BY ED SCOTT, STAFF

mand—with atomic capabilities—are always stationed here on a rotational basis from the U. S. In case of war, they could be on target within a handful of minutes after take-off.

As a missile-launching platform, though, I feel that Alaska offers many unique and valuable military advantages to the United States. First of all, there is the matter of target accuracy. In firing ballistic missiles, the shorter the distance to the target, the less CEP—circular probable error. In other words—greater accuracy.

### An Ideal Setup

INTERMEDIATE range ballistic missiles—far less costly to produce and launch and more advanced in development now than our intercontinental Atlas and Titan models—could be fired from Alaskan bases in our defense.

Alaska has certain other built-in advantages as a missile-launching platform. Sites can be in the wilderness, far from populated areas, thousands of miles from our vital industrial centers in the U. S.

Planned for Alaska—and soon—are Army Nike Hercules bases around two of our most im-

portant military areas—Fairbanks and Anchorage. Another Alaskan strategic deterrent potential was highlighted this Summer, too, when the nuclear-powered submarine Nautilus slipped beneath the North Pole and on into the Greenland Sea and the Atlantic. This opens the door to the possibility at some future date of patrols across the top of the world by nuclear-powered subs armed with the 1,500-mile-range Polaris ballistic missile.

Such submarines could surface in the open Arctic or holes in the icepack—and such open areas have already been proven and explored by the U. S. Navy's nuclear-submarine Skate—and launch nuclear weapons in support of our strategic striking forces.

Because strategic Alaska is so vital to the security of the United States, this theatre, back in 1947, was established as a unified Command by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the first in our defense establishment. Its task was to coordinate the peacetime efforts of the Army, Navy, and Air Force components in Alaska.

Prior to December 1 of this year, as Commander in Chief of that Command, I assigned

their missions, except air defense, but did not command these forces. In time of peace, my function was largely that of coordinator. In an emergency, though, my headquarters would change from a coordinating agency to an operational command.

### Broader Powers

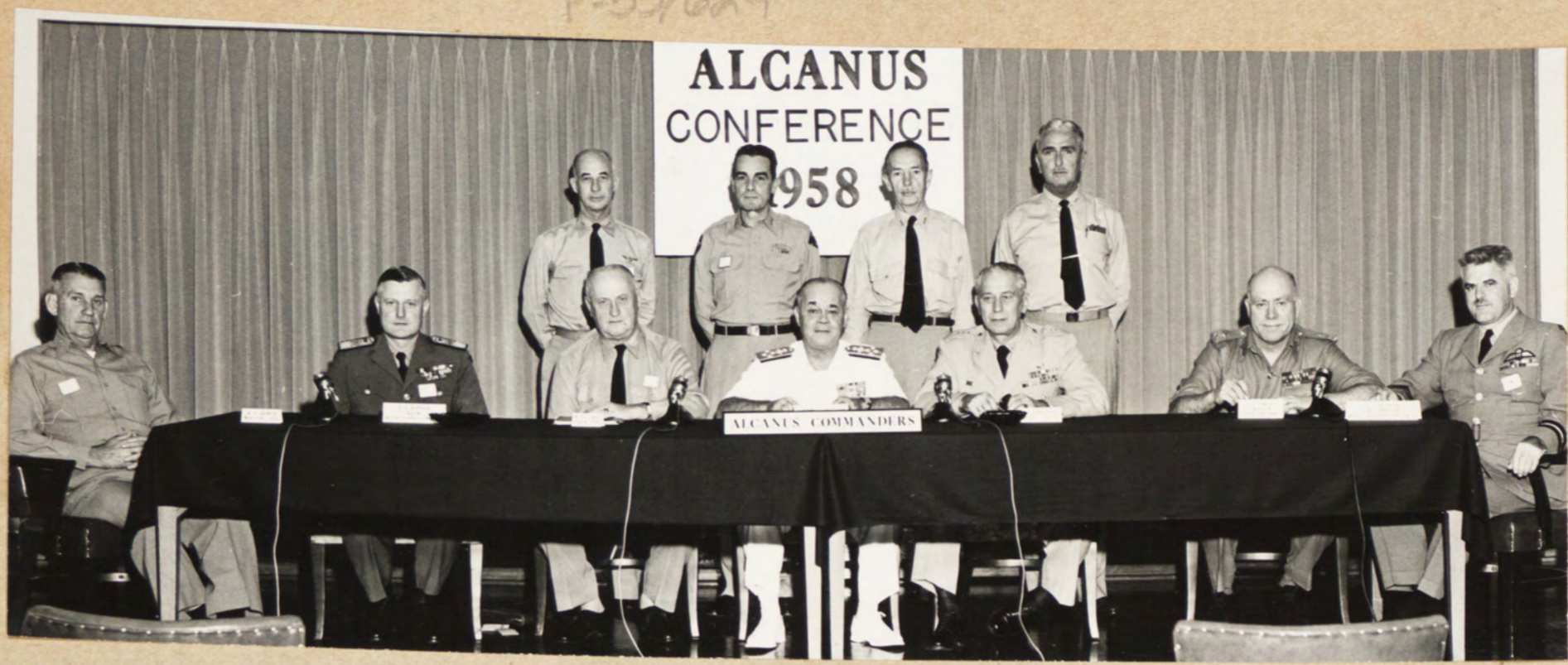
UNDER a new reorganization, effective December 1, all units of the Alaska Command are not under my operational control in time of war only. I now have operational control of all forces assigned to the Alaskan Command at all times. Thus my headquarters and its component fighting units are, at all times, in a posture of readiness to cope with any emergency.


The demands of modern war require swift reaction. This can be achieved only if there is true joint control.

As the missile age dawns—and with true unified command of all forces here—Alaska is no longer simply an overseas military station. It is a major theatre of operations, whose strategic location leaves little doubt of its significant role in military planning.

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*In honor of the Alaska-Canada-United States Conference  
 The Commander in Chief United States Pacific Fleet  
 and Mrs. Hopwood  
 request the pleasure of your company at a  
 Reception  
 on Monday, the eighth of December  
 from five-thirty to seven o'clock  
 Commissioned Officers' Mess, Makalapa*

R.S.V.P.  
 NAVY 57140

SERVICE DRESS KHAKI  
 OR EQUIVALENT

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ARMY SECRETARY BRUCKER



P-35/645



AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE'S PRESIDENT RANDALL AND WIFE

P-35/646



RUSSIAN SEAMAN EVGENIJ IVANOVICH GREUSHEV

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FREEDOM FOUNDATION AWARD TO SGT. HICKINBOTHAM

P-35/649



AF COMMENDATION MEDAL FOR RED RICE

P-35/650



COMMENDATION MEDAL FOR MAJOR CALLAHAN

P-35/651



BETTY, NED AND BILL HALL



**DISTINGUISHED VISITOR** here Monday was Sir Harold Caccia, who is shown chatting with Mrs. Frank A. Armstrong Jr. at a dinner in his honor at the Chart Room last night. Caccia is ambassador to the United States from Great Britain. Mrs. Armstrong is wife of Lt. Gen. Armstrong, commander of all military forces in Alaska. (News Photo)



**AMBASSADOR ARRIVES** — Sir Harold Caccia, British Ambassador to the U.S., arrived at International Airport where he was greeted by Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr., left, commander of all armed forces in Alaska, and Mayor Hewitt Lounsbury. Many of the events planned for the ambassador had to be revised because of his need to return to Washington last night to attend the funeral of John Foster Dulles. He plans to return sometime this weekend to complete his tour of Alaska.

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**SIR HAROLD AND RAF'S TARRY AND HAW**

P-35/653



**DOC McKECHNIE AT KODIAK**

P-35/654



**"GOODBYE COPE," SAYS MISS BOURBON**

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NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE -- 22 MAY 1959

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JOHN LINN

P-35/657



JUDGE SUMMERFIELD

P-35/658



THE GREGGS

P-35/659



JCS's J-6 DREYFUS

1707

P-35/60



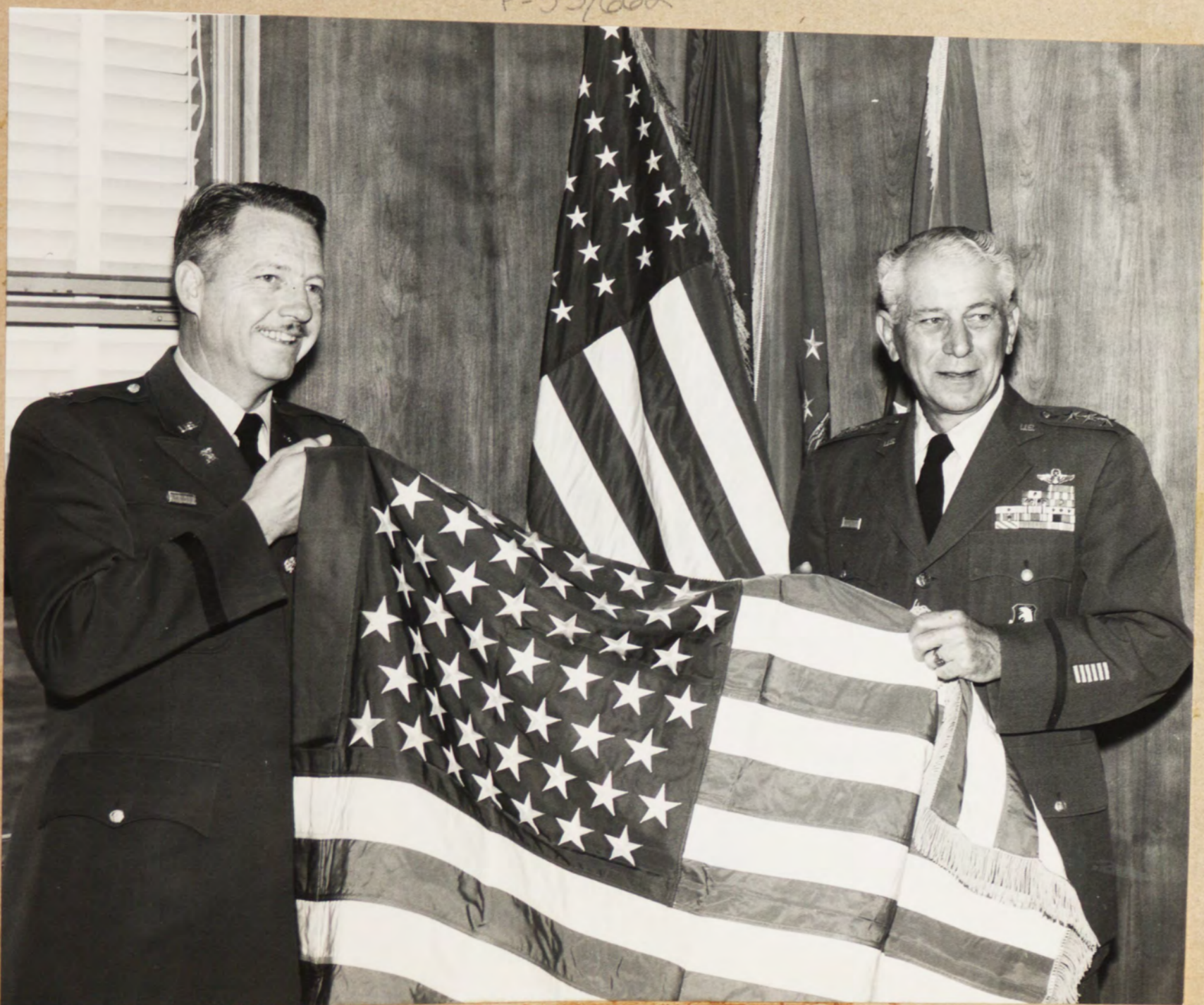
18-JUNE 1959 PARTY AT FORT RICHARDSON CLUB

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ITALIAN JOURNALIST GIOVANNI ARPIERI

P-35/602



USARAL'S COL. ISHOY PRESENTS 49TH STAR FLAG

[103]

# Southerner Runs Alaska Defenses

Lt. Gen. Frank Armstrong Jr. In Important Post

## WELL-SUITED FOR JOB

From The Commercial Appeal  
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr., a Southerner, is in charge of American defenses in the new state of Alaska.

Born May 24, 1902, in Hamilton, N. C., General Armstrong heads the unified Alaskan Command with headquarters at Elmendorf Air Force Base.

One of the nation's most important, this command's job is to detect enemy attacks, flash a warning to the mainland, and to serve as a launching "site" for immediate retaliation. A career Air Force officer with a long and distinguished record, General Armstrong is described by people who know him as being admirably suited for such an exacting assignment.

Gen. Armstrong

... a long and distinguished record, General Armstrong is described by people who know him as being admirably suited for such an exacting assignment.

### Cool As Climate

He bears the reputation of being an icy-nerved individual who is as cool in action as an Alaskan winter.

Yet he's had many exciting experiences. A bomber pilot in World War II, he personally led the first and the last heavy bomber raids of that war.

In 1942, as a colonel, he led a flight of B-17s in the first daylight raid on Axis-held territory—Rouen, France. And in 1943, his group hit Wilhelmshaven, Germany, the first Allied heavy bomber attack on Germany proper. The book and movie, "Twelve O'Clock High," were based upon this feat.

He later switched to the Far Eastern theater, and in August 1945 flew from Guam to Honshu in the longest and last B-29 raid on Japan.

This is his second tour of duty in Alaska. In his first, 1949-51, he headed the Alaskan Air Command. He also developed an air route non-stop from Alaska to Norway, and from Norway to New York. For that he received Norway's highest civilian award to add to his numerous previous decorations.

Back on the mainland, General Armstrong trained and equipped the Air Force's first B-47 Stratofortress wing. And for four years he commanded the Strategic Air Command's Second Air Force at Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana.

In September 1956, he became Commander-in-Chief, Alaska, and later commander of the unified Alaskan Command.

### Responsible For Warning

AAC is charged with supplying, through a vast radar and communications system, the earliest possible warning of attack against the mainland. It also provides for the air defense of Alaska and the Northwest Arctic approaches to the United States.

Finally, but not least, it maintains a "launching platform" at Elmendorf Air Force Base near Fairbanks at which Strategic Air Command bombers are poised for retaliatory attacks.

The warning system includes the Distant Early Warning (DEW) line, which already is operational but is being extended along the Aleutian chain to connect with Navy picket boats and radar-equipped aircraft operating between the Aleutians and Pacific outposts.

And backing the DEW line is the AAC's net work of aircraft control and warning stations which, in the event of conflict, would serve the additional purpose of directing the air battle as it developed over Alaska. These stations, each manned by about 150 technicians, are located along the coastal approaches and near the military and population centers.

### Dependable Communications

Supplementing all of this is Alaska's newly completed 140-million-dollar microwave telephone and telegraph system. Known as White Alice, it was built and is operated by a private company. But the AAC, which uses its services, bears the responsibility of bringing in parts and helping with repairs when necessary. Through White Alice, Alaskans—both civilian and military—now have dependable communications.

It can be assumed that Alaska has top priority, because of its strategic location, in the United States' missile program. An Atlas intercontinental missile, fired from Alaska, would have sufficient range to hit any point in Russia.

Finally, the Alaskan Air Command, with its 17,000 men, is supplemented by the Army and Navy forces in the area and off the Alaskan coast. Together, they form a cohesive team known as the Alaskan Command, dedicated to their joint assignment.

The Board of Governors  
Ladd Air Force Base Officers Open Mess  
request the honour of the presence of  
*Lieutenant General and Mrs. Frank A. Armstrong, Jr.  
and Miss Bourbon*  
at the Formal Opening of the Ladd AFB Officers Club  
on Saturday, the twenty-ninth of November  
at eight o'clock  
R.S.V.P. FORMAL



DREW PEARSON



McCONNELL AFB -- JANUARY 1959 -- SANDY AND MARY SANBORN





Mrs. Frank Armstrong

# The Fair Force

By Betty Vance



A magazine that's progressed from a four-page leaflet to 32 pages of good magazine format in seven years is marking its anniversary today. "The Fair Force Times" is edited by members of the Officers Wives Club at MacDill where it creates good will and civilian friendship off-base as well as being the best-read publication in circulation at the base. The anniversary issue opens, nostalgically, with Editor Adele Greene digging into the memory file for her "By-Lines" column—"While at present we're displaying delightful good health, we have gone through our share of growing pains and ailments. There were lean months when we had to be contented with a mimeographed sheet—our first edition was four pages titled 'What's My Name?' when we asked for members of the Officers Wives Club to submit an appropriate name for the publication—the magazine at first contained no advertising and was completely supported by the club — "Review" was our temporary title and then in July, 1952, "The Fair Force Times" was on our masthead for the first time—July of '53 found our membership low and club funds had reached a point where support of a publication was impossible, this was the period of the mimeographed sheet—then a new type publication was set up by a staff that refused to be daunted and advertising as a means of support was introduced and by '54, the Fair Force Times that we know today went to press." Founder of the magazine was Mrs. Frank A. Armstrong, wife of the former Sixth Air Division Commander at MacDill who is now Commander in Chief, Alaska. Mrs. Armstrong visited MacDill this month and found her magazine on firm footing with many plans and hopes for future expansion—making friends for the Air Force which was one of the magazine's purposes when it was founded—and its staff being cited again and again for meeting the constant challenge of producing a magazine that has lived up to and exceeded its expectations.



P-35/634



SERGEANT BENTLEY

P-35/635



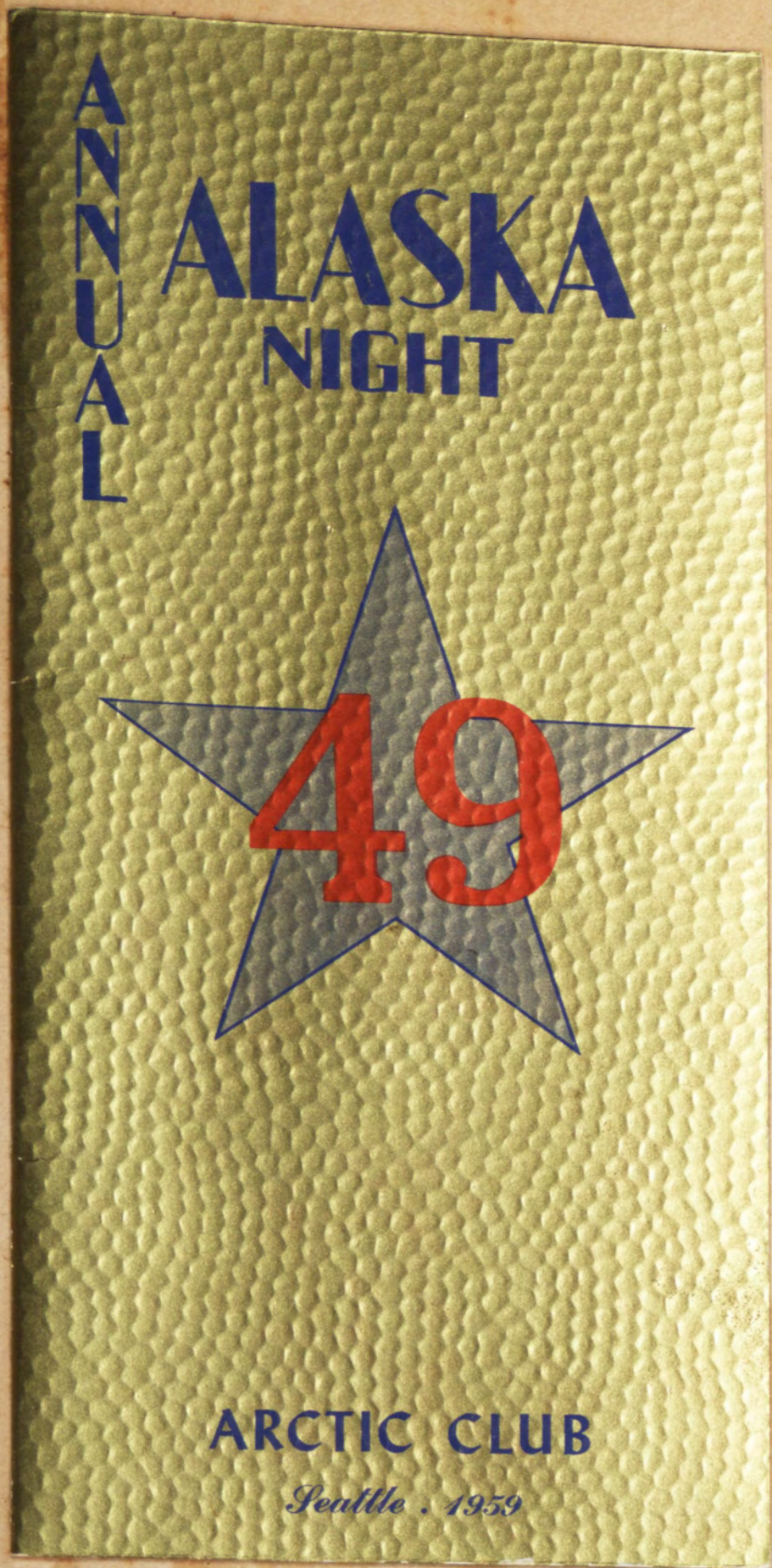
TO COMMANDER FOR SANDERS

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**THE SECRETARIES WELCOME**

*Lt. Gen.  
Frank A. Armstrong, Jr.*



**TO THEIR  
1959 CONFERENCE  
QUANTICO, VA.  
25-28 JUNE**



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P-35/665



SECOND STAR FOR NICK

P-35/666



THE MILLENS

P-35/667



THE RUNDALLS

P-35/668



COAST GUARD'S REAR ADMIRAL MOORE

P-35/669



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**CERTIFICATION**

Lieut. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, Jr.

In Recognition of His Service  
to the Cause of  
Preparing Motivated Young Men  
For the  
United States Air Force Academy  
And a Career  
In the United States Air Force  
Has Been Elected  
An  
Honorary Member  
of

**THE FALCON FOUNDATION**

This 7 day of November  
Anno Domini 1958

*Robert J. Smith*  
President

*J. P. Montgomery*  
Secretary

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FRANK RHODY AND AUNTIE MAME

P-35/671



HARRY HINK

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P-35/672



PRIME MINISTER KISHI

P-35/673



THE JIM CARRIERS

P-35/674



FRED WACKWITZ AND FAMILY

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SAC PROVIDES PUNCH NOW

# Alaskan Locations Ideal For Offensive Missiles

Editor's Note: The writer returned recently from a 12,000-mile trip through Alaska, the Arctic and the Aleutian Islands.

By REMBERT JAMES  
Military Editor, The  
Copley News Service  
and The San Diego Union

The day-to-day watch in Alaska against Soviet air attack on the United States through the arctic is directed by Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr., USAF, commander in chief of U.S. military forces in Alaska.

The chief weapons are radar sentries for warning, fighter planes and Nike-Hercules anti-aircraft batteries for defense.

For striking back, the Strategic Air Command keeps B47 jet bombers on constant alert.

These B47s pack a tremendous atomic punch. Also, the United States could make Alaska a major offensive base for hurling ballistic missiles at the enemy.

Some of the best locations for missile bases in North America lie in Alaska's protected mountains.

Alaska's geographical position near the top of the world gives it other advantages.

### TARGETS IN RANGE

Based in Alaska, 1,500-mile Thor or Jupiter medium range missiles would be able to cover most major targets in eastern Siberia. That is an area where Russian military strength, in some locations, has been increased as much as 800 per cent in two years.

If the medium range missiles were placed on Attu Island, in the Aleutian chain south of Siberia, all important targets in the Siberian Far East could be brought within range.

A Convair Atlas intercontinental missile, based in Alaska, could carry a nuclear warhead across the northern polar regions to almost any important industrial or military staging area in Russia.

But as things stand now, Alaska has no offensive missile bases, nor are there any under construction. The retaliatory punch lies with the SAC bombers, sitting constantly on the alert alongside the 14,600-foot runway at Eielson Air Force Base, 26 miles south of Fairbanks, and at Elmendorf Air Force Base, outside Anchorage.

### 70-MINUTE FLIGHT

The flight time for a two-engine Soviet jet bomber of the type normally based in Siberia would be around 70 minutes, from the tip of Siberia, across the Bering Strait to Fairbanks.

This closeness to Soviet territory is the reason why Alaska's Dew Line radar sites are situated so far forward. It would offer the longest possible warning time.

In case of an attack, the incoming bombers would

be met by Convair F102A Delta Dagger or Northrop Scorpion F89-J fighter planes.

Those that got through to Elmendorf, or to the Eielson and Ladd Air Base complex near Fairbanks, would be met by Nike-Hercules anti-aircraft fire.

The SAC bombers would be able to get airborne within 15 minutes.

These bombers are rotated every two weeks from bases of the 15th Air Force in Pacific Coast and southern states. During their period at Eielson, the crews never leave the base. The B47s and their tanker planes, a group of KB-97's for refueling in flight, are always ready.

### AF RESPONSIBLE

Although the Army and Navy have important roles in Alaska's defense, the Pentagon considers the region primarily an Air Force responsibility. Since the creation of the U. S. Air Force, the commander-in-chief in Alaska always has been an Air Force general.

One Air Force general to head the Alaskan Command—the oldest joint command in U. S. military history—was Gen. Nathan F. Twining, who served in 1947-1950.

Armstrong is famous in the Air Force as the officer who led the first and last heavy bomber raids of World War II. Assigned in early 1942 to the Eighth

Bomber Command, he was a leader in the group of young officers who blazed the way for the Eighth Air Force. He led a Flying Fortress formation which was the first to penetrate Axis-held territory in daylight hours when it bombed a strategic target at Rouen-Cotteville, France.

### FIRST GERMAN STRIKE

In early 1943, as a brigadier general, he led the B17s on the first invasion of German skies by U. S. heavy bombers—a strike on Wilhelmshaven.

Arriving in Guam in mid-1945 as commander of the 315th Bomb Wing, he led his heavy bombers on the last and longest mission flown by B29s in World War II—a highly successful strike on oil refineries in Japan.

His first Alaska service came in 1949 when he served as commander of the Alaskan Air Command. He returned to Alaska in 1956 to his former position as commander of the Alaskan Air Command. Two months later he was appointed commander in chief, Alaska, and promoted to lieutenant general.



GORDON PAULSON - A PLAYER PIANO FROM THE ALASKAN CHATEAU TO THE NEW OFFICERS CLUB



TEN YEARS FOR DOROTHY WALKER



29 JULY 1959 - ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL TRANSPORT AIRLINES



MARINES PATE AND AIDE

[88]

# ALASKA 'WIDE OPEN' TO ATTACK

## ALASKA OPEN TO INVASION BY SOVIET: GEN. ARMSTRONG

*Cite Inadequate Defense*



HEAD TABLE PERSONALITIES CHAT—Lt. Gen. Frank Armstrong, left, commander of the Alaskan Command, and Kip Hiddleston, center Chamber of Commerce president, quiz Sen. E. L. Bartlett before ceremonies at the Assn. of Local Transport Airlines banquet last night.

# GENERAL'S SPEECH SPARKS PROBE

# Bartlett Will Warn All America About 'Paper Defense' Facilities In Alaska

## Posture In Alaska Is Far From Adequate

A PLEA for strengthening of Alaska defenses marked the comments of Alaska's commander in chief last night when he addressed an aviation meeting. The general said intermediate range missiles must be brought here immediately if the defense forces here are expected to do their job.

Russia has 26 bases in Siberia that threaten Alaska. In the event of war the Strategic Air Command would be able to immobilize only eight of them. That would leave 18 bases capable of hitting Alaska.

He said that the interceptor forces here would be able to stop only one out of every four enemy aircraft. The others would continue toward their targets, in Alaska or in industrial centers such as Chicago.

Two enemy bombers could put the Alaska military bases out of action. Invading paratroopers could then take control and, after repairing the bomb damage, use the facilities against the United States.

The general said such a situation would compel President Eisenhower to decide whether to bomb Alaska to save Chicago, or to leave the nation open to attacks launched from Alaska.

THUS IT APPEARS that history is repeating itself. Alaska is undefended again, the same as it was at the start of World War II.

The United States has spent a billion and one-half dollars building things in Alaska. The plant today, instead of being an effective defense mechanism, is only a warning device for the nation.

Alaska is well equipped to warn of the approach of enemy bombers. But what good is the warning if there is no response? From the military viewpoint Alaska is as useful as a fire station without apparatus to respond to calls.

While Alaska is left weak for lack of missiles, the U.S. is sending the Thor to points overseas. The first ones were delivered to the United Kingdom for operation by British Royal Air Force almost a year ago. The Thor was the first intermediate range missile to be deployed to operational units. It has a range of 1,500 miles.

These missiles have limited value when located in the United Kingdom. Their range is not great enough to lob them into Russian targets. They would get no further than Poland, Hungary and Yugoslavia.

When launched from Alaska, the Thor would have within its range all 26 of the Soviet airbases that threaten Alaska. A radius of 1,500 miles from McKinley sweeps over the entire Siberian coast opposite Alaska, the Bering Sea and along the easternmost reaches of the Arctic ocean. It extends to the Kamchatka Peninsula and deep into the mountains and valleys of Siberia, including Kolymsk and Kamenskoe.

IN THIS AGE, a request for missile weapons is as elementary as was the Minutemen's request for muskets in the early days of this nation.

The Alaska general was modest in his plea for intermediate range missiles. They would bolster the defenses and enable the military in Alaska to do the job assigned — stopping enemy attacks before they get to the heartland of the United States.

He could have been more demanding by calling for a complete set of modern hardware, including the intercontinental missiles as well as the shorter range ones. There is no more effective location than Alaska for bringing all the enemy targets both in China and Russia, within range.

Apparently the U.S. has not yet learned the lesson of the last war. Another crash program of construction, with all the waste that comes with haste, is in the cards. As the general said, it will come when the Russians move up two squadrons of prop-jet bombers to the Siberian airdromes opposite Alaska.

The comments by the general were timely and appropriate. They were made at a gathering at which Alaska's senior Senator was the guest of honor. The Senator is a member of the Senate Armed Services committee.

We can depend upon our Senator, now that he is armed with the brutal facts, to see that they are delivered to the legislative group that oversees the military program.

If the Senator acts successfully to correct the defense deficiency, the result will be quite different from the efforts of Alaska's voteless delegate during the territorial days of the last war. And statehood will have paid off for the nation in one swoop, by preventing neglect of the defense establishment in this strategic area.

30 JULY 1959

FAIRBANKS (AP) — Alaska's Sen. E. L. (Bob) Bartlett said today he plans to go back to Congress and sound a warning to America that Alaska has "a paper defense" which is threatening the security of the entire nation.

Speaking to officials of 15 airlines located throughout the U.S., at a meeting here of the Association of Local Transport Airlines, Bartlett echoed an earlier warning issued by Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr. in Anchorage on Wednesday.

In a dramatic departure from his prepared speech on Alaska aviation, Bartlett declared he was "going to find out what has happened to those back in the Pentagon charged with providing defense not only for Alaska but for the entire nation."

"IT WAS shocking to learn that Alaska has what amounts to no defense at all after we have spent millions of dollars maintaining what we believed to be a reasonably adequate defense," Bartlett told the airlines officials. "It's enough to frighten anybody."

Bartlett referred repeatedly to Gen. Armstrong's speech on Alaska's defensive weakness. He reiterated a number of times that he was shocked to learn of this weakness, and praised Gen. Armstrong "for having the courage to tell the nation about it."

"I cannot help feeling deep concern on being told the Russians could immobilize what we have here and lay waste to all the cities of the West Coast. I had no notion at all that we had a paper defense in Alaska rather than an actual one."

BARTLETT said Alaska "ought to have one of the strongest defenses in the nation."

He declared: "I intend to return to Congress and bring the attention of the entire nation to this alarming situation."

## Solon Plans Warning

(Continued from Page 1)

tion from the floor of the United States Senate."

He pledged he would continue to work with vigor and determination for the establishment of the kind of defense "Alaska and the nation must have."

Bartlett referred to an article by Gen. Billy Mitchell in the November, 1927, issue of the magazine, *Aeronautics*, in which Mitchell assigns a strategic and vital role to Alaska in continental air defense.

"BILLY Mitchell's words become more meaningful than ever when placed in context against Gen. Armstrong's remarks on Wednesday," the senator said.

Armstrong told the ALTA audience in Anchorage that two enemy bombers could put Alaska bases out of commission and leave both Alaska and the West Coast defenseless.

"With Russians in the Fairbanks and Anchorage areas, President Eisenhower would have to decide quickly whether to bomb Alaska to save Chicago or leave the country wide open to close-range attack," Gen. Armstrong said.

In Anchorage when asked to comment on Senator Bartlett's statements about "paper defense" in Alaska, Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong said today he was talking about offense, not defense.

"We have just about all the defense we can handle, unless we had something that would stop them all," General Armstrong said.

## Red Bases In Siberia Main Threat

### General Armstrong Says Russian Bases Across Bering Sea

"We could use IRBMs which could probe within the range of 1500 miles," Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong asserted today. "I'm led to believe the Russians have missile bases some 65 miles across the Bering Strait."

The general was elaborating on remarks made last night at the banquet of the Association of Local Transport Air Carriers.

"I confine everything I said last night to one theater — this one," Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong asserted this morning.

"This one plot of ground is the only one I'm interested in. I don't want to be considered in the geo-political picture," the general said.

Such IRBMs as Gen. Armstrong suggests thus would be within the range of those Siberian-tipped Russ missile bases.

"You might use the trite phrase I can't see the woods for the trees," he added. "The Pentagon and the State Department are looking at this problem from the world view. I'm not. I'm talking only of what can be done to protect Alaska."

"When I make an estimate to Washington, they'll look at it from the world view," the general stated.

He concluded that manpower in Alaska is sufficient.

## General Says IRBMs Are Needed Here

### 2 Planes Could Destroy Alaska Bases Commander Says

Two enemy bombers could put Alaska bases out of action and leave Alaska and the west coast of the U.S. defenseless, Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr. warned last night.

"It would take only two enemy bombers to put Alaska bases out of action and if these attacks were followed up by paratroops, Alaska would be out of action," the commander of military forces in Alaska said as he spoke informally at a banquet of the Assn. of Local Transport Airlines.

THE BANQUET was the final session of ALTA's quarterly meeting in Anchorage. The group moved to Fairbanks today to end its conference.

"With Russians in the Fairbanks and Anchorage areas, President Eisenhower would have to decide quickly whether to bomb Alaska to save Chicago or leave the country open to close range attack," the general added.

Alaska needs intermediate range ballistic missiles, he said. "Unless Alaska gets IRBMs soon, we are going to be in one hell of a fix."

AT PRESENT the Strategic Air Command can count on putting out of action only eight of the 26 bases that threaten Alaska, the general said. Alaska has two base areas that could quickly succumb to atomic attack and leave Alaska wide open to invasion, he stated.

Armstrong said Alaska doesn't need intercontinental ballistic missiles to put his forces in range of Cairo and Australia but intermediate missiles "that will allow us to nullify those 26 Red bases in Siberia."

"The nation's thinking is Northeast-oriented but the obvious and practical attack route to the U.S. is through Alaska. If Alaska does not get the missiles it needs soon, Alaska and the West Coast are through: Seattle, Portland, San Francisco and down the coast are done," Armstrong stated.

THE AIR FORCE in Alaska is intended only to warn the U.S. of attack. "Air Force fighters are expected to be able to knock down only one out of every four invading enemy aircraft."

"Alaska was built up through a series of crash programs and the next one will be when the Russians move up two squadrons of Badgers (prop-jet bombers) across the Bering Straits from Alaska," the general warned.

## Two Senate Committees Are Alerted

### Armstrong's Warning Stirs Up Activity In Legislative Halls

WASHINGTON (AP) — An investigation of Alaska's military situation will be made because of statements attributed to the area's commanding general, Sen. E. L. Bartlett (D-Alaska) said yesterday.

Bartlett said he talked with heads of two Senate committees about statements made in his presence by Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, commander of U.S. forces in Alaska.

Bartlett said Armstrong, speaking at a dinner in Anchorage, described Alaska's defenses as vulnerable.

BARTLETT said concern expressed by Sen. Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.), Chairman of the Senate armed services committee, and Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson (D-Tex.), chairman of the preparedness subcommittee.

Bartlett said he was assured the preparedness subcommittee will start work immediately "and look into the matter thoroughly."

Bartlett said he sat next to Armstrong at the dinner last week when the statements about Alaska's situation were made. Newspaper accounts of Armstrong's statements, he said, were "extremely accurate."

"The statements threw Alaskans into a turmoil," Bartlett said. He said he hoped that there would be a report on this "most serious matter" before Congress adjourns.

Earlier, Sen. Ernest Gruening (D-Alaska) urged the Senate that an investigation be made on the basis of the statements attributed to Armstrong.

## Atwood Asks ICBMs Here

### Tells Editors Alaska Needs Missile Bases

SEATTLE (AP) — Alaska is the one spot from which the United States could control the world with missiles but nothing is being done to put them there, Robert B. Atwood said here today.

Atwood, publisher of the Anchorage Daily Times, urged the building of 1,500-mile range missile bases in Alaska quickly and establishment of 5,000-mile intercontinental missile bases there as soon as the ICBM's become operational.

ATWOOD SAID intermediate-range missiles could cover 26 bomber bases the Russians have built in Siberia. This number was listed recently in an appraisal of Soviet strength by Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, head of all armed forces in Alaska.

The publisher added that a polar projection shows long-range ICBM's from Alaska could reach everything in Russia and Red China.

Atwood said it would take only two Soviet bombers to immobilize the Air Force in Alaska.

"Then it would be an easy matter for the Russians to follow up with paratroopers and convert the bases in Alaska to their own use. If that ever happens, President Eisenhower will have to decide whether to bomb Alaska to save Seattle, Chicago and other industrial centers."

Atwood is here to attend the annual meeting of the Associated Press Managing Editors' Assn.

security review office of the Air Force. As a rule, speeches of this nature, when they reveal changes in policy, disclose heretofore unknown military information, etc., are sent to the Pentagon for review and clearance. Armstrong's speech, however, was not written. It was delivered extemporaneously.

The Air Force, as it now stands, refuses to state whether Armstrong's superiors agree or disagree with the military analysis of the Alaska commander.

In that controversial speech, Gen. Armstrong said: "It would take only two enemy bombers to put Alaskan bases out of action and if these attacks were followed up by paratroops, Alaska would be out of action."

"WITH RUSSIANS in the Fairbanks and Anchorage areas, President Eisenhower would have to decide quickly whether to bomb Alaska to save Chicago or leave the country open to close range attack," the general added.

Later he said he could use intermediate range ballistic missiles that would reach targets on the Soviet mainland up to 1500 miles away. He spoke of Russian missile bases 65 miles across the Bering Sea.

He conceded that he and the high command might have a different point of view on what is needed in Alaska. He looks at it from the strictly Alaskan viewpoint, while the Pentagon takes the world view, he explained.

ONE THING the Senate Preparedness Subcommittee apparently is doing is quizzing Gen. Curtis Lemay, deputy chief of staff for the Air Force, whose responsibility has been the main defensive striking force, the Strategic Air Command. For Armstrong's speech could be considered chiefly an indictment of the effectiveness of SAC.

Bartlett said the issue is expected to come to a head soon in the subcommittee, not necessarily with public hearings but with some staff determinations about what the military situation is.

15 AUG 1959

## Pentagon Won't Reply To Armstrong Charges

By A. ROBERT SMITH  
Times Washington Correspondent  
WASHINGTON (Special)

The Joint Chiefs of Staff early this week prepared a statement about the adequacy of Alaska's military defense to counteract what Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr. said about the state being "wide open" to Soviet attack.

But the statement was never issued. At the Pentagon it was learned that a decision not to issue the statement had been made after consultations between the Air Force and Sen. Bob Bartlett (D-Alaska).

BARTLETT had already got a congressional investigation under way into the Armstrong speech delivered at Anchorage July 29 at the banquet of the Assn. of Local Transport Airlines.

Apparently the statement drafted at the Pentagon would have downplayed Armstrong's emphasis on the vulnerability of Alaska to enemy air attack from Siberian bases. The statement would have played up the consideration being given by the joint chiefs to further defense installations in Alaska.

An Air Force spokesman interpreted the thing something like this: every field commander wants more equipment than he can possibly expect to get, and the high command here has to consider the overall cost of all requests and then whittle them down to the point permitted by the military budget.

ARMSTRONG'S speech was not cleared in advance by the

## ARMSTRONG LAUDED FOR DEFENSE STAND

JUNEAU (AP) — Gov. William A. Egan has offered his support and that "of all Alaskans" to an Air Force general who last week described military offense and defense in the 49th state as paper thin.

The governor said he had sent a congratulatory telegram Saturday to Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr. for "his courage in speaking the truth."

IN AN UNSCHEDULED address before the Assn. of Local Transport Airlines at Anchorage last Wednesday, Gen. Armstrong said two enemy bombers could put Alaska bases out of commission.

He also said the Strategic Air Command could count on putting out of commission only eight of 26 Siberian bases that would threaten Alaska in the event of a war with the Soviet Union.

The general's comments on the 26 Siberian bases were believed to be the first public disclosure of the number of bases west of Alaska's Bering Sea coast.

The governor did not make public the text of his message to Gen. Armstrong, but said he told the Alaska commander he could count on support of all Alaskans if the general "finds himself in any difficulty."

Gen. Armstrong told the Anchorage meeting that Alaska needs intermediate range ballistic missiles "that will allow us to nullify those 26 Red bases in Siberia."

"UNLESS ALASKA gets IRBMs soon, we are going to be in one hell of a fix," Alaska's senior U.S. senator, E. L. Bartlett, was in the

## C of C To Praise Armstrong For Defense Speech

The Greater Anchorage Chamber of Commerce will write a letter to Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr., chief of military forces in Alaska, to praise him for a recent statement he made on the military preparedness of Alaska.

Directors instructed Claire Banks, Chamber manager, to write the letter at a special meeting yesterday.

Armstrong declared at a dinner of the Assn. of Local Transport Airlines that Alaska needs intermediate range ballistic missiles as a defense against Soviet missile bases that threaten Alaska and the West Coast.

# Senator Bartlett To 'Smoke Out' Alaska Defense Deficiencies

By MARY VON HERBERG  
Daily News Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON (Special) — Military and congressional heads here are between the devil and the deep blue sea in trying to figure out some answer to recent public charges Alaska has only a "paper defense" despite Federal expenditures of \$1.3 billion.

A public disclosure of the true facts would only serve to confirm for sure what our enemies might only suspect or conjecture.

But, such a public statement has to be answered. As Senator Bob Bartlett (D., Alaska) puts it:

"General Armstrong spoke, Alaskans heard. I heard I was there. Until General Armstrong spoke, I was confident all was well with the state of our military preparedness. No one could so believe after his dramatic and extemporaneous speech.

"Since then, there has been some dispute whether the commanding general of the Alaskan Command

was referring principally to his offensive or defensive capabilities. What does it matter? The two are inseparably intertwined.

"Of course, no perfect defense can be set up at any given point against an aggressor. I can remember general Eisenhower made to me on this subject when he was Army chief of staff.

"We all know the Defense Department was actively considering placing missiles in Alaska. We all know this was not done. Some of us know the installations were considered too costly in terms of available funds.

"But I think the American people would be willing to spend whatever is required for better protection.

"Alaska—and the nation—can be better defended by stepping up our offensive capacity.

"If Alaska is under threat from over 20 Siberian bases, let us speedily put ourselves in shape to knock them out, in case of conflict. As I interpreted it, that

was General Armstrong's main plea. I agree with him."

But, how to handle this hot potato? Senator Bartlett is convinced the American people have a right to know what the situation is. He is determined they are going to know and that there will not be any "whitewash."

Democratic congressional leaders are wary about using the word investigation, but they are assembling all the facts.

One line of thinking is that times have changed. Westerners may remember that during World War II, American military heads were reported to be of the opinion that the Pacific Coast west of the Rockies could be indefensible in case of attack.

Now, one line of reasoning being advanced is that in this nuclear age, frontiers such as Alaska are unimportant to the enemy in comparison with say our 50 or 100 leading industrial centers. These have the capacity to produce the weapons to retaliate. These are the ones that must be knocked out first—such as

Chicago, for one—our center of government here in Washington—Strategic Air Command headquarters at Omaha—to name a few of the most important.

Alaska does not fit in such a category.

Furthermore, modern weapons are so advanced that Alaska would be unnecessary to the enemy even as a staging area—particularly since it would mean setting up new lines of supply.

So, it may be, that with this session of Congress drawing to a close, that the Senate preparedness subcommittee, which has assembled most of the facts, will get a private, off-the-record briefing from Pentagon officials next week. Then, after a question and answer period, may lay it on the line to the Pentagon something like this:

What can we tell the American people safely without endangering the defense of our country? Anyway you look at it, the situation is just plain explosive.

## BARTLETT SAYS SENATE MAY HEAR ARMSTRONG

By A. ROBERT SMITH  
Times Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr., chief of the Alaskan Command, probably will be called to testify before the Senate Preparedness Subcommittee, Sen. Bob Bartlett (D-Alaska) said today.

The subcommittee is looking into the implications of Gen. Armstrong's recent statement that Alaska is "wide open" to Soviet attack because it lacks intermediate range missiles.

THE SUBCOMMITTEE has received reports from the Army and Navy on their analyses of the Alaska defense position. The Air Force report has yet to be received, Bartlett said, but should be in shortly.

After this report is in, Bartlett said, he expected witnesses to be called.

"I hope that Gen. Armstrong will be called," said the senator who, as a subcommittee member, got the current inquiry going.

BARTLETT and Sen. Lyndon Johnson (D-Tex.), subcommittee chairman, flew to Omaha headquarters of Strategic Air Command last week mostly because neither had ever had the SAC briefing. It was only concerned about Alaska as one aspect of the entire defense picture.

"Alaska is strategic," Bartlett said. "It needs to be defended better than it is now."

## Bartlett Out To Get Facts On Alaska Defense

Senator Bartlett's strong determination to get the true picture of Alaska's defense or lack of defense before the public is commendable.

He says he is determined to get to the bottom of the implications behind General Armstrong's recent announcement that despite the spending of one and one-third billions in Alaska since prior to World War II, Alaska still has only a "paper defense."

The Senior Senator from Alaska is right and should get the backing, not only from Alaskans but from the rest of the nation as well.

General Armstrong as we know well in this area, is not given to making rash statements. Despite the fact that he denounced Alaska's defense system as weak in an extemporaneous speech at a public meeting, the words must have been prompted by considerable thought.

The only conclusion that can be reached is that something is wrong.

If so, we have a right to know and we are glad to know that one of our delegation in Congress is hard headed enough to lay these facts open.

## ON McELROY VISIT

## Bartlett Says His Statement Was 'Mangled'

Alaska Senator E. L. Bartlett today lashed out at the way a statement which he issued on Thursday afternoon concerning the status of Alaska's defense had been "mangled" between Washington and Juneau, by a news agency, (not United Press).

In his statement of last week, Bartlett reported that the joint chiefs of staff had reviewed Alaska's military situation and that Secretary of Defense Neil McElroy intended to stop off in Alaska for a brief inspection

tour while on his way to the Far East.

"Because this story was so mangled between here (Washington) and Juneau, however," Bartlett said, "because the emphasis was so shifted from meeting with high defense officials on Alaska defenses to forthcoming visit to Alaska of Defense Secretary McElroy, because it absolutely missed treating subject which is most important to state now, I now feel obliged even if all news worthiness has been lost by passage of time to furnish the complete text of the statement I issued Thursday afternoon."

Bartlett's statement is as follows:

"This afternoon accompanied by staff members of the senate preparedness investigating subcommittee, I met with the Secretary of Defense, Neil McElroy, and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Nathan Twining.

"This meeting was arranged for the specific purpose of further exploring the adequacy of the military plans and programs for the defense of Alaska and the United States as a whole.

"I am not in a position to discuss the specific items covered during this meet, particularly since many of them are classified, I can however, report two things.

"1.—The joint chiefs of staff have reviewed our military posture in Alaska in relation to the Soviet military threat. I would hope that at least the substance of the views of the joint chiefs of staff on this important matter can be made public in the near future.

"2.—Secretary of Defense McElroy now plans to stop off in Alaska on his forthcoming inspection trip to the Far East. He will arrive at Elmendorf Air Force base at 8 a.m., September 21. He will stay in Alaska for two days, during which he will meet with General Armstrong and other key military officials in the area."

## Defenses Of State To Be Investigated

Johnson, Bartlett To Go To Omaha For Military Briefing

JUNEAU (AP) — An investigation into the status of military defenses in Alaska will be carried tomorrow to Strategic Air Command headquarters at Omaha, Neb., an Alaska senator announced today from Washington.

Sen. E. L. Bartlett (D-Alaska) said he and Senate Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson of Texas would fly to the SAC headquarters for a briefing in connection with an Alaska defense investigation under way by the Senate Armed Services Preparedness Subcommittee.

Sen. Johnson heads the subcommittee. Bartlett, the new state's senior senator, is a member of the full committee.

BARTLETT announced the plans for the trip to SAC headquarters in a telegram to the Associated Press here.

The Alaska military situation was called to the attention of the Senate by Bartlett three weeks ago after his return from a trip to Anchorage and Fairbanks.

At Anchorage, Bartlett was present when Lt. Gen. Frank Armstrong Jr., commander of Alaskan Command, publicly said the offensive striking power of the United States in Alaska needed strengthening.

THE GENERAL said Alaska should have intermediate range ballistic missiles, able to nullify 26 Soviet bases in Siberia.

Bartlett's telegram to the AP said he would return to Washington from SAC headquarters tomorrow night or Thursday.

## Letters To The Editor

Letters to the Editor must bear the writer's name, address and telephone number, if any. The writer's name may be withheld upon request, but the letters must be signed to be considered for publication.

### Searching Examination

Dear Editor: This is written following my reading this morning of the editorial published in the Times for Wednesday, August 26, 1959, entitled: "SAC No Substitute for Missiles Here."

The Times for that day didn't come down as fast as a missile — or even a SAC bomber — but it certainly traveled right along.

May I make reference to only two paragraphs of the editorial. They were in these words:

"It is curious that the senators have gone to Omaha to talk to the Strategic Air Command about it.

"Reasonable speculation would be that someone has told the senators that the defense of Alaska is in the hands of SAC and the information they want must come from that command."

That is a reasonable deduction, but it does not "cover the water front." Our trip to SAC headquarters was in part, but in part only, related to the Alaska situation. We were briefed there on the world-wide mission of this striking Air Force, which constitutes as of now the great deterrent power of America. The examination was, indeed, made into offensive and defensive capabilities of our armed forces in Alaska from the standpoint of that Command.

However, Sen. Johnson, as chairman of the Preparedness Subcommittee of the Senate Armed Services Committee (I am a member also of both) has authorized a complete inquiry into this matter. So, what transpired at SAC headquarters constituted only one element of what is to be a very searching examination of our defense readiness in Alaska.

E. L. BARTLETT  
U.S. Senator

## Bring 'Em Here

WORD FROM WASHINGTON indicates that General Armstrong may be called back to testify before the Senate Preparedness Subcommittee in connection with an investigation into the military posture in Alaska.

General Armstrong recently indicated that the posture is not good for lack of intermediate range missiles.

This situation is acquiring an air of mystery. There has been much fanfare about the general's remarks but nobody has denied or confirmed them from the Pentagon. The committee has been looking into the matter for some time and has made no disclosures.

Could it be that somebody is embarrassed because the missiles aren't here? Instead of calling General Armstrong to Washington (which would take away the only "missile" we have around here), perhaps the best solution would be to get those IRBM deals here, and fast.

# Anchorage Daily Times

READ BY ALASKANS EVERYWHERE

56201

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1959

## Pentagon Denies Alaska 'Wide Open' To Attack

### Rejects Idea Of Missiles For Alaska

By A. ROBERT SMITH  
Times Washington Correspondent  
WASHINGTON — The Department of Defense has rejected the view of Alaska's top military commander that Alaska is "wide open" to attack in a way which makes the American continent vulnerable.

It has also rejected the idea of beefing up the Alaska defense posture with missiles, as advocated by Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr. These decisions were revealed yesterday in a letter Defense Secretary McElroy wrote to Sen. Lyndon Johnson (D-Tex.), chairman of the Senate Preparedness Subcommittee which investigated Armstrong charge.

McELROY SAID the Joint Chiefs of Staff, headed by Force Gen. Nathan Twining, believe "the Alaskan commander can accomplish assigned mission with the current and programmed military resources."

Furthermore, McElroy declared, "The Alaskan command has reported recently to Twining that he is satisfied with the defense forces presently assigned and programmed for Alaska."

This portion of the letter suggests, without further elaboration, that Gen. Armstrong has recanted his critical remarks made extemporaneously in late July when he said the Soviets could knock out Alaska because it has 26 Siberian missile bases which he would like to counter with missiles of his own.

"IN THIS DAY of supersonic planes, missiles, and advancing technological developments, we cannot afford to limit our defense posture by state boundaries and fragment our total effort. In no case do we assign to any single state of the U.S. forces required to defend that state alone. To do so would obviously dilute our total effort and would weaken our defense of this country," McElroy said.

He seemed sympathetic with Armstrong when he said "it is the responsibility of each commander to press strongly for his own particular needs." But he added that it is up to the Pentagon to "consider our total needs and to assess the needs of each commander in the light of the requirements of the nation, and then develop, within the resources available, the strategic plans and assign the world-wide mix of forces necessary to provide the maximum integrated effort in defending these United States."

McELROY SAID Twining assured him the Joint Chiefs "attach to the defense of Alaska the same degree of importance as is given the other parts of the United States."

### FAIRBANKS

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No. 220

# ALASKA DEFENSES 'ADEQUATE'

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# Bartlett McElroy Clash Over Defense

## Military Rejects All Charges By Armstrong

Missiles Deemed Not Necessary For Defense of State By Top Military Chiefs; Answer to Armstrong Blast

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18. (Special) — The Department of Defense has rejected the view of Alaska's top military commander that Alaska is "wide open" to attack in a way which makes the American continent vulnerable. It has also rejected the idea of beefing up the Alaska defense posture with missiles, as advocated by Lt. Gen. Frank A. Armstrong, Jr.

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McElroy said Twining assured him the joint chiefs "attach to the defense of Alaska the same degree of importance as is given the other parts of the United States."

The letter was made public by Sen. Bob Bartlett who called for the inquiry into Armstrong's complaint.

## Senator Visits Anchorage

By JOE ROTHSTEIN  
Daily News Staff Writer  
Sen. E. L. Bartlett arrived in Anchorage yesterday and took issue with recent statements by Secretary of Defense Neil McElroy that all was well with Alaska's defense set-up.

"I'm far from persuaded," Sen. Bartlett said, "that either the recent withdrawals in respect to personnel or the direction of the military mission in Alaska are altogether advisable."

"It seems to me that we have too few of everything up here," the senator added. Bartlett said that Secretary of Defense McElroy had planned to stop in Alaska before Alaskan Commander Gen. Frank A. Armstrong Jr., made his July speech calling Alaska "wide-open" to enemy attack.

"But before the speech," said Bartlett, "this was just to be a casual inspection tour, not a

## Gold Price Could Go Up

A belief that the price of gold would be raised in the near future was expressed yesterday in Anchorage by Sen. E. L. Bartlett. "A lot of people are horrified by the idea," Bartlett said, "but I think reality will dictate that the price of gold should be raised."

"It could happen on any unknown tomorrow," the senator added. "There is nothing more important that could happen to Alaska."

reference to a very important problem. I expect McElroy to be in a better position to make evaluations of Alaska's strategic importance now that he has seen our defenses in person."

Sen. Bartlett, also attacked the cloak of secrecy which he found to be most extensive in Washington.

"The fact of the matter is that in building up its military strength to its present level, including the simply remarkable advances in missilery, the Russians are spending on this effort a much larger percentage of their gross national product than is the United States," Bartlett said.

"It is my firm belief," he continued, "that there is no sacrifice the American people would not make to prevent Russia from outstripping us — if they only knew all the facts."

Bartlett said that in his opinion "We tend to wrap everything in a cloak of secrecy and by so doing we deny the American people the opportunity of expressing their will on the bases of informed judgement."

The Alaska senator is scheduled to leave Sunday for a two week swing through Tokyo and Korea on a fact finding tour for both the senate committee on interstate and foreign commerce and the senate armed services committee.



SECRETARY McELROY  
First Class Set-Up



SEN. E. L. BARTLETT  
I'm Far From Persuaded

## McElroy Says Alaska Defenses Are 'Finest'

Secretary of Defense Neil McElroy completed a tour-day inspection of Alaska defense facilities last night and called them "the finest I've ever seen."

He gave his impressions of

Alaska's defense moments before he stepped aboard a plane which is taking McElroy and army chief of staff Gen. Thomas White to the Far East.

"The facilities I've seen here have impressed me as being first rate, because they are, very finest I've ever seen," McElroy said. "They are the best I've ever seen."

"There is room for expansion up here, however," the defense secretary added. McElroy and White arrived in Anchorage Monday morning. They toured Elmendorf air force base and Ft. Richardson on Monday and yesterday flew to Fairbanks to inspect facilities at Eilson and Ladd air bases after poor weather cancelled their original plan to go to Barter Island.

Before the defense secretary and Gen White boarded their plane for the Far East last night they were presented with charcoal-drawn images of themselves by A/2C Jessie McCowan.

Airman McCowan said that he had drawn the two portraits free-hand about a month ago. Both McElroy and White expressed surprise pleasure at the presentation and McElroy told McCowan, "You've got a real talent there."

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# Pentagon Finds Alaska Good Spot For Missiles

• **LAUNCHING SITES** in Alaska for missiles is still a lively topic in high military circles. The issue is far from dead, as some might believe on the basis of statements that have been made. Reports emanating from Washington indicate that the Pentagon is now considering the feasibility of locating the facilities in Alaska. They would be for intermediate range ballistic missiles (IRBM).

This is in line with the stand taken by General Armstrong when he publicly cited the need for launching facilities here. Nothing has changed the situation since he said it. There has been no public statement from any official indicating that the general was wrong, or that the missiles are not needed here.

Instead of fading away as a result of investigations, the words of the general have proven indelible.

It is safe to predict that the missiles are coming to Alaska.

**CONFUSION HAS CENTERED** on misinterpretations of the words of General Armstrong.

He referred strictly to offensive capabilities of the military establishment in Alaska. He said the missiles were necessary to enable the military here to hit Soviet air bases in Siberia before those bases can hit Alaska.

The proper conclusion from his remarks was that an offensive posture is essential in connection with the defense of the nation. At the same time, he indicated that the defensive posture is the best possible at this time. He had no criticism of it.

The confusion started when the general's statement was interpreted as a revelation that Alaska had only a "paper defense." He said no such thing.

From then on, the defense posture has been a subject of repeated references. When Secretary McElroy visited here recently he noted that the defenses of Alaska are good. He also noted that General Armstrong agrees.

But McElroy did not refer to the offensive capability — or incapability — to which General Armstrong referred. Neither did McElroy say that the general has changed his views as to the offensive posture that is needed.

**THE GENERAL**, instead of changing his stand or losing stature as a military leader, is being proven right. His stature is greater by virtue of his courageous stand.

Investigations by the Air Force are proving Alaska to be more attractive for the missile sites than the far-away sites in Europe and elsewhere.

They have discovered that the streamlined communications facilities, and the routine logistics make Alaska attractive. The presence of substantial air bases with military ground support activities in the new state, plus the DEW-line system and the missile detection facilities now under construction at Clear, all make Alaska more attractive.

In other words, the investigations are showing that the general's suggestion is feasible.

Col. Bernt Balchen, one of the world's foremost Arctic explorers and former commander of the Tenth Rescue Squadron in Alaska, has published an article urging IRBM bases in the Arctic.

He suggests the launching facilities should be in Greenland and Alaska. He said:

"From the northeast coast of Greenland, we can, with 1,500-2,000 mile range missiles, cover all important Soviet areas on the European side where the Russians necessarily must have their ICBM sites in order to reach military and industrial targets on the American continent.

"Likewise, Alaskan sites could cover all the possible Siberian launch areas for ICBMs against the U.S. West Coast and the Middle West."

It was the latter point that General Armstrong made and which is meeting with favorable response in Pentagon circles.

Until the missiles are brought here, the military posture in Alaska will not be good. Anyone whose neighbor has 26 cannon aimed at him from the property line, is not going to wait for the neighbor to fire the guns. He is going to develop a capability of eliminating them, regardless of how strong his defensive position may be in surviving the bombardment that those cannon could deliver.

## GREATER Anchorage Chamber of Commerce

304 G STREET  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA  
TELEPHONE 71401

"Air Crossroads of the World"



October 5, 1959

Lieutenant General Frank A. Armstrong, Jr.  
Commanding General, Alaska Command  
Elmendorf Air Force Base  
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear General Armstrong:

Pursuant to recent publicized statements which were contrary to your stand on the defenses of Alaska, the Greater Anchorage Chamber of Commerce by unanimous decision of its board of directors, September 25th, officially set forth the following motion:

"The Greater Anchorage Chamber of Commerce re-affirms its position in support of General Frank Armstrong with regard to his statement that the Military Defenses of Alaska are not adequate."

By way of explanation, recent publicity regarding a statement by the Secretary of Defense, Neil McElroy, definitely sets forth the fact that Alaska will be given equal consideration with respect to military defenses with that of any other of the South 48 States. We feel that Alaska is of far more military and tactical strategic value and should, therefore, demand greater vigilance with much more adequate protective weapons and military strength. Alaska is, and should be maintained as, a fortress against possible enemy attack. This is not true of a majority of other states of the Union.

Justifiably then, those reasons as set forth by Mr. McElroy were not well-founded. It is doubtful that he can provide an expert opinion on the matter, as in comparison with a Military Commander who has served in this theatre for greater than six years.

It is our hope, in support of you, that we might be of assistance in dispelling what we term a false statement of security regarding our country. If we can be of further help to you in this respect, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully yours,

LARRY H. LANDRY  
President,  
Greater Anchorage Chamber of Commerce

LHL:mv

cc: Governor William A. Egan  
Senator E. L. Bartlett  
Senator Ernest Gruening  
Representative Ralph J. Rivers

Air Mail to Alaska is Faster . . .

# Secretary Of Defense McElroy Sees Alaska's Military In Action



**SEES NIKE SITE** — Secretary of Defense Neil H. McElroy (left) talks with Capt. Edwin M. Klitch, commanding officer of Battery A, 4th missile battalion, 43rd artillery, during his tour of NIKE Site "Point." Sec. McElroy, Gen. Thomas D. White, chief of staff, U.S. Air Force.



**VISITING DEFENSE OFFICIALS** and top Alaska commanders prior to boarding an Army helicopter that took them on a tour of Fire Island and Nike Site "Point." (Left to right) Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Thomas D. White, Secretary

McElroy, Alaskan Air Commander Maj. Gen. C. F. Neerason and Commanding General of U.S. Army, Alaska, Maj. Gen. J. H. Michaelis.



**ON FIRE ISLAND** — Secretary of Defense McElroy (right) is escorted by Base Commander Maj. Paul J. Warren during his tour of Fire Island. (Army Photos)

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HONORABLE NEIL H. MCELROY SECDEF - BOSS VISITS ALCOM

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TOMMY WHITE CAME ALONG

P-35/679 C



THE BOSS AND COMPONENT COMMANDERS

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DENALI LITTLE LEAGUE ALL STARS-1959 STATE CHAMPS

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THORPE COMMENDED

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SPEER - AIR RESCUE EXPERT

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SO LONG TO THE COSTELLOS OF J-4

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