

ND ABM SITES ANNOUNCED - AREAS NEAR LANGDON, WALHALLA

By Art Raymond GFH 10-8-69 P 1

The Army has made a tentative selection of sites in northeast North Dakota for Phase One of the Safeguard Missile program.

The "tentative" designation will be removed October 14 when the Army plans to submit a "Title 10" action for Congressional consideration. In that action it pinpoints the exact sites it proposed to obtain for construction of Safeguard system missile, radar, and associated facilities.

Resor Informs Young - Secretary of the Army Stanley R. Resor told North Dakota Sen. Milton R. Young, R-ND, "tentative" site locations for Stage One of the Safeguard ABM program are being made so:

"Site engineering and survey and arrangement of site access can be initiated in the near future and thereby minimize further delay in site readiness."

He told the senator that no definite action on site acquisition would be made until funding and Title 10 actions were cleared by both Houses of Congress. The Army had delayed its action in moving toward site acquisition until Congress passed the authorization bill. This was done earlier by the Senate and last week by the House of Representatives.

Sites Listed - The Tentative Sites:

Perimeter Acquisition Radar (PAR) site about 14 miles south of Walhalla in Pembina County.

Missile Site Radar (MSR) with associated Spartan and Sprint missile launching cells and associated facilities, approximately 11 miles south of Langdon.

Sprint missile launching cells and associated facilities 11 miles south of Walhalla and seven miles northwest of Langdon.

The Army intends to acquire 220 acres of land for the PAR sites; 300 acres for MSR sites; 50 acres each for the two Sprint missile sites; five acres for water supply points and easements of 230 acres on MSR sites; 300 acres for Sprint sites and 545 acres for water pipelines.

The Army informed Sen. Young it will refine land site dimensions on October 14 when it will send its Title 10 action to Congress. Title 10 is an action in which Congress acts on proposals for acquisition of land. The Army submits its exact proposed locations for consideration. Congress then says "yes" or "no" on specific sites.

The Information office for the Safeguard program at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, Tuesday informed the Grand Forks Herald that the construction program is expected to get started early in 1970.

Maj. Winston L. Comer, Safeguard Systems Command, was in Grand Forks Wednesday. He told the Herald, "In the near future personnel from the US Army will visit the areas for on-site and local surveys. This will include negotiations with local communities for the required electrical power, conduct of site foundation investigations and topographic surveys, negotiations with local telephone companies and discussions with local civic and community leaders regarding schools, hospitals, and housing."