

PEAK MISSILE CONSTRUCTION WORKERS TO TOTAL 2,200

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Cavalier, ND - The peak 1970 force in the first year of construction of the army's safeguard antiballistic missile system in North Dakota will be about 2,200 people, Sen. Milton R. Young said.

That figure will accelerate rapidly during the following year, Young said, reaching 3,100 employees in 1971 and then dropping back to approximately 2,100 in 1972 and rising to 2,500 workers in 1973.

After 1974, when the site is in its operational phase and construction has been completed, Young said the total work force will be approximately 1,600 persons, with slightly less than one-half of these expected to be civil service employees and the rest military personnel.

Young is the ranking Republican on the defense appropriations subcommittee and on the full senate appropriations committee.

The Army Corps of Engineers told Young their current target date for award of construction contract is April 6.

First-year expenditures on safeguard will be approximately 24 million dollars. Young said the figure will sharply increase in the subsequent years during construction. The Army has estimated its total construction costs for the project at \$200.9 million.

Other information, provided by the senator at the briefing included details on the type of skills and semi-skills involved, population increases based on work force and dependents of both military and civilian employees, the impact on public schools in the Grand Forks and surrounding areas and the impact on civilian medical facilities.

The Army said that a broad scope of skills and semi-skills will be required. The required crafts and trades will include mechanics, carpenters, iron workers, concrete finishers, welders, electricians, pipe fitters, sheet metal workers, insulators, masons, painters, semi-skilled laborers, and truck drivers.

After 1971, there will be fewer construction workers and increasing numbers of military personnel and civilian employees of the weapon systems contractor. The construction area population increase (workers and families) could have a temporary peak of 6,000 persons in 1970 and 8,500 persons in 1971, the Army announced.

After the sites are operational the total population is expected to level off at approximately 4,500 persons.