



CEREMONIAL GROUND BREAKING Monday near Concrete, N.D., marked start of construction in the nation's first ABM Safeguard program. Construction work started immediately at a Perimeter Acquisition Radar site near Concrete and at a Missile Site Radar (MSR) near Nekoma. The ceremonies were at the PAR site. There for that ceremony were, from left, Bill Verway, mayor of Nekoma; Dr. Harold Blanchard,

mayor of Langdon; State Sen. Richard Forkner, R-Langdon; William Gilfillan, project manager for Morrison - Knudsen, prime contractor; Lt. Col. Vern Davis, assistant area engineer for the Army Corps of Engineers; Bob Olson, mayor of Cavalier; Arnold Christanson, mayor of Mountain; John Karel, mayor of Walhalla, and A.D. "Doc" Poteat, construction superintendent for M-K. Story and additional pictures

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HIS NAME IS "DOC" - FROM VIETNAM, FLORIDA JOBS TO NORTH
DAKOTA ABM WORK REINS GFH 4-7-70 P 8 By Art Raymond

Concrete, ND - His name is "Doc," he says, and to find out more is difficult.

"Doc" Poteat is general superintendent of construction for Morrison-Knudsen, prime contractors of the \$137 million Safeguard program in North Dakota.

"Doc" Poteat returned recently from projects in Vietnam and was working on a Florida job for M-K when he was sent to take charge of Safeguard construction in North Dakota.

He's a Cherokee - or part Cherokee, who calls home base North Carolina. Now 48, it's been a long time since he's really settled down in Carolina. For 32 of those 48 years he's been doing construction work. In those 32 years, he's worked on projects in 27 foreign countries.

He arrived in North Dakota last Friday and Monday already was grabbing the reins to assume control of his area of the work in the Safeguard program.

"Doc" is no stranger to the upper Midwest. A few years back he worked on the Big Bend Dam project in South Dakota. That was on the Missouri River.

Two brothers are involved in the same kind of work as his father was before him.

The slow Carolina drawl belies a razor sharp mind as he grasps situations and answers in an instant. "Doc" was interested in learning that the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks has a pre-med program and a two-year medical school. One of his sons is a pre-med student. Another son is a junior in high school. They, both, are remaining where they are for now.

In Florida, until Friday, "Doc" was working on a Disneyland project for M-K. From temperatures in the 90s to the low 30s of Monday morning was quite a change, he said.

And, oh, his initials are "A.D." What they stand for, he didn't say.