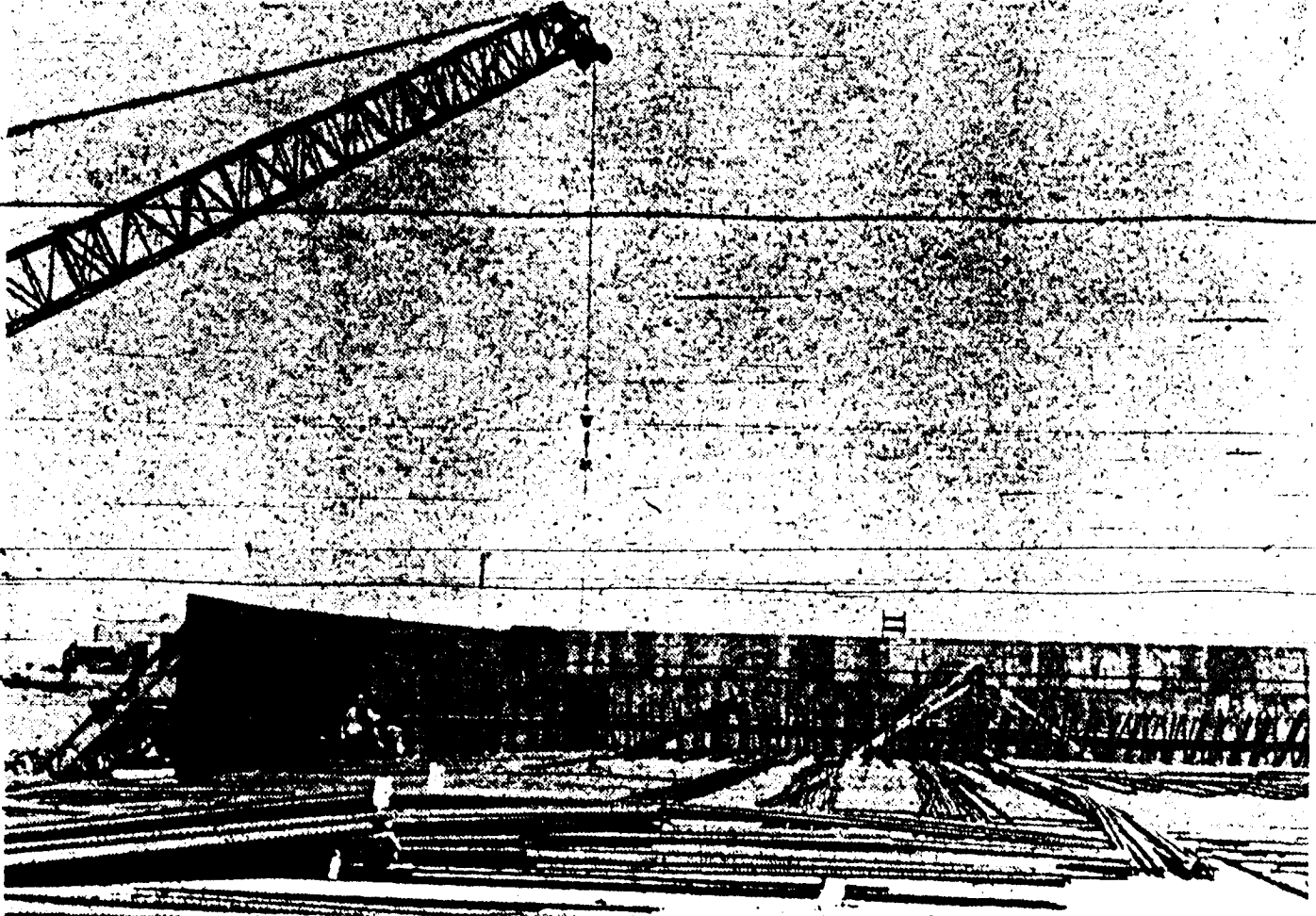


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MAMMOTH WALL IN background is start of the Phased Array Radar, key element of the Perimeter Acquisition Radar site near Concrete, N.D. The PAR building is called the one-acre building. The square-shaped structure is something over 200 feet square at the base. The Radar Wall rises nearly 130 feet

in the air. The building is hardened against nuclear effects. Builder is Morrison-Knudsen, prime contractor for the \$137 million construction job. Worldwide, M-K does more than \$1 billion each day in construction jobs and is a giant in the field of construction contractors. (Herald Photo by Raymond).

S. Viets Open New Operation

SAIGON (AP) — South Vietnam has withdrawn some 2,000 U.S.-trained mercenaries from Cambodia but has launched a new operation in the neighboring country with 10,000 South Vietnamese marines, infantrymen, rangers and armored

Tripartite Guides ABM Building In North Dakota

By **ART RAYMOND**
Herald Staff Writer
LANGDON, N.D. — A three-power team is putting together the Safeguard program in North Dakota.

Watchdog on the antiballistic missile construction job here is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The design and construction of the entire ABM program is the responsibility of the

Morrison-Knudsen is building offices for the Corps at each of the two major construction sites. The area headquarters will be located at Nekoma, adjacent to the MSR site. The PAR project office will be located at Concrete adjacent to that construction site. These offices are expected to be ready for occupancy within the next few days.

The second of the three-power team is Safcom. During site construction, the Safeguard Systems Command gradually will phase in personnel of Site Activation Command (Safcom). Already those elements are being filtered into the system. Major Mark T. Peyton Jr. has been named Safcom acting commander and is

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Langdon, ND - A three-power team is putting together the Safeguard program in North Dakota.

Watchdog on the antiballistic missile construction job here is the US Army Corps of Engineers. The design and construction of the entire ABM program is the responsibility of the Corps of Engineers' Huntsville Division, Alabama. That division was created specifically for this purpose.

The Omaha District of the Corps was charged with real estate procurement and management.

To supervise construction, the Corps of Engineers established an area office at Langdon and named Col. Roy Beatty as area engineer in charge. His assistant is Lt. Col. Vernon K. Davis, assistant area engineer.

Morrison-Knudsen is building offices for the Corps at each of the two major construction sites. The area headquarters will be located at Nekoma, adjacent to the MSR site. The PAR project office will be located at Concrete adjacent to that construction site. These offices are expected to be ready for occupancy within the next few days.

Up to now the area office for the engineers is located in Langdon and project offices are housed in trailers at each of the two sites.

Col. Beatty moved in and assembled the Corps staff. The area office and project offices of the Corps will number about 130 employees at peak strength in early 1971.

Col. Beatty is scheduled for retirement this month. It is expected a successor will be named at any moment.

The second of the three-power team is SAFECOM.

During site construction, the Safeguard Systems Command gradually will phase in personnel of Site Activation Command. Already those elements are being filtered into the system. Major Mark T. Peyton, Jr., has been named SAFECOM acting commander and is on the job. Glen A. Robertson is the public affairs officer with the title of special assistant. Fred Barberia is chief of the facilities branch. Gradually they will be joined by others. The Safeguard Systems Command, with SAFECOM as its on-the-job arm, is responsible for the design, procurement, and installation of the weapons system. It is expected this group will peak at 300 employees in 1973.

The third of the tripartite is Morrison-Knudsen. What does one say about M-K that hasn't been said before? A Safeguard publicity release describes M-K this way:

"Morrison-Knudsen Company, Inc., and subsidiaries compose one of the largest and most widely experienced construction and engineering organizations in the world. The total organization engages, on a global scale, in a full range of such heavy construction projects as powerhouses, highways, bridges, airports, tunnels, railroads, and waterfront facilities. It engineers and builds industrial plants. It lays cross-country pipelines. It erects high rise buildings and other commercial structures. It does complex mechanical installation work. And it engages in mining operations, owns and develops real estate, and through an affiliate, builds ships."

In 58 countries

"...To date these men and their machines have performed major projects in 58 countries as well as every state in the US, taming rivers with nearly 150 major dams and threading the land with railroads, highways, pipelines, and canals. They have bored tunnels, hollowed out cavernous powerhouses in the rocky heart of mountains, and have erected huge industrial complexes that have produced steel, fertilizers, chemicals, tires, glass, and other basic commodities. As the air age advanced, they built airports by the score and with the dawning of space travel, their work reached, in purpose, to the very surface of the moon, for they erected immense structures at Kennedy Space Center in Florida that are the last stepping stones here on earth for manned lunar voyages.

\$1 Million Daily

"They built more than half of the underground launching silos for this nation's Minuteman missile. And since 1962 they performed one of the largest single construction programs in history in South Vietnam under contract to the US Navy. The construction of in-place military support facilities there is in excess of \$1.6 billion."

In its global enterprises, M-K and its owned subsidiaries regularly performs an average of more than \$1 million EACH DAY.

William Gilfillan is project manager for M-K at the ABM site. Gilfillan worked for M-K summers while in school. After graduation from college he joined M-K on a permanent basis and now, after 15 years, heads a \$137 million construction job.

\$160 Million Project

The total cost of putting the North Dakota ABM system into operation is somewhere around \$160 million. No exact figures are yet made public. The approximation of \$160 million has been used from time to time. Added to the \$137 million construction job must be the procurement, installation, and testing of the weapons system.

Put them all together and they spell a first for the nation. The Grand Forks Site is the first site to win Congressional and Presidential approval. The site at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Great Falls, Montana, has been okayed and funded. However, its progress initially was about six months behind the Grand Forks job.