

TOPPING OUT HELD AT NEKOMA MISSILE SITE

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By Warren Strandell Herald Valley Edition

Nekoma, ND - A topping out ceremony signifying completion of concrete work at the MSR (Missile Site-Radar Facility) was held here Tuesday afternoon.

At the ceremony were officials of the US Army Corps of Engineers, the Morrison-Knudsen Company, including Lt. Col. Vernon K. Davis who is assistant area engineer, and John Blake, resident engineer, both representing the Huntsville Division of the Corps of Engineers and William McMurren, executive vice president, and James A. Lilly, vice president, and G.W. Gilfillan, resident manager of Morrison-Knudsen.

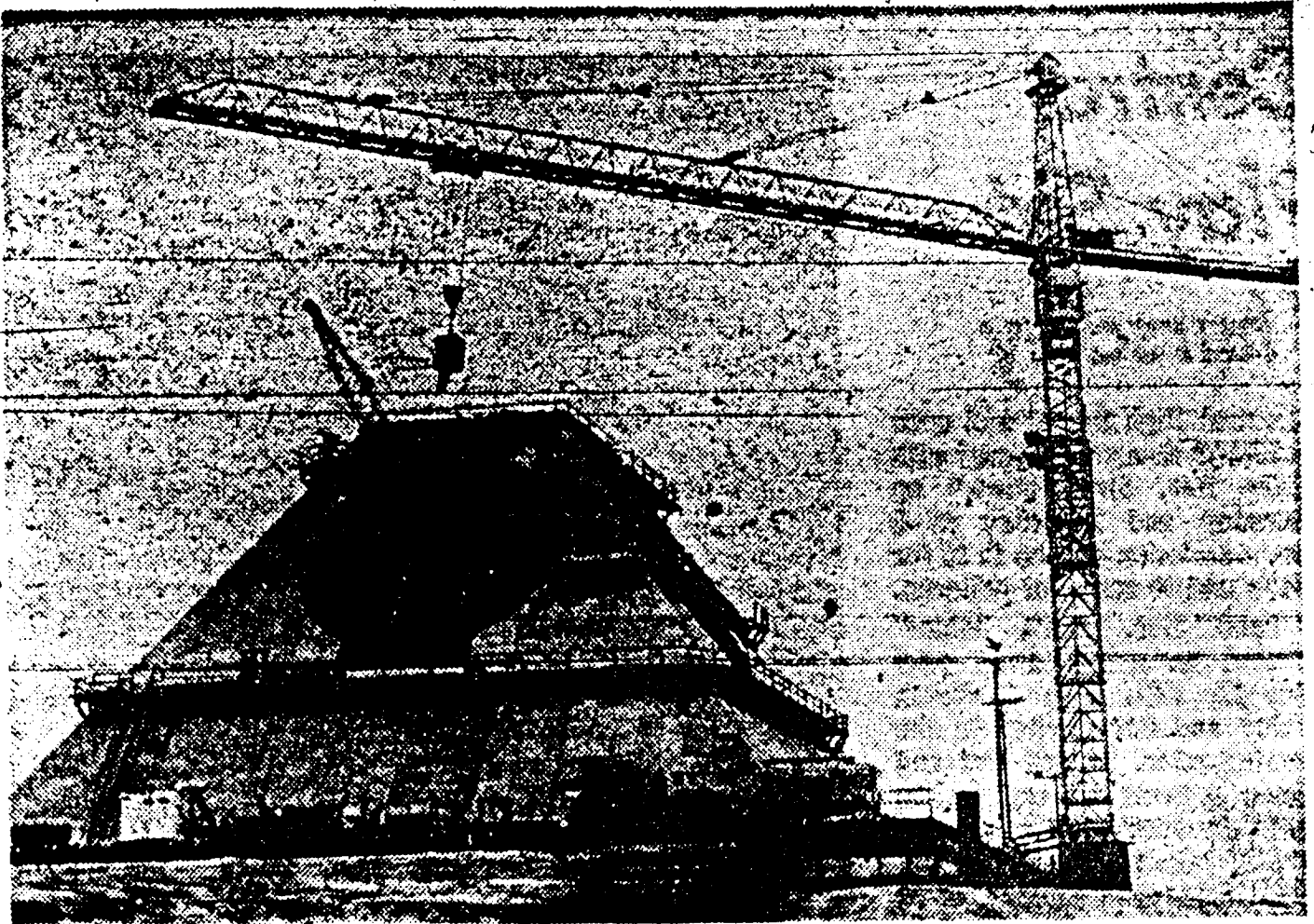
The topping out of the Missile Site Control Building (MSCB) Tuesday was a significant milestone in the completion of the first ABM site.

The construction work on the ABM site remains on schedule. The placing of the last bucket of concrete on the turret cap of the MSCB represents completion of the major structural concrete work on the MSCB and its associated power plant.

At the end of the last construction season in December 1970, some 23,000 cubic yards of concrete had been placed in the two buildings which permitted the construction contractor to move his work force to the interior of the buildings and continue work during the winter months. With the completion of the turret roof, some 56,000 cubic yards of concrete have now been placed in these two structures along with over 10 million pounds of reinforcing steel.

The MSR site includes the short-range radar fields of Sprint and Spartan missiles.

Completion of the entire ABM complex, including the four remote sites and two radar sites, is scheduled in late 1974 when it will be turned over to the Army Air Defense Command.



THIS MISSILE SITE-RADAR facility near Nekoma, N.D., was the site of a topping out ceremony Tuesday afternoon. The topping out of the missile site control building was a significant milestone in the completion of the first antiballistic missile site in the nation.
(Herald Photo by Warren Strandell)