

Editorial Page

Air Bases Vulnerable

Whether or not our air bases would be knocked out in a surprise Russian rocket offensive is a matter which has been discussed at great length by men who are charged with the planning, and many others. We sometimes wonder, especially after some recent discussion.

Our three Strategic Air Command bases in Michigan we know about, and assume this could happen anywhere. We think it could happen also at Omaha, where we've seen the headquarters which are underground but the runway on the surface.

It has been suggested that all these bases for our intercontinental bombers could be knocked out in minutes by a handful of men at each and easily-purchased equipment. All you'd need would be money and a few dozen trained fanatics willing to lose their lives.

The money would buy mortars and ammunition, not too difficult to come by from international gun smugglers—as witness Castro and Cuba. A good mortar will accurately throw a 7-pound shell a couple of miles. The mortar and 50 shells could be carried in a station wagon, and could be shouldered by one man in several trips.

At many air bases, especially in Michigan, it's easy to get within two miles of the runways. In some cases it's even possible to rent homes within that distance. You wouldn't need to hit the planes—the runways would be sufficient.

You can aim and fire 50 mortar shells in five minutes if you're trained, and you'd have at least that much time before you were found—probably more. Mortar shells don't pack a lot of destruction, but fueled-up bombers do. Fragments from phosphorus shells can explode the planes. Once one goes, the others are gone. The attacks could be coordinated, so all bases were hit at the same time. You wouldn't get the planes in the air, of course, or even all of those on the ground. But your handful of men with these small, old-fashioned weapons could cause as much destruction as an all-out attack by a great air force.

From the history of surprise attacks in the past, it would foul up military communications and you might get enough chaos to trick the country into believing we were under missile attack or invasion.

We have another vulnerability, according to another man. He claims that over 95 per cent of all the spark plugs manufactured in the United States are made in three factories; all are under one roof and within 1,000 yards of private homes, buildings or brush fields where more mortars could easily be concealed. Spark plugs are a vital component of our transportation and military system, and even a serious slow-up in products of a few months would hurt.

We have our nuke bases, and hear other defense plans for our area. But we wonder sometimes just how far this defense planning has gone, and just how much protection we'd get in this area if an atomic war were started.

Move Faster, Mole!

Contractor for the new interceptor sewer, The Mole Co., is working north on Middlebelt, is still half a mile or more from the Middlebelt school. If that work isn't done before school starts in September, it will really be a mess for pupils and buses.

The Farmington Enterprise

23623 Farmington Road
Farmington, Michigan
Telephone
Greenleaf 4-6223

Established in 1888 by Edgar R. Bloomer
as "A Permanent Journal of Progress"

Published Thursday of each week at the City of Farmington and entered at the Post Office at Farmington, Oakland County, Michigan, as second-class matter under Act of March 3, 1879. Second-Class Postage Paid at Farmington, Michigan. Address all mail (subscriptions, change of address, forms 3578) to: 23623 Farmington Road, Farmington, Mich.

RUSSELL S. STRICKLAND, Publisher
J. DEE ELLIS, Manager
MICHAEL J. KILEY, Editor
THOMAS W. CORNWELL, Advertising Manager
VICTOR S. HOWARD, Plant Superintendent

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION
SUSTAINING MEMBER

NATIONAL ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVES
MICHIGAN PUBLISHING CO., INC.
East Lansing, Michigan
NATIONAL ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVES
WEEKLY NEWSPAPER REPRESENTATIVES, INC.
1225 Grandville Blvd., Detroit 44, Mich.
404 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

What's New With OUR NEIGHBORS

LIVONIA — It's OK, the state has ruled, for Livonia to borrow \$14,500,000 to build schools and storm sewers.

About half were to be borrowed by the city for the drains—\$7,250,000, to be exact. And \$7,250,000 more would be loaned to the schools to start on the new superior high school and a host of other things including elementary schools.

Permission to do the borrowing must come from the Municipal Finance Commission in Lansing. (The projects have been approved locally by the respective officials and voters some time ago.)

But no one could remember when the Lansing Commission has authorized as much as \$14½ million for a single community in a single day, other than Detroit.

—The Livonian

PLYMOUTH — The city of Plymouth's fire sirens will continue to sound off when there's an alarm.

In the conclusion drawn by City Commissioner William Hartmann and Police Chief Kenneth Fisher who, at the last two council meetings, have been discussing the possibility of doing away with the noise-making devices.

Hartmann had complained that the sounding of the sirens—the city has two—brings out all the hot-rodders to chase the fire trucks.

It was thought that the sirens might be silenced since most of the firemen have receivers in their homes and get fire alarms in this manner instead of the sirens anyway. Others could be called by telephone, it was felt.

In further discussion, however it was emphasized that the firemen were often not at home near their receivers and that only a siren would be effective in such cases.

Although it was agreed that blowing of the sirens during the daytime could not be discontinued, it was felt that it might be possible to discontinue the same during the late evening and early morning hours when most firemen are at home.

Although it was agreed that such should not be done until all have home receivers. Four or five do not at this time.

—The Plymouth Mail

BEVERLY HILLS — Village manager form of government has been in the cards for Beverly Hills.

It isn't official as yet, but the council indicated at its last meeting that it had in mind possible change of status to a village.

Director Robert Murphy to the new post.

The new manager would supervise the department of public safety and public safety department, whose members function as police and firemen.

The township water department has split between Beverly Hills and Southfield city, the village needs such a supervisor, it was felt.

Quoted as one of the public safety department is cessation of its fire protection agreement with Southfield.

Southfield has agreed that after October 31 their truck will no longer come into the village to give service.

—The Village Crier

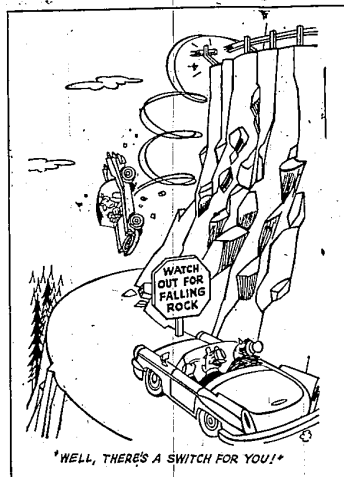
SOUTHFIELD Work on the Southfield expressway—scheduled to begin in mid-July but delayed by legal difficulties in condemning property should be underway in about another week.

The 39-million dollar Southfield expressway project will extend from the Detroit International expressway in Allen Park northward for 13 miles to West Nine Mile Road and Northwestern Highway.

Planned is a "rolling grade" design, running at a slightly below surface level.

Extension of the John C. Lodge expressway from its present northwest terminus along James Couzens to a point ½ mile beyond Southfield's southern boundary—8½ mile Road—is slated to begin in November or December.

The Luckless Legion by Irwin Caplan



Driver error was responsible for 85% of the motor vehicle accident casualties in 1958.

MICHIGAN MIRROR • by ELMER WHITE

Consumers Power Co. Has Big Hopes for State's Future

MICHIGAN'S INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT and its year-around vacation lure has been bringing atomic power to the state.

The state got a look into the future late in July when Consumers Power Co. officials outlined their plans for construction of an atomic-powered generating plant on a 600-acre tract in Hayes Township, Charlevoix County.

It made a good show. And the utility says it likes what it sees in Michigan's future.

WE LOOK FORWARD to the future with great confidence," said James H. Campbell, senior vice president of the utility. "We believe that Michigan will continue to be an industrial leader and that its population will continue to grow and prosper."

Campbell said the utility thinks "that prudent foresight requires that we engage in the development of atomic-powered electric generating plants in order to meet the challenge in the future as Michigan continues to grow industrially and otherwise."

NORTHERN MICHIGAN'S FUTURE looks especially bright to Consumers.

"The kilowatt-hour consumption in the northern part of the Lower Peninsula has been growing at a faster rate than in any other area in the system," Campbell said. "Numerous small manufacturing companies have located in the area. The growth of this territory as a vacationland, both summer and winter, is adding load in the territory."

Campbell cited the "improved economic condition of the area, and the impact of the Michigan Bridge Route. The State has helped pave the way for the Consumers project, at least in the mind of one key state official."

"AM CONVINCED these things can be made safely," said State Insurance Commissioner Frank Blackford, a member of a special committee established to study atomic power in Michigan.

Blackford and other officials recently inspected the Detroit Edison A-power plant near Monroe.

Consumers officials told the Public Service Commission they would incorporate "every possible safeguard to eliminate any known danger to the public, to our employees or to the equipment."

"WE BELIEVE that the construction of a boiling water reactor at Big Rock Point will be a sound means of meeting the growth of electric demand in that part of the state," Consumers President Dan E. Koenig said. "It will also be an important step toward our goal of producing electric energy at reasonable cost by means of nuclear fuel."

The Northern Michigan plant will use a boiling water type of reactor.

In this type of reactor, heat produced through nuclear fission converts water into steam. The steam then spins the blades of a conventional turbine generator, producing electricity.

Consumers also participates in the Enrico Fermi atomic power plant project near Monroe, where Detroit Edison and other utility and industrial companies are working on a "fast breeder" reactor which produces a plutonium as a by-product.

Campbell was asked by the Public Service Commission if the utility would seek an electric rate as a result of the development of the Northern Michigan plant.

"No," he said. "We have nothing of the sort in mind. This nuclear project alone will not give rise to an electric rate case."

THE CONSUMERS PROJECT makes Michigan somewhat of a proving ground.

"What we are endeavoring to build an atomic plant of a comparatively known and tested design," said Consumers attorney Don T. McKone, "but with features aimed at further bringing us along the road of the production of electric energy by nuclear fuels on a commercial basis."

The Michigan utility has gone through what McKone calls "almost a complete process of evolution from a hydro plant company to a steam generating company."

Looking Back Thru The Enterprise Files

25 Years Ago
AUGUST 9, 1933

For Fairer Trials
A step toward better justice court procedures is believed to have been made by the city Tuesday when a proposed ordinance was submitted to the Farmington city commission. The proposal provides for terms for the trial of jury cases, for selection of jurors to try such cases, and for broadening the rights, powers and duties of justices of the peace.

The proposal was submitted by Justice of the Peace John J. Schulte and was acted upon favorably by the commission. However, it will not become a law for 20 days.

Red Violinist Here
Alex Kaminsky, Imperial Russian violinist, will appear in a sacred recital at the Gospel tent in Farmington on Sunday.

Kaminsky's special violin recital is to be a colorful program of sacred hymns and classic concertos. Kaminsky will play a 300-year-old Guarnerius violin, presented to him in Russia.

Sabbath Funerals Out
will be permitted in Farmington unless at rare intervals in a case of emergency, the commission ruled at its Tuesday night meeting. Reason: Ordinarily a funeral can be held as well on a Saturday or Monday and there is no urgent need for city labor to dig a grave on Sundays.

10 Years Ago
AUGUST 11, 1949

New Parking Area
Work is nearly completed on the city parking lot east of the Farmington fire hall on Grand River, it was announced this week. The parking lot is expected to hold about 40 cars and will ease congestion and aid residents in parking during the heavy shopping periods.

Benefit Fire Victims
Neighbors of the Floyd Murphys, 1830 Parkville, who were burned out of their home Sunday, will give the couple a benefit party this Saturday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tony LaPorte, 2019 Cambridge. The upper story of the Murphys home was destroyed when struck by lightning. The

Distribution of State Motor Vehicle Fund collections for the second quarter of this year to counties and incorporated cities and villages in the state has been completed by the State Highway Department disclosed.

Net receipts of the fund for the second quarter in the entire state were \$50,827.01. This is \$1,328,083.26 more than was collected in the second quarter of 1958.

The City of Farmington received a check for \$9,022.25. Wood Creek Farms Village received \$1,239.40 and Quakertown \$1,043.45.

Funds for road work in the unincorporated portion of Farmington Township came out of the amount received by Oakland County for all unincorporated areas. The county's share for the second quarter of this year was set at \$821,600.64.

City, 2 Villages Get Road Funds

Sees Several Spots in Japan
William A. Koenig, hospital corpsman first class, USN, recently completed a nine week recreational cruise in the Japanese Island Sea aboard the USS Lexington.

He has now returned to duty with the US Seventh Fleet in the Western Pacific and is continuing participation in this summer's Far East midshipman training.

Koenig is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Koenig of 2507 Eight Mile Road, Farmington, and the husband of the former Miss Dolores M. Baldwin of San Diego, California.

During the nine-day inland sea voyage, two ports-of-call were visited.

Koenig, the first, afforded tours to Hiroshima, nearby national parks, beaches and natural hot springs. Beppu, on the island of Kyushu, presented famous resort hotels, mineral spring baths, tours of volcanic deposits, golf courses, swimming, boating and the unusual "Furoso Bath" which consists of laying under a layer of steam-heated sand.

Helping Hand
Sometimes nature needs a helper. Out-in the rain-drenched Douglas fir forests of the Pacific Coast where trees root easily but take 70 years to grow, impatient lumbermen seed logged areas using helicopters.

Seed used comes from special processing plants, is selected and planted according to area from which it was taken.

2 Complete Marine Recruit Training

Marines Pvt. Albert J. Assemany, son of Mr. and Mrs. Assemany of 30055 13 Mile Rd., Farmington, and Pvt. Dale G. Cousins, son of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Cousins of 2785 Stransbury Rd., Farmington completed recruit training July 22 at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California.

The 11 week course included instruction in all basic military subjects and infantry weapons.

Upon completion of training new Marines are assigned to units for further infantry training, or to one of the many Marine Corps schools.

At Bowdoin Special Session

Bourman C. Brownaker, 3373 Glenview Drive, and a teacher at Southfield High School, completed a summer institute in chemistry at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine, last Friday.

The local teacher was among 200 secondary school instructors from across the nation and from four foreign countries who took part in the summer session at Bowdoin.

Four special grants, totalling \$175,000, from the National Science Foundation, made possible the summer institute in chemistry, physics, mathematics, and astronomy.

Calamity is the perfect glass wherein we truly see and know ourselves. —Sir William D'Avenant.

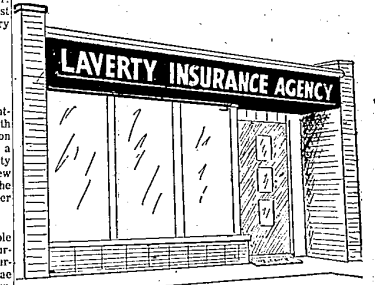
Thick Woods

Don't worry about running out of wood in the next generation or so. Experts say there is enough living sawtimber in the tiny forest strip along the Pacific Coast, the Douglas fir region, to rebuild every dwelling in the nation. Forests are growing faster than people can use them up.

Be awful nice to 'em 'goin' up, because you're gonna meet 'em all comin' down. — Jimmy Durante



Buy in Friendly Farmington!



FIRE - LIFE - AUTO
30760 Grand River (Near Nine Mile) Phone GR. 4-6933

For those who enjoy

9999 Food

If you appreciate fine food prepared to perfection, with coffee of equal distinction, you'll find everything here to your liking.

AIR CONDITIONED



Where QUALITY Is Tops!
Closed On Sunday

★ ★ ★ the FINEST OF DINING SERVICE at

Himmelpach DINING ROOM

32319 Grand River Farmington GR. 4-2161

Driveway Rough?



The "Old Timers" Had to Put Up With Mud and Water Holes ...

YOU DON'T!

We Can Eliminate the Following:
• MUD HOLES • LOOSE STONES • BROKEN CONCRETE • COWPATH TYPE DRIVEWAYS

FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY!

We Will Repair and Eliminate Your Problems for as Little as 18c sq. ft. 1 Yr. Guarantee

We Also Specialize in Garages and Modernization

MAYER BUILDING & PAVING CO.

KE. 7-7800 18505 W. 8 Mile