



PVT. CURTIS CHAMPION ... it's too hot



SGT. PAUL MULLEN ... see you Sunday



PFC BILL PERRY ... tell the Colonel I'm waiting



CAPT. MAYLON BAKER ... X minus 4 minutes



SGT. Q. S. LEONARD ... found the key



PVT. PHILLIP TAYLOR & FRIEND ... computing the data



SGT. BOBBY WESTER ... standing in the shade



SGT. 'POP' HOLMES ... more service than any



W/O BOB CHEATHAM ... tried to escape



SGT. 'WINKY' FERRELL ... gags with Colonel



PFC BLAND PRUITT ... aids public information



PVT. LEONARD GOODWIN ... back to Kentucky



SGT. WYATT FREEMAN ... glad to see you



HONEST JOHN ... fired, but stationary

### Candid Shots Of The Boys Away From Home

Pictures at left show members of the area Guard units Wednesday in Ft. Sill, Okla. Champion said it was too hot there to suit him; Mullen was looking forward to Sunday's departure for home; Perry was having some difficulty keeping up with the Colonel; Baker explained the countdown just prior to firing the Honest John Rocket; Leonard is the one who finally unlocked the gate for the Generals, after the brass sat in the 102 degree heat for several minutes when someone pulled a snafu and locked them inside the firing compound; Taylor and unidentified friend are shown inside the oven-like data trucks; Wester is shown outside in the shade; Holmes was caught with his feet propped on his desk at Headquarters; Cheatham, pulled the camera-shy routine and tried to escape getting his mug shot; Ferrell kidding pulled the barred office door between him and the camera and Col. Clarence Shimmer, Chief of Staff of the 30th Div. Jokingly locked him in; Pruitt was busy typing picture captions for waiting newsmen; Goodwin was observing all the confusion in the office as "old-home-week" was observed between Louisburg newsmen and the boys; Freeman was glad to see us, he said; and the contrary rocket, which hesitated a blink of an eye just so we would miss the blast off. --Staff Photos by Clint Fuller.

# The Franklin Times

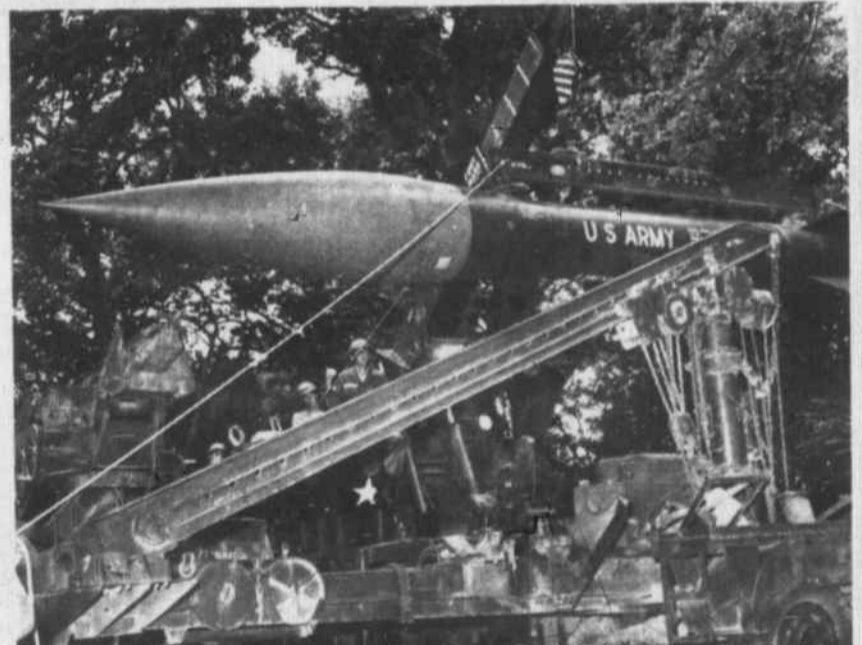
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## Area Guardsmen Fire Two XM-50 Rockets In Oklahoma

### Greetings

Members of the three units from Louisburg, Youngsville and Zebulon seen by this reporter sending their greetings to friends and families back home from Ft. Sill, Okla. included: Lt. Col. John Fleming, Major James Potter, Major Thomas Carter, Lt. Oliver Williams, Sgts. Paul Mullen, Wyatt Freeman, "Winky" Ferrell, Bobby Wester, Eddie Carlyle, Billy Tant, Lt. Alfred Elmore, Capt. John L. Strickland, Privates Bill Perry, Curtis Champion, Bland Pruitt, Capt. Maylon Baker, Private Phillip Taylor, Ronnie Pearce, Sgt. James Pearce, W/O Bob Cheatham, Maj. V. A. Chiotakis, Sgt. Q. S. Leonard, Major Bill Griffin, Sgt. "Pop" Holmes and many, many others. Their planes are expected to arrive at Raleigh-Durham Sunday afternoon around five and six o'clock. They will leave Ft. Sill one hour apart, according to an unofficial report. The schedule is subject to change and no late official word was given to newsmen while at Ft. Sill.



Honest John Gets Lift

Zebulon's "A" Battery demonstrates loading procedures on the Honest John Rocket at Fort Sill, Okla. Wednesday for visiting National Guard chiefs and area newsmen. The unit fired the XM-50 missile Tuesday afternoon in what was described as a "near perfect shoot." Youngsville's "B" Battery performed a night firing last night. The Louisburg unit, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, is also involved in the two-week training session at the Artillery base in southwest Oklahoma. --Photo by Clint Fuller.

Fort Sill, Okla. - The highlight of the summer encampment for members of the Fifth Rocket Battalion, composed of units from Louisburg, Youngsville and Zebulon, came Tuesday afternoon when the Zebulon "A" Battery successfully fired the new XM-50 "Honest John" Rocket. The countdown began as Capt. Maylon Baker of Youngsville's "B" Battery spoke to a group of National Guard officers and newsmen, explaining the procedures of the firing. Youngsville used a dummy rocket to illustrate to the visitors what was going on at the moment in readying the live round for the firing. Major V. A. Chiotakis of Morrisville, Army Adviser to the local unit, signaled the countdown for newsmen and spectators from the control point a few yards from the launcher. Major Chiotakis took over the count at X minus ten seconds. The firing came shortly after 2 o'clock at the range site near the Wichita Mountains in 102 degree temperatures. At the order "Fire," the rocket gave a loud booming noise, fire spouted from the fin-decked tail in bright orange hues with brilliant white clouds of smoke. Honest John was on its way to the target area some sixteen miles away. It took less than one minute to arrive. It had taken the motorcade of visitors 45 minutes to travel the distance by car. Later reports gave the firing as somewhat less than perfect, explaining that a malfunctioning firing fuse has caused the missile to over-

## Two Guardsmen Seriously Injured In Jeep Wreck

Two National Guardsmen from Louisburg were injured and a third from Spring Hope escaped Tuesday when the new M-151 Army Jeep in which they were riding overturned near the site of a rocket firing in Oklahoma. Lt. William Nagle, Ford Circle, Louisburg, received several broken ribs, a broken shoulder, a severe head cut and other cuts and bruises when he was thrown from the vehicle. Sgt. 1st Class Sam Strother of Franklinton received undetermined internal injuries when he was pinned beneath the overturned vehicle. PFC Luke Moore of Spring Hope escaped injury when thrown from the Jeep. The accident occurred about one hour before the scheduled firing by Battery "A" of Zebulon of the XM-50 Honest John missile. It took place on a strip of dirt track which had been cut as a fire break around the missile site. Lt. Nagle had discovered that the Ft. Sill base crew that cut the break had also destroyed some vital data needed for the firing. The driver, PFC Moore was taking the officer and Sgt. Strother to the firing site for late minute data. The soft strip, atop a slight incline was located between the visitors tent and the rocket launcher. The M-151 Jeep is the latest model and has four-wheel suspension. Drivers are required to have four-hour course of instruction before qualifying. PFC Moore was a veteran driver. The Army withheld release of information of the accident until families of the three men could be notified. Lt. Nagle's wife was reportedly visiting in Alabama and could not be reached. Attempts to reach Sgt. Strother's family also prove unsuccessful. At noon Wednesday, Major James Potter, Battalion Executive officer, briefed newsmen on the condition of the victims and said attempts were still being made to notify their families. Major Potter reported, "There is a chance that Lt. Nagle will be allowed to fly back with the units Sunday." He did not mention the same possibility for Sgt. Strother. It was reported that Sgt. Strother was suffering some pain denoting internal injuries, but the extent of such injuries was not revealed. However, neither men are believed to be in any danger. Public Information Officer Lt. Oliver Williams of Raleigh and Battalion Commander John Fleming, along with Major Potter showed concern for the victims based on early reports and kept local newsmen informed of the condition of the two, although such information could not be released. Lt. Nagle was unconscious when moved to the base hospital and his condition was not immediately determined. When rescuers arrived on the scene, PFC Moore was busy attempting to free Sgt. Strother from the wreckage. Strother, too, was unconscious for some time.



LT. NAGLE

## Widow Visits New Hope Crash Scene

The widow of Major William L. Strait of Shaw Air Base, S. C. who was killed in his F-101 Jet crashed near New Hope last June, visited the area Tuesday. Mr. Don Schlegler and wife of Colorado, friends and former neighbors of the Straits, called by The Franklin Times office Tuesday. He was told that Times Editor Clint Fuller, who covered the crash, was in Oklahoma, and was referred to Louisburg Mayor V. A. Peoples, who as Chief of the local Rescue Service had been on the scene of the crash. After visiting with Mayor Peoples, Mr. Schlegler was referred to Ollie Arnold, Louisburg barber who lives in the New Hope community near the scene of the crash. Mrs. Strait and her two sons were staying in a Raleigh motel. Later Tuesday afternoon, she and the children

## Japanese Visits College

touring on their sightseeing visas. Arakawa is a student of Japan Interpreter Training School and a graduate of Tokyo Junior College of Commerce. M. Umeda is a 30-year-old actor of the Int'l Actor Introducing Office and a graduate of the Oriental Academy of Music. They have no sponsor, but have the desire to talk with students in America in order to "help an understanding of each other." Junior Colleges are their special interest since they are both graduates of junior colleges. While on the campuses, they will meet with groups of students and talk on items of mutual interest--the economy of Japan, agriculture and rural life, parks, Kimono, Tea ceremony, language and Japanese life in general--and will show slides. A good way to get burned is fall asleep--smoking a cigarette.



ARAKAWA

Kazuhiko Arakawa, a 24-year-old Japanese, is presently visiting on the Louisburg College Campus. Louisburg is one of the fifty campuses in the United States and Canada that K. Arakawa and friend, M. Umeda, are

## Paula Sends Thanks

Miss Paula Justice, the talented Louisburg College coed who represented Louisburg in the recent Miss N. C. Pageant at Charlotte and came out Miss Congeniality, sent a note of thanks addressed to "The Town of Louisburg" last week. The letter, received by retiring Jaycee President W. A. Peoples, stated: "I am so extremely indebted to so many business people and professors from Louisburg that I am afraid that a mere thank you is just too small."

## Peoples Resigns, O'Neal New Jaycee Prexy

William O'Neal, local real estate agent, was named president of the local Jaycees at their regular meeting on Monday night at the Murphy House. O'Neal, who was serving as 1st vice-president, will fill the unexpired term of W. A. Peoples, who will move to Elizabeth City in the near future. He is employed by Westinghouse. Peoples' resignation was accepted with regret by the club. He is the oldest member, in years of service, of the present membership and has been one of the club's most active members. In other action during the meeting, James Stephenson, Asst. County Agricultural Agent, was named treasurer to fill the unexpired term of Ed Bass, who was recently transferred in his job and has moved away from Louisburg. Terry Nobles, district vice-president of North Carolina Jaycees, was a guest at the meeting and spoke to the group. A somewhat freak accident took place at the Esso Station at Bunn this morning around 6:45 a.m., according to reports. An unidentified motorist pulled away from a gas pump before the hose was removed from the car's gas tank and pulled the tank down. The accident caused a fire, which, according to reports, was quickly extinguished. Damaged was confined to the overturned tank, according to the report.

## Freak Blaze