

MISSILE FIRE SPARKS FEAR OF RADIATION

Bomarc Shelter Burns at N. J. Base; Public Not Endangered

McGUIRE AIR FORCE BASE, N. J. (AP)—A slender, deadly atomic Bomarc missile, intended to take flight only in war, burned up when a launching shelter caught fire Tuesday. It spewed forth a small amount of nuclear radiation.

No Danger to Public

"There is no radiation danger to the public," the Air Force announced. "A small amount of radioactive material was scattered in the immediate shelter area but there is no significant health hazard or contamination problem."

There were no casualties among 200 to 250 officers and men who man the Bomarc base on the fringes of Ft. Dix. However, they were being checked for the possibility of radiation exposure, despite the absence of any apparent burns.

The launching area, whence the Bomarc is able to take to the skies in long-ranging electronic quest of enemy planes or missiles, is isolated. Such noise as the flameout generated went unnoticed by residents near the base. Few even were aware a mishap had occurred.

Roads Sealed Off

Nevertheless, moments of uneasy tenseness followed the flareup of the 47-foot missile. A wide area was alerted, roads were sealed off, evacuation plans were considered and safe-