

A Day After the 'Nuclear Alert,' NORAD Guides Cite 'Marvels' Tass Calls 'Alert' Proof Of 'Military Psychosis'

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COLORADO SPRINGS, Feb. 21—Today, as they have done 24 hours a day, 12 months a year since 1966, Americans and Canadians watched the outside world for signs of nuclear war from within their hollowed-out mountain near here, alert for the smallest indication that the nuclear button might have to be pressed.

But war did not come today—only 13 guests on a Sunday inspection tour.

So the slide presentations were shown with brief lectures on the goings-on inside the mountain.

As the North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) fact sheet described it, "modern electronic marvels, encased in buildings of steel, have been placed inside an ancient mountain to provide warning of attack by an aerial invader and [to provide] the means to direct a defensive air battle."

It was one of these electronic marvels that lost out to human errors yesterday morning and alerted radio and television stations across the nation that there was a national emergency. Before it could be corrected, a number of stations went off the air, causing confusion in many sections of the nation.

Overlooking the three-story amphitheater where four men sit watching computerized, pictures, which track possible hostile enemy aircraft or missiles or ships, is a tiny office tucked into a third-story corner where a man is constantly on duty ready to send out word to the nation's police and fire stations and radio and television sta-

tions of a national emergency. It was there, yesterday morning, that W. S. Eberhardt, a civilian employe of the Office of Civil Defense, pulled the wrong punched tape for a teletype machine from the wall and few it into the big red teletype is designed to "seize control" of the Associated Press and United Press International news wires in the event of a national emergency. It did just that, in error.

The office is plain in contrast to the glowing buttons, complex telephones and television receivers on the second tier where the generals come to sit in high-backed executive chairs to supervise the defense of 220-million people in North America.

MOSCOW, Feb. 21 (UPI)—

The official Soviet press agency Tass said today that yesterday's accidental broadcast of an emergency nuclear alert in the United States showed that the Pentagon had created a state of "military psychosis" there.

Tass said in a dispatch datelined New York that millions of Americans had been frightened into believing a nuclear war was about to break out.

"Because of the irresponsibility of an operator at the U.S. national warning center, millions of Americans became the victims of the military psychosis whipped up by the Pentagon," Tass said.