



HQ AAC—LATEST FOR ALASKA—Soon to arrive in Alaska to bolster the power of the Alaskan Command will be a squadron of F-4C tactical multi-purpose aircraft. Capable of speeds of more than twice that of sound, with an unrefueled range of over 1,600 miles, the F-4C can carry twice the bomb load of the World War II B-17 Flying Fortress. The aircraft, produced by the McDonnell Aircraft Corporation, carries a crew of two and may be armed with a variety of weapons, including the Sparrow III, an aerial intercept guided missile. —Air Force Photo

Alaska Gets 18 of AF Fastest Flying 'Phantom' Fighters

HQ AAC — The 366th Tactical Fighter Wing at Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico, has been selected to provide the first rotational squadron of F4C "Phantom" multi-purpose fighters to Alaska. The squadron—the 389th Fighter Squadron, will operate from Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska.

The F4C is the U.S. Air Force's newest and fastest-flying operational fighter.

The increased speed and longer range of these twin jet fighters will add considerably to the strength of Alaska's air defenses. Although air defense is their primary mission while in Alaska, the F4C's have a dual capability for close air support and other tactical missions and will provide training for units of the U.S. Army, Alaska.

The squadron will remain in Alaska for a period of approximately 90

days before rotational replacement by another squadron of the same type.

Approximately 372 personnel and 18 F4C aircraft are involved in the move. Approximately 90 additional base support personnel have been assigned as permanent party at Elmendorf AFB to support the F4C squadron.

As a result of the F-4C movement, the 317th Fighter Interceptor Squad-

ron, currently in place at Elmendorf AFB, will be reduced in numbers of aircraft. The F-106 aircraft which have been assigned to the Alaskan Air Command, on a rotational temporary duty basis since 1963 will be returned to their squadrons.

All of these changes will result in a total increase in personnel strength at Elmendorf AFB of approximately 250.