

"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." — Voltaire

# Tundra Times



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## What Will President Tell Emperor Hirohito?

On Amchitka Island last Thursday, Dr. Mel Merritt of Sandia Laboratories and the Atomic Energy Commission insisted that the Cannikin five megaton nuclear detonation will be a self-sealing shot. The rocks and minerals at the bowels of the island at 6,000-foot level. (where the atomic device will be) will melt because the heat created by the blast will be nearly the temperature of the sun's surface. They said the outer layers of the explosion chamber will reform into kind of a glass bowl, shaped like a saucer, which will automatically seal on cooling, supposedly protecting the surrounding bedrock and the surface life forms—and atmosphere—from dangerous radiation (which will remain dangerous for years and years).

However, Merritt admitted that no tests were made after projects Longshot or Milrow (the two previous smaller Amchitka experimental blasts) to see if such a bowl did really form. He said that "it's not a point in question," when queried by the Tundra Times, referring to consistent experience in Nevada proving grounds underground tests.

AEC scientists are predicting that the Cannikin blast will register at about 7.0, or slightly more, on the Richter seismic scale, but insist that secondary earthquakes triggered by the blast are unlikely, and further insist that a damaging tsunami, commonly called tidal wave, is not likely to result although tsunamis have been known to originate in the Aleutian Chain from natural events in the past. These waves must travel south (toward Hawaii and Japan) since the Bering Sea to the north is so shallow.

AEC will not say exactly when the device will be detonated, but Joe La Rocca in a Fairbanks Broadcast Center exclusive report said on Wednesday, August 25, that the device was expected to arrive on the island "sometime this week," and a security restriction has been laid around the island to last until October 14.

Best estimates point that the blast will be in the first week of October, less than two weeks after President Richard Nixon and Mrs. Nixon are to receive Emperor Hirohito and Empress of Japan in Anchorage on September 26.

The President and the nation will be in an embarrassing diplomatic position, to say the least, if Nixon must announce that he has signed the order directing that the Amchitka shot be carried out at the same time he welcomes the first Japanese Emperor to ever set foot in this country out of Japan. The Japanese press and the public opinion appear fiercely set against the blast.

Press speculation beginning in the spring indicated, and was finally confirmed in July by the government, that the Cannikin shot is a major test of the warhead for the Spartan interceptor missile, part of the U.S. Safeguard Anti Ballistic Missile program, which has only been approved on a very limited-deployment basis by Congress. This in turn implies:

—The device is probably a "dirty" bomb—that is one causing an excessive amount of radioactive fallout, since the Spartan is intended to neutralize incoming missiles, not by explosive contact, but by releasing sufficient radiation to disable their electronic guidance mechanisms.

—On May 20, President Nixon made an announcement that may require him to postpone Cannikin indefinitely. On that date he said that the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. had agreed to talk "seriously" about limiting their ABM systems. Also the U.S. and the Soviet Union have been carrying on the Strategic Arms Limitations Talks (SALT).

The Russians may well be able to argue that the U.S. is not "bargaining in good faith" if the President executes the order authorizing the Cannikin blast. Coupling this with what he must say to Emperor Hirohito, we are inclined to think that Nixon could call off, or indefinitely postpone, the Cannikin shot. Otherwise he could place the nation in a precarious diplomatic position.

## Egan Invites Seaborg, But---

Gov. William A. Egan said last week that Dr. Glenn Seaborg, retiring as chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, had not yet answered an invitation to visit ground zero at Amchitka when the AEC blows off a bomb there this fall.

Egan, in response to a nationally televised claim by Seaborg that Cannikin, largest underground nuclear test ever, is "completely safe" invited the AEC chief to visit Amchitka with his family at shot time.

"I got word today that Dr. Seaborg is out of the country for three weeks and hasn't been able to respond," Egan said.

From the Anchorage Daily News.

## Close Two Streams

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced the closure of two streams on Amchitka Island to all sport fishing through December 31, 1971.

Bridge Creek and Midden Cove stream and their tributaries including a 1/2-mile radius at their terminus in salt water on Amchitka have been incorporated in an evaluation of natural fish production in conjunction with the Milrow event of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission since 1968.

Studies are presently under contract to the University of Washington (Fisheries Research Institute).

The current studies can be severely biased by removal of fish or introduction of fish mortality by anglers on the evaluations of natural production and mortality factors.

The recent closure was made to assist these research investigation-recreational activities of sport fishermen in these areas as numerous other waters are available.

## Letters to The Editor

August 4, 1971

Dear Editor:

I have spent considerable thought and time to write this letter.

The subject is the Tlingit and Haida Indians in Oregon.

We have written letters to Mr. J. Borbridge and Mr. D. Wright concerning obtaining information to join the Alaska Native Federation. We have received no reply. Whether it is discrimination or what, it has been about a year since the first letter to Mr. Borbridge requesting information about our own chapter.

If it is a matter of where we will get our funds, there is no problem. We are entirely on our own and have no obligation with anyone.

We are the same people as those in Alaska why we are being ignored we do not understand.

Maybe if Mr. Borbridge or Mr. Wright reads this letter in the Times they will understand our biggest complaint, no communication. How can we help ourselves if we can not get the information? We are waiting patiently for word from back home.

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs. Ernest Schilling  
Representative Tlingit and Haida Indians of Oregon  
4116 NE 14th  
Portland, Oregon

## Jeane Dixon—Predictions

By JEANE DIXON

### PRISONERS OF WAR

It is impossible for our President to announce a definite withdrawal date for our armed forces in Vietnam in exchange for P.O.W. releases. Should he by any remote chance do so I see great dangers for many countries. The prisoners of war will not be released until we complete negotiations with the U.S.S.R. and, even then, it will be a far cry from world peace, for we will be under another type of communistic rule.

### ITALY

Italy will shortly have a communistic type of government, but not under the U.S.S.R. This

will be a major move toward world control by Red China.

### EGYPT

President Sadat of Egypt was forced to sign a treaty with Russia—a 15-year treaty. Only the Egyptian people themselves can save their country from the Russians, but I do not see them doing it, although they will try. Sadat will not be successful in peace moves.

I see great danger near President Sadat; I feel he has not been forgiven for his arrest of pro-Soviet Egyptians. I see his name inscribed in a special sector in Moscow—it looks all black. He should beware—especially of doctors and medical technicians.

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## Your Horoscope

By Jeane Dixon

### WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 1

**Your Birthday Today:** Some of the challenge in the year ahead comes from newly developing conditions but the greatest task will be inspiring and retaining cooperation, sharing responsibility. Today's natives are impulsive, apt to enjoy travel, much given to imagining and telling tall tales.

**Aries [March 21-April 19]:** Today you are your own best friend—nobody else quite sees or will tell where you need to correct your course. A chance to set straight or make worse an old misunderstanding is also promised.

**Taurus [April 20-May 20]:** Life as usual is indicated for the moment—changes can be seen coming but are not clear and urgent enough to justify drastic action.

**Gemini [May 21-June 20]:** Make an active effort to get to know the people around you better—even an old friend has a secret you haven't figured out yet.

**Cancer [June 21-July 22]:** In the midst of everything, your scheduled activities must be switched to work around a shortage or a delay. Your own resources make up discrepancies readily.

**Leo [July 23-Aug. 22]:** You may have a slight problem keeping your career efforts going full speed because of social activities and distraction.

**Virgo [Aug. 23-Sept. 22]:** Let routines be the preferred course. Avoid extensive commitments involving installment payments, long term credit.

**Libra [Sept. 23-Oct. 22]:** It's time to roll out the red carpet for old friends, returning from journeys or missions. Nostalgic recall helps you carry on a suitable surface.

**Scorpio [Oct. 23-Nov. 21]:** Any way you approach life, you should find this an odd day. Unfamiliar companions, reversals of long-standing positions, peace-making with old rivals are normal for this wrong side out sort of day.

**Sagittarius [Nov. 22-Dec. 21]:** Your sense of balance and self-restraint make the difference on the hairline between success or failure. Relax early, after giving serious thought to your current experiences.

**Capricorn [Dec. 22-Jan. 19]:** See people in a new light—perhaps new people in an old approach. Be open to closer cooperation, participation than usual.

**Aquarius [Jan. 20-Feb. 18]:** Trivial enterprises are just as difficult and complex as major projects today. Concentrate on essentials.

**Pisces [Feb. 19-March 20]:** It's time for your initiative. Proceed on faith and persistence toward a balance-tipping point a few days hence.

[c 1971: By The Chicago Tribune]

July 26, 1971  
Tundra Times Corporation  
Box 1287  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Sir:

One of Alaska's most serious problems, as I am sure you well know, is unemployment. A significant number of the unemployed are veterans who have completed their military service and have returned to Alaska.

I strongly feel that as citizens of both Alaska and the United States, we have a special obligation to these men who have served their country so well. With unemployment at an all-time high, it is obvious that it will be a difficult obligation to fulfill, but it is my opinion

that we should continue our efforts to aid veterans in finding suitable employment.

Because unemployment is far higher in Alaska than the Nation as a whole, the degree of difficulty in this task seems insurmountable, if not impossible. But in Alaska the word impossible just isn't known as "The Alaskan Way."

It is for this reason that I am writing you and other community leaders throughout Alaska with the hope that you will aid these men by providing them with the opportunity they need to contribute to our Nation at home, in the same proud manner they did abroad.

Sincerely,  
NICK BEGICH