

Montana Aide Says Some in Business Will Go Broke
Helena, MT May 27 (AP)

The agreement signed in Moscow to cool the arms race sent economic shivers through the boom town of Conrad, Montana. Conrad is the hub of construction of the multimillion-dollar antimissile sites that will be scrapped by the Moscow agreement. The population in the area, in rolling wheat fields in northern Montana, has leaped to around 5,000 with the influx of workers on two antimissile installations. In the 1970 census, Conrad had a population of 2,770. Mayor Bob Arnot said that the end of the construction would "let us go back the way we were." Montana's chief planning officer, Perry F. Rays, said, "there are some people in the private sector who are going to be hurt. I mean hurt like going broke."

Big Influx Anticipated

He said there had been much new investment in housing developments, remodeling of bars in anticipation of an influx of thousands of workers and missilemen and plans to expand existing businesses. But the residents around Grand Forks, North Dakota, breathed easier that the agreement permits continued work on their area's antimissile facility, which is 85 percent complete. "The ABM has been accepted here," said Edward J. Franta, former publisher of a weekly newspaper at Langdon, North Dakota. "The living standard is higher than ever before. It would be a crushing blow if there were any decision to abandon the project." At Sedalia, Missouri, officials expected an economic lift of several million dollars a year from an antimissile radar site to be built at nearby Whiteman Air Force Base. Now the site may not be built. "I was a supporter of the antiballistic missile system," said Mayor Jerry Jones, "but I'm certainly happy to see a meaningful agreement has been reached."

Workers Await Notice

A spokesman for the Safeguard Command office at Conrad said yesterday that it had received no official notification involving the agreement and work was continuing. Mr. Roys said that state planners had hoped the boom around Conrad would help reduce the state unemployment rate of about 8 percent. They had projected growth for Conrad to 7,000 by 1990 with the antimissile activity and housing for workers near the town. Without this work officials said, "Conrad could expect a population of 3,400 by 1990." Mayor Arnot said he was at a meeting all afternoon discussing how to cope with the influx of money and people to Conrad. "We've still got our good farmers," said the Mayor, who owns a furniture store. "But our trailer courts are all full, everything is full. "We've had a big deal. It's going to be a kick in the pants."

Sedalia, Missouri to Suffer
Sedalia, Missouri, May 27 (UPI)

The United States - Soviet agreement to limit nuclear arms is expected to cost this central Missouri town millions of dollars in anticipated income and construction. Four 50 acre sites in this area were to be used as sites for defense missiles. Now those plans have been scrapped. The antimissile facilities were to employ at least 500 servicemen and civilian technicians, primarily in a radar site seven miles northwest of Sedalia. Total construction costs were expected to reach at least \$211 million. To date work has been limited to drilling of core samples to test the earth and surveying.