



**NUCLEAR EMERGENCY TEAM**—From left: Brig. Gen. Bill Gernert, Deputy Commander of Field Command, in charge of DASA overall efforts in radiological monitoring and recovery operations of Air Force B-52 near Greenland, talks with NET team leaders Colonels Kent Buckingham and Roger Conarty before the team boards aircraft for flight to Thule AFB.

# Fifty-Seven Members Of DASA NET Deployed To Greenland Crash Site

Fifty-seven men from DASA's Nuclear Emergency Team (NET) have been dispatched from Sandia to Thule, Greenland, to assist with radiological monitoring and recovery operations in connection with the January 21 crash there of an Air Force B-52 jet bomber.

Ten men from the team were dispatched to the scene early last week and 47 others deployed late Friday.

In charge of the DASA overall efforts is Brigadier General William E. Gernert, Deputy Commander of Field Command. More than 50 per cent of the team is from Test Command at Sandia Base. The DASA contingent is divided into three teams, each headed by a senior officer from Sandia Base. The three are Navy Captain R. E. McElwee, Air Force Colonel Kent Buckingham and Army Colonel Roger Conarty.

## Anywhere in World

With a two-hour fly-away readiness, the Nuclear Emergency Team, a professionally-qualified group of men and equipment maintained to react to a nuclear accident at any time anywhere in the world, were deployed to the ice-bound area.

Associated with the DASA NET through the Joint Nuclear Accident Coordination Center at Sandia Base are technical advisors, men integrally involved with the weapons systems. The advisors may include the actual designers of the weapons, those responsible for the fuzing circuits, ordnance or other components. Advisors are provided through an arrangement with the scientific laboratory at Los Alamos and Livermore, California, and through arrangement with the Atomic Energy Commission and Government contractors.

## Around The Clock

The Joint Nuclear Accident Coordinating Center (JNACC) is jointly staffed at Sandia Base by military personnel representing the Department of Defense and by employees of the Atomic Energy Commission. JNACC is an around-the-clock operation through which the Joint Chiefs of Staff can coordinate the

assistance to an on-scene commander at any accident in the free world.

Upon notification of the recent accident involving nuclear weapons, JNACC alerted DASA's Nuclear Emergency Team for deployment. After a request through service channels, DASA dispatched the 57 men from Sandia to the accident area in two groups,

where they are operating under the direction of the on-scene commander.

## Orders Pre-Cut

Airlift readiness for the team and its equipment is provided by the Military Airlift Command. Worldwide response capability of every DASA NET member is maintained in the form of passports, pre-cut travel orders and current immunizations. Each man also maintains personal gear—protective clothing, masks, tent, blankets, messkits, etc., packed and in place at the NET operations building.

The team also carries necessary purchasing forms and funds to acquire supplies and provisions in the accident area, thus providing a long-stay field capability.

All of the DASA NET's radiac instruments, hot-line equipment, command post and communications gear, medical supplies, decontamination equipment and myriad auxiliary gear are stored aboard a specially-designed truck and trailer. The vehicles are maintained in a status allowing immediate departure for airlift from Kirtland Air Force Base.



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