March 20, 1953

Music: Pacific Blackout & Prelude Klein Abbott Non Issue #62 5××26

NUCLEAR SHOW ATOM BLAST SHATTERS HOME AT "ELM & MAIN" Picture if you will, a part of suburban America -- homes we've all seen -- suddenly transported to the Nevada desert, for a test of the effects of the atom bomb on the life of the average citizen. Here at what they call "Elm and Main Streets" two dwellings have been erected, cach costing approximately \$20,000. Civil defense and atomic energy commission planned this "dummy" scene of a family about to be caught unaware by an atomic explosion. In new type atomic shelters too, in the basements of the test houses, the grim masquerade is enacted. And outside, dozens of cars -- perhaps just the way they might have been situated in most any busy little town at some odd hour. But this is also a military show. Two miles from ground zero troops and observers, some 15 hundred in all, get into trenches ... closer than any Emericans have ever been to an atomic blast. The test is of a nuclear device designed for tactical use in place of artillery. Zero hour is after five A.M...and the eerie blackness of the pre-dawn sky hangs over cameranen focusing on the 300 foot tower from which the first atomic bomb of 1953 is being exploded. Ar here it is

The vertical lines are the trails of rockets set off simultaneously with the detonation to aid the measurement of the density of the atomic cloud, and to track its course. Daylight finds the beginning of operation radiation. The G.I.'s are reported safe -- and now the job is to carry out the exhaustive studies that follow each blast. Today's experiment is the first in a Spring series

at Nevada, which will include the highly-publicized atomic canon.

At two miles, dented auto tops; closer, they're tossed about like kiddy cars. The test house nearest to the blast was demolished; the second remained standing. When radiation is less intense, cameras will photograph close-up the aftermath of this vital emparament of the atonic age!

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Bomb number-one in the latest research operations.

Planes flew through the mushroom. White Fixed automatic cameras in the centre of the blast-area filmed aircraft smashed in the explosion. The metal tail of one plane was burning in the unimaginably tense heat. Taylomotic cameras in

super slew motion showed xactly or happened

When it was safe, experts examined the planes were damaged.

A second experiment, made to find out at what distance from the explosion, and under what conditions, people could live. Rockets round the explosion helped the scientists to measure the density of the radio-active cloud.

Typical small town houses had been but up at varying distances from the explosion. Afterwards they were carefully examined, and as the result house builders may learn a lot about materials and structure of dwellings in the atomic age. Getger counters measured to what extent the houses were redio-active

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