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X Press 28. SYMINGTON  
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**ADD 2 MISSILES**

SYMINGTON CHARGED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION HAS "DOWNGRADED" INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES OF SOVIET STRENGTH TO BALANCE THE BUDGET DESPITE A CONTINUING 3 TO 1 RUSSIAN LEAD IN MISSILES OF ALL TYPES.

THE MISSOURI DEMOCRAT MADE HIS CHARGES IN A SPEECH PREPARED FOR SENATE DELIVERY. HE EXPANDED ON HIS VIEWS AT A PRE-SESSION NEWS CONFERENCE.

HIS CHARGE WAS TWO-FOLD: THAT THE ADMINISTRATION HAS MANIPULATED ITS APPRAISALS OF SOVIET STRENGTH TO "DOWNGRADE" RUSSIAN STRENGTH, AND, THAT--EVEN UNDER THOSE NEW ESTIMATES--TOTAL SOVIET MISSILE STRENGTH OUTGUNS THE U.S. BY "MORE THAN THREE TO ONE."

A NEWSMAN, COMMENTING ON THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE CHARGE, ASKED WHETHER SYMINGTON THOUGHT PRESIDENT EISENHOWER SHOULD BE IMPRACHED FOR PLACING THE NATION IN DEADLY PERIL. THE SENATOR REPLIED THAT SUCH AN EFFORT WOULD BE "UNTHINKABLE." HE SAID THE PROBLEM IS ONE FOR "PUBLIC OPINION" TO REMEDY.

SYMINGTON ALSO SAID THE UNITED STATES IS "THREE TO FIVE YEARS BEHIND RUSSIA IN SPACE DEVELOPMENTS-- A MARGIN WHICH PROMISES TO GET WORSE INSTEAD OF BETTER." HE CALLED IT "PERFECTLY REDICULOUS TO SAY, AS PRESIDENT EISENHOWER HAS SAID, THAT THE CONQUEST OF SPACE HAS NO MILITARY SIGNIFICANCE.

HE SUGGESTED, IN HIS SPEECH, THAT THE RECENT LOW-RANGE TEST OF A SOVIET MISSILE SHOWED A RANGE AND PAYLOAD CAPACITY WHICH SHOWS THAT THE RUSSIANS ARE USING THEIR GREATER THRUST ROCKET ENGINES TO MAKE A MORE POWERFUL WEAPON.

IN HIS NEWS CONFERENCE, SYMINGTON SAID THE "DOWNGRADING" SOVIET MISSILE STRENGTH HAS BEEN "AS HIGH AS 50 PER CENT" IN SOME CATEGORIES. HE SAID THE ADMINISTRATION