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IMMEDIATELY

ALASKAN RIFLE TEAM,
NRA VICE-PRESIDENT
AT U OF MONTANA

yates/mm
7/23/69
state + cs + ht

MISSOULA, Mont. ---

A group of young Alaskan riflemen are at the University of Montana, Missoula, en route for a week's stay / to the National Rifle Championship matches.

A special treat is in store for the 13-18 year olders since their visit coincides with that of one of the foremost experts on rifles and firearms legislation, Franklin L. Orth, executive vice-president of the National Rifle Association (NRA).

Orth, 62, will speak at 8:15 p.m. Tuesday, July 29, at the UM University Center as part of the UM summer session lecture program. His speech, which is open to the young riflemen and the general public, will deal mainly with the controversial issue of firearms legislation, a bill which his organization lobbied against ardently in the U.S. Congress.

Coincidental visit of Orth and the Alaska Junior Rifle Association to Missoula comes about as the Alaska youths meet at UM to compete in regional and state matches against Montana junior rifle club members before proceeding to National Rifle Championship matches at Camp Perry, Ohio.

A lawyer, former officer with Merrill's Marauders and one-time stroke and captain of his varsity crew team, Orth has been executive vice-president of the NRA since 1959, when he retired from his position as deputy assistant secretary of the U.S. Army.

Recently Orth was elected president of the U.S. Olympic Committee.

During World War II, when he was called to active duty from his reserve status as captain, Orth volunteered for duty with Merrill's Marauders. He was assigned to dangerous long range penetration operations behind Japanese lines in Burma. He left the service in 1946 with the rank of colonel.

An ardent big game hunter and fisherman, Orth received his bachelor of arts and bachelor of law degrees for the University of Wisconsin, where he also was captain and stroke on the varsity crew team.

The members of the Alaska team will compete in Regional Prone Matches at Missoula July 26-27, and they will vie with a team of Montana junior rifle club members, July 28-30, also at Missoula.

The team leaves Missoula Thursday, July 31, for Ohio where the national championships will be held during the second week in August. During their campus stay, the youngsters are being housed in UM dormitories.