

AF Dealing In Half Truths, Prof. McDonald Charges

Evasion and half truths in the ICBM missile location controversy were charged today to the Air Force by Dr. James E. McDonald, University of Arizona physicist heading the Committee Against Ringing Tucson with Titans.

McDonald denounced as deceptive the Air Force statement issued yesterday through Sen. Carl Hayden which explained that launching pads are put near existing bases to save money and that population centers are likely missile targets in event of war.

"The one key word, 'fallout,' is not mentioned anywhere in this Air Force statement," said McDonald, "although our entire protest concerns fallout hazards to Tucsonians who would be trapped within a ring of H-bombed Titan bases."

McDonald declared the Air

Young Demos Back AF In Controversy

The Young Democrats of Greater Tucson yesterday joined the growing list of local organizations expressing confidence in the Air Force in the location of Titan missile bases to be constructed in this area.

The group had previously discussed the matter of danger from atomic fallout if the bases are located upwind (west) of the city and asked that the Air Force send a representative to discuss the problem.

However, yesterday it was decided that in the light of recent developments in the missile debate the service probably would not send a representative.

The resolution of confidence was proposed by City Councilman Warren Walker and passed with no dissenting votes.

Force was "internally inconsistent" in predicting in one point that American cities would be missile targets and, in another point, inferring that the Russians would fire mostly at U. S. military bases to wipe out possible retaliation.

He quoted Sen. Barry Goldwater as saying bombers at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base would "be useless by 1962" as refutation to the Air Force statement that, "by virtue of its manned bomber mission, (D-M) is in all probability a primary target."

"It would seem to follow," McDonald declared, "that by about 1962, Tucson's only important attack danger will reside in the Titans themselves and not in the air base itself."

The Air Force contention that setting the bases farther out from D-M would "contribute relatively minor additional blast, thermal and prompt radiation effects" on Tucson was described by McDonald as stopping "short of the full truth."

"Its net implication is entirely false and objectionably deceptive," he asserted.

"Whoever wrote that statement only gave three of the four main effects of nuclear weapons, omitting the greatest killing factor of them all—radioactive fallout.

"Prompt radiation must not be confused with local fallout," he warned. "Multimegaton surface bursts at the Titan sites will lay down lethal blankets of gamma-emitting debris for tens of thousands of square miles downwind of the sites. The mere 20-mile displacement from Tucson will mean nothing, if it is a 20-mile displacement to south, west or north.

"The Tucsonian who may read this half truth without clearly

realizing what is meant by "prompt radiation" may ask with us whether Sen. Hayden has not been given a subtly deceptive statement to pass on to Arizonans."

McDonald challenged the Air Force economy position by figures indicating Tucson's two Titan squadrons will cost \$600 million.

"Why, then," he asked, "can't we spend perhaps \$20 million for permanently useful roads (to far-off sites) which would permit location of the Titans on the safer downwind side of Tucson?"



Blasting Cap