

Council Affirms Faith In Air Force Titan Plans

The City Council yesterday passed its resolution expressing confidence in the Air Force and Department of Defense to give full consideration of fallout problems when locating the Titan missile bases scheduled for Tucson.

Councilman Ray Weaver objected strongly and voted against the resolution. The others were for it.

The passage represents loss of a major battle for Dr. James McDonald and the Committee Against Ringing Tucson With Titans (CARTT).

McDonald, a University of Arizona physicist, feels the community would be placed in unnecessary danger from atomic fallout—generated by enemy bombs—if the missiles are located upwind (west) of the city and are the target of an enemy missile attack.

But following the passage com-

mittee members said they would continue their fight to get answers from the Air Force as to why missiles must be located in rings around major U. S. cities in close proximity to major roadways, which are, in many cases, indicated as civilian defense evacuation routes.

Members of the committee came back at the end of the council meeting to ask Mayor Don Hummel if, having pushed passage of the resolution, he now would attempt to aid in development of a civil defense plan here.

Hummel told them that the executive committee of the American Municipal Assn. is deeply concerned about the inadequacy of civil defense in most U. S. cities and believes present CD plans are impractical and unworkable.

Hummel said he believes the main difficulty stems from the concept that CD is a joint federal and local responsibility. This means lack of coordination, information and funds, he explained.

The municipal group, of which Hummel is vice president, is pressing Congress to accept CD as a "part of the over-all national defense responsibility," Hummel said.

McDonald reported at the meeting that he had discussed his case that afternoon with Col. William Bacon, senior officer at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, and gained "scarcely any clarification" of the Air Force position on downwind fallout.

McDonald added that Bacon had made frequent references to classified (secret) information that apparently is the basis of the Air Force decision.

In voting on the resolution, Councilman James Kirk noted he had been given some classified information that governed his decision.

Hummel, who said last night that as a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force Reserve he has the highest clearance, also has indicated that classified information is involved in the Air Force decision.

McDonald said he had suggested to Bacon that a scientist member of CARTT who holds government clearance be given the classified material so he could evaluate it and relay his conclusion to the committee. He said Bacon had been non-committal about the suggestion.

McDonald said he drew the conclusion from the conversation that Bacon feels "that we will all be obliterated (in an attack) and so the downwind question has no bearing. I hardly need to say that we disagree," McDonald added.

Meanwhile the Air Force still has not announced the exact intended location of the deep silos that will hold the 18 Titans to be assigned to this area.

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