

Titan Threat To 3 Cities Cited By UA's McDonald

Omaha, Spokane and Topeka would have been deluged with radiation in the event of a nuclear war during the past five months, Dr. James E. McDonald, University of Arizona physicist, said last night.

Representing the Committee Against Ringing Tucson with Titans, McDonald spoke to an audience of nearly 200 in the community forum of the Unitarian Church.

This organization (CARTT) is protesting the placing "upwind" of any of the two squadrons of Titan missile bases scheduled for Tucson.

In the event of a nuclear war,

the bases would draw enemy nuclear bombs. Wind would then spray the radiation from the bombs over the city if it were in its path, the group contends.

Omaha, Spokane and Topeka are ringed with Atlas missile bases, said McDonald, who is senior physicist of the UA Insti-

tute of Atmospheric Physics.

He has studied the weather records of the cities for the past five months.

During that time winds were such that radiation fallout would have been blown over Omaha 82 per cent of the time; Topeka, 92 per cent; and Spokane, 79 per cent.

Actual sites for the Titan missile bases here have not been selected, the Air Force has said.

"However, a member of our group, Richard Jones, talked with men from the Weber Well Drilling Co. of Phoenix who were sinking well test holes near Three Points and said it was a possible Titan site," McDonald reported.

Three Points is on the Ajo road to the west, and winds blow toward Tucson from the west most of the year.

It is known that other test water holes are being drilled at Oracle Junction, which is a bad site because radiation from enemy bombs hitting there would spread over the Catalina Mountains, McDonald said.

In many cases in other cities, he said, the Air Force has placed its missile launching pads near highways. This would mean that evacuation roads, even on the upwind sides over which a city's people would be trying to escape, would be destroyed.

The civil defense exercise this week might be realistic for a situation in which Tucson has only a SAC air base, but it is not for the time when it has hardened (underground) Titan bases, the scientist said.

Civil Defense authorities assumed that Davis-Monthan AFB

attracted a 4-megaton (nuclear bombs measured in millions of tons of dynamite) at each.

But it can be estimated by mathematical means that the Titans would draw 100 to 200 megatons of enemy nuclear bombs, McDonald explained.

This means, he said, that the Titan bases do, indeed, increase the danger to the city. And it means that those who survived the attack in underground bomb shelters would have to stay there from three to six months after an attack because of fallout.

"I took the latest figures for a 10-megaton attack — in which you would have to stay underground for a month—and scaled it up," McDonald said.

The Committee Against Ringing

Tucson with Titans is passing a petition through the community asking the Air Force to put the bases to the east (downwind) and will ask the City Council for a hearing.

Dogs, Like Masters, Have Hacking Coughs

BURLINGTON, Vt. — UPI — A University of Vermont animal pathologist says that like their masters, dogs can develop hacking coughs.

Dr. James R. Wadsworth said all ages and breeds of dogs are subject to hacking coughs. He said it can be remedied by strict hygiene, good nursing, rest and a balanced diet.