



'LOCATE MISSILES DOWNWIND'

Dr. James E. McDonald, university physicist is shown with some of the illustrations he used in a public hearing on Titan missile base location before the City Council yesterday. McDonald feels bases should not ring the city, but be placed downwind to help avoid the danger of atomic fallout in case of enemy attack on the launching sites.

Atomic Fallout Dangers Discussed Before Council

"We are talking about the lives of half the people in Tucson," Dr. James E. McDonald told the City Council yesterday as he explained possible dangers from atomic fallout if Titan missile bases are built west (upwind) of the city. McDonald is senior physicist at the University of Arizona's Institute of Atmospheric Physics.

The council was impressed to the extent that it ordered the city attorney to draw up a resolution urging the Air Force to give careful consideration to the problem before locating the missile-launching bases announced for the Tucson area.

The resolution will come up for a final council vote on June 6, the next regular meeting.

It may run into some opposition from Vice Mayor F. T. Gibbons, who said several times during yesterday's hearings that he felt it may be unnecessary and that the council should "hear both sides of the question" before taking any action.

Gibbons was sitting in yesterday for Mayor Don Hammel, who is on a business trip to Alaska and therefore he (Gibbons) could not cast a vote on the drawing of the resolution.

McDonald, who has been talking about the problem of downwind fallout for nearly a year and has been investigating the subject long before missile bases were scheduled here, used a wall full of charts, maps and diagrams to make his case.

The room was filled to overflow—perhaps 100 people—most of them members of the local Committee Against Ringing Tucson with Titans.

McDonald was joined by a panel of other university professors including Dr. John W. Robson, associate professor of physics; Dr. Dean G. Staley, associate professor of meteorology; Dr. Paul S. Martin, assistant professor of geochronology; and Dr. Evar D. Newing, associate professor of mathematics. The panel was moderated by Dr. Walter A. McCasaphan, a retired Methodist minister.

McDonald and the others made three major points:

Although the Air Force has not announced where the Titan locations will be, there is evidence they may be in a ring around the city. This is the pattern that has been followed in Spokane, Omaha, Cheyenne, Topeka, Saltina and other cities.

The prevailing winds here blow from west to east. This is the wind direction 75 to 80 per cent of the time.

In an attack the first thing the enemy must do is concentrate a heavy barrage of atomic or hydrogen missiles against the U. S. retaliatory power—the intercontinental ballistic missiles of which Titan is one of the biggest.

Since the bases here are to be largely underground and difficult to knock out, more and bigger bombs will be used against them.

Missile accuracy is now thought to be down to a point where the Russians could drop one within a mile of their target, or less if they got lucky.

This means that with bases located 15 to 20 miles out of the city, residents here might well survive the bomb blast and fireball, but would be wiped out by atomic fallout if the blast comes upwind and it then blown across the city.

Davis-Monthan Air Force is considered a "soft" target because it is all on the surface. The relatively small bomb needed to put it out of commission might destroy up to half the people in the city but the lives of the other half still must be considered.

Civilian Defense escape routes would be useless following an attack on bases ringing the city because all the escape routes would pass through areas con-

tinued by fallout.

Panel members challenged a recent statement by Brig. Gen. Fred Stoff of the Arizona National Guard that Tucson would get atomic fallout five hours after Los Angeles is bombed. They said an attack would be more likely on Vandenberg AFB, north of Los Angeles; that it would be more like 15 hours for fallout to get here; and the winds that would carry it hit here only 20 per cent of the time.

The panel's major assumption is that the Russians would want to destroy only the military bases and would not want to "overkill" because if all the cities are destroyed and all people killed there is nothing worth conquering. With increasing missile accuracy it is very possible the city would not be destroyed by blast or fire in an attack on the bases.

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'Film Scout' Faces Trial

James A. Erwin, 32, who told police he was a movie scout looking over prospects in the lobby of the Santa Rita Hotel, has pleaded innocent to jailing.

Erwin was freed in \$50 bond for trial at 2:30 p.m. June 2 after arraignment in City Court.

He was arrested Friday in the hotel after officials there observed a number of "screen tests" going on and discovered Erwin wasn't a guest. Police said he had the girls parade before him like models.

Erwin, also known as "Tex," apparently had been sleeping near some riding tables on 2d avenue, police said.

Trailer Destroyed By Blaze

Fire apparently caused by a defective cooler motor destroyed a 30-foot house trailer in the Drexel Heights area last night.

Drexel Heights firemen battled the blaze at the home of Donald W. Briggs, 2141 W. Rindaman Rd., for more than a half hour before bringing it under control.

The loss of the trailer and contents was estimated at \$1,800.

Sheriff's Deputy Carleton Compton said Briggs, his wife, and their 9-month-old son were away from the trailer but in the neighborhood when the fire occurred. By the time the Briggs returned, he said, they were left with only the clothing they were wearing.

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