

UA Scientist Hits AF 'Deadly Mistake' In Putting ICBM Bases Near Big Cities

TUCSON (AP) — A University of Arizona scientist says the Air Force is making a deadly mistake in locating Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) bases near major population areas.

Dr. James E. McDonald of the university's Institute of Atmospheric Physics said Thursday the Air Force policy would unnecessarily kill thousands of Americans.

In an interview, Dr. McDonald noted that eight of the 11 ICBM bases operating or under construction are located near large cities.

These bases, he said, will be prime targets for enemy thermonuclear attacks in event of war and each city near which an ICBM squadron is located must expect a deadly barrage of enemy missiles.

"Nine of the bases have been at least partly installed in such a position that the prevailing west-to-east winds could carry lethal

doses of radioactive fallout from enemy thermonuclear weapons over a large population area," he said.

