

# Civil Defense Official Joins Fight To Shift Titan Sites

Tucson's Titan missile bases should be placed east of the city, Fred D. Mayhugh, director of the city-county Civil Defense Council, said today.

"The Civil Defense agency doesn't tell the armed forces where to put their missile bases," Mayhugh said. "But this is just common sense.

"According to all the records in this office, the winds blow from west to east seven days out of every 10.

"This doesn't mean that on a particular day if the bell rang it would necessarily be in this direction. But it would give us a few extra percentage points in our favor.

"It's just common sense if they put the installations to the east it might ease up our problem as far as fallout is concerned."

An organization called Committee Against Ringing Tucson with Titans will appear before the Tucson City Council on Monday to argue the same point.

The arguments of this organiza-

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tion were given yesterday by Dr. James E. McDonald, senior physicist in the UA Institute of Atmospheric Physics and committee chairman to the Men's Club of the UA Agriculture College.

Those who say that the Titan bases do not increase the danger to Tucson don't understand the problem, which is fallout, McDonald said.

The Titan bases—which are put underground for protection—will draw huge enemy nuclear fire.

These will be impact bombs which will throw enormous amounts of dirt into the air to rain down as radioactive material.

The radioactive stuff will be blown by the winds killing everything in its path. Tucson winds are generally westerly except in July and August.

The Air Force has ringed cities such as Spokane and Topeka with missile bases, McDonald said, asking that the same thing not be done here.

With a SAC air base, Tucson could be expected to be hit by only nuclear bombs in the range of a couple of megatons. And in this event a direct hit on Davis-Monthan AFB would kill well under half of the population, McDonald said.

"If Titans ring the city, the tremendous fallout from 100 to 200 megatons would prevent anyone from escaping radiological death," he added. "This is especially true

if the highway escape routes are cut."

Those who argue that no one could escape the stray bombs to be expected in a nuclear war are not realistic, he added.

Until an enemy's accuracy is down to a range of 1 to 2 miles, the total number of bombs needed to carry out a successful attack is statistically prohibitive.

On the other hand, once they have this accuracy then the likelihood of stray bombs is low.

"The published missile reports say that the accuracy is now within 1 to 2 miles," McDonald said.



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