

AF, City To Meet On Titan Locations

By PETER STARRETT

A team of Air Force experts will fly to Tucson sometime next week to discuss Titan missile locations with community leaders.

Apparently the final decision and announcement of the exact missile sites will be held up until after that meeting.

Mayor Don Hummel met with Gen Curtis LeMay, Air Force vice chief of staff, in Washington this morning and asked that the team be sent here to help clear up the location controversy that has boiled here since the coming of the Titans was announced more than a month ago.

The meeting will not be open to the public and apparently will not include Dr. James McDonald and the Committee Against Ringing Tucson with Titans. McDonald is senior physicist at the UA Institute of Atmospheric Physics

and the committee's leading spokesman.

"This will not be a public hearing," Hummel told the Citizen by telephone. "The material to be discussed may border on classified information."

The meeting also will not be open to the press, Hummel said. It will include the City Council, Pima County Board of Supervisors and the leaders of other elements of the community such as the Chamber of Commerce and Industrial Development Board and "generally the top people responsible for the development of the community."

Asked if members of McDonald's group would be included, Hummel said he would not comment today.

Air Force sources indicated yesterday the exact missile locations might be announced today, but Hummel said he doubted this

would happen until after the meeting has been held here.

"As far as I know the missile locations have still not been definitely decided upon," Hummel said.

Had LeMay shown him the tentative locations?

"I can't comment on that," said the Mayor.

Hummel will return tonight and begin setting up the meeting. LeMay agreed to send the team here at whatever time the meeting can be arranged. It probably will be early next week, Hummel said.

Did LeMay say anything about rumors that the Air Force would take the missiles to Louisiana or California if Tucson did not show more enthusiasm for them?

"No, he did not, other than to discuss the general proposition that in the changing pattern of defense, missiles must be put into

Continued Page 9

AF, City To Meet On Titans

Continued from Page 1

Tucson if we are to continue to have an operating Air Force base there," Hummel said.

"Titans are tied in with the general defense complex. Davis-Monthan Air Force Base would be phased out and become inactive as manned aircraft are phased out of the defense picture, unless the Titans are located in Tucson to justify its operation," Hummel explained.

A little more than a month ago the Air Force announced it planned to locate 18 Titan intercontinental ballistics missiles in the Tucson area. An outlay of \$80 million is planned for the project, which would see the Titans stored underground in deep cement silos.

Apparently they are to be grouped in three general locations, each far enough away from the other to assure all would not be knocked out by one enemy attack.

Various prospecting indications have led to the speculation that the general locations will be in the vicinity of Sahuarita to the south, Three Points to the west and Oracle Junction to the north.

Meanwhile McDonald—who had previously expressed concern over the way missiles were being located in a ring around other communities—formed his committee against ringing Tucson.

His argument is that in an attack the missiles, representing U.S. retaliatory power, would come under heavy atomic attack. This would mean atomic fallout in the air. Since the prevailing winds here blow from west to east (about 80 per cent of the time, McDonald says) the missile bases should all be located downwind (east) of the city.

McDonald contends if the city is not destroyed by blast or heat from the bombs, the people would have a better chance of surviving the fallout if the bases are downwind. The group has protested that the Air Force has not given consideration to this factor.

But Air Force officers say they have. At a City Council meeting early this week a resolution was authorized expressing "complete

confidence" in the Air Force and the Defense Department in the location of the sites.

Yesterday the directors of the Chamber of Commerce sent a telegram to Washington saying the chamber will endorse the locations decided upon by the Air Force.

The Pima County Republican Women's Club today passed a resolution that, in effect, said the Department of Defense is the best judge on where to locate the Titan missile installations here. At the same time, the women commended interest shown in the locations but said, "We do not approve of the interference by well-meaning persons in matters pertaining to the national defense."

Tucson Young Democrats yesterday discussed the missile location issue and voted to invite an Air Force representative to present the positive side of the question before the group takes any stand.

Morgan - McDermott American Legion post has gone on record as favoring "any location" the Air Force may pick.

The Tucson-Pima County Women's Civil Defense Council this week passed a resolution "favoring the locations here and expressing confidence the Air Force would take the fallout dangers into account.

Last weekend Air Force officers had issued statements indicating the Titans might go elsewhere if Tucson did not show more "enthusiastic response" to the project.

Hummel is in Washington to attend a meeting of a governmental committee studying the relationship of various levels of government, but is also using the trip to resolve the missile hassle.

He explained today that his reasons for asking that the Air Force team be sent here was to "give the community first-hand assurance that full consideration has been given to the question of fallout dangers."

"I have asked them to come and give community leaders authentic information, within the bounds of security provisions, on the methods of deciding where the missiles are to be located," Hummel explained.

"I have asked for direct assurance to the community that in locating the bases, the Air Force recognize the factors which will give the maximum security and safety that we can have and still discharge our obligations in the defense of the nation," Hummel added.

To date the Air Force has not

said it will place the missiles in a ring here, nor has it offered any direct explanation of why the bases have been placed in a ring around other communities.

However, fragmentary comments from various sources indicate these general reasons:

The launching bases are located near existing Air Force bases to take advantage of housing, communications and other support functions.

The airmen manning the bases are happier if they and their families can live in or near a city instead of in an isolated area.

The Titans are taken into the launching locations by trucks and are so heavy that a good highway is necessary for the trip.

Since the bases must be widely separated for their own protection in case of attack, the other factors dictate location on various sides of the community and Air Force base, near the major highways running in and out of the communities.

To build the support facilities and roadways necessary to put the missiles in remote locations apparently is not economically feasible in the eyes of defense planners.

U.A.R. Plane Downed, Say Israelis

TEL AVIV, Israel — UPI — An Israeli plane today shot down a United Arab Republic MIG jet in a dogfight over the Negev Desert along the Israel-U.A.R. border, the Israeli Army announced.

The United Arab republic reported later there was an aerial dogfight today but a military spokesman gave an entirely different version. He said the fight involved two Israeli and two U.A.R. aircraft and that one of the Israeli planes was damaged and "the two U.A.R. planes returned safely to their base."

Not Good Neighbors

AUSTIN, Tex. — UPI — With a warning to three teenagers that they may be violating the good neighbor policy, County Judge Polk Shelton fined them \$31 each for slugging vending machines with Mexican 10 centavos pieces.