CD Director Backs Titan Protesters

Ted Mullen, Phoenix, state director of Civil Defense, has added his support to a group of Tucson citizens who are protesting the upwind location of Titan missile sites here.

In a letter to Dr. James E. McDonald, senior physicist at the University of Arizona’s Institute of Atmospheric Physics, head of the protesting group, Mullen agreed with local Civil Defense authorities, who also have sided with McDonald.

A letter to McDonald from Mullen states in part:

"It would seem logical and also very necessary that the Titans should be placed at a site not embracing the city or where the prevailing winds would carry fallout over populated areas.

"It seems to me that these installations should be placed to the eastward (of the city). We hope this will be of some help to you in your efforts to protect the public from fallout."

Although the Air Force has not said where the Titan locations will be, there is evidence they may be in a ring around the city, McDonald has noted.

The protesting group believes that prevailing west-to-east winds would carry atomic fallout across the city in an attack if Titan missile sites were located west of the city. The group wants consideration of downwind locations.