

The nuclear war game

Policy analyst presents case for strategic defense

By Brooks Dareff
Of the Emerald

Some sports analysts insist that a good defense is the best offense, that defense wins games.

According to policy analyst Keith Payne, the development of a great defense could be the only way to win the biggest game going — avoiding nuclear obliteration.

"There isn't any way I can see of reducing the destructiveness of nuclear war outside of strategic defense," he says.

Executive vice president and director of National Security Studies at the National Institute for Public Policy, Payne was on campus this week as the guest of the Faculty Arms Control Group. He specializes in U.S.-Sino strategic and defense policy, international security affairs and Soviet foreign policy.

Payne maintains that the current concept of deterrence is shaky at best and that it is — or would eventually be — possible to fend off a full scale barrage of nuclear weapons.

Twenty or thirty years in the making, a fully developed "multiple tier" system of strategic defense weapons could theoretically deflect and intercept, at the least, 9,999 out of 10,000 Soviet missiles, he says.

And given the Soviets' overall inferiority in resources and technology, he says, such a defense should deter the Soviets from firing even one.

"Deploying strategic defensive weapons... should stabilize deterrence because it just leads the Soviet Union to be less confident that it could engage in a successful first strike," Payne says.

Payne is dubious of offense-based deterrence, the idea that the threat of mutual annihilation makes nuclear war unthinkable to both sides.

"We don't even know if deterrence works," he says.

The Soviet Union may doubt U.S. deterrence, he says, believing the United States would balk at retaliating to a Soviet strike for fear of setting off total war.

"The argument is that the Soviets don't



Keith Payne

believe the U.S. deterrent," Payne says.

Payne's multiple tier system apexes in space — that science fiction strata of speed of light lasers and hypervelocity guns first brought to public light just over a year ago in Pres. Reagan's "star wars speech."

In the transition stages, the multiple tier system would accelerate the arms race, requiring the maintenance of Trident submarines, MX missiles, a new small intercontinental ballistic missile and B-1 Bombers, Payne says. But, it would achieve two of the objectives of arms control: reducing the threat and the destructiveness of nuclear war, Payne says.

As for the third, which he identifies as expenditure, Payne believes the benefits of strategic defense outweigh the costs.

"Is the United States willing to pay \$30 billion a year to provide for the defense of the American population in the event of nuclear war? I think it probably would."

Frat offers 'half day on the job'

Students in all majors will have the opportunity to receive hands-on management and operational experiences Thursday, May 10 in the "Half Day on the Job" program.

Sponsored annually by business fraternity Alpha Kappa Psi, the program places students in jobs for a day in areas such as accounting, real estate, finance, brokerage, public utility, hotel

management, retail, communications, marketing and economics, says Kimberly Bott.

The program may open avenues to future employment, Bott says.

Participating area businesses include: KVAL, Hewlett Packard, First Interstate Bank, U.S. Bank, Merrill Lynch and Eugene Aircraft.

Students interested in taking part in the half-day program can pick up applications in Rooms 217 or 212 Gilbert or the Career Planning and Placement Center. A \$10 fee, due by Thursday, is required to pay for dinner at the Eugene Hilton after the program.

For more information, contact Mark Daniel at 485-9258.



Photo courtesy of DB Records

Love Tractor to play Thursday

Can't you just hear Rod Serling saying:

"Picture it you will Athens, Ga., a reasonably metropolitan town in the heartland of the South. Add to this picture musical groups like R.E.M., Pylon (now defunct) and The B-52s who all hail from Athens. But make room for one more, a four-piece group of young countrified psychedelics who go under the engaging name of Love Tractor. Give this group's second record 'Around the Bend' a spin and the uninitiated will at once realize they are in... The Psychedelic Zone."

If you'd like to step into The Psychedelic Zone, Love Tractor will be playing at B.J. Kelly's Thursday at 9:30 p.m. But come early — Eugene's rockin' grammarians The Los Falcons will be opening the show. Tickets are \$3.

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