

# Reverend tells of nuke scenario

By Paul Ertelt  
Of the Emerald

The most probable scenario for a nuclear war is not an exchange by the superpowers, but the use of nuclear devices to stop a conventional force in the Third World, says a disarmament coordinator for Clergy and Laity Concerned.

U.S. Army policies encourage field commanders to consider using nuclear weapons when faced with tough opposition on the battlefield, says Rev. Tony Watkins, who was in Eugene Thursday to address a forum by the local CALC chapter.

CALC is an interfaith organization founded in 1965 as a "religious response to the Vietnam War," says Watkins. Watkins is a "resource person" for the group, keeping local chapters informed on such issues as nuclear disarmament, the draft, and racism in the military.

Watkins is concerned about the many blacks and lower-income whites who have fallen victim to what he calls the "poverty draft" — joining the armed services because of the lack of jobs in the private sector. But most of these enlistees end up in the infantry and receive no training that will help them find jobs after their discharge, he says.

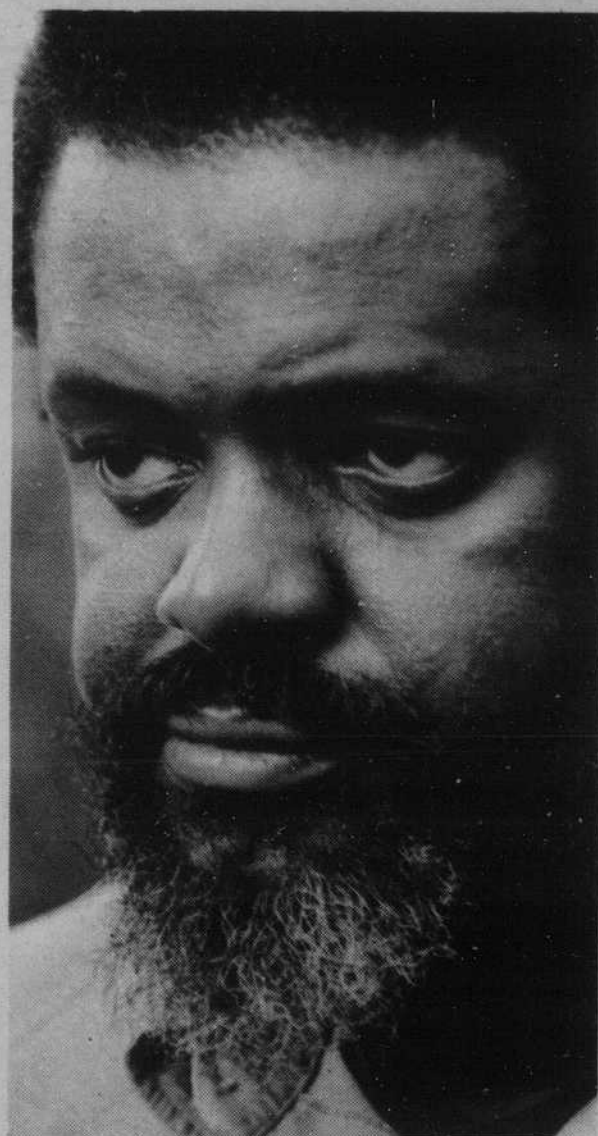
But the most important issue, Watkins says, is the danger of the U.S. rapid deployment forces — designed to intervene in the Third World — setting off a nuclear war.

U.S. military plans allow for the "first use" of nuclear weapons when conventional weapons are insufficient to stop the advance of an enemy, Watkins says. Also, the deep-strike battle doctrine calls for using nuclear weapons behind enemy lines to demoralize and destroy enemy forces before an attack, Watkins says.

"Conventional forces are a trip wire to nuclear war," Watkins says.

Though presidential approval is necessary before any nuclear device may be used in battle, many in the peace movement fear this policy may change and commanders may be given authority to use battlefield nuclear devices without a presidential OK, Watkins says.

Battlefield nuclear devices range from missiles to hand-held devices. Though they have less firepower than either strategic or tactical weapons, many are large enough to



Tony Watkins

destroy a city the size of Portland, Watkins says.

"These are not toys," he warns.

Also, as conventional weapons increase in firepower, the gap between them and nuclear weapons lessens, removing a psychological barrier and making the use of nuclear weapons merely the next logical step in battlefield escalation, he says.

"A ground commander is not going to stand by and watch his forces wiped out if he has these weapons to use," Watkins says.

# Art education celebration crowds mall this weekend

If the downtown mall seems a bit crowded this weekend, it may not be just your imagination.

The third annual Oregon Imagination Celebration will be held there Saturday and Sunday and will aim at increasing awareness of the value of art education.

A children's parade, leaving from Broadway and Charnelton Street at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, will kick off the event designed to increase awareness of the value of art education.

During the rest of the weekend, the mall will host various programs from three stages. Performances include "The Jets" from West Side Story presented by University students, "Mother Goose" skits

by Westmoreland Elementary School, the Sheldon High School A Capella Choir and "Lil' Abner" performed by Colin Kelly Middle School.

An "Imaginarium," located near Prince Puckler's on the mall, will also provide insight on computers, print making, math and kinetic art.

The event coincides with Saturday Market's 15th birthday. The market will feature special events in conjunction with the celebration.

Also occurring during the celebration is the "Very Special Arts Festival Program" that showcases performances and arts by and for handicapped individuals.

All professional and amateur entertainment is free of charge.

# Negligence

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Oregon Law says that when a media defendant such as a newspaper, TV station or radio station publishes a story charged as being libelous, it may publish a retraction, which would reduce the amount of money the injured party could collect from it.

Since the 1974 federal case Gertz v. Robert Welch, Inc., individual states have been free to set their own standard for proving libel against private citizens. The U.S. Supreme Court's only stipulation is that state standards must be at least simple negligence. Before 1974, a plaintiff claiming libel had to prove the newspaper or broadcast station had published the story either knowing it was false or with reckless disregard for the truth. This "actual malice" standard was decided on by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1964. Oregon has not been faced with setting a statewide standard before

now.

So the Oregon Supreme Court's job becomes more complicated. It must resolve the tension between the two articles of Oregon's constitution and choose a standard that will protect the media's freedom of expression but will not infringe on the rights of individuals.

Oregon is not the first state to grapple with the problem of deciding libel standards since the 1974 decision set them free to do so. In all, 26 states have set standards: 22 decided on simple negligence, two used actual malice as a standard and two settled on a gross negligence standard.

Katy Hull, who graduated with a journalism degree winter term, will spend the summer researching libel issues for the Reporters Committee for Freedom of Expression in Washington, D.C.

# High-tech expert named to board

Gov. Vic Atiyeh has added a high-tech expert to the State Board of Higher Education.

This week, Atiyeh appointed Gene Chao of Portland and reappointed James Petersen of La Grande to the board.

Chao will replace current board Vice President Loren Wyss, whose term will expire June 30. Terms are subject to Senate confirmation.

Chao, who has a strong electronics background, is chairman and chief executive officer of Methus Corp., of Hillsboro. As a member of the board, he said he will emphasize the need for excellence in individual programs rather than mediocrity across the board.

"We should try and focus on excellence and high achieve-

ment and less so on coverage and completeness," Chao said. "I think there is also a kind of mental attitude where, when you start having some success, you start breeding more success."

The University's physics and computer science departments are two areas that could be built into "world class" programs, he said.

From 1973 to 1981, Chao held the posts of senior engineer, manager of the instrument research group and director of the applied research group at Tektronix, Inc. in Beaverton.

From 1971-73, he headed the microwave acoustics section of the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C.

Chao received his bachelor's degree from the University of California at Berkeley, his master's degree at San Jose State University, and his Ph.D. from Stanford University.

Petersen recently retired from the position of assistant administrator of Grande Ronde Hospital in La Grande. He has served on the board since 1980.

The final board appointments, which will fill the positions now held by board Pres. Robert Ingalls and student member Randall Gill, should be made by May 15, according to officials in the governor's office.

The 11-member board is responsible for governing Oregon's eight colleges and universities.

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