

McGill fuel air fight

MONTREAL (CUP) — Despite intense student opposition, McGill University officials have approved a new research contract linked to the controversial fuel air explosives (FAE) weapon systems.

The contract, worth over \$225,000 was awarded to engineering professors James Lee and R. Knystautas by the Defence Research Establishment, a unit of the Department of National Defence.

The contract was approved last May in a confidential session of the executive committee of the McGill Board of Governors. Earlier in March, McGill students had occupied the administration offices for six days to protest FAE research.

"This is an FAE contract," said

Marc Willis, a member of the ad-hoc student committee opposing FAE research. "The professors involved in this contract are the ones working on the FAE contracts. And this contract, like the others, is with the Defence Research Establishment."

"The work that professors Lee and Knystautas have been doing for the (Department of National Defence) has been on the dispersion, detonation, and potential explosive power of FAEs, in effect improving this weapon's efficiency and effectiveness."

Fuel-air explosives are based on the principle that gas vapour, when mixed with certain proportions of air, can be ignited, causing fatal

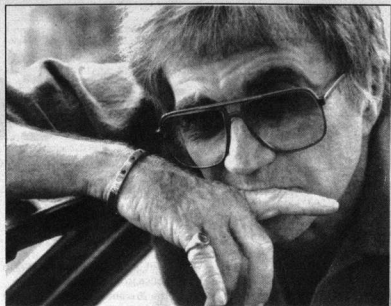
blast pressures over a wide area. FAEs have been described by some armament experts as one of the most destructive non-nuclear weapons in existence.

"I don't see why there is this intense concern over this research," said Gordon MacLachlan, McGill's dean of graduate faculty and research. "It's something that happens every time you put your foot on the gas pedal."

He said the military contract is a "pure research issue. It may as well have been granted by the National Research Council."

Revelations of the new military contract were made public at the same time the McGill Board of Governors announced it will delay discussions on research guidelines until next month.

Over 100 students protested against the inaction of the Board on FAE research last week in front of the McGill administration building.



Deep thinkers write for The Gateway Room 282 Students' Union Building

U of A voice almost not heard

by Ken Bosman

A national forum on post-secondary education to which students were invited almost occurred without the U of A's Students' Union.

The conference, co-organized by the Canadian Federation of Students, didn't invite the U of A Students' Union.

As a consequence, only a last minute intervention by U of A President Myer Horowitz allowed SU President Tim Boston to attend.

"We could only invite so many people," said CFS Chair Tony Marcerollo. "We wanted to invite people we knew were competent."

Boston charges bias however. "The problem is that CFS is anti-U of A, and considers the U of A

anti-CFS."

The break for Boston came when one of seven U of A staff members invited to the conference couldn't attend for personal reasons.

"They said that every position was full, and this meant Tim [Boston] couldn't go, so I eased off," said Horowitz. "But when a position became vacant I felt I had every reason to appeal again."

Boston says that Horowitz's actions were more extensive. "They [the conference] gave Dr. Horowitz three reasons why I couldn't go; they had no room in the conference, there is no place for me to stay, and it would cost money. Dr. Horowitz said 'Tim is taking the

place of somebody else, he can stay in my room, and we'll pay for it if he needs it."

Horowitz would neither confirm nor deny but added "It took a couple of days," and that he "was delighted with the final decision."

When asked why he intervened, Horowitz stated "I was very disturbed and annoyed that the Students' Union wasn't invited. The second largest institution in the country should surely be included."

The U of A rejected CFS by more than a two to one margin in a referendum held in the spring of 1985. The loss cost CFS nearly \$100,000 a year in membership fees, one quarter of their budget.

Queen's party ends in major riot

KINGSTON (CUP) — 77 people were arrested and another eight charges were laid during an illegal street party involving more than 3000 Queen's University students in Kingston last October 17 Saturday night.

The mass street party broke out shortly after it stopped raining around 10:30 p.m. when students spilled out of private house parties and began drinking in the middle of a downtown street.

The party, which police say lasted until 4:30 Sunday morning, resulted in one student being taken to the hospital after falling on a fence. Eight fences and two windows were broken in the Queen's "student ghetto" — an area about ten blocks square where most students live.

Maureen Killoran, communications commissioner for the Queen's student council, said the damage was done by students as they trampled through backyards to try to enter an area blocked off by city police.

Between twenty-five and thirty police officers tried to control the party by cordoning off a two block area and encouraging students to leave and prohibiting them from re-entering.

Killoran said the student council had heard rumours of a street party, but were helpless to prevent it.

"We knew that if there was a street party there was nothing we could do to stop it," she said.

James Sansom, a third-year biology student at Queen's, said he

and his friends were at a small house party when the street party broke out.

"When we came outside people were on this person's lawn — all kinds of people. Most of them were drunk," said Sansom.

The nine members of the student council's executive stood guard at the homes of several permanent Kingston residents, which are located in the ghetto, from about 9 p.m. Saturday to 4:30 a.m. Sunday.

"If we hadn't done that I'd hate to think what would have happened to their property," Killoran said. "All we did was try to cope and make people as comfortable as possible, given the circumstances."

According to sergeant Bill Doxtator of the Kingston police, there were 56 arrests for unlawful assembly, one for resisting arrest, one for escaping custody, one for attempting to escape custody, six for creating a disturbance, one for breach of the peace and one for assault causing bodily harm after one student allegedly smashed a juice can into another student's face.

Doxtator said ten students were charged for intoxication and five for displaying alcohol in public view.

Police said another fifteen arrests were made during a street party of about 1500 students the night before and in the same location and a female student was taken to hospital after being hit in the head with a bottle.

A statement issued October 18 by the vice principal of institutional relations Tom Williams and public relations officer, Ann Stevens said that students found guilty of charges will appear before the students judicial committee.

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