

CONVERSATIONS UNLIMITED - Tuesday, Feb. 17, 1987

INTRO UP AND UNDER

Hi, everybody. We've been hearing a lot lately about "Star Wars." That's the name pinned on what the Reagan administration calls the SDI -- strategic defense initiative. U.S. policy, it's safe to conclude, is often based on Americans' perception of Soviet military might. Dan Davis is one of those who believes we have overestimated the U.S.S.R. strategic nuclear weapons capacity. Dr. Davis is a geophysicist on the faculty at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He is a seismologist, a profession we most often associate with earthquakes. ~~Some~~ Seismologists, however, are interested in measuring all movements within or near the Earth. And nuclear testing happens to be of the more common causes of movements. Dr. Davis, in a nutshell, how far off is the United States in estimating Soviet nuclear fire power?

INTERVIEW DR. DAVIS:

- Review figures he and Lynn Sykes developed for:
 - * Pre-1963
 - * Since Limited Test Ban Treaty of 1963 (define it)
 - * Since Threshold Test Ban Treaty of 1976 (define it)
- Discuss how seismographs measures waves
- Discuss conclusions re throw-weights, warheads etc.
- What reaction from U.S.?
- What reaction from U.S.S.R.
- What about Gorbachev's "glasnot" - openness policy: Any hopes for even closer monitoring?
- Bottom line: bigger and better nuclear warheads?

14:00

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14:00

We'll take a short break now. When we return, I'll be talking with Dan Davis about suggestions devised by scientists for a network of machines that would measure even the tiniest nuclear explosion underground. Stay with us, please.

BRIDGE MUSIC UP AND UNDER

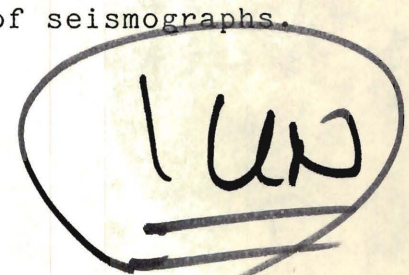
Hi, everybody. I'm Al Oickle. I'm talking with Dan Davis, a geophysicist at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Dr. Davis and Lynn Sykes of Columbia wrote a piece that appeared in the January issue of Scientific American. They attracted a crowd, so to speak, especially in the political community, by suggesting that U.S. defense officials consistently overestimate Soviet nuclear weapons. You're not suggesting it's done deliberately, are you, Dr. Davis?

INTERVIEW DAN DAVIS:

- What about CIA's agreement with his figures?
- Is he a crusader, or a scientist just doing his work?
- Does he get involved in politics? How does he handle it?
- Discuss disagreement in the geophysics community of his claims.
- How does his Stony Brook research relate?
- Are SUSB's Long Island seismographs capable of measuring nuclear tests by Soviets? U.S.?
- Does such common testing cause permanent damage to immediate area of tests? To earth's mantle, substructure?
- Review proposal for permanent network of seismographs.
- What's next: for him? for his field?

29:00

OUTRO



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PROMO - For use no later than 5:55 p.m. Feb. 17, 1987

Hi, everybody. This is Al Oickle. I'm here on WUSB every Tuesday at 6 p.m. with Conversations Unlimited. My guest this week will be Dan Davis. Dr. Davis is getting attention these days in some of the world's capitals because of his research. He has concluded that U.S. estimates of Soviet nuclear weapons exceed the actual Soviet capacity. That conclusion has important ramifications -- for politicians, diplomats, the arms industry and for citizens. You can hear Dan Davis, and me, Tuesday at 6 p.m. on Conversations Unlimited. That's WUSB - FM 90.1.

~~Conversations Unlimited every Tuesday evening at 6, here on WUSB~~
This week, I'll be talking about garbage -- mountains of junk and rubbish -- and the problems we have in getting rid of the millions of tons we throw out every single day. Dr. Jerry Schubel will be answering the question: "Can we turn mountains into molehills?"
Tune in, please. Conversations Unlimited, Tuesday evening at 6 o'clock, here on WUSB 90.1 FM.