

# Math Center Move Is Rejected by Army

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WASHINGTON — The Army has politely, but firmly, said thanks, but no thanks to a proposal by Rep. Albert Watson (R-S.C.) that the Army Mathematics Research Center be moved to his home state.

In a letter to Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird on Sept. 23, Watson asked the government to consider relocating the center, which is located on the University of Wisconsin campus and was bombed Aug. 24.

**DIRECTOR** of Army Research George N. Snead Jr. told Watson in a letter dated Oct. 1 that the Army has no intention of moving the center off the UW campus at this time.

"Key personnel at the University of Wisconsin have expressed a firm determination to continue the work of the research center," Snead wrote. He said that the center has become an integral part of the University's mathematics program.

Further attacks on the UW-operated research center could change the Army's mind, though, a Defense Department official said.

**IN REQUESTING** relocation of the center, Watson alleged that the UW has been "too lenient and permissive toward revolutionary violence-prone students."

He assured Laird that the people of South Carolina "are patriotic and support the Armed Forces."

No one seemed to take Watson's letter too seriously. One White House official casually passed the letter off as a political play, since Watson is now involved in a tough election race to retain his congressional seat.

Another defense official called the letter "a funny," noting that Watson and Laird had been close friends when Laird was a congressman from Wisconsin.