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Scientist Warns U. S. It Has Atom 'Glass Jaw'

WASHINGTON, May 1 (UP). —One of the nation's leading research scientists called Friday for a radically new weapons research program to protect this country's "glass jaw" from atomic bombs.

Dr. Lloyd V. Berkner, president of Associated Universities, Inc., which runs the Brookhaven National Laboratory for the Atomic Energy Commission, said that "under no circumstances" should the new organization come under the control of the joint chiefs of staff.

He said the proposed research agency should have a top-level planning staff of its own made up of "imaginative" scientists and military experts. This planning staff, he said, should direct the research staff in "radical weapons" development and should have a military operational force capable of testing and evaluating all new weapons.

Dr. Berkner said science has produced atomic weapons capable of destroying civilization. While the United States has a "terrific" atomic "punch" it has a defense that amounts to a "glass jaw," he added.

"As physical scientists," Dr. Berkner said in a speech to the American Physical Society, "we know that secrecy and security cannot prevent the ultimate development by an enemy nation of all the nuclear power needed to destroy us. The knowledge of nature is not confined to any single nation..."

Dr. Berkner, who headed the Navy's electronics research

branch during World War II, said that the nation's present air defense is "no important solution" to national defense. It he said, and can be pierced by "a clever enemy" no matter how good it is.

He said the military should not be allowed to control the program because "there is not the grasp and conviction at the top that encourages follow-up of the really radical ideas."