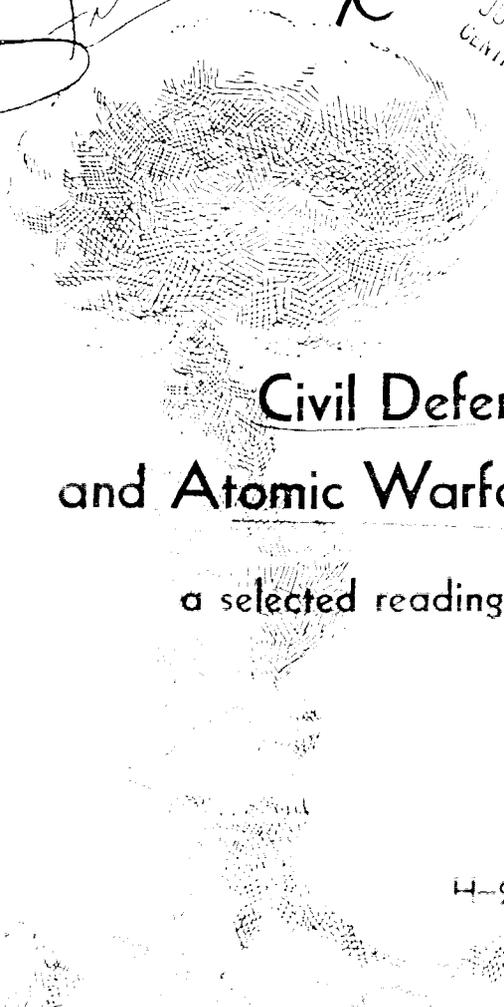


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GENERAL FILES



# Civil Defense and Atomic Warfare

a selected reading list

H-25-1



FEDERAL CIVIL DEFENSE ADMINISTRATION

Before we get into one or two never headaches, I think we are all justified in looking back over the period since June 1952 and checking off some solid accomplishments. Here are a few that occur to me, in no particular order of importance:

- We staged the first and great Liberty Loan Drive which was one of the finest ever known in the past and local, State and Federal people together with our friends across the border, that I could name.
- The Washington Conference of Mayors, followed by a second one for the Governors, produced an abundance of gifts, ideas, offers and support for our objectives. Leaders who are true friends are enjoyed.
- We had a highly successful holding of the National Executive Advisory Committee last fall and are looking forward to another next month. Incidentally, the Director of the National Council, Mrs. Jean Paul Miller of the Ford, has recently joined our staff. She is here to stay and will greatly help in carrying through the Regions and States. This lady will finish her first year and she is charming. The Regional Executives, both men and women, too, are energetic and can be counted on for a great deal of help and their support.
- Next in our list of accomplishments is the increase in expenditures made by the States for the current fiscal year. As you know, this is the third year since

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← year in which FARA investigations may have been conducted. I believe  
← disappointment to have a statement on the FARA part of the divi-  
dual items such as medical supplies, the overall impact of the  
Congress was helpful and very successful for all.

. The release of the past structure, however, of the  
operational data which it could provide, I think, has been of in-  
our planning and in achieving a clearer public vision of the threat  
threat we face. Certainly, in some ways, it is a favorable  
able or critical, and because of the nature of the threat of a  
civil defense problems. I am sure that the release of this information  
an intelligent and approving analysis of the situation, and for  
the current fiscal year to meet with the same and to deal with the  
difficulties under which they are operating. This is a very  
current issue of the Bulletin of the American Red Cross, and it is  
worth reading.

. During the past several months, we have been working  
with the approval of the President and the Secretary of Defense  
other Federal agencies to take on certain civil defense responsibilities  
bilities which, by the nature of the situation, they are best  
fitted to do. This effort has been a joint effort, and we are  
delegation of civil defense responsibilities to the other agencies.

. With the cooperation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation  
the traffic control program of the State Department in  
Milwaukee. A preliminary report on this study has just been  
completed.

Another milestone of the past year was the public evacuation tests which have been held in a number of cities.

During the past year we have, as you know, held a series of working meetings with small groups of your gentlemen and we at least found to be highly beneficial.

We have enjoyed increasingly closer working relationships, both with the Canadian Government and members of the NATO countries and have held a number of conferences with the civil defense officials of these governments, with the United States and Great Britain.

The new operation program which they have developed, which, on the whole, has worked out very well.

On the inland front, we had a highly successful meeting with a group of some of the members, from the Chamber of Commerce and the Chamber of Industry and other meetings at the local level. We may have had further support on the part of the local industry, business and in community civil defense.

In our country we have through the National Civil Defense Administration, with an eye to the future, we are going to shake down a little more on the local level. We are going to be in a position to hold even more meetings both for the state and local level.

Within the United States we have had an even greater acceptance of the idea of civil defense and national defense and also more interest by Federal agencies.



Just last week in Houston, Texas, for instance, Dr. W. H. Bugher, Director of the Division of Energy and Health, U.S. Health, Education and Welfare Administration, made public these significant findings regarding atomic bomb fallout.

"When the detonation is at high altitudes, the fallout is on a large scale, great amounts of earth are carried into the atmosphere, and the fallout is in the form of coarse, highly radioactive particles which fall rapidly while being carried aloft by low density air. There is an area of highly radioactive fallout directly beneath the point of detonation which may be lethal following an exposure of only a few minutes. The dimensions and shape are determined by the altitude of the explosion and the wind patterns, but characteristic of this is a surface area of high radioactivity. The area of highest concentration is elliptical in shape, the wind and cross-wind components being equal in intensity, but the downwind area is less spectacular in intensity."

"In general," Dr. Bugher said, "the probability of a 50% lethality at a point directly beneath the point of detonation of gamma radiation from the bomb is about 1000 rads. The area of local radioactive fallout in the vicinity of a high altitude explosion is on the surface, about one-third of the total fallout, and is delivered within the first 24 hours. The maximum dose limit such exposure must therefore be 1000 rads, or 1000 rads to be effective."

"We must face the tremendous danger of atomic warfare. Not only must we be prepared for the possibility of atomic warfare, but we must also be prepared for the possibility of atomic warfare."

casualties on a scale which is not only a disaster but we must  
require that these services be also be made for these mathematical  
effects to deny the evidence under general conditions of time of  
large are outside the scope of immediate damage to the people.

Now what does this mean to us in terms of civil defense planning?

One obvious conclusion from Mr. Euzner's report is which we should  
have realized all along is that we ought to start thinking about  
civil currents. I think you all had the matter here in a very ex-  
tremely helpful in this regard, although data and information is not  
sufficient to enable us to make a similar in a field of operational  
planning.

The second thing to be noted is that the report is not  
in nothing at, nor are we to be taken with it, but it is not at all.

Mr. Euzner speaks, in a number of places, of the need for a  
unified view of the program, which is a very important  
seen to indicate that it is:

1. That a single, unified view of the program is needed,  
which will be the basis for the development of the program.
2. That the program should be based on the principle that the program  
affected by all the various conditions, and that it will  
be made available to the people in a form which is  
understandable and which is of the highest quality.
3. That the program should be based on the principle that the program  
and matter is the program that the program is of the highest  
quality and that the program is of the highest quality.

The program should be based on the principle that the program  
operation is the program that the program is of the highest  
quality and that the program is of the highest quality.

Secondly, the possibility of lateral evaporation should be considered, particularly from the elliptical area. The wind direction is from the assumed point of burst.

I suspect that these two problems will keep us busy enough until the scientists are able to give us more definite data.

Finally, we should bear in mind, in considering protection of the radiation hazard, that almost any kind of shelter constructed will protect appreciably.

An ordinary frame house with the roof of blue asbestos, for instance, will afford some protection. A basement shelter with a concrete floor will give virtually complete protection from high level fallout.

\* \* \* \* \*

Now at this point let me quote the article in the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists of earlier date which seems to break our bureaucratic red tape barrier on this subject. Let me quote the substance.

In speaking of the American Government's responsibility in the past years, the article declares that the Government's failure to act shows clearly that the Government may be allowed the right to take account of the public interest in the development and use of atomic energy.

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Now, let's take the first line of the... for a minute. It is important that... suggest that... to the local level you hear the... criticism that...

People will... don't you... your mind what you want to... to tell us to duck and cover. The... something else."

You've heard that line of talk as well... And of course you explain patiently... fort not only, and that if... threat of...

Just the same, let's consider these elements:

First -- The science of offensive warfare has not been static in the history of man... developed to supplement or replace... in this atomic age...

Second --... drive to... It would be far... tion that... For civil... offensive... itself...

Third -- Civil defense while it must be dynamic and flexible, actually has only two basic weapons in the defense of people against nuclear attack -- evacuation and shelter. These two weapons, however, be used in an almost infinite variety of combinations, to meet both the nature of the threat and the characteristics of the community.

Fourth - Against the earlier types of atomic weapons, with an assumed warning time of 15 minutes or less, the basic survival tactics was on shelter through evacuation before or after an attack of the attack, and a secondary was included in shelter as feasible.

Then the advent of the so-called "witness" type of potential damage and loss of life to which is proportional, the emphasis shifted to planning for mass pre-attack evacuation, and the time when longer warning could be available, and shelter provided for those who remained behind to mass potential facilities, and those who remained evacuation was not completely reliable.

But now, about the evacuation, shelter and all that in each community are available and effectively available for the pre-attack nuclear attack is a real challenge with many other factors.

But the challenge can be met

It is not to make any mistake in a great many ways, but in general already enough information available, and I will not try to give you a good start on local planning, but this is a very real problem. There are some answers available at the moment, and I will try to give you some ideas on defense action and how to make it more effective.

What I want to propose is this, that you gentlemen name a small committee of your own members who are "all cleared", to sit down with us and evaluate this classified material, as rapidly as it can be made available to us by ACSI and the AF, from the standpoint of local civil defense planning.

I would suggest that as far as possible you select men representing in their experience different sections of the country and different local operating conditions.

I think this opens up to us and will be one of the most challenging and complex problems we have yet been confronted with, in the best tradition of cooperation between the military and the business of civil defense.

In these three days you will find all kinds of people who are here willing or anxious to cooperate with you in any way they may have, and to lend any assistance if it is within their power. Good luck to you in the report that you have shown.

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