

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 14, 1960

James C. Hagerty, President's Secretary to the President

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT



The President, in meeting today with the members of the Special Committee on Civil Defense of the Governors and Delegates, re-emphasized his support of the statement on National Federal Shelters, issued at his direction on May 7, 1958. The President declared that "in the event of a nuclear attack and its fallout shelters offer the best available military defense for the protection of the great number of our citizens."

The President also referred to his statement, issued in a message to the Senate on April 15, 1958, that "the key to our military defense and national preparedness, which includes defense mobilization, are vital parts of the national effort. As they together they stand as a single front to be won."

The President appreciated the opportunity to confer with the Governors and to discuss their plans and programs. He stressed the importance of the National Federal Shelter policy. To this end, the President asked the Director of the Office of Civil Defense to continue to act as his personal representative in working with the Governors' Special Committees on Civil Defense.

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