

The NEA spends large amounts of money to push these nuclear age programs through state legislatures. Once created, they then work to see that the adopted curriculum is propaganda suitable to their political goals.

An Irish-American lady in Salem put it best to the NEA people in attendance when she expressed her shock that her tax money was being used to pay these pseudo-teachers to distort the minds of her children and grandchildren with anti-American propaganda.

## EXPEDIENT SHELTERS

The expedient and field-tested shelters which are described in detail in the book, *Nuclear War Survival Skills*, and featured in the *Nuclear War Survival Skills* video tapes are remarkable structures. Their simplicity and the ease with which they can be built conceals somewhat the special characteristics of their design.

There is a strong tendency for Americans to individualize their actions. This is one of the strengths of free people. However, altering a shelter design could cost you your life. For this reason, *Nuclear War Survival Skills* has considerable detail about the science which underlies these designs as well as the designs themselves. It is best to follow these designs exactly, since even well-informed people often make inadvertent errors.

One serious error is failing to understand the difference between “expedient” and “permanent” shelters. We are seeing more of this, since the video tapes increase the sense of reality about expedient shelters.

These expedient shelters use wood for essential structural supports. Wood which is placed underground has a strictly limited lifetime. This is especially true where its structural strength is essential. It is true of treated as well as untreated lumber and poles. Even treated fence posts or timbers made of wood varieties which resist deterioration sometimes weaken unexpectedly within a short time.

The collapse of a wood supported roof of an expedient shelter could be fatal to shelter occupants, since the earth cover weighs many tons. These roofs can collapse from the weight of the soil and deterioration of the wood supports after only a few months.

Expedient shelters are intended to be built in a time of emergency and utilized for a short time. In that use they can save many lives. Do not, however, build a door-over-trench shelter, for example, and then let the children make a play house of it over the next few months. This is very dangerous. So is relying upon an old wood and earth shelter for protection in war.

Inexpensive permanent shelters similar to the expedient shelters in *Nuclear War Survival Skills* can be built, but they should not be built of wood. For example, a family can bury a large pipe in their backyard at minimum expense and with hand labor. The sixth page of our shelter plans shows a somewhat more elaborate pipe shelter.

For a simple variety where directional fanning will be relied upon for ventilation, it is absolutely essential that the shelter have two entryways, one at each end. Otherwise the simple fanning technique will not provide adequate ventilation. That is “ventilation” which provides minimum air for breathing and cooling for survival — not “ventilation” for comfort and convenience.

It is not sensible to rely solely on shelter that you will build in an emergency. You may not have time to do so. For proper food and water storage and a sense of responsibility toward one’s neighbors, a good sized permanent shelter is required. This, however, requires

a substantial commitment of time and resources, especially if the project is completed on a top-priority basis.

In the meantime, or if your resources don't permit you to build an elaborate shelter, consider burying a large pipe in your back yard. It should be three to four feet in diameter and as long as is feasible. Any family can do this with shovels and a few dozen hours. Put the entryways as far away from the house and other structures as possible. Use at least three feet and preferably four feet of earth cover. The doorways can be similar to those in *Nuclear War Survival Skills*, with the earth arranged so that rainwater is diverted and there is no direct path for radiation into the shelter.

You should be able to achieve a fallout protection factor of at least 200 and some blast protection as well. If you remember to put in plenty of water-filled containers, these can be stacked in the entryways for additional radiation protection.

Obviously, we do not recommend that your preparation stop with this. Just adding additional low cost items like an expedient fallout meter, plastic bags for sanitation, and some food items will greatly improve life in your pipe.

Even if, however, you stop with the pipe, air, and water, you will have markedly increased your family's chance of survival. A few days in that pipe without food or sanitation would be a very unpleasant experience, but it beats a long, slow, painful death by radiation sickness which awaits those without any protection at all.

Just do not build the thing with wood. We don't want to lose you or the neighbor's children when the wood weakens too much to hold up that dirt.

Used pipe is very widely available. For smooth steel pipe, get at least one-fourth-inch-thick walls. Corrugated culverts, providing they are not badly rusted, are suitable.

A 30-inch pipe allows a six-foot person to turn around and to lie down comfortably. This is probably the minimum diameter which you should consider. 36 inches is much more pleasant and 48 inches is luxurious, but it will be substantially more work to bury. There is still some surplus Alaskan pipeline available in Northwest scrap yards. It is excellent although so heavy that you'll want a small machine to move it into the hole.

Please do not extrapolate this recommendation to an 8 foot tank with a big door that permits radiation entry and three feet of earth cover which is insufficient in that diameter for earth arching. If you are going to build a large shelter, build it correctly. If you are not building one now, consider a small, uncomfortable, inexpensive pipe. It may save your life.

## WATER FILTERS

One myth about nuclear war is that water would become radioactive and therefore unusable. Actually, even unprotected stream and lake water would not be radioactive — even immediately after a nuclear attack.

Particles of dirt in the water, however, could include fallout particles which are radioactive. These can be easily removed by filtration. Also, their radioactivity decays to safe levels within days to weeks.

Radioisotopes which dissolve in the water would be a lesser problem, but could be dangerous in some localities. In particular dissolved radioactive iodine could be dangerous for several weeks. It can easily be removed by adsorption. The expedient earth filter described in *Nuclear War Survival Skills* and demonstrated by Cresson Kearny on the *Nuclear War Survival Skills* videotapes is a very effective way to remove both particulate and dissolved radioactive contamination from water. An earth filter physically filters the water and adsorbs (not absorbs) the dissolved radioiodine.

Since earth has this ability to cleanse water, ground water, well water, and most spring water would be automatically filtered and therefore safe to drink immediately. Any source of water which had already been filtered through earth would be safe.

Unfiltered water would rapidly become safe by decay of the isotopes, settling of fallout particles, and washing by natural drainage. Until safe, it can be filtered by expedient filters.

One can also purchase filters. Most of these have the advantage of convenience, but the disadvantage that they remove particles but not dissolved isotopes. Adsorbers of dissolved isotopes can also be purchased.

An excellent, durable filter for particles (not dissolved contamination) is the Katadyn ceramic filter. Several sizes of these are available by mail from Provisions Unlimited, P.O.Box 456, Oakland, Maine 04963 — telephone (207) 465-3212. These are described in their catalog. A simple drip filter unit which is used in Swiss shelters is the Katadyn Drip Filter #5010. The price for this filter is \$250. The heart of this unit is the Number 4 Filter Element #10010 which costs \$60. You could build this element into your own container system.

There are many less expensive filters. The earth filters described in *Nuclear War Survival Skills* are free and more effective than most commercial units. These filters are for water *after* you emerge from shelter. Stored water *must* be in each shelter for use during occupancy. Do not worry about contaminated water. With a little knowledge, this is not a problem. Without knowledge, of course, it can be a serious threat.

## GARDENING

Gardening is still popular with many Americans, although it is just a hobby for most. Many raise plants for decorative rather than practical value. It is amusing to see people jogging to stay physically fit, while they hire others to do their gardening.

Gardening would become considerably more than a hobby for many Americans for several years in a post-attack environment. It requires skill and practical knowledge related to one's particular climate.

Following an attack, resumption of about 10% of America's grain and bean production and perhaps 2% of her transportation system would provide sufficient amounts of staple foods to prevent starvation for 200 million people. Fresh vegetables, however, would probably need to be locally grown for a long time.

Those with a little land to garden would probably raise food for themselves and for others who lack garden space. In theory everyone could go out on the vast land areas around the cities and garden. In fact most would have neither the skill nor the resources to do so.

If you have a place to garden, it is a good idea to become serious about it. Regardless of the intensity of fallout, your land would grow nutritious, safe food within a short time. As soon as it is safe for you to be outside, the soil would be safe to use. In some areas there would be high residual radiation, but this would not be life-threatening except as a small increased long-term disease risk. You could scrape off a few inches of soil to improve matters, but this would usually not be essential.

Now is the time to learn gardening skills for use in a post-attack environment. If you do not do this now, it is very unlikely that you will be able to garden in a crisis.

First, try to secure an independent water supply. If there is a pond, creek, or spring nearby, be prepared to use it. It need not be on your private property. In a food crisis your

neighbors will probably be happy to let you cross their land in return for a little produce. You will need to procure the hose or pipe required to transport the water now, while it is available. If buried in a trench, it may survive an attack without disruption. You can also store it in your shelter for later use.

You probably need much less water than you realize. Our large garden here, for example, is watered from a small spring about half a mile away. The spring is fortunately higher than the garden, so the water does not need to be pumped. By drip irrigating the garden, you can grow lots of food with a very small water supply.



You can purchase drip irrigation equipment from your local gardening outlet. We find it less expensive to order directly from the manufacturer. You may wish to write to Raindrip, Inc., 14675 Titus Street, P.O. Box 44913, Panorama City, CA 91412 for a catalogue and prices. If your garden is higher than the water supply, you will also need a small hand pump and perhaps a reservoir. A typical dripper delivers about one-half gallon of water per hour directly to the roots of the plant. In most climates this should be done about twice a week.

Of course, if you have plentiful water which is not dependent upon electricity or other technology, you do not need to drip irrigate. Our farm, for example, is flood irrigated by gravity from a substantial creek. Our garden has been flood irrigated until this year. We decided to drip irrigate from the spring, because a caterpillar tractor is required each spring to divert the creek into the irrigation system. Suppose that tractor were not available.

Drip irrigation limits weed growth and conserves water, but the equipment is relatively expensive. Sprinklers use much more water, require higher water pressure, and promote weed growth, but they are less expensive than drippers. Flooding is the least expensive, but it uses lots of water, promotes weeds, and leaches more nutrients from the soil than do drippers or sprinklers.

Second, you probably need a fence. Many common animals like to eat gardens. Some of you may have a .22 rifle for animal control, but do you really want to stay up all night, every night trying to see a rabbit in the dark?

Third, you should have seeds which are suitable to your locality. Here universal advice breaks down. What you really need is experience. We live at 1550 foot elevation in a mild climate with an average to short growing season. Even with seeds, water, land, tools and other items – but without experience – we would probably starve.

There are many aspects of gardening best learned by experience. With careful enough study, of course, all of this could be learned from books, but it rarely is done. Many things are unique to each locality and each type of plant. The first time you try out one of those nice sets of vacuum packed survival seeds, they may not produce much. As you gain experience, they do a lot better. Just don't let your first try be post-attack.

One remarkable thing about gardens is that in many localities they can be nearly year around producers even outside of greenhouses. We have many freezing nights in the winter, but it is rarely very far below freezing. 20° F is unusually cold here. In this environment, our planting and harvest schedule is as follows:

| Vegetable                                    | Planting Date                   | Harvesting Date                   |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Peas   | Late February through mid-March | Mid-May through June              |
| Spinach, Chinese Mustard                     | Early March                     | May through June                  |
| Broccoli, Cabbage, and Cauliflower Starts    | Mid-March through Early April   | Late May through July             |
| Lettuce                                      | April through July              | June through October              |
| Onions, Beets, Carrots                       | April                           | Late June onwards                 |
| Potatoes                                     | April through June              | July through early October        |
| Tomato Starts                                | Mid-May                         | August through early October      |
| Eggplant, Bell Pepper, and Hot Pepper Starts | Late May — Early June           | August through early October      |
| Sweet Corn                                   | Mid-May through late June       | Mid-August through late September |
| Pole Beans                                   | Mid-May through late June       | August through September          |
| Cucumbers                                    | Early June                      | August through early October      |
| Watermelons and Cantaloupes                  | Early June                      | September                         |
| Winter Squash, Pumpkins                      | Early June                      | October                           |
| Fall and Winter Cabbage                      | Late June                       | October through January           |
| Fall Broccoli and Cauliflower                | Late June                       | October through November          |
| Winter Beets and Carrots                     | Mid-July                        | November through March            |

For post-attack preparedness, staple food storage is far more important than gardening. Even a good gardener might starve to death before his crops came up. Gardening is, however, a useful skill and a very enjoyable way to improve your nutrition and decrease your food expenditures even now. *Good health is also an important factor in attack preparedness. Your garden will provide healthful exercise and superior nutrition.*

A good gardening book for the maritime Northwest is *Growing Organic Vegetables West of the Cascades* by Steve Solomon. It is available from Territorial Seed Company, P.O. Box 27, Lorane, Oregon 97451, (503) 942-9547. This company also specializes in seeds which do well in the Pacific Northwest. Their seed catalog itself is a good gardening guide for maritime Northwest gardeners.

### DEFENDING YOUR SHELTER

The very best way to defend your shelter is to include in it space, food, and water for as many of your neighbors as possible. The only truly effective way to provide a comprehensive defense for your shelter is to get a comprehensive civil defense system for all Americans. Your fellow Americans — their skills, knowledge, and abilities — are your most important survival asset. The more of them you keep alive, the safer you will be.

A few years ago a prominent survival expert described the arsenal which he needed to defend his stored food from the members of the small community in which he lived. After comparing the price of food with the price of guns and ammunition, he concluded that he could feed them more cheaply and with greater reliability than he could shoot them. He bought the food.

Regarding physical defense, there are three kinds of risk:

- Invasion of the United States by foreign armies after our unsheltered armed forces have been destroyed
- Seizure of totalitarian power by elements of our own government
- Attack by small bands of lawless elements.

In case of invasion — run. If you can't run — hide. If you can't run or hide — fight. You will almost surely lose. Ordinary citizens, no matter how well equipped, will not successfully resist a modern army. What, you may say, about Afghanistan? They lost 10% of

their people, but they heroically defeated the Soviets. This is true, but their resistance would have failed without the existence of the United States.

This is not because the United States provided equipment to the Afghans. They might very well have prevailed without it. The *existence* of the United States allowed an Afghan victory, because it prevented the Soviets from using the methods of mass genocide with which they could easily and quickly have murdered their victims.

If you wish to martyr yourself in an honorable rigid stand against overwhelming military power, do it. Think, however, whether American freedom will best be served by that rigidity or by more fluid resistance, and do not force your decision on others – especially innocent children and family members.

Regarding your own unprepared government – the bureaucrats are probably no threat to your shelter. They react far too slowly to be relevant at the time of an attack and its immediate aftermath. However, any surviving bureaucrats do pose a significant problem with respect to stored long-term food reserves. Having completely failed in their responsibilities to prepare, they would probably be quick to organize food sharing laws and prosecution of “hoarders.”

Be realistic, you will lose this one, too. Human compassion will probably already have you voluntarily sharing food at your own risk with the starving people around you. You cannot, in any case, effectively resist the civil authority of a sheriff who is backed by the overwhelming majority of a starving community.

If lack of civil defense preparations causes your community to starve during the months after an attack, you will probably starve with them.

Regarding roving lawless elements – these will just not be tolerated by Americans in the severe conditions which will prevail in the post-attack environment. They are coddled and tolerated now by our legal system as a “luxury” which we seem determined to enjoy. They will be quickly eliminated by ordinary citizens in a post attack environment.

But what if the lawless elements arrive at your shelter first? What if the military situation is not one-sided, and you find yourself a refugee living on the fringes of war? What if your community does not legislate away your food, but a local citizen decides to try it on his own? Should a shelter location be fortified?

This is a question that each person must answer alone. You have the right to defend your property and the right to prepare those defenses if you wish. If you decide to prepare a shelter defense, there are certain practical principles which apply. There are also certain

ethical principles. You should *never* prepare for or fantasize about actions which violate the ethics which differentiate Americans from the ruthless murderers in totalitarian countries.

### TREND ANALYSIS

One *Fighting Chance* supporter who escaped from Eastern Europe sent us a magazine item published in his native country. He traveled widely in the Soviet Union and has seen many of their civil defense preparations. Also, civil defense was forced upon his own country by their Soviet masters, so his early education included shelter drills and general civil defense education.

The magazine item points out the following trend:

- In World War I, 20 soldiers were killed to 1 civilian death.
- In World War II, 1 soldier was killed to 1 civilian death.
- In Korea, 1 soldier was killed to 5 civilian deaths.
- In Vietnam, 1 soldier was killed to 20 civilian deaths. (Afghanistan has about the same ratio.)
- Estimated for Nuclear War, *1 soldier killed to 100 civilian deaths.*

The estimate is about right. Since neither American civilians nor American soldiers have personnel defenses against nuclear weapons, they are equally sitting ducks. America has about 1 soldier for each 100 civilians.

If America falls, the progression will likely continue. "Wars" in a world dominated by communism will likely be the same sort of genocide they have practiced behind the Iron Curtain for 70 years. In those genocides, very few soldiers are killed per *million* civilians slaughtered.

### POTASSIUM IODIDE

In our July 1988 issue we recommended Van Waters and Rogers as an inexpensive source of potassium iodide. Potassium iodide is used for thyroid protection from radioiodine.

As a large retail chemical supply company, Van Waters and Rogers is cautious about their customers even though many chemicals (including potassium iodide) are sold without legal restrictions. They prefer to sell to companies rather than to individuals. We have been buying our potassium iodide from them.

Even in sales to a company, sometimes Van Waters and Rogers is cautious. If you have tried unsuccessfully to purchase potassium iodide from them, call *Fighting Chance* at (503) 592-4142. We do not sell potassium iodide, but may be able to help with advice.

## FOOD STORAGE

Grain and beans for long term storage should be *sealed* in an inert, oxygen-free atmosphere. Nitrogen is fine, although we prefer carbon dioxide, CO<sub>2</sub>. CO<sub>2</sub> can be inexpensively obtained in rented tanks from welding supply dealers.

Put a small flexible tube from the CO<sub>2</sub> tank pressure regulator on the inside bottom of a plastic bucket. Pour in the grain, put the lid loosely on top, and slowly purge with CO<sub>2</sub>. Since CO<sub>2</sub> is heavier than air, it will fill the container and displace the air as would water. If you hold a small lighted candle near the container, the CO<sub>2</sub> will spill over and extinguish the flame when the container is purged.

Let the CO<sub>2</sub> gas flow for a little while after the candle is extinguished; pull out the tube; and seal the lid.

Be sure the lid seals tightly!

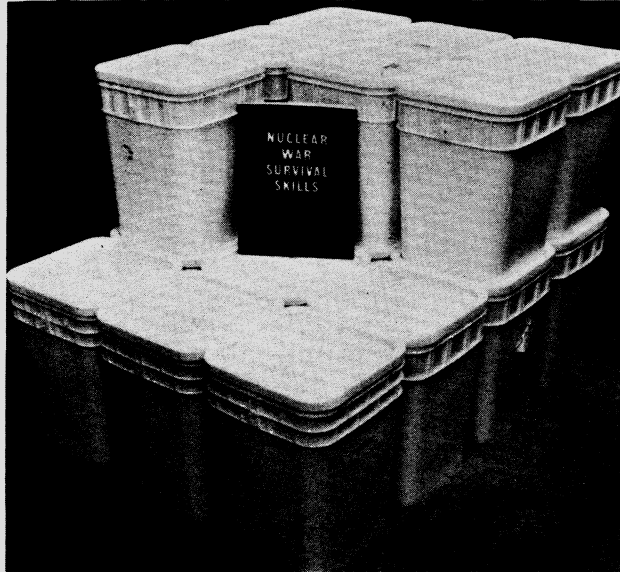
The air must stay out for several weeks to assure that all infesting bugs are dead.

Also, as daily and seasonal temperature fluctuates over the years, the pressure in the container will fluctuate. If it is not sealed, air will be sucked in and out. This air contains oxygen and water which can promote deterioration and even complete ruin of the food.

If necessary, seal reused buckets with a rubber sealing compound. This prevents further reuse of the container which must be cut open. However, it helps assure preservation of the food.

## STORAGE SPACE

Shown in the photograph is a one year supply of food and two week supply of water for one person. These supplies occupy 15 cubic feet when stored in these sealed plastic buckets. The actual volume of the food and water is a little less, since there is space between the buckets. The volume of the plastic is small.



Stored in this manner a one year food supply alone requires 12 cubic feet. Drinking water for that entire year requires four times as much space or about 50 cubic feet. This gives a little reserve in both cases. Marginal survival for a single year in a moderate climate might just be possible with half these amounts.

Therefore, an average sized bedroom will hold all of the food one person would need to consume in his entire lifetime if he ate only staple grains and beans. Five bedrooms would be required to hold the food and drinking water for a lifetime. Obviously a one year food supply and a two week water supply requires very little space.

A one year staple food supply today costs less than two percent of the per capita annual income of the average American. The average American family can set aside a one year supply of staple food with less than one week of their current income.

A typical 10,000 gallon surplus fuel tank can hold food for one year for about 100 people in plastic buckets. It holds more if the food is put in loose, but then very special precautions must be taken to guard against spoilage. A tank for food storage does not need many of the special features of a tank for human occupancy, so it is much less expensive to install.

# FIGHTING CHANCE

*John 8: 31-32*

*Proverbs 22: 3*

*Trust in the Lord with all thine heart;  
and lean not unto thine own understanding.*

Proverbs 3:5



*Laurelee and Art Robinson — September 7, 1988*

On her chalkboard where my wife Laurelee homeschools our children, she writes a scripture verse to which she keys their lessons for the week. We have been blessed with a class of six for her: Zachary - 12, Noah -10, Arynne - 8, Joshua - 6, Bethany - 6, and Matthew - 16 months.

This verse from Proverbs 3:5 was the last Laurelee wrote. It was on her chalkboard when she died on November 12, 1988. Laurelee was in vibrant good health. She was ill for less than 24 hours and suddenly died at home at about 7:00 am.

This text is about Laurelee — not because she was my wife, but because she was the heart and hands of the core of *Fighting Chance*. During our 17 years together we have been one person both personally and professionally. The synergism of our melded talents and mutually identical goals allowed us to accomplish several things which were beyond the reach of others — even those with essentially unlimited resources.

Laurelee's civil defense work has been described in the drafts of several articles for our newsletter, but she has always deleted those portions when she prepared the text for printing. We were two adults and six children on a remote Oregon farm. Laurelee believed that our physical safety would be less if it were generally known how small and vulnerable we really were.

We met 20 years ago when Laurelee was studying for her doctorate in biochemistry, and I was a new university professor and research scientist. She was a very gifted biochemist and computer systems programmer.

Even though she became an extraordinary mother, wife, teacher, gardener, cook, and homemaker and even though she had substantial cultural talents such as music (she taught piano to work her way through college — graduating with highest honors), Laurelee kept her scientific talents meshed with mine and utilized them vigorously throughout our marriage.

I have seen many computer professionals in and out of universities, but there are none of them who were even remotely comparable to Laurelee in skill and in productivity. Together we solved several research questions in protein chemistry, aging, nutrition, and predictive and preventive medicine.

During one especially difficult period when we needed additional income, we even turned Laurelee's computers against the traders on the commodity exchanges. This was 10 years ago before computer trading was widespread. With Laurelee's programs and our combined hard work, we extracted the money we needed from the exchanges.

We moved to this farm as an ideal environment in which to raise our children and became a debt-free, self-sufficient unit with (due especially to Laurelee's frugality and hard work) very low family expenses. This gave us the freedom to work for those things we thought worthwhile. We began the Oregon Institute of Science and Medicine, a small tax exempt corporation, to facilitate work on nutrition and cancer which we carried out here.

*Fighting Chance* was our last project together. Through it, for the first time, we were privileged to work for the survival of our country — the country which gave us our opportunities and our life together.

*Fighting Chance* is the 8,000 people who have donated, bought, and/or subscribed toward the production and mailing of about 100 tons of civil defense information to the American people. This has been comprised of over a million books, newsletters, video and audio tapes, shelter drawings, and other informational materials. Laurelee and I with the help of many volunteers including our children have distributed these things in America over the past two years.

*Fighting Chance* is the many people who have distributed and signed our civil defense petitions, written to Congress on behalf of civil defense, built civil defense groups or shelters in their communities, and otherwise helped spread the homeland defense message in America.

*Fighting Chance* is the many civil defense professionals who generously gave us their time and knowledge during the last three years, so that we could find the places where we could most effectively do our part for this cause.

*Fighting Chance* is:

- 510,000 copies in print of the book, *Fighting Chance*
- Two printings of the updated edition of *Nuclear War Survival Skills*
- Six instructional civil defense video tapes
- Civil defense resolutions pending in the Senate and House of Representatives
- The 1988 Republican Platform Plank on Civil Defense which we wrote and the convention adopted
- Shelter plans and information being used by many Americans
- 18 issues of our newsletter
- Several new community civil defense organizations
- Many oral presentations given to raise awareness about civil defense
- Ongoing other efforts on behalf of civil defense
- An increased chance of homeland defense for America — including civil defense and strategic defense — through the work of *Fighting Chance* supporters
- An appeal — most of all — an appeal to God for His forgiveness and for His divine help without which our country will surely perish

Nearing completion, *Fighting Chance* is also:

- A four video tape, 8 hour series about Soviet civil defense with about 800 colored pictures, many photographs, and 17 Soviet civil defense training filmstrips including two used in Soviet 5th grade classes
- The first demonstration blast shelter to be placed on permanent display by the United States government — a mobile unit built by us for the national civil defense training center near Washington D.C.

and — Beating at the heart of *Fighting Chance* was one woman — doing all of its computer programming, data entry, correspondence, and desk-top publishing; answering its telephone; sending out orders; providing the most essential wisdom in editing its publications from the book, *Fighting Chance* through its current newsletters; and providing spiritual leadership to its purpose. She was never paid at all, and she permitted our personal resources, which could have made her own life easier, to be put instead into the project.

Laurelee never complained. The closest she came was an occasional plea to me to please figure out a way for *Fighting Chance* to afford at least one employee, so that she could spend more time with the children and their lessons.

But each time we accumulated some resources we instead found another homeland defense button to push — a little higher or a little farther out — a book to publish, a video tape to produce, or another bulk mailing to distribute our message to a few more people.

Our heartbeat stopped on November 12.

Autopsy revealed no visible evidence of injury or disease in Laurelee. She experienced abdominal discomfort for 19 hours and then suddenly bled to death from the hemorrhage of an artery near her pancreas. Microscopic pathological analysis, however, showed abnormal release of pancreatic enzymes, self and arterial digestion by pancreatic enzymes, and a diagnosis of “idiopathic acute hemorrhagic pancreatitis.” The probability of occurrence of this condition in Laurelee’s risk group is on the order of one in 100,000,000. It virtually never happens.

Five of our children experienced abdominal discomfort that week which we believed to be stomach flu. Laurelee and I thought that she had the same flu, so she did not see a physician.

“Idiopathic” means of unknown origin. Something, however, caused Laurelee’s death. That “something” originated by chance or by design. We shall do our very best to find it. We are now compiling a list of pancreatic irritants and toxins - both biological and chemical. Tests for these will be made on Laurelee’s blood and tissues. Some of you are physicians or scientists. We would welcome your suggestions.

We shall also do our best to preserve and extend the civil defense — homeland defense efforts that Laurelee worked so hard to make possible. She and I believed that the work we were given to do through *Fighting Chance* and the *American Homeland Defense Alliance* was the most valuable of our lives. That work will not be wasted.

The form which these two efforts will now take is not known at this time. Since she and I required no financial compensation and shared between us the personal abilities necessary to this work, we were able to accomplish much more than would otherwise have been possible.

In this note to you I have not written of our love — that belongs to Laurelee and me. I have not written of our grief — it is beyond words. I have not written of God — He is within each of us in accordance with our prayers. I have written only a few facts, so that each of you will know them.

Laurelee and I thank all of you for your mutual efforts to preserve America. Together — with your work and support and our work and support — we have been privileged to make a contribution toward our country’s future. That work must continue.

It is not given to us to understand why God permitted Laurelee to die in the prime of life with all of her dreams before her. She asked Jesus to enter and control her heart when she was five years old. She must have been extraordinary even at five for Him to have answered her as forcefully as He did.

Laurelee was, in my experience, the finest person on this earth. She was absolutely pure and beautiful of spirit. Why was she taken from us? Why were we so blessed as to have her with us when we did? Laurelee left the only real answer we are given to know — on her chalkboard.

Arthur B. Robinson  
Cave Junction  
December 4, 1988