

FIGHTING CHANCE

John 8: 31-32

Proverbs 22: 3

Newsletter Vol. II, No. 12

June 1990

SHELTER CONSTRUCTION

Since publication of the book, **Fighting Chance**, some Americans have decided to build steel civil defense shelters for their families and neighbors. About 200 shelters have been completed. Most of these shelters have been built largely in accordance with the shelter engineering drawings which are distributed by **Fighting Chance**.

We estimate that all Americans could receive this protection at about \$300 to \$400 per person if 150-person shelters were built on a large scale. One-at-a-time shelters of smaller size are more expensive. However, many have been built within the \$400 per occupant range by people who are willing to take the time to find surplus tanks and steel and to do some of the work themselves.

Now that there are four mobile shelter displays - one each in Oregon, Utah, Maryland, and Pennsylvania - we highly recommend that you visit one of these displays before beginning shelter construction. We also have three non-mobile shelter displays here at **Fighting Chance**.

The photographs below show the basic elements of the mobile displays. A video tape tour of one of these will also be available in the near future.

The two latest models, Utah and Pennsylvania, have provision for air-tight operation with internal oxygen supplies and carbon dioxide removal. This capability is especially valuable if, for example, a nearby burning building causes an accumulation of carbon monoxide around the shelter ventilation inlets. This hazard is of limited duration, but it can be immediately fatal to shelter occupants.

Most city-shelter occupants survived, for example, the World War II firestorm raids on Hamburg and Dresden. There were, however, many deaths in improperly-designed basement shelters under burning buildings. These deaths were primarily caused by carbon monoxide.

Oxygen is best provided in standard pressurized bottles as shown in Figure 1, a photograph taken inside of the Utah display. In addition, carbon dioxide exhaled by the shelter occupants must be removed. This is best done with a LUWA carbon dioxide absorber. This absorber is physically identical to the LUWA chemical and biological gas filter except that it is filled with a carbon dioxide absorbing material. The filter is attached to the inlet hose of the LUWA air pump; the valve in the air inlet is closed; a sheet metal strip is inserted between the outlet blast valve and its mounting plate to block that opening; and the blower is operated normally by electricity or by hand.

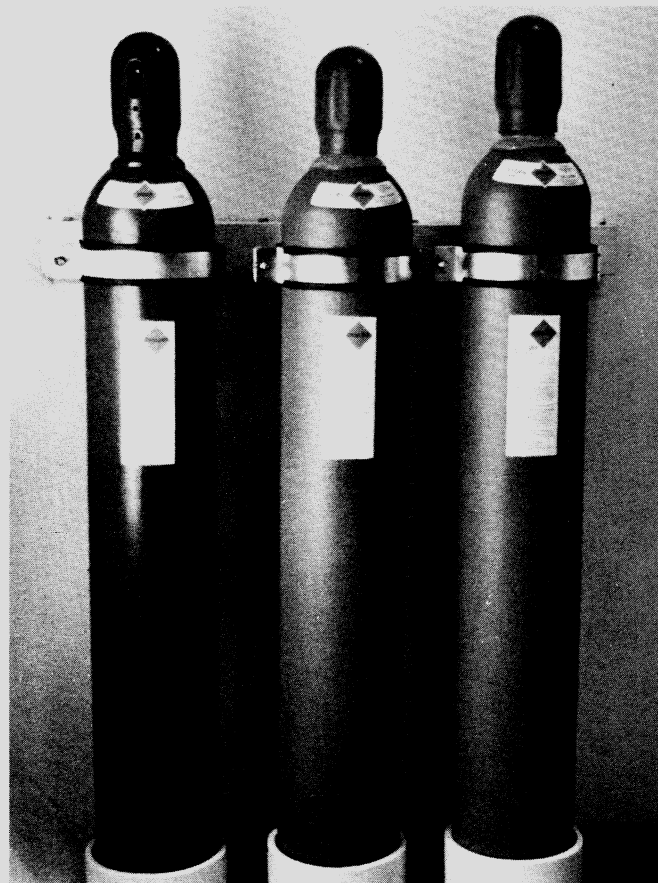


Figure 1
Oxygen Bottles

With this filter operating and oxygen metered from the bottles, one LUWA filter provides 180 person hours of carbon dioxide removal. The unit life can be extended by replaceable charges. Three standard 150 cubic foot pressurized tanks like those shown provide 600 person hours of oxygen. Therefore 120 people can survive in a totally sealed shelter for about 5 hours with three tanks, a LUWA unit, and 3 recharges. At an occupancy rate of one person per 100 cubic feet of shelter, there is an additional 5 hour margin of safety provided by the time required to deplete the oxygen in the original air and for carbon dioxide buildup to dangerous levels.

The LUWA inlet ventilation unit of the Utah display with chemical and biological filter ready for installation is shown in Figure 2. The chemical and biological filter must be kept sealed with the original factory seal until a threat actually arises. Moisture from the air will gradually deactivate the chemical charcoal filter if the filter unit is left open and exposed to air.

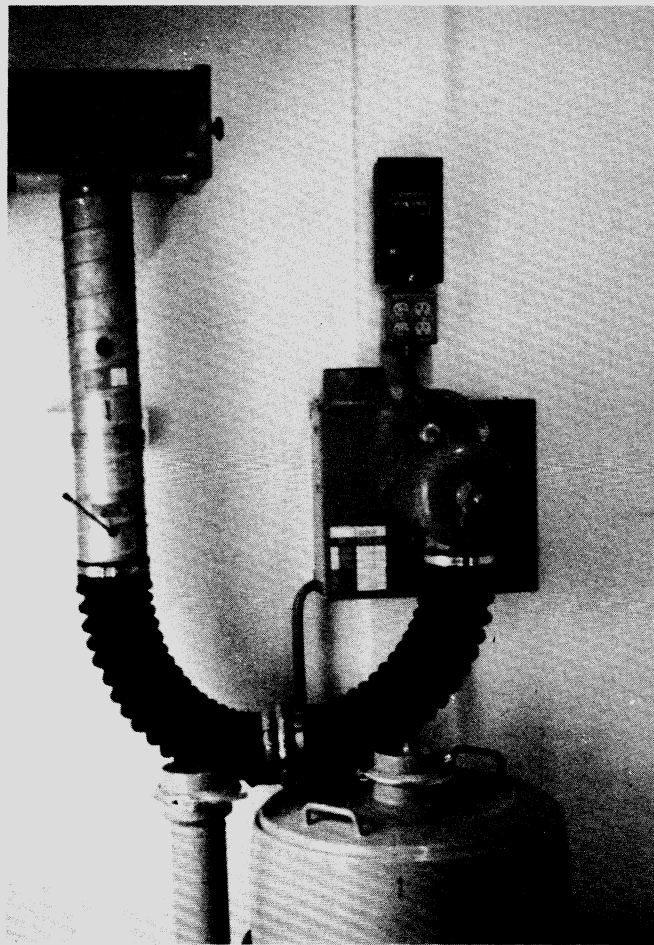


Figure 2
LUWA Ventilation System

The chemical and biological filter is a very special unit. Do not try to build one yourself or to refurbish old units, because there is a high probability that, without specialized skills and testing facilities, you will fail. That failure may never be detected unless the filter is actually used in an emergency.

Figure 3 shows the 12-volt charging unit located under the shelter floor. In the mobile displays this unit keeps the 12-volt batteries charged from either external 110-volt hookup or the 12-volt system of the tow vehicle. In an installed shelter the shelter batteries are also under the floor. Although brackets for under floor installation are provided in the mobile displays, the batteries are actually situated inside the blast door display at the front of the trailer for convenience.

If possible, your shelter should be attached to 110-volt power so that its emergency batteries will remain charged. Operation of your 12-volt lights during periodic visits to the shelter will assure you that the emergency batteries are in good order.

The mobile shelters are equipped with tow vehicle and external power connection boxes as seen in Figure 4. External power allows electrical operation of the LUWA unit, video displays, and other 110-volt equipment inside the shelter when it is on display.

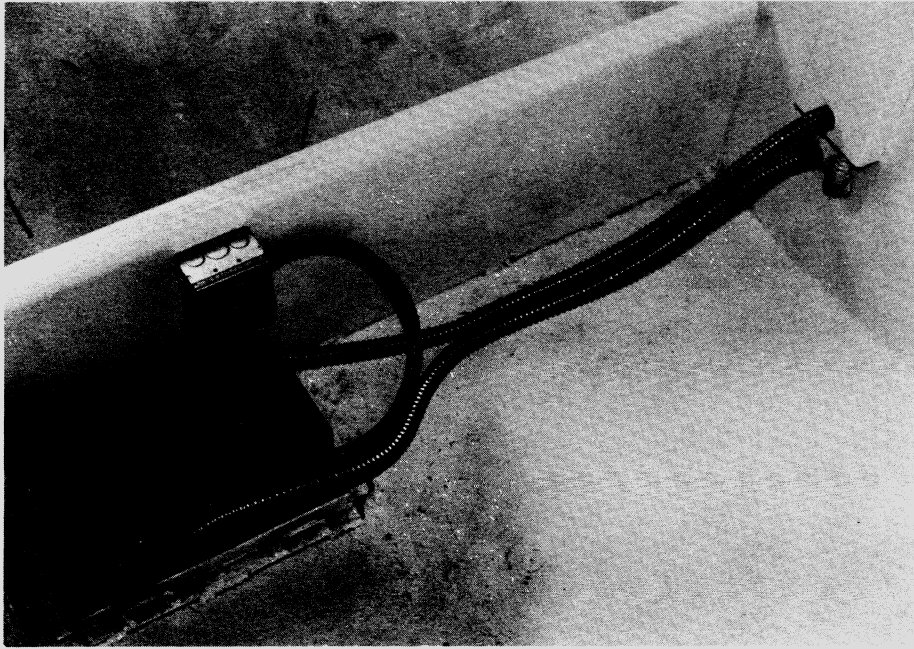


Figure 3
12 Volt Charging System

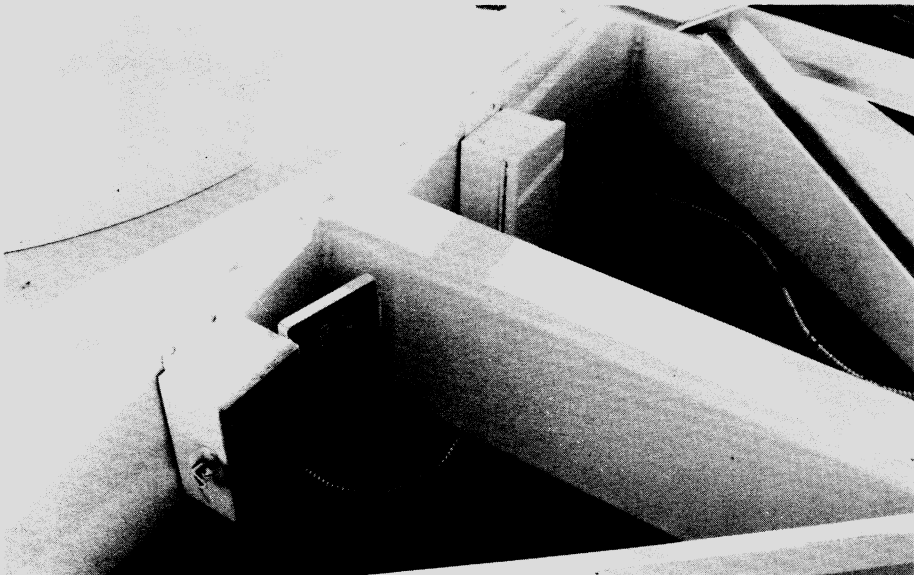


Figure 4
External Power Connections

Shelter equipment for the mobile displays is held in nylon bags along the shelter walls as shown in Figure 5. We supplied the shelters with the bags labeled but empty, so that the states could fill them as they wished.

In the case of the FEMA shelter at Emmitsburg, **Fighting Chance** and **Doctors for Disaster Preparedness** provided a complete medical kit inside the appropriate bags. Anti-civil-defense bureaucrats made a great ruckus, however, about the dangers that this equipment might be stolen or misused, so FEMA removed the contents and sent them back to **Fighting Chance**.

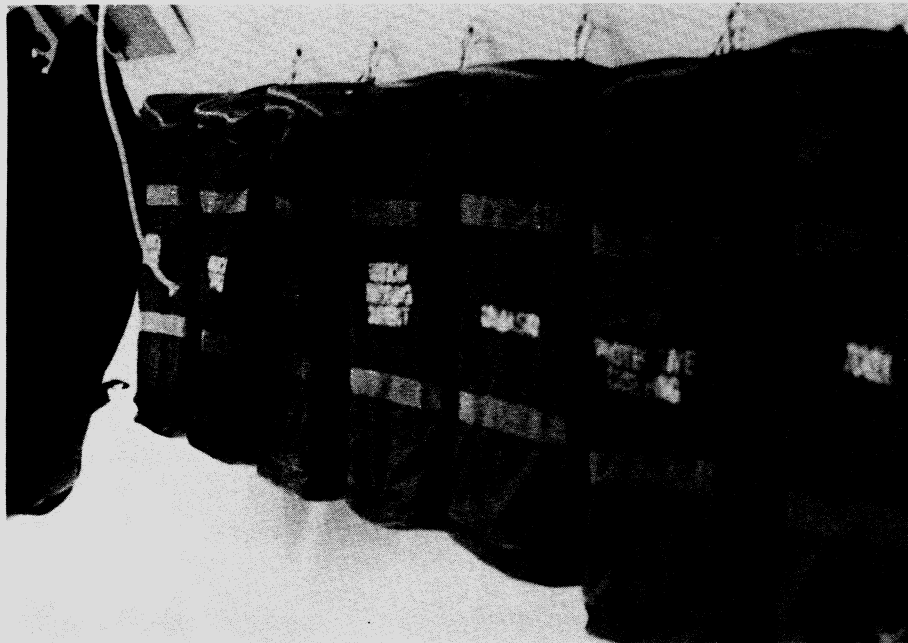


Figure 5
Equipment Bags

Figure 6 shows the hammock and chair loops welded to the shelter ceiling, a few hammocks in place, the lighting system, and, in the upper right corner, the solar panel stowed for post-disaster use. The solar panel is placed outside after the threat has passed and attached by wire to the shelter electrical system through a provided plug. This keeps the 12-volt system operational for long-term low-power needs such as radio and lighting.

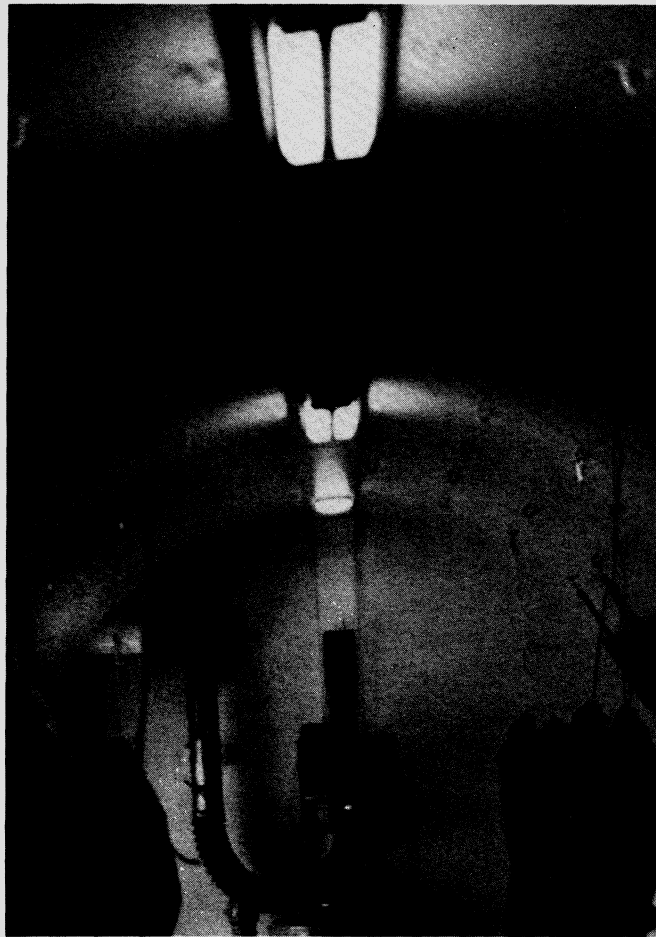


Figure 6
Furniture Loops, Lighting, Hammocks, and Solar Panel

The shelter has no internal walls or fixed furniture of any kind. The hammocks convert to chairs which also hang from the ceiling loops. The simple shock protection of suspended hammocks and chairs, flexible floor, and lack of hard furniture is essential to the shelter's 200-psi blast protection capability. Hard corners and objects inside the shelter can be very dangerous to occupants if the shelter experiences significant shock. Partitions (for example to make a private toilet chamber) should be provided by curtains suspended from the same ceiling loops.

The lights are seen mounted in Figure 6 on a flat horizontal ceiling channel which runs the length of the shelter and connects to a similar vertical channel behind the LUWA unit. This innovation was originated by the Jackson County Civil Defense group who installed the habitability items in these shelters. This channel is a simple, effective, and convenient means of enclosing the shelter electrical wiring and providing easy access.

Figure 7 shows the external front end of the Utah display. The stair and platform assembly is mounted over the blast door display during transport and is secured by four bolts at the bottom of its vertical supports. Two people can remove these stairs in a few minutes. The blast door then can be opened to reveal its design.

This particular set of stairs was climbed by about 30,000 people who actually toured this shelter at the Utah State Fair.

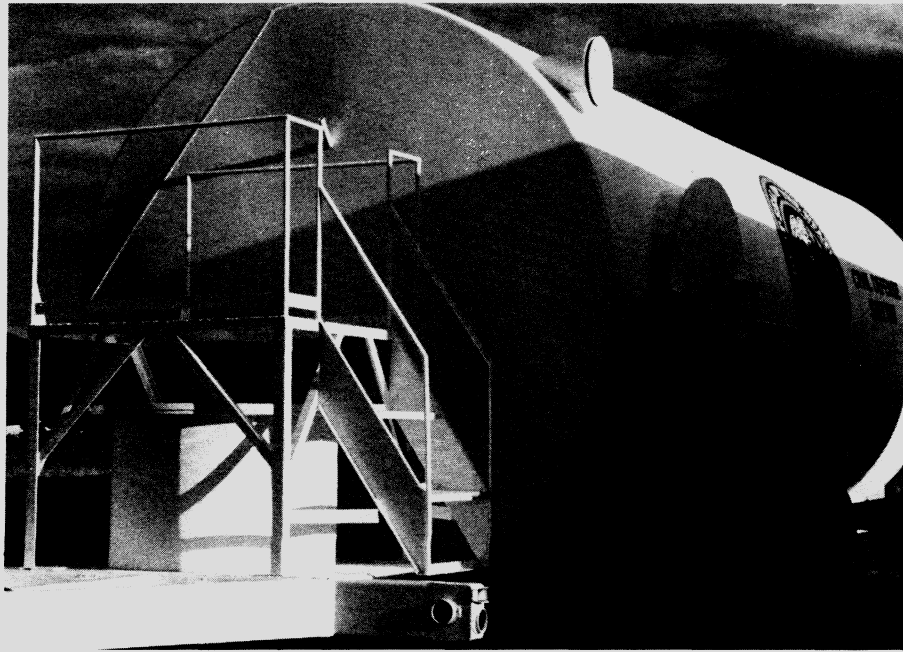


Figure 7
Front View of Utah Shelter Display

The hinged half-inch steel doors which cover the front and back entries are merely weather and security closures for the display. They can be unbolted and removed from the display if actual entryway tubes are attached for underground installation.

The attachment pipe for the LUWA filter inlet is also seen just above the door. This, too, would attach to the entryway beyond the inner gas-tight door during installation.

The Utah and Pennsylvania shelter rooms are 9 feet in diameter and 24 feet long. The overall trailer and display is 9 and 1/2 feet wide and 32 feet long. This requires a wide load permit for transport in most states. These larger display rooms (the FEMA unit is 8 feet wide) are especially valuable at large events where many people are touring the display at the same time.

The trailers are well balanced and can be moved by any utility vehicle (such as a light pickup truck with a ball hitch) over relatively level terrain. The children and I have towed two of them (including the Pennsylvania shelter) for 7000 miles over mountain ranges and all sorts of poorly maintained roads. For that purpose we used a tow truck of the type used for mobile homes.

The complete non-profit delivered cost of these mobile displays is now about \$25,000. They are by far the most cost-effective means yet discovered for stimulating public interest in civil defense. **Fighting Chance** does not supply civil defense equipment. We will, however, arrange to have mobile shelter displays built and delivered at or below cost.

The educational value of each display is very high. The FEMA shelter has now been seen, for example, by most of the local emergency managers in the United States, since they are all required to take periodic training at the National Emergency Training Center where it has been on display for more than a year. Most of these people had never before seen a properly designed all-purpose shelter.

Imagine the comparison between this shelter on display for a day at a public school as compared with the National Education Association (NEA) appeasement and surrender propaganda. Once the kids have seen this technology, they are not very susceptible to claims that it cannot exist.

I urge you to visit these displays and arrange to show them if one is located nearby. Many more states want these displays, but we do not now have the funds to provide them.

CIVIL DEFENSE POSTERS

For the first time in many years the United States government has issued civil defense posters. Although these two posters are somewhat generic in nature and, unlike Soviet posters, do not provide practical civil defense information, they are certainly a step in the right direction.

You should have copies of these posters. First, they are helpful in raising public awareness about civil defense. Second, by requesting copies of the civil defense posters you create a demand which will help those who want to extend this program to provide better and more numerous posters.

We urge you to write to Wayne Blanchard, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20472.

Ask Mr. Blanchard to send you copies of his United States Civil Defense posters. It would be helpful if your letter compliments him on his initiation of this poster program and expresses your support for its continuation.

CHARGING SMALL BATTERIES

From a **Fighting Chance** supporter comes the following valuable hint about charging small batteries in an emergency. Flashlight batteries can be charged from a 12-volt car battery by means of a 100-ohm, 1-watt resistor.

For example two C or D nicad batteries are placed in series (most easily right in their unit such as the flashlight). The resistor is placed in series (one after another) with them

and a 12-volt battery. This gives a charging current of 100 milliamps as recommended for nicads. (The batteries are 2 times 1.2 volts opposing 12.5 volts for a voltage combination of 10.1 volts. Ohms law then gives 10.1 divided by 100 or about 0.1 amps or 100 milliamps.)

Moreover, five such resistors in series (or one 500-ohm resistor) will decrease the charging rate to 20 milliamps. At this current (and if the batteries have not been completely drained), normal non-rechargeable batteries can actually be recharged five to ten times. We do not recommend the recharging of non-rechargeable batteries under normal circumstances, but as an emergency procedure this could be quite important.

You can obtain 100-ohm, 1-watt resistors from Radio Shack or more inexpensively and in greater quantity from electrical supply stores. We suggest you put a few of these in your shelter. The cost is less than a dollar.

This supporter cautions that regular non-rechargeable batteries should not be overcharged as this sharply decreases their life as does completely discharging them. Leave them charging for only a minimum time. Rechargeable nicads can be drained completely and left on the charger for long periods without harm.

FEMA HONORS LAURELEE ROBINSON

In its recent "The Year in Review" publication, the Federal Emergency Management Agency honored Laurelee by reprinting the entire December 1988 Fighting Chance Newsletter memorial issue which describes her work.

In its introductory paragraphs, FEMA describes Laurelee as "...so much a part of the best that is civil defense in this country."

FEMA, like other bureaucracies, is not monolithic. America has been fortunate these past few years that a courageous minority of FEMA people have been good supporters of civil defense. This minority has included some members of the top FEMA leadership.

On behalf of Laurelee, we thank these members of FEMA for honoring her in this way.

DDP JOINS MOBILE SHELTER PROJECT

At the suggestion of Dr. Jane Orient the Doctors for Disaster Preparedness, DDP, Board of Directors voted to become one-third owners of the Pennsylvania mobile shelter display with **Fighting Chance** owning the other two-thirds..

This display was previously owned by **Fighting Chance** alone, because civil defense opponents within FEMA have prevented FEMA payment for the display. Before the

display was built, the FEMA Director of the Office of Civil Defense promised to provide FEMA funding to Pennsylvania to reimburse the cost of the display.

Dr. Orient suggested that DDP and The American Civil Defense Association each become one-third owners of the display along with **Fighting Chance** for three reasons.

1. Joint sponsorship by all three organizations would probably overcome the opponents within FEMA and get these displays moving again to the states. The Director of the FEMA Office of Civil Defense had promised to supply displays to four or five states each year starting in 1989. Funds had already been appropriated for some of these displays when internal FEMA politics interrupted the program.

2. The example set by **Fighting Chance** of producing actual educational materials for the American people such as books, video tapes, and shelter displays should be emulated. (All three organizations currently produce motivational periodic publications for their supporters). This would make DDP and TACDA more effective. She also suggested that DDP and TACDA would increase their membership and financial support if they were involved in this project.

3. Joint ownership would relieve **Fighting Chance** of the financial burden of carrying on this program alone. These mobile displays are by far the most effective educational tool that has been produced in the United States in support of civil defense. Each display costs about \$25,000.

The DDP Board of Directors decided to become joint sponsors of the Pennsylvania mobile shelter display. Therefore, DDP has paid \$8,000 of the cost of the Pennsylvania mobile display. Some DDP members are planning to display the shelter at one or more state fairs in the Northeast during this summer and fall.

This is a very positive development. Although we cannot expect Americans to build an entire homeland defense for themselves, it is quite possible for them to build enough homeland defense educational devices to force action by the Federal government. Just one of these mobile displays circulating in each state would be a major step toward an American civil defense system.

In a related development, High Frontier has expressed an interest in putting a "Brilliant Pebble" strategic defense device on display inside each mobile shelter display. This combination of the two essential elements of homeland defense would be outstanding.

FEAR AND FEMA

Civil defense provides protection against the risks inherent in chemical, biological, and nuclear technology. These risks are propagated by accident, terrorism, and war. Civil defense also protects against natural risks such as tornadoes, earthquakes, and floods. People naturally react to these dangers with fear.

Fear can be beneficial or debilitating. Some people react to fear by taking protective action. They are benefited by this emotion. Others react to fear by paralyzed inaction or, worse, by actions which actually increase their danger. They can be manipulated by fear and are harmed by this emotion.

The peoples of Switzerland, the Soviet Union, China, and Scandinavia have built civil defense systems in response to their fear of disasters - especially the disaster of war. The people of the United States - that is to say the politicians, bureaucrats, and opinion molders who now control the United States - have reacted to their fear of disasters by appeasement and denial of reality. The United States has no actual civil defense.

Not all Americans are satisfied with this reaction. Most Americans have a naturally positive reaction to fear. Those few who actually realize that the United States has no civil defense exert some political pressure. In Washington, that pressure is translated into about \$150 million per year for civil defense which is given to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Within FEMA there are a few individuals who would actually like to use this \$150 million per year to provide protection for Americans. They have a positive reaction to fear and they also know that the effective use of the FEMA budget for actual civil defense protection would lead to much higher appropriations. \$150 million can provide realistic protection for only a very small fraction of Americans. If, however, a small fraction is protected, most of the remainder will insist upon protection too.

Unfortunately the paper shufflers and do-nothing bureaucrats are firmly in control of FEMA. They shuffle just enough paper with "civil defense" written on it to keep the \$150 million per year flowing into their salaries and perquisites. They carefully provide no actual hardware to protect ordinary Americans. The pretense of civil defense gets the money and the do-nothing response satisfies even the radical anti-civil-defense "peace" and appeasement organizations.

Everyone seems happy - and Americans remain undefended.

Should FEMA be abolished? Probably. Would that improve our civil defenses? Probably not. **Fighting Chance** has chosen to work with those few pro-civil defense people within FEMA in order to strengthen their political positions and to provide them with some resources. This choice has had some positive consequences. These include:

1. The book Nuclear War Survival Skills is now distributed to local emergency management personnel throughout the United States. This book - the only practical text

about civil defense in use by FEMA - is a required text in a civil defense course which is mandatory training for local emergency managers.

2. The mobile civil defense display is still on view - over one year after delivery in January 1989 - at the FEMA National Emergency Training Center (NETC) at Emmitsburg, Maryland. This is the only civil defense equipment available to students at NETC. This display has so far survived several attempts by the paper-shuffling appeasers within FEMA to get rid of it. Our follow-on efforts to provide additional displays, especially of expedient equipment, are currently stalled. We are hopeful, however, that the first mobile display will survive and will establish a precedent for realistic training and equipment at NETC.

3. The Nuclear War Survival Skills video tape series is actually in use in a civil defense course at NETC. In this four tape series forty-four **Fighting Chance** volunteers and Cresson Kearny carried out all of the procedures in his book. The volunteers were completely untrained and followed the written instructions in the book. In a crisis, millions of Americans could do the same.

4. The pro-civil defense people within FEMA are becoming a little more courageous in their own work, and the opposition within FEMA is at least feeling some resistance. This makes the opponents of civil defense more cautious and less effective.

Fighting Chance intends to continue this two-pronged effort toward FEMA. We attack the parts of it (most of it) that are anti-civil defense and help the parts which are pro-civil defense. Why dismantle it? The same bureaucrats would probably inhabit its successor.

ARMS AND APPEARANCES

In world affairs it is a good idea to keep one's eye on actions - especially actions with regard to military power. Words do not determine the course of human events except in those rare historical instances in which a great oration is able to cause men to take unusual actions. These instances of oration are quite rare.

Regarding military power, Soviet actions have not changed at all in the direction of their words. The Soviets are rapidly modernizing their first-strike missile force. They are deploying a strategic defense. Their military power in terms of weapons continues to grow at about 15% per year.

The Soviets are delivering huge quantities of weapons to the inventories of Communist terrorist groups throughout South and Central America.

Week by week the arms, ammunition, and other military assets of those committed to the destruction of your country, your family, and your freedom grow more numerous. This machinery for war is rolling off Soviet assembly lines and being distributed by Soviet ships.

While the press distributes sob-stories about shortages of soap and other consumer goods in the Soviet Union, the Soviets are outproducing America in heavy industrial goods and surpassing our production of military hardware by several-fold.

If Americans rely upon "appearances" for their safety, they will most probably lose their freedom.

PROFIT IN CRISIS

Several years ago I gave a talk at a conference at which the primary theme was investing in today's dangerous world. The audience was made up of moderately wealthy Americans. Most of them were interested in preserving their wealth and in making more money from the "coming collapse."

The thesis of my talk was the same then as it would be today. My advice is of little interest to the merchants of doom who are busily peddling investments which they promise will profit handsomely from the collapse of Western civilization.

First, you cannot profit from the demise of Western civilization. You might not even physically survive the collapse of Western civilization, although good civil defense preparations give you and your family a "Fighting Chance."

Second, in the economic gyrations which are likely to come over the next decade, most investors will lose wealth whether or not a general collapse occurs. There are too many fleet-footed professionals on the other side of virtually any investment one may make. It is naive to expect that the majority of ordinary Americans will end up as something other than losers.

Third, if one avoids debt entirely, then losses can be managed. Even if one buys rather unwisely, losses are limited. For example a small farm, survival food, and a sturdy vehicle may all drop sharply in value (or they may rise - depending on the times), but they will not go to zero value unless the United States disappears along with its guarantee of property rights.

My advice therefore was that one should buy the things one will want to have over the next 10 to 20 years without incurring debt. For the relatively wealthy this can easily be accomplished, and most people can do more than they realize. Then, after providing this economic insurance and (in the case of civil defense) life insurance, forget about accumulating more wealth. Instead, just have an enjoyable and productive life.

You will probably lose less than if you had engaged in leveraged investments in a futile desire to acquire more. You will gain substantially in free time. Perhaps you will even decide to use some of that time to promote homeland defense and to take the other steps that might prevent the collapse and/or war which would mean great suffering for us all.

VIDEO TAPES

We will soon complete two more video tapes.

The first will be a tour of the FEMA mobile shelter display which was built by **Fighting Chance**. The editing of the program has been completed. It will either be combined with the current Shelter Tour tape which displays an underground installation or it will be issued as a separate tape.

The second tape will be a presentation entitled Fighting Chance. This will be a 48 minute motivational tape on the whole issue of civil defense. The cover will be the same as on our book of the same name. The raw materials for this tape are finished and editing is in progress.

While this second tape has been a long time in coming, the delay will markedly contribute to its quality. When Laurelee and I began this project, there were many things about civil defense technology, politics, and education which we did not know. Although I am still learning and will never know all the answers, I know much more today than I did several years ago.

MONUMENT

There is a project underway to place a monument to civil defense at the National Emergency Training Center (NETC) at Emmitsburg, Maryland. A large American eagle has already been obtained for the top.

This project is being funded by private donations. If you are interested in making a donation, write to Rosa Timmons, Project Director, Office of Emergency Preparedness, 414 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, MO 64106.

CONTRARY OPINION

Some successful investors use a technique known as "contrary opinion." This technique is based upon the fact that most people are wrong in their opinions of market direction at the lows and highs of markets.

When stocks, real estate, commodities, or other investments are at their respective lows and are about to rise, most people will be of the opinion that they are going down. Conversely, when they are at their highs and about to fall, most people will be of the opinion that they will continue to rise.

It is important to understand that the majority of people are not always wrong. Their opinion alone can cause markets to continue in the expected direction. At the turning points, however, they are usually wrong.

Contrary opinion can be applied to many aspects of human affairs in addition to investments. Some of these are far more important than financial investments.

Today the media would have us believe that the risk of use of nuclear weapons in war or terrorism has become very low. The butchers in the Soviet Union have suddenly become nice people. Everyone seems to have forgotten the millions of murders in Afghanistan, Cambodia, China, the Soviet Union and dozens of other countries which have been victimized by the Soviets and their retainers. This is all in the past, so America can now disarm (and spend its defense budget on new social welfare programs).

The media influence public opinion and, to some extent, reflect it. If Americans share the opinions of their press, then most people today believe that the nuclear threat is low and going lower. Contrary opinion would suggest that they may experience a very unpleasant surprise.

One special difficulty with contrary opinion, however, is in measuring public sentiment accurately. This may be especially difficult now. After decades of biased and unreliable reporting by the American press, a great many Americans no longer are influenced by it.

Americans are beginning to apply their own version of "contrary opinion" wherein they believe that the truth is the opposite of what they are being told. (This has been standard public media response behind the Iron Curtain for decades, since those people have learned that the Communist press usually lies to them.)

Here at **Fighting Chance** personal requests for civil defense information from individual Americans have approximately doubled during the past few months. This has made more work for the children and me in answering requests for information.

Could it be that the distribution function of American opinion has actually become more pessimistic rather than more optimistic? Perhaps the press is failing in its efforts to overcome fundamental Yankee common sense. We hope so.

Americans must protect themselves from nuclear risks.

However, if most Americans really do believe that these risks are very low, contrary opinion suggests that this is a very dangerous time indeed.

CIVIL DEFENSE AND CIVIL WAR

We noticed a Wall Street Journal report that one region of the Soviet Union in which the Red Army is killing Soviet citizens in an attempt to "restore order" has activated its civil defense system.

Civil defense is usually thought of as insurance against the risks of natural and man made disasters including earthquakes, floods, or tornadoes, and the chemical, biological, and nuclear risks of accident, terrorism, or war. It is usually not thought of in terms of civilian protection from their own government or from the general risks of civil war.

The Founding Fathers of the United States were strong advocates of individual civil defense from dangers internal to one's country as well as those external to one's country. The defensive technology of their time was the firearm. They did not live in a time of danger from chemical, biological, and nuclear technology. In a statement representative of his time, George Washington said:

"Firearms stand next in importance to the Constitution itself. They are the American people's liberty teeth and keystone under independence From the hour the Pilgrims landed, to the present day, events, occurrences and tendencies prove that to ensure peace, security and happiness, the rifle and the pistol are equally indispensable The very atmosphere of firearms anywhere and everywhere restrains evil interference - they deserve a place of honor with all that's good"

I expect that, had he lived today, George Washington would have made similar statements about civil defense. The logic is the same.

The most extensively armed civilian population in the world is that of Switzerland. Every man of prime age is given an assault rifle and ammunition by the Swiss government. Each is required by law to keep this weapon and ammunition in his home. Also by law, every Swiss citizen must have a civil defense shelter space with full protection from nuclear blast and radiation and chemical and biological agents.

Perhaps it is no coincidence that Switzerland has the lowest crime rate and greatest personal freedom for its citizens of any country on earth. It is also economically rich and has avoided all wars for many generations.

Civil defense shelters are truly "all hazards" devices as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) bureaucrats like to say. They, of course, refuse to build shelters for the American public - they build them only for FEMA bureaucrats. (These are called "emergency operating centers.")

The Soviets have disarmed their people, so that they can be controlled by the Red Army. They want to disarm the United States for the same reason. Arms, however, can be reconfiscated. If the current gamble by the Soviets should accidentally lead to civil war within the Soviet Union itself, it is those civil defense shelters that the Soviet bureaucrats may come to regret the most.