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# CIVIL DEFENSE NEWS BULLETIN

published by the BUREAU of CIVIL DEFENSE

VOLUME II NO. 12

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DECEMBER 1961

## GOOD ATTENDANCE RECORDED AT ★ JOINT USDA-CIVIL DEFENSE ★ CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP



Donald V. Jensen, State Coordinator for Rural Civil Defense, addresses agriculture and CD officials at combined USDA-Civil Defense meeting held in Richland Center on December 14.

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Approximately 100 interested agriculture and civil defense personnel from southern Wisconsin counties were briefed on the working relationship between civil defense organizations and United States Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) agencies by State and Federal USDA and CD officials at a combined meeting held in Richland Center on December 14.

The meeting was the third of six such briefings conducted at various locations in the state. Others were held at West Bend, Shawano, Tomahawk, Spooner and Black River Falls.

The agenda included discussions on rural CD information and fire fighting programs, radiological monitoring, and economic stabilization, and featured talks by Donald N. McDowell, Director of the State Dept. of Agriculture; Kenneth Hoover, USDA Defense Board head; Dr. H. P. Honstead, USDA official; Don Jensen, Rural CD Coordinator; and C. S. Grimstad, State CD Economic Stabilization Officer.

Provisions of a newly published "Handbook on Economic Stabilization, Supply, and USDA Defense Boards" were explained by Jensen and Grimstad. The handbook outlines procedures and

## SUCCESS OF SHELTER SURVEY PROGRAM DEPENDS ON LOCAL EFFORT

**Note:** A special article by the State Director on the forthcoming Federal Fallout Shelter Program.

For some months I have been promising a sharp increase in workloads at all levels of Civil Defense. That promise is about to be fulfilled, as the President's new programs begin to impact upon state, county and local civil defense directors.

By the time you read this, you will have attended an area meeting on 18 or 19 December, explaining the details of the Fallout Shelter Survey (FOSS) program and the role in FOSS of county and local directors. This role is a large one, demanding a large number of man-hours, plus organization of volunteers to contribute many man-hours more. In fact, the success of FOSS will hinge directly upon the effort which county and local directors exert in carrying out their roles.

After an initial rough survey of buildings by the Navy's architect-engineer contractors, to see which appear to have a protection factor of 20 or better, the success of the program will be in the hands of local directors: They must secure from property owners a signed agreement permitting basements and other protected areas identified by the survey to be used by the public in time of war and during peace time drills. The agreement will further permit the marking and stocking of these areas. (The areas to be marked will be those which subsequent detailed studies show to have a protection location of 100 or better.)

Getting the agreement signed by even the most willing property owner will involve a good deal of time. Larger buildings, likely to provide good

(Cont'd on page 2)

delegates authority for carrying out such actions as rationing and price, wage, and rent controls, if nuclear attack occurs. Since the program would be operated mainly on the county level, County USDA Defense Boards were urged to coordinate their programs with county CD organizations and other county level agencies.

Chairman for the meeting was Arden A. Erdmann, chief veterinarian for the State Dept. of Agriculture.



protection, are for the most part owned by corporate bodies, including business corporations, colleges, school boards and governments. The access agreement must be signed by a duly authorized agent or officer of the corporate owner.

In addition, some owners may raise questions as to possible liability to members of the public who might be injured on the premises during practice alerts. This risk is in fact very small, but it may be of concern to some property owners. Preliminary contacts with the insurance industry have established that public liability policies will provide protection for the owner in all or nearly all cases. Also, I am urging the Department of Defense to include a clause in the agreement whereby the Federal Government would assume any liability incurred. It is not yet at all certain that DOD will do this, however.

The liability question should not be blown up out of proportion, since the risk of anyone being injured during a practice drill is small, but the problem certainly can not be ignored. The success of the FOSS program will turn ultimately upon the patriotism and public spirit of property owners, and as noted above, upon the effort made by local directors to get the access agreements signed. The state will of course give all the help it can, but in the last analysis the job of getting the agreements signed will have to be done at local levels, throughout the state.

(This task should be commencing by February, 1962, as results come back from the initial surveys done by the architect-engineer contractors, and it will probably increase in March.)

I recommend that in anticipation of the job of getting the agreements signed, local directors publicize the nature of the FOSS program as widely as possible in local news media, and through Chamber of Commerce and business organizations. You will want to emphasize the Proclamation signed on 13 December by Governor Nelson, on behalf of his Civil Defense Council, which urges all citizens to cooperate to the fullest extent possible in the FOSS.

FOSS will involve further missions for local Civil Defense organizations. After buildings have been surveyed in detail, those with protection factors of 100 or better will be designated as official shelter areas. Local directors will be responsible to post exterior signs pointing the way to the shelter area. They will be responsible to stock the shelter with food, water, meters and other necessities, all to be supplied by the Federal Government. Finally, they will be responsible to organize for using the shelters, including training shelter managers and radiological monitors and analysts, as well as arranging for communications.

It is obvious that major jobs lie ahead for all of us. The first of these will be getting access agreements signed, followed soon by the marking and stocking missions. And it must be remembered that the FOSS is *but one* of the Civil Defense programs which we must all administer. Home shelter construction remains as vital as before, since FOSS is hoped, at best, to locate shelter space for about one-quarter of the population. Training and public education will continue as important as before.

I am sure that though busy days lie ahead, we shall overcome the problems which must be met to make a success of FOSS and the Civil Defense program as a whole. We have now got the firm support of the President, and recognition that defense of our population is as vital a facet of our total defense posture as the missile of SAC, the Polaris submarines of the Navy, or the combat divisions of the Army. Governor Nelson and his statutory Civil Defense Council are wholeheartedly behind the Civil Defense programs. With that sort of support, we can and will go forward.

\*\*\* CD \*\*\*

## USE OF FEDERAL SURPLUS PROPERTY

Civil defense directors of counties and municipalities in possession of Federal Surplus Property obtained for use in their CD programs should thoroughly familiarize themselves with those sections of Surplus Property Administrative Manual (AM-7), July 1, 1960 and change 1 to AM-7, June 30, 1961 which relate to allowable use and maintenance of such property.

Particular attention should be given to Paragraph 3.13 and Part 1702, of Manual AM-7 pertaining to additional restrictions of civil defense use of property having a government acquisition use of \$2500 or over.

Property donated for CD use must not be used to carry out normal day-to-day functions of local government but only in projects directly related to civil defense. Specific allowable use of property is contained in Paragraphs 3.13 e. and f.(1). of AM-7.

Examples of non-allowable use as cited in Para. 3.13 f (2) of AM-7 include the following:

- ★ Use of expendable supplies, such as office or building maintenance supplies in non-civil defense activities.
- ★ Use of donated equipment in projects, such as sanitary land fill, garbage pickup, transportation of persons on non-civil defense business, or maintenance of facilities not used for civil defense.
- ★ Ordinary street and highway maintenance or improvement.
- ★ Permanent installation in or merging with equipment not owned by the civil defense organization or parent political entity.
- ★ Any personal or private use.

Civil defense directors are again reminded of the additional Federal requirement that equipment-use logs be kept at the point of operation of all donated property listed in Federal Supply Classification Groups 24 and 38 (tractors and highway maintenance equipment). The logs shall contain information specified in Para. 3.9b.(3) of AM-7 and be available for inspection by Federal or State CD officials.

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## FEDERAL CD BOOKLET AT PRINTERS

Deputy Secretary of Defense Roswell L. Gilpatric has announced that the long awaited publication on fallout shelters and other home preparedness measures has now gone to press.

The booklet is titled "Fallout Protection" and it is expected that copies will be available to the public sometime in January 1962.

\*\*\* CD \*\*\*



## A NEW CREED FOR CD SKEPTICS

NOTE: The following article by J. J. Steerman of Urbana, Illinois titled, "Morality and Bomb Shelters," appeared in the November 12 issue of the Chicago Tribune and is reproduced here as an interesting observation on the controversy over the usefulness of fallout shelters.

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"In these days of controversy over the advisability of fallout shelters, it is apparent that the old ideals and the old morals are no longer adequate to solve the new problems. New approaches must be sought; new ways must be found to solve the current crises; new principles must be discovered.

"For those who argue that shelters will be useless, I wish to offer this new creed:

"Fire drills should not be held in our schools. They do nothing to prevent fires; they merely create an acceptance of the idea that a fire may occur. They only serve to create a fire-fear psychology in the minds of our children. The thought of a school fire is too horrible to contemplate. In a severe school fire or explosion one might not be able to save all the children no matter how good the fire drills were. So let's not waste our energy in fire drills, but use our energies creatively in seeking alternatives to school fires.

"Ocean liners should not be provided with life preservers. They only lend a false sense of security. If everyone has one, the passengers might never get picked up by another ship, and you would starve or freeze to death. Even worse, you might be eaten by a shark or dragged down by an octopus. Life preservers are bad from a social standpoint because some people might not be able to find one. Are you willing to kill your fellow passenger to keep your life preserver?

"As you can see, this new creed can be applied to problems of all kinds, where it would work equally well as when applied to the morality and feasibility of fallout shelters."

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## OPERATIONAL PLANS APPROVED FOR 50 POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

State CD Bureau records show that, as of December 20, a total of 50 counties and municipalities in Wisconsin have approved operational survival plans on file at State Headquarters and have subsequently been certified as eligible for Federal benefit programs.

Those eligible are as follows:

COUNTIES: (26) Brown, Buffalo, Clark, Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Fond du Lac, Jackson, Kenosha, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Oconto, Outagamie, Portage, Price, Sawyer, Shawano, Trempealeau, Vernon, Vilas, Walworth, and Washington.

CITIES: (22) Algoma, Appleton, Beloit, Beaver Dam, Burlington, Fond du Lac, Janesville, Kewaunee, Madison, Manitowoc, Marinette, Milwaukee, Monroe, Nekoosa, Park Falls, Phillips, Shawano, St. Francis, Two Rivers, Waukesha, Waupun, and West Allis.

VILLAGES: (2) Menomonee Falls and West Milwaukee.

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## WISCONSIN MAY BE PILOT STATE FOR NEAR

The Washington Post reports that Wisconsin is being considered by the Department of Defense as one of three states in which a pilot program would be initiated to test the feasibility of having local power companies responsible for the initial financing of the NEAR home warning system.

Part of the cost would then be passed on to the individual homeowner in the form of increased power rates.

NEAR (National Emergency Alarm Repeater) is a system of home warning of nuclear attack through buzzers installed in every home, apartment, and business establishment in the country. The buzzers would be activated by the power companies in event of attack when notified to do so by the National Warning Center at Colorado Springs.

The system requires special generators to produce the signal over power lines and it has been estimated that the cost of the program on a nation-wide scale would approximate \$2 billion.

Original plans called for the Federal Government to absorb the cost of the generators and the public to pay for the cost and installation of the buzzers.

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## DOD TO ASK \$700 MILLION CD FUNDS

The Department of Defense will ask Congress for \$700 million for new Federal civil defense programs in Fiscal Year 1963 it was announced by Deputy Secretary of Defense Roswell L. Gilpatric at a December 14 news conference.

Part of the requested funds will be used for a Federal Shelter Incentive Program, which would provide Federal grants toward the cost of shelter space created by public or private non-profit institutions engaged in health, education or welfare activities, such as schools, hospitals and public welfare institutions. The program is planned to provide some 20 million shelter spaces in the next fiscal year.

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## SURVIVAL WAFER FOR FALLOUT SHELTERS

A crushed wheat biscuit may soon become the staple food item in community fallout shelters throughout the country, according to an article by Jack Raymond in the December 16 issue of the New York Times.

According to Raymond, the Pentagon has announced that it will place bulgur wafers, also known as survival biscuits, in such shelters. Bulgur originates in Turkey and means parched, crushed wheat. It has already been issued in the "Food For Peace" program and served at the White House for demonstration purposes. Defense officials in cooperation with cereal manufacturers are considering plans for producing 150,000,000 pounds of the wafers. Nutrition experts consider the biscuits adequate for minimum survival purposes. Enough would be placed in each shelter to provide a 2,000 calorie-a-day diet for five days. Each shelter will also be stocked with three and one-half gallons of canned water per person, with both water and wafers having a shelf-life of at least five years.

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# CIVIL DEFENSE AROUND THE STATE

\*\*\* what your neighbors are doing \*\*\*



**LANCASTER** — Clair Boughton, Grant County CD Director, reports that 30 individuals have completed a radiological monitoring course held at Cassville on November 24. Instructor for the course was William Erdman of Boscobel. George Nelson, State Radiological Officer, was in charge of the final session which included experiments with Cobalt 60 used as a radioactive source in the demonstration of monitoring instruments. Boughton also reported that Dr. Kenneth L. Bauman of Lancaster has been appointed Grant county Medical Director by the County Medical Society.

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**WATERTOWN** — A resolution to provide county continuity of government in an emergency was adopted by the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors at its monthly session on December 12. The resolution provides for each county official and each department head to designate a successor and one alternate successor "to perform his duties and exercise his powers" in the event that he is incapacitated during a CD emergency. The names of the alternates and substitute alternates must be filed with the county clerk and county CD director within 30 days.

\*\*\* CD \*\*\*

**MANITOWOC** — A meeting of county officials and representatives from Manitowoc and Two Rivers was held in this community on Dec. 11 for the purpose of setting up a county-wide civil defense program. Earlier this month, the county board approved such a program and provided for a full-time CD director effective Jan. 1, 1962. It was disclosed at the meeting that the cities of Manitowoc and Two Rivers had made considerable progress in civil defense, but that villages and townships had been lagging in this respect.

\*\*\* CD \*\*\*

**MONROE** — Walter Drews, Monroe CD Director, announced that a radiological monitoring course will be conducted at Monroe high school in January. Drews said the course will be held four Thursday evenings during that month with each session of 2½ hours duration. Robert Arnot, Science instructor at Argyle

high school will teach the course. Drews urged that all Monroe police officers, sheriff's deputies, auxiliary police, and city and county employees make a special effort to attend.

\*\*\* CD \*\*\*

**BAYFIELD** — The first of four civil defense courses will get underway on January 8, it was announced by Tom Anderson, Bayfield county CD director. The announcement was made at an organizational meeting held December 4. Anderson said that the Jan. 8 course will be on basic civil defense with subsequent courses to be held on first aid, police training, and radiological monitoring. The courses will all be 10 hours with three-hour sessions to be held weekly in the Bayfield library.

\*\*\* CD \*\*\*

**DURAND** — Plans for emergency evacuation of St. Mary's parochial school were discussed December 4 by Howard Mohnk, Buffalo county CD director, and members of the school's civil defense committee. The two principal matters discussed were complete evacuation of children by bus, routes and terminals where parents could meet their children, and definite instructions for removing city children to homes by car.

\*\*\* CD \*\*\*

**OSHKOSH** — Oshkosh city department heads proposed official action to regulate fallout shelter construction during a recent meeting on civil defense planning. City Manager Raymond E. Harbaugh said a model ordinance provided by the National Board of Fire Underwriters appeared to cover both facets of assuring builders of adequate standards and the city of proper regulatory power. Harbaugh said that private fallout shelters should require a permit to assure the owner of adequacy and also to make sure that the structure falls within the tax-assessment-free provisions of state law.

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