

Please, however, *stay out of the holes, leave fuel tank cutting to the experts, and see that your shelter is properly installed.* We don't want to lose you, and civil defense doesn't need a peacetime shelter accident along with its other political problems.

## FALLOUT

Recently the Federal Emergency Management Agency published NAPB-90 which gives a fallout map based on their latest estimates of the effects on the United States of a Soviet nuclear attack. Some Americans have been relieved to learn that much of the United States, including their own locality, is estimated to be fallout free.

Do not rely on these estimates!

This appears to be just one more effort by the bureaucrats to make nuclear war fit their wishful thinking and their own capability to respond (which is essentially nil).

This recent fallout map belongs in the rogues gallery along with FEMA's well known under-the-patio fallout shelter with about six inches of dirt and concrete cover. That shelter won't save your life even in relatively moderate fallout areas any more than this latest FEMA map can wish away the serious fallout risk facing all Americans in all localities after a Soviet attack.

First, we just cannot predict the nature of the Soviet strike. (Although one can reliably conclude that the latest FEMA scenario is very unlikely.) Second, uncertainties concerning weather conditions at the time of the attack and other factors make guesses about fallout conditions unreliable even if we did know the attack plan.

In general, the fallout risk is getting worse. The Soviet arsenal has grown larger; the incentive for them to use air bursts instead of ground bursts has grown smaller; and the value which the Soviets place on American lives is still vanishingly small.

A pile of these reports 50 feet deep could provide some radiation protection. As a guide to personal shelter planning, however, the report should be disregarded.