

He is right. And I for one — along with most other Americans — am fed up with being bothered with this nuclear threat.

We got tired of potholes in our highways last year, so Congress appropriated \$88 billion to fix the problem. A similar amount of subsidy for the steel, concrete, and construction workers will build a shelter system.

SHELTER ALTERNATIVES

In *Fighting Chance* and in many of our publications we emphasize blast and radiation shelters constructed from cylindrical steel tanks.

There are many different ways to build suitable shelters. These vary widely in cost and in the level of protection. Also, cost varies according to the amount of one's own labor which is traded for reduced expenditures of money.

It is doubtful that there are many new discoveries to be made in this area. Hundreds of different kinds of shelters have been built and tested.

After reading over 1000 research reports and articles about such tests, we chose one single technology to advocate for a nationwide system. We chose steel tanks because they are very inexpensive for their level of protection; they could be quickly constructed nationwide by an industry that is already in place; and they have undergone such extensive testing that critics cannot responsibly contend that they might not work.

Our cost estimates were based upon new construction of mass produced shelters. The overall system could take advantage, therefore, of substantial economies of scale.

It happens that, at the present time, as a result of the environmentalist attack upon the fuel distribution industry, large numbers of surplus tanks are available at scrap metal costs and even below. Surplus tanks have become so numerous that in some locations they are currently available with no cost at all except for cleaning and transport.

Surplus tanks usually are available from industry in small quantities even without this unusual current surplus. This current surplus is a temporary situation. With the current surplus, many *Fighting Chance* supporters have been building metal blast shelters at overall prices as low as those which could be achieved in a large-scale program.