

As one of our top physicists, a professional academic, and by no means a political advocate of a nationwide shelter system, Freeman Dyson's statement on shelter effectiveness is worth quoting:

"If we disregard present-day political constraints and consider the effectiveness of shelters as a purely technical question, the charge of technical ineffectiveness is not supported by the evidence. Properly constructed shelters are, from a technical standpoint, remarkably effective. This does not mean that any feasible shelter system would guarantee the survival of a society after a full-scale nuclear attack. It means that, in any situation short of a full-scale attack, a properly constructed shelter system has a good chance of making the difference between the life and the death of a society. And in any situation, up to and including a full-scale attack, a properly constructed shelter system has a better chance of saving your life than any other weapon system which you could buy for the same money. Shelter systems are, in the jargon of the experts, cost-effective. A dollar's worth of shelters gives better protection than a dollar's worth of anything else. The case for technical ineffectiveness of shelters is much weaker than the case for technical ineffectiveness of ABM. The major problems in building an effective shelter system are human and not technical."

PICKETING THE PENTAGON

On July 1 Robert Billings and Pete Shearer from the American Conservative Union and I picketed the Pentagon. Robert Billings is ACU Legislative Director and Pete Shearer is ACU Legislative Assistant.

As shown in the photograph, we carried signs which said "Soviets Have Civil Defense — Why Don't Americans" and "American Soldiers Need Shelters Too." With these signs on display, we passed out Petitions for American Civil Defense at the main Pentagon subway and bus entrances.

Picketing our opponents will do very little good. Picketing our friends may help.

The Department of Defense has \$300 billion per year with which to defend America. That is enough money to do the job — if it is spent wisely. Their current policy of not deploying homeland defenses for America is very unwise.