

To this list add the best health you can achieve, the best friends and neighbors you can protect, and the wisdom to be without debt where it counts.

If you have done these things you will have definitely qualified as having made an effort to obey the Biblical admonitions to provide for your family and to utilize God's many gifts in response to His many warnings.

One more test. Is there a Bible in your shelter? It doesn't have to be there. It is better recorded in your mind and heart.

Put a Bible in your shelter, anyway. In the event that you do need to utilize your disaster insurance by a life-saving shelter stay, reading that Bible while you are in the shelter will remind you of the reasons for which you are there.

SHELTERS AND CONVENTIONAL EXPLOSIVES

During the American bombing of Iraq there was a highly publicized incident involving the destruction of a civilian bomb shelter by a conventional bomb. Although it is not clear why this particular example of the civilian carnage in Iraq was chosen for special publicity, it illustrates an important point.

Civilian shelters usually are not able to resist direct hits by conventional explosives (or nuclear explosives). The reason is economic. The cost of surrounding the shelter with several-foot thick reinforced concrete walls (as was done in German World War II bunkers) or placing the shelter 30 to 50 feet underground is higher than most individuals or governments are willing to pay to protect civilian lives.

Had we written Fighting Chance - 50 Feet To Survival rather than Fighting Chance - 10 Feet To Survival, the estimated cost of the nationwide shelter system would have doubled or tripled and therefore become impractical for political reasons.

The primary protection from direct targeting of shelters in a large country can be achieved by large numbers of small shelters at widely dispersed locations. That is the reason we recommend 2 million, 150 person shelters for Americans rather than a smaller number of large ones.

With 2 million, 200-psi shelters located within a short walking distance of the normal living and working places of Americans, even direct targeting of the entire Soviet nuclear inventory on the shelters would leave most Americans alive.

Direct targeting by conventional explosives during a land war in the United States would present similar difficulties for an aggressor. The shelters would be more vulnerable than from a nuclear attack, because of the much larger number of directly targeted explosions. Never-the-less, the destruction of hundreds of thousands of shelters by direct hits would still be quite difficult.

Systematic slaughter of Americans in their shelters would be possible only in the event of a complete collapse of the American military and occupation of the country by an invading army.