

FIREARMS TRAINING

We rarely mention firearms in this newsletter. First, Americans are armed to the teeth anyway, so most people do not require our advice. Second, although civilian firearms are still a major essential ingredient of American freedom, they are not an especially important component of civil defense. In any case, I have seen many shelters without water supplies or food supplies or without essential ventilation. I have, however, rarely seen one without firearms.

Nevertheless, where firearms are owned, there is no substitute for the very best instruction in their use. There is one American whose abilities as an instructor in the defensive use of small arms exceeds all of his peers - Jeff Cooper. Most people have not had the good fortune to attend one of his courses, but every firearm owner should have this as a goal. There are now two schools of instruction in which Jeff Cooper's method of instruction is available. They are Gunsite Training Center, P.O. Box 700, Paulden, AZ 86334, telephone (602) 636-4565 and Thunder Ranch, HCR 1, Box 53, Mt. Home, TX 78058, telephone (210) 640-3138.

FIGHTING CHANCE PROJECT

The substantial projects of Fighting Chance have simply outrun our resources. Increasingly our civil defense information work, the carbon dioxide research, the curriculum project, and our other activities use more time and resources than we have. Therefore we are rationing our time. We do our work first and our writing second. Our new responsibilities for *Access to Energy* demand some monthly writing. Income from *Access to Energy* is providing additional resources for our other projects.

Although we spend a great amount of time helping families learn to provide civil defense protection for themselves, we do not need many new written materials. With scarce time and resources, there is little need to repeat. There are now 38 back issues of this newsletter covering nearly every aspect of civil defense. When people call to subscribe, we advise them to buy the back issues instead and to send a donation to further this work if they wish. We are limiting the publication of new issues to new information and to reports of progress on our projects.

Our activities in Washington, which were the most extensive in America in promotion of civil defense, are now in a period of pause. Although we shall never stop working for a national civil defense system and our previous efforts such as the mobile shelter displays have continuing value, there is not any chance whatever of substantial progress on this issue in Washington as long as Clinton is in office. National civil defense is so important that it should be vigorously pursued even when the odds of success are small. Right now, however, the odds are nonexistent. Our resources are better spent helping Americans to help themselves, so this is what we are doing - primarily through personal help by mail and telephone and by distribution and improvement of our educational materials.

Even the words "civil defense" are no longer politically correct under the Clinton Administration. Bureaucrats who use these words in a serious manner will find their careers shortened abruptly. The situation is so bad that the left-wing press has even run some mildly objective