

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 11, 1960

James C. Hagerly, President, National Governors' Association

THE WHITE HOUSE



The President, in meeting today with the members of the Special Committee on Civil Defense of the Governors' Association, re-emphasized his support of the statement on National Federal Shelters, issued at his direction on May 7, 1959. He also declared that "in the event of a nuclear attack on this country, fallout shelters offer the best available military defense for the protection of the people of our country."

The President also referred to his statement, issued in a message to the Senate on April 25, 1959, that "the safety of our military defense and retaliatory forces, which depend on defense mobilization and vital parts of the nation's infrastructure together they stand as a strong deterrent to war."

The President appreciated the opportunity to confer with the Governors and to discuss their plans and programs for the year under consideration at State and local levels to implement the National Federal Shelter policy. To this end, the President asked the Director of the Office of Civil Defense Administration to continue to act as his personal representative to all members of the Governors' Special Committee on Civil Defense.

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