

## Preparation and Responsibility:

### Judy Chapel and the Cuban Missile Crisis

by Eric Fenrich  
UCSB Hist 2c  
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## Judy Chapel

- Born 3 November 1931
- Married --  
Franklin Chapel,  
1953
- Claire & Charlie



## Cold War Germany



*To recognize the possibilities of nuclear war in the missile age, without our citizens knowing what they should do and where they should go if bombs begin to fall, would be a failure of responsibility.*

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•\$3.24 **Billion** for increased  
Military Spending

•\$207 **Million** for Civil  
Defense

## Memory Associations

Memories of Pearl  
Harbor

7 December 1941



FALLOUT & STORM SHELTERS DIVISION

CARMEL CONCRETE PRODUCTS CO.  
522 S. RANGE LINE PHONE: VI. 6-5861  
CARMEL, INDIANA

**FALLOUT PROTECTION**  
WHAT TO KNOW AND DO ABOUT NUCLEAR ATTACK


*Topical drawings  
= 100 million  
[unclear] (2 pages)  
[unclear] (unclear)]*

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE-OFFICE OF CIVIL DEFENSE

**INDIVIDUAL ACTION:  
FAMILY SHELTERS**

Families living in rural or sparsely settled areas may find that family shelters are the only feasible solution to their fallout shelter problem. Others may have personal preferences for family shelters.

There are a number of ways to construct home shelters. Several types are shown here. All of the shelters shown here can be built with about \$150 worth of materials or less. If materials, such as the lumber used in a basement family shelter, are available at little or no cost, some persons could build these shelters for considerably less than \$150. In all of the shelters, the danger from fallout would be at least 100 times less than to unprotected persons.




This family is building a basement concrete shelter of wood-filled concrete blocks. Solid concrete blocks are used for the roof shielding. The type of shelter also could be built of brick or masonry tile.


20

Construction drawings on these and other family shelters can be obtained by following the instructions on the last page of this booklet.

In selecting shielding material for any shelter, sand or earth can be substituted for concrete or brick, but for each inch of solid masonry you need an inch and a half of sand or earth. Adding shielding material to a shelter will improve the protection afforded by the shelter, but it also may increase the cost of the shelter.



This wood-filled basement shelter will accommodate three persons. The lower level gives partial shielding. Sandbags are used to block the end of the shelter.




This backyard plywood shelter can be built partially above ground and surrounded over with earth, or be built totally below ground level. A great ditch under the shelter and a ditch outside help keep it dry. The family blocks the entrance with sandbags after entering the shelter.

21

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**"I didn't think [shelters] made a lot of sense. I knew people were building them. It became, in some areas, a small, but busy field of endeavor."**

**Polls**

Gallup

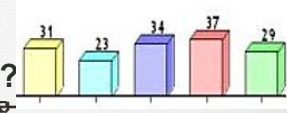
**"Have you made any plans or given any serious thought to prepare your home in case of nuclear attack?"**

**--- 93% of the respondents answered "no."**

**Morals and Questions of Class**

- *Could a shelter be built inexpensively or would only the well-to-do be able to provide nuclear protection for their families?*
- *What about those who did not have a yard in which to create a shelter or those who rented instead of owning their home?*

**Clicker Q1:  
Obligation to Share?**



If one family invested a great deal in their shelter (stocked for one month), should they have to let neighbors in during an attack?

- Yes, no matter what
- Yes, but only for neighbors who had no yard or way to build a shelter of their own
- Yes, as long as all can survive for one week
- No, unless they agreed to it in advance
- No, not at all, it's their choice to share or not

## Clicker Q2: Use of Force



If a shelter owner had only enough food and water for his family, would he be justified in **killing** his neighbors if they tried to force their way in?

- A. Yes, no matter what
- B. Yes, but only if he did not have ample room and supplies [note: B is basically the same as C]
- C. No, unless the shelter was already packed full
- D. No, never under any circumstances

## Judy & JFK

"I didn't vote for him," Judy remembered, "but I admired what he said. I admired many of the things he said and I think it changed my opinion of him as the years went on."

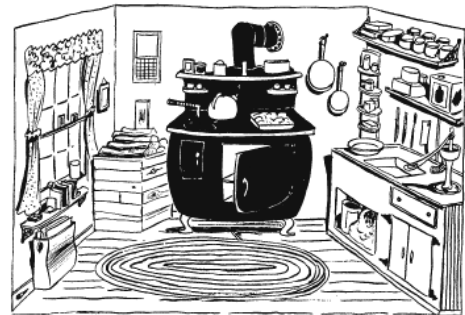


## Why Judy's House?



## Stocking the Shelter

### GRANDMA'S PANTRY WAS READY



Is Your "Pantry" Ready in Event of Emergency?

## Stocking the Shelter

"Imagine a bunch of housewives getting a grocery list together. Really... We simply made arrangements... it made sense to all of us the government wasn't going to be able to take good care of us. Superman was not going to fly over so we had to do what we could."



## Government Preparedness

- o City of Glendale, population 125,000 -- space for only 4000 people in its eight official public fallout shelters.
- o Burbank, population 92,000 -- only four official public shelters with room for 750 persons.



1965

It is estimated that as many as 200,000 may have been in place  
-- 1 shelter for every 900 persons or 1 for every 266  
households

Paradoxical Response

- The people wanted/expected solutions, but for the most part, they didn't do anything *with* the possible solutions.

☞ **Instead, it fell to the individual citizens, like Judy Chapel, to take it upon themselves to ensure their own survival.**

## ***Additional Sources***

- Kenneth D. Rose. *One Nation Underground: The Fallout Shelter in American Culture*. New York: New York University Press, 2001.
- Elaine Tyler May. *Homeward Bound: American Families in the Cold War Era*. New York: Basic Books, 1988.
- Film -- *Thirteen Days*