
CIVIL DEFENSE

In keeping with his interest in all aspects of public safety, Governor Tawes worked toward making Maryland's civil defense program one of the nation's best. He gave considerable time and attention to the problem of survival of the State's people and their government in the event of an enemy attack.

During his first term, the State Constitution was amended to provide for the orderly succession of government; the State Civil Defense Control Center was opened at Pikesville, and additional State funds were made available to assist local communities in the construction of fall-out shelters and in other civil defense activities. In addition, the State Civil Defense Agency was reorganized and its role as consultant to local civil defense groups was strengthened.

ADDRESS, DEDICATION OF STATE CIVIL DEFENSE CONTROL CENTER

PIKESVILLE

March 29, 1960

First let me tell you how happy I am to meet with the Maryland civil defense family. In this family I include all our city and county civil defense officials, the staff of the Maryland Civil Defense Agency and the officials of the Maryland State departments who also play a vital role in civil defense planning and operation.

To Governor Hoegh and the officialdom of the Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization a warm welcome to Maryland and to the Maryland Civil Defense Control Center which we dedicate tonight with great pride. If you will allow a pun, I would like to say that this is one concrete example of civil defense progress in our great State. When I say concrete I know whereof I speak, for some 2,370 cubic yards of concrete were used in the construction of this building.

All of you, I am sure, are aware of my great interest in the public safety. As a matter of fact, one of my principal aims since taking office is to improve the safety forces of our State. But even long before I became Governor I think most of you knew of my interest in the fire service of our State.