

selves in case of attacks. Provision has been made for the legal succession of key government officials, for the preservation of essential records and for emergency operational locations. Industrial organizations throughout the country have developed substantial plans for self-protection in the event of national disaster.

In the realm of continuity of government, the people of Maryland ratified a constitutional amendment providing for an orderly succession in the office of the chief executive—Governor, President of the Senate, Speaker of the House, Comptroller, Attorney General, in that order.

In the headquarters of the Civil Defense Agency in Pikesville, we have established a "little State House" for emergency operations, with all the required facilities, including communications with all the essential agencies of State government and with the governments of the civil divisions of the State.

As individuals, you and I have our interests and our responsibilities in the area of the civilian aspects of survival. Survival of the individual and the family is perhaps the most important of the responsibilities we face.

As I said in the beginning, the defense of the civilian population in the event of an enemy attack is an important element in our overall national defense. On this point, General Lemnitzer, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said:

"A well-prepared and safeguarded populace in itself provides a major contribution to our nuclear deterrence posture."

And so, small fall-out shelters such as you have built here, which I understand is the only federal government prototype on the Eastern Shore, have great significance. I hope to see many of them erected in Maryland in the near future.

For this effort in promoting the idea of civil defense, I extend my heartiest felicitations to the Ocean City Chamber of Commerce.

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ADDRESS, CIVIL DEFENSE MEETING

ANNAPOLIS

September 28, 1961

I requested that you come to Annapolis for today's meetings because I am deeply concerned with the condition of our civil defense program I think we ought to recognize that, at this moment, our State and our nation are woefully unprepared to face a nuclear attack. . . .