

General Series

U.S. — Federal Civil

DEFENSE Administration

1952

FEDERAL CIVIL DEFENSE ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

September 12, 1952

Mr. D. J. Tobin, President
International Brotherhood of Teamsters,
Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers of America
222 East Michigan Street
Indianapolis 4, Indiana

Dear Mr. Tobin:

The Federal Civil Defense Administration has scheduled a nation-wide volunteer registration program for November 11-27, Armistice Day through Thanksgiving.

Labor is being asked to play an ever increasing role in our every day American way of life and if every one in the American Federation of Labor plays his part for civil defense as he does in his respective labor organization we will have the first team in the game and will not be caught short.

As the Labor Liaison man on the AF of L in FCDA I am bringing to your attention the registration program in the hope that we may have the cooperation of International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers of America.

At the Houston Convention in 1950 the AF of L went on record as favoring Civil Defense. On April 3, 1952, the FCDA Labor Advisory Committee (AF of L members: William Green, W. C. Doherty, George J. Richardson, W. G. Flinn, C. W. Sickles) passed a resolution urging that "all international and national unions assist the Federal Civil Defense Administration . . . and urge their members to participate in those civil defense services for which they are best qualified."

Accompanying this letter you will find a cover letter from the FCDA Administrator, a Civil Defense Registration Guide, and a copy of "This Is Civil Defense." A suggested letter from your office to the locals is also enclosed for your consideration.

We would like to send copies of this packet, including a letter from you, to all of the locals in your organization. There will be no mailing cost involved whether you wish to send out the packets or have us do it, since FCDA Penalty Mail Privilege envelopes will be available for the purpose.

So that we will know whether or not we may count on you, will you please fill out the enclosed form and return it to us at your earliest convenience. Any cooperation you can give will be deeply appreciated.

Fraternally yours,

William M. Price
William M. Price
Labor Specialist
Volunteer Manpower Office

Enclosures

TEXT OF LETTER BY FCDA ADMINISTRATOR
TO ACCOMPANY REGISTRATION GUIDES

Dear _____:

No one can accurately forecast the odds on an atomic or other attack upon the United States, or tell when an attack might be made, except the Soviets themselves.

It is now clear that Russia has the atomic bomb, and it is equally apparent that they possess long-range bombers presumably capable of striking anywhere in the United States. It is also certain that the Kremlin is well-prepared to launch a biological warfare attack against the United States through any of several methods.

Therefore, the sensible course of action is to prepare for the worst by enlisting, training, and equipping a civil defense force capable of dealing with any civil defense emergency which might arise.

Civil Defense, properly manned and organized, can reduce casualties and property damage by fifty per cent. It is therefore the moral obligation of all of us to assist in the development of a strong civil defense system.

Accordingly, I ask you, most earnestly, to consider the enclosed appeal.

Sincerely,

Millard Caldwell

Enclosure

LETTER FROM APPROPRIATE OFFICER OF NATIONAL ORGANIZATION,
TO CHIEF OFFICERS OF LOCAL UNITS

THIS IS A ROUGH DRAFT FOR CONSIDERATION MERELY

Dear _____:

The Federal Civil Defense Administration has invited the (supply name of organization) to contribute to our Nation's preparedness program by registering our members for Civil Defense. Similar invitations are being issued to other organizations throughout the country and it is hoped that community registration campaigns will be launched with the assistance and cooperation of the Civil Defense Directors in all our cities and towns. This registration drive will be launched November 11 and will last through November 27.

As Governor Caldwell says, Civil Defense is the moral obligation of all of us. The members of the (supply name of organization) have never shirked the duties of citizenship and I am confident they will not do so now.

I earnestly urge you, therefore, to consult your local Civil Defense Director and to join in this effort in whatever manner he suggests. A registration guide prepared by the Federal Civil Defense Administration is enclosed.

Sincerely,

(Signature of appropriate
officer of national
organization, plus title)

Enclosure

CHECKLIST FOR NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION PROGRAM

(Date) _____

TO: Federal Civil Defense Administration
Volunteer Manpower Office
Washington 25, D. C.

1. We will _____ will not _____ cooperate in the volunteer registration program.
2. Number of local units (~~excepting South Carolina~~) _____.
3. We will _____ will not _____ write a letter to our local units urging their participation.
4. We will _____ will not _____ provide sufficient copies of such a letter.
5. We will _____ will not _____ be able to handle the mailing of all the registration materials from our national offices.

ANSWER FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ONLY IF REPLY TO QUESTION 5 IS NEGATIVE:

- A. We will _____ will not _____ furnish you with a flat list of our local units.
- B. We will _____ will not _____ furnish you with a set of plain gummed labels addressed to our local units (~~excepting South Carolina~~).
- C. We will _____ will not _____ address and return to you FCDA gummed labels if you will provide.

FURTHER COMMENTS:

TO BE SIGNED: (Name) _____
(Title) _____
(Organization) _____
(Street Address) _____
(City and Zone) _____
(State) _____