REMARKS BY MR. JAMES R. [illegible]
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEF[illegible]
AT WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE [illegible]
MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 19[illegible]

Mr. President, Governors, and [illegible]

I appreciate the opportunity [illegible] as related to military polic[illegible]. [illegible] are in accord with the impor[illegible] civil defense.

Several years ago the [illegible] by the Soviet Union created a capa[illegible] country. So civil defense and its [illegible] our people against a nuclea[illegible] could have been carried out only [illegible] at least a few hours warnin[illegible] the Soviets have a very few inter[illegible] next two years they may ha[illegible] missiles can deliver large [illegible] distant in about half an hour. [illegible] construction, but no effecti[illegible] some years except our deter[illegible] an attack against us, if it comes, [illegible] missiles -- and even with an effe[illegible] be very short.

Ballistic missiles have [illegible] both military and civil, and are [illegible] of the Soviet Union. Today, a [illegible] operational. These missiles are [illegible] sites are under construction [illegible] surpassed our expectations. As [illegible] test firings have on the average [illegible] Soviets have since asserted great[illegible] In the Titan program, since the [illegible] we have encountered a series of [illegible] on an early resumption of testing [illegible] with Atlas, Thor and Jupiter prog[illegible] present reliability. Four Polaris [illegible] testing is proceeding satisfa[illegible] should be operational before the [illegible]

The Soviets may have a mode[illegible] launched missiles during the nex[illegible] numbers comprises a real t[illegible] studied closely [illegible]

with a surprise attack to destroy enough of our retaliatory strike forces to support a rational decision to attack. We believe the Soviets must recognize that a nuclear attack against us would bring, in retaliation, unacceptable damage to their country and people. This conclusion is based on the fact that our over-all retaliatory power depends upon forces and strategic weapons in addition to missiles, upon constant readiness, improved warning, and vigilance [illegible] Soviet [illegible].

We are determined to maintain peace and strengthen the Free World. We seek to reduce the risks of war and to strengthen [illegible] the Free World. And we seek better communication and understanding [illegible] the Communist world.

Today, however, and until armaments can be reduced with adequate safeguards, military power is our best assurance of peace. Our strategy and that of our allies is one of deterrence. Our purpose is to make clear that aggression against us or any ally cannot profit the aggressor. To deter an attack against us we must have long-range striking [illegible] that survive even a surprise attack and perform its mission [illegible]. To deter aggression against our allies [illegible] strength and [illegible] convince an enemy that we could and would respond to aggression with force. To permit doubt as to [illegible] new dangers to the Free World.

Today the combat readiness of our Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and the forces of our allies, provides strong deterrent power. It must continue strong in the future. And I am sure that a strong civil defense program will be an increasingly important element of our deterrent posture. Better protection for our civil population will strengthen [illegible] and credibility of our firm policy to meet aggression with [illegible]. We must remember that if our policy of deterrence should ever fail, [illegible] military power and civil defense are [illegible].

We know that in the event of nuclear attack [illegible] would play an important part in meeting the widespread [illegible] that would result.

The primary mission of the military forces is active [illegible] and this gives us some uncertainty as to exactly which military [illegible] may be available. But we may be sure that if the country [illegible] attack, military personnel and [illegible].

This is so not only with respect to our active [illegible] true of all Reserve forces. For example, I am satisfied that [illegible] of the Air Force Reserve airlift would immediately play a [illegible] part in the care of casualties, moving of emergency supplies, [illegible] extraordinary demands for air transportation.

We have asked the Joint Chiefs of Staff to review [illegible] composition of Reserve forces, including their mission in support [illegible] defense.

The military services have a remarkable record of [illegible] operation with civil authority in peacetime disasters. The services all have [illegible] similar assistance in wartime. The military continue to support [illegible] defense planning. Technical developments and test results important [illegible] defense planning are continuously reviewed in the Department and [illegible] available to OCDM. Information on the effect of nuclear weapons [illegible] defensive procedures is provided. OCDM representatives have access [illegible] nuclear weapons effects studies not related [illegible] military [illegible]

The Department of Defense is represented on the [illegible] Health Advisory Board which was established to advise and assist [illegible] OCDM, on emergency medical care planning. Also the Department of Defense provides technical advice and assistance to OCDM [illegible] and testing certain items of survival equipment.

We have conducted, in conjunction with OCDM, studies [illegible] the development of a single nation-wide nuclear detonation reporting system, to include monitoring and reporting [illegible] and bomb damage assessment.

Defense, OCDM and the Federal Communications [illegible] are constantly working to improve the [illegible] system [illegible] developed to deny navigational information to the enemy, but which [illegible] providing better dissemination [illegible] defense information [illegible] public.

Much has been accomplished under the fine leadership [illegible] Hoegh and the leadership in many states. We have learned [illegible] of the effect of radiation on people and animals and food. We [illegible] provide fall-out protection, and what a family [illegible] supply, which, if accomplished [illegible] of national survival against nuclear [illegible]

We know that even in the [illegible] nuclear attack [illegible] suffered would depend not only on the character of the attack [illegible] large extent upon the protective measures planned and carried [illegible] population. The self-help shelter plan, with the encouragement [illegible] loans, is well conceived. Both the plan and its national [illegible] must be understood by our people if it is [illegible] effective defense [illegible]. The Defense Department supports the self-help shelter program [illegible] civil defense effort. We are giving attention to practical [illegible] military fall-out shelter program for military personnel and [illegible] particularly with respect to what [illegible] consistent [illegible] protection program. Some shelter experimentation [illegible] services. One difficulty is that military personnel [illegible] short tours of duty cannot be expected [illegible] to finance appropriate shelters. Also, the problem of fall out [illegible] question.

Today we have the ingredients for a significant [illegible] effort. Our problem is one of education and conviction. [illegible] the task is one of communicating a [illegible] understanding [illegible] the practical protective measures that can be taken, without [illegible] the idea of hopelessness in the face of nuclear attack, [illegible] remoteness of possibility that creates complacency. [illegible] nuclear war, but we know it would be foolhardy not to take the [illegible] tions of maintaining an adequate defense, both military [illegible] carry out a civil program will take real understanding [illegible] I believe we are on the right [illegible] providing information, [illegible] encouragement at the Federal level, and placing primary [illegible] the States to secure effective action by Americans in their [illegible] munities in implementing the Federal shelter policy. [illegible] something that people can do largely for themselves, [illegible] credit, and planning and guidance. We should move [illegible] civil defense in this manner, [illegible] by example [illegible] as yours. And we may be sure that unless there are [illegible] assurances of progress towards [illegible] defense will become a matter [illegible]