

Committee on Passive Protection Against Bombing, 1940-1945

On 1 July 1940, the National Academy of Sciences was engaged to carry out research on behalf of the United States Army Corps of Engineers on the problem of providing protection for both civilians and military personnel against bombing attack. Accordingly, the NAS organized The Committee on Passive Protection Against Bombing under the auspices of the National Research Council, its operating arm. The committee's charge was to gather data to be used toward building effective bomb shelters, and toward this end the committee assisted the Corps of Engineers in setting up tests of various structures' resistance to a variety of projectiles. The committee issued a series of interim and "final" reports, culminating with the final report of 1943. At this time the committee's name was changed to the Committee on Fortification Design; with the Allied war effort having shifted decisively to the offense, it was decided on 30 June 1944 not to renew the committee's contract.

The Committee on Passive Protection Against Bombing collection contains reports and memoranda covering the years 1940-1945 and spans approximately 1.5 linear feet.

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