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Civil Defense in the Soviet Union

Leon Gouré

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building a new society, of modernizing to provide a higher living standard to all its people, of eliminating the injustices and imbalances it had inherited from the old order. With new independent nations being conceived and born yearly in Asia and Africa, it is not difficult for a reader to pick from various chapters of this volume valuable lessons gained in observing the development of South Vietnam which may be applicable in future relations with the new arrivals on the international scene.

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207 p.

The author has made a comprehensive analysis of the factors and doctrine associated with the development of the Soviet Union's civil defense program and activities. He discusses in considerable detail the following aspects of Soviet civil defense: concept, scope and organization, training, dispersal and city planning, shelters, evacuation and operation. The author concludes from available data (1) that Soviet leaders are very serious about the requirement for civil defense; and (2) that the Soviet civil defense program is not a crash program, but one that seeks to improve civil defense with a modest annual estimated expenditure of 500 million to 1.5 billion dollars. The Soviet leaders further plan on the need to protect the Soviet population and installations against all types of weapons: conventional, chemical, bacteriological, and nuclear.