

1960

The Price of Survival

Linwood P. Gould

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BOOKS

Gould, Linwood P. *The Price of Survival*. Washington, Public Affairs Press, 1959. 96 p.

This little book is "the voice of one crying in the wilderness" in a quite eloquent plea that the United States and all Americans DO SOMETHING! — to ward off what the author is convinced is either nuclear annihilation or Communist slavery. He first outlines how certain historical institutions such as the Greek city-states, the Roman Empire and the Universal Church allowed themselves to be conquered, to decay or be irrevocably split. He then attempts to apply these historical lessons to what he calls our present "survival illiteracy." Basing his program on three principles — that of brotherhood, that of enlightened self-interest and that of agreement and cooperation — he calls for action to educate the mass of people in the realities of survival. The style of the book is somewhat spotty. At times the writing is most lucid and readily grasped; at other times it becomes bogged down in rather involved verbiage. From the viewpoint of the hard-boiled realist, the fulfillment of the author's program would seem to depend on a very basic change in human nature. Nevertheless, the book does cause one to think along lines which no military officer can afford to ignore.

Fischer, Louis. *The Story of Indonesia*. New York, Harper, 1959. 341 p.

The Story of Indonesia is an excellent example of political reporting on the 7900 islands which lie between the Pacific and Indian Oceans and between Asia and Australia. Once they were the Dutch East Indies; today, they are Indonesia, a richly endowed, neutralist land which the West fails to understand completely. The author, a top flight scholar and reporter, has blended the past and present Indonesian history into an interesting and illuminating account of this country of 88,000,000 people. The book explains in detail the religions and cultures of the people, the poverty existing in the midst of