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weapons of war, but in being faithful spouses and good housewives. In this way, they will kindle the will to fight of their husbands. There are many second-line opportunities for women in the Army. They could join the Women's Complementary Services and help in the Army's administrative chores for example.

Every household should from now on have enough food to last for two months. This means a reserve of 2 kg of rice, 2 kg of sugar, 1 kg of fat and 1 litre of oil per person. These goods could be well stored in a crate up in a dry loft, should there not be enough room in the kitchen.

Those who are not fit to go to a recruit school are assigned to civil defence and must follow a short training course. In a typical town of 10,000 inhabitants one would find 1,300 men liable for national service, 900 foreigners, 5,200 mothers, children and old people. The 2,600 that remain would be indispensable to civil defence. Three-quarters of these people would be in charge of "self-protection" and organised into defence squads responsible for protecting a given building and quota of population. The remaining quarter would be enlisted in the more specialised "civil protection" units which comprise the alarm system (anti-aircraft and dam-destruction) communications, sappers and rescuers, fire brigades, first-aid, atomic and bacteriological warfare officers, refugee-camp caretakers. "Self protection" and "civil protection", which together make up civil defence, is organised independently of the army into communal units, every commune having its appointed civil defence head. A Swiss town would, during a threatening period, be quickly covered by a grid of civil defence cells and communication channels. Communications are vitally important since , without them, commandment could not be exercised. There are over twenty army transmitters throughout Switzerland. They would immediately be switched into action on the advent of a war and supplement the three national broadcasting stations to improve the information of the Swiss population.

Atomic explosions and their devastation

Shelters must be prepared well in advance. If a twenty kiloton atomic bomb (the Hiroshima-size) exploded 600 m above a town of the size of Lausanne, 65% of the population would die if the city was caught by surprise. If they are alerted, only 40% of them will die, but if they have the time to reach for their atomic shelters, the percentage drops to 10%. The necessary blood plasma, morphine, bandages and other medical products would fall correspondingly. These figures are sufficient to show the necessity of building shelters. Every commune of more than 1,000 inhabitants is bound to build public shelters and new buildings must incorporate a shelter designed according to minimal specifications. The cantons and the Confederation do contribute over two-thirds of the expenses that these constructions incur. Shelters alone are not sufficient, they must at all times be well equipped, because they may have to serve as homes for as long as two or three weeks. They must not only have kitchen utensils, soap, water reserves, hygienic paper, deoderant, mattresses, a radio, cork-openers, cups and plates, tools such as spades, pick-axes, saws and hammers, they must also have clean linen, books, society games and the Bible.

Atomic explosions and their effects are described at length. Their first declaration is a fireball as bright as a hundred suns and sufficient to blind permanently anyone who happens to be facing it. The heat radiation is so intense that every exposed part of the body will be burnt more or less seriously. The explosion generates a burst of intensive radioactivity fatal to anyone found uncovered within a 2 km radius of the explosion centre in the case of a 50 kiloton bomb. A devastating hurricane is unleashed in the wake of this primary heat and radioactive radiation. Concrete buildings are knocked down like packs of cards, heavy trucks are made to leap and bound for hundreds of yards. Then the circle of boiling air, having reached the end of its race, surges back on the depression it has left behind and convulses the atmosphere in an apocalyptic tumult. The rush of air whips up the innumerable fires instantaneously sparked off by the heat of the explosion. Buildings, forests and harvests are ablaze.

Those inhabitants caught outside their shelters by the explosion but who have providentially been spared must hopefully rush for cover, if they are not in a state of shock and still in possession of their senses. In a few hours, the immense quantities of dust lifted up in the atomic mushroom will drift back to the earth as lethal radioactive fall-out. Depending on the altitude of the explosion and the strength of the wind, the ground will be contaminated well beyond the reach of the shock wave, the heat and primary radioactivity of the explosion. It will be necessary for civilians to stay under the radiation-cover of their concrete shelters for days and maybe weeks. The only people who dare emerge are the Army's anti-atomic squads with thir special protective outfit and detection equipment. Their job will be to assess the extent of radioactive contamination and advise the entrenched population when it will be safe to go out again in the open air.

Those who live far away from the explosion will also be hit by radioactive fall-out, but it will be possible for them to stay in the open as long as they take a number of indispensable precautions. They must protect open fountains from fall-out with plastic covers. Water must be kept in tightly-shut vessels, food must be stored in closed boxes, houses must be sealed. Nobody must ever go out without being thickly clad and eventually wearing a gas mask so as not to breath in radioactive dust. When people return to their homes, they

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must carefully brush themselves. Initial symptoms of radiation-sickness are persistent vomiting and diarrhoea. They must be tended by doctors.

Treating the wounded

It is essential to know how to limit the ravages of fires which might be started either by atomic or chemical explosions: 80% of civilian deaths in World War II were caused by fires. The main measures are to close all doors so as to smother incipient fires through lack of air. The floor of lofts and mansards must me spread with sand; pails of water, pumps and sacks of sand must be kept at hand on each storey. Most important of all, it is essential to keep a cool head when disaster strikes the house. Immediately, survivors should be counted and an estimate made of those who have disappeared. Rescuers must be conscious of the dangers besetting those who are trapped in rubble and must decide rapidly on whom they must first try to rescue.

The wounded may not be transported in any kind of way. One method of hitching an incapacitated victim through the nooks and gaps of a wrecked building is to strap him on a rescue-plank. The availability of immediate and efficient first-aid is a question of life and death for the seriously wounded. It is essential to know how to dress wounds and position the wounded correctly in awaiting the arrival of a doctor. Unless it is justified by extreme circumstances, a tourniquet should never be applied to stop an haemorrhage. The state of shock can be extremely dangerous and shocked people must be kept with their heads downwards and their pulse regularly checked. Burns should be simply dressed by bandages and under no circumstances be soothed with water, oil or any other home medicine. Finally, everybody should know how to give the kiss of life correctly by breathing through the nose of the victim, pulling his head backwards so as to leave the inflow of air free of obstruction.

If civil defence is to be ready for all the eventualities of war, it must know how to deal with bacteriological and chemical warfare.

Gas warfare and destruction of dams

In the first case, the enemy will try to induce generalised sickness in incapacitating our whole population by contaminating our atmosphere, our lakes and rivers, our fields and sources of food with bacterias. In this way, he could spread such diseases as cholera, typhus, dysentry and the bubonic plague. The temptation to do so would be very strong since bacteriological aggression (whose vehicle can consist of missiles, bombs and artillery shells) would leave the country physically intact. However, there are few pathogenic diseases for which a vaccine does not already exist and the main defence against a bacteriological attack is to have vast supplies of vaccine ready, an effiicient vaccination service and, most important of all, a permanent vigilance by civilians and army alike. In the event of bacteriological menace, everybody will have to stick to the discipline of boiling their drinking and washing water, stewing or cooking food (frying would be insufficient), killing off rats, wearing gas masks, and notifying the vet when pets or animals are sick. Animals may have to be kept in quarantine and slaughtered if necessary.

Chemical weapons or poisonous gases have a temporary, but in some cases, a more deadly effect than bacteriological weapons. They comprise three kinds of gases. The first (and the least harmful) belong to the tear-gas family: they irritate and induce vomiting. The second are the gases that affect the mind, such as the LSD-varieties and laughing gas. They are inoffensive enough but could break the courage and will to fight of a whole division: the most hardened troops would suddenly feel exhilarated and mystical in the heat of combat and "start to make love, and not war". The third category of gases, those that kill, comprise the lethal nerve gas, which strike the nervous system, inducing a swift and convulsive death, and the numerous perfections of mustard-gas, which attack the tissue and transform human flesh into pulp.

Defence against such gases is similar to anti-atomic defence: gas masks, thick cladding, shelters with ventilation filters, sealed food and water. Antidotes have been developed for many of these gases and effective protection will depend on their ready availability to all. It will be the job of specialised technical teams to measure atmospheric contamination following a gas attack and inform civilians of where the danger still lurks and give them leave to go out in the open.

Yet another possibility with which civil defence has to reckon with is the destruction of hydroelectric dams. The enemy might, in fact, hesitate to blow up our dams, since this would gut valleys, paste productive land with a thick coating of mud, wipe out towns and factories but at the same time spoil his prize and impede his movements. All the same, the level of the reservoirs of dams would be lowered as a war-time precaution. The dams themselves would be well protected by anti-aircraft batteries and balloon nets. The General Staff has mapped the bounds of eventual disasters produced by the destruction of alpine dams. The inhabitants of flooded or seriously threatened valleys would be evacuated to refugee camps already foreseen and planned. They will have to take plenty of clothing, permitting them to live under harsh circumstances for many months, and never forget their insurance and identity cards. Refugee camps will be organised by the territorial services.

The international situation deteriorates and Switzerland prepares for the worst

If we are to be prepared for all the frightful eventualities of war, we should also know how a war would politically come about in the future. The following chapters give a vivid portrait of the third world war, which, in effect, hardly differs at all from the second one.

Prior to the outbreak of this future war, there will be a nerve-racking period of worsening international relations. Two super powers, Green and Blue, rubbing against each other with increasing friction, are stockpiling arms at an accelerated pace. A number of needling incidents outside augur very badly for the future and one begins to see leaders in the Swiss Press which seriously hint to the possibility of a war.

In the face of this deteriorating situation, the Federal Council decides to take no chances, orders a limited rationing of petrol and launches a defence loan which is quickly covered by a patriotic Swiss people.

The country begins to flex its muscles and the first exercises in civil defence take place in every town. The system is put to the test, coordination improved, inadequacies patched up, details settled.

The enemy has been beaming his propaganda across our land for a long time and a body of responsible citizens decide to form an action-committee to counterweigh its nocuous effects. But the Federal Council believes that there is no real cause for alarm; it feels confident that our national ideals, inbred in our families, schools, churches, political parties, civic education, are quite strong enough to resist the brunt of such a vulgar propaganda. Our state rests on a Christian conception of the individual and every pressure on our consciences is abhorrent to our traditions of human respect.

Outside, the war is looming ever larger. The Government decides to screen foreigners who come into Switzerland. Only those who have a definite job may enter. The possession of landed estate in Switzerland is no longer a sufficient reason for being allowed in. The economy begins to feel the effects of the outside situation. Police have to act against ration-breakers. The works of art of our museums are stowed away into safety. Colonel Rodolph Werdmüller is unanimously promoted general and appointed as commander-in-chief of the Army by Parliament. In the face of a deteriorating situation, the Federal Council orders partial mobilisation. Border-forts are occupied, anti-aircraft batteries put into position, railway officials armed, first-aid stations established, road-blocks set up, self-protection squads equipped and black-out becomes compulsory.

The enemy steps up his propaganda. His radio trumpets that nothing will stand in the way of his victory, but

at the same time, his Press tries to soft-talk the Swiss by crooning that the two countries have the same ideals and that they should therefore go hand in hand. The enemy has supporters at home who attempt to spread rumours tarnishing the integrity of a member of the Federal Council. The Government urges the population not to take heed of these attempts at troubling Swiss minds and gets the full support of the Press.

The World War breaks Out—Switzerland is isolated

World War III breaks out at last and general mobilisation is carried out swiftly and efficiently. Rationing covers every consumer goods and each person is issued with food and textile coupons. Communications are severely restricted and the postman only calls once a day.

After some newspapers had echoed a number of uncontrolled rumours, all were warned by the authorities to avoid the traps which the enemy might try to lay and to listen only to Swiss official broadcasts.

Our army had now settled along the border. Notice boards placarded in the villages notify civilians of future requisitions of vehicles, tools and land.

Everyone is urged to hold his tongue since spies are among our midst. Not a week ago, a highly respected citizen of "Y" had been seized with a complete electronic outfit in his house. A reservoir-attendant had snatched a saboteur as he was about to poison the tank with petrol. Two fake railway inspectors were arrested in the nick of time: they were about to mine a bridge. Children playing football in the fields scratched on the ground and unearthed a hidden transistor. Saboteurs lurk everywhere and the population is told to watch out for them. The first spies are tried and executed.

The war continues to rage outside. There are no more imports of food and very little electricity. Physical conditions are hard but this has a good effect on public health. Doctors report a far smaller frequency of heart attacks than in peace-time. Agriculture gets a good push from the circumstances and the land has never been producing so well. Press commentators are pleased to note the marvellous cooperation between soldiers and peasants.

After a year of war, the ominous enemy tries to blackmail the Swiss by announcing an atomic "test" in the Sea of Sharks. Our nation remains unshaken and stays riveted to its radio and television newscasts. The bomb explodes as warned. Everyone is told to prepare his shelter, to store water and to have his equipment ready. Twenty-four hours later the radio-active cloud reaches Switzerland and the whole population, well prepared, ducks into the cover of its concrete shelters for the duration of the emergency.

With the changing fortunes of war outside, thousands of refugees are pressing on the Swiss border. Worn-out and straggling foreign soldiers are unarmed and interned by the territorial services.

Sabotage and inside action are getting more severe. The enemy had just managed to sabotage a number of grounded jet-fighters and an agent was caught near Beromunster with a tape-recording of a fake message by the President of the Confederation. The enemy, having pitifully failed to undermine the Swiss will-to-resist by their propaganda was clearly beginning to have recourse to more direct means. The circle was definitely narrowing and no one could have any doubt left on the enemy's imminent assault on the motherland.

Switzerland is attacked

He attacks by surprise! Our cities are blasted by thousands of shells and bombs, but thanks to an efficient alarm system the bulk of the population has the time to run for shelter and thousands of lives are saved. A well prepared civil defence force immediately undertakes the toil of clearing the rubble and extinguishing the fires that have been kindled throughout the town. The objective of the enemy's lightning attack, to paralyse our communications, has not come about. A military government replaces civilian local authorities. The civilian moral, momentarily shaken by the violence of the attack, picks up quickly and the Federal Council reiterates its determination to resist the enemy unconditionally. On the front, the army is fighting efficiently and with the full cooperation of non-military forces.

War is governed by a set of internationally accepted rules and the civilians are told to abide by them. The enemy is pressing hard. The Swiss are fighting it to the last ditch. Defences are being dug behind every mound and each ruin is transformed into a fortress. The national struggle is made yet harder by the deceitful anonuncement of the enemy's radio. He will break through at any cost!

The chapter ends before we learn of the outcome of the fight. The following chapter, which describes another course which history might have taken, is the most controversial of the book. The enemy, through intensive propaganda and political action, manages to divide the Swiss and induce the Government to capitulate without putting up a fight.

What might happen if the country is disunited

To help him with his sly aggression of our country, the enemy has a growing nucleus of supporters within our ranks. His goal is to set up a clandestine network which will strive to establish a "new order" by penetrating Swiss leadership. He will not forget, in his scheming, that the so-called "innovators" and "progressives" will readily play his game. Partisans are to be recruited among intellectual circles and people not used to the solution of practical problems. The glistening prospects of the "new order", deceptive visions of equality for all, of terrestial paradise, of the blossoming of culture will appeal to all the dissatisfied, the disappointed, the weak, the misunderstood and the drop-outs. It will be important for the enemy to secure the co-operation of journalists and writers. His political message is purveyed by the "Social Progress Party". Enemy propaganda is very efficient and subtle: it appeals to noble ideals such as brotherhood among people, universal peace and hatred of war, but at the same time, the arguments of this propaganda tend to convince the Swiss of the uselessness of any eventual struggle against an enemy of such an overwhelming military superiority. A number of papers are already beginning to discourage official preparation for war. The anti-militarist temptation is very strong and a growing fraction of Swiss citizens are questioning the effectiveness of all the millions devoted to national defence. The enemy has recently achieved a remarkable spatial feat and this show of strength depresses the Swiss. Undercover activities are speeded up. Directed from abroad, the Social Progress Party plants cells in every sector of administration, transport and industry. They commit acts of sabotage, terrorism and espionage. They carry out an infectious propaganda and store illegal supplies. This ferment has a strong effect on the population, beguiled out of its bearings, begins to criticise the Government and point at its mistakes. Economic hardship, strikes, redundancies and shortages help the atmosphere to decay and give increased strength to the proponents of the "new order". The resistance of Christian values is weakening, the country is torn within itself: the first leg of the enemy's invasion is attained. The second step will be to divorce the Swiss people from its leaders. The Federal Council makes a desperate call for unity and obedience, but well-timed slanderous accusations on a federal councillor , which resonate in a contaminated news media force him to resign. Outside, the enemy is victorious and overcomes one of the last defenders of civilisation: he is at the door of our country. There is an upsurge of violence, espionage and murder at home. No one is safe, everybody is suspect. The authorities feel they are losing ground against this rising wave of anarchy and the police, having lost the backing of the population, can no longer guarantee law and order.

Switzerland is sold out

At the peak of internal crisis, the commander of the all-powerful enemy army waiting outside to march into Switzerland summons the President of the Confederation to have a talk with him. The President slavishly accepts the invitation. Face to face with his protector at the negotiating table, he has to listen to a suave exposé of the

Swiss predicament — civil war and imminent famine, certain destruction if resistance were attempted. The only solution is to demobilise and co-operate. With no choice left to him, the President complies. He resigns, and the army is demobilised. Growls of "treason!" are heard everywhere when the news breaks out. But Parliament elects a new president in the person of the leader of the Social Progress Party, Justice and Police. An overhauled Federal Council is invested as "Gauleiter of New Switzerland". The "Gauleiter" takes full powers and throws many magistrates into prison. The enemy army is called upon to re-establish law and order. A "peace battalion", dressed in brown shirts, defiles past Federal Palace Square. Thus ends a long history of honour and fidelity.

The Swiss are overrun

After this horrifying interlude, the story resumes at a point where the enemy, after a dramatic struggle which is not described, finaly sets foot on the whole of Swiss soil.

The bombing has ceased, the dust of battle has barely settled on the charred remains of the cities, the eerie silence is broken only by the crackling of silent fires, the stunned inhabitants crawl out of their shelters. Civil defence, or what is left of it, valiantly regroups to help the innumerable wounded, homeless and bereaved. The most striking change which everyone cannot but notice is that the soldiers who patrol the town have different uniforms: they are plainly enemy soldiers.

The life and dreariness of occupation begin. The enemy takes over the administration and acts as though he were never to leave again. The soldiery brutally kills innocent civilians but there is nothing the Swiss can do. They must just await their day, not provoke the enemy and stay clear of him. It is useless for them to fight at this stage but they should know that they benefit from the international right of people and that, if the occupant breached these rights, they should complain energetically.

Meanwhile, resistance is organised from outside. Leading citizens who had escaped at the end of the battle have organised a government in exile. On the morrow of the invasion, "Swiss Liberation" was already sending off its first programmes to the beleaguered Swiss, saying that a battle had been lost but not the war.

The Government in exile and the free Swiss plan their return and start training for it. They plant the first roots of the Resistance. Two intellectuals are tried by the occupier for having criticised the régime. It was noted that these two authors had counted among the strongest supporters of the "new order" before the war.

The turn of the tide

After an unspecified lapse of time, the Resistance has managed to establish a strong foothold in the occupied territory. Arms have been brought in thanks to the connivance of the population. The time has come to bring the struggle out in the open. The aim is to demoralise the enemy and make him feel unsafe everywhere. He will retaliate and the Swiss population will suffer greatly, but these sacrifices are worthwhile because final victory is in sight.

The Resistance gathers strength, snowballs, and benefits from an increasing popular support. A lot of blood is shed in this all-out and final confrontation between the forces of freedom and the oppressor. The liberators followed by an exulting and heroic population, converge on the motherland and beat the enemy. The Freedom which the valiant Swiss had sought for so long, but whose taste had never forgotten, is reconquered at last.

Thus ends the story presented by the Swiss little red book. Its tone and lofty ideals carry some resemblance to those of another little red book in quite a different part of the world. The account which I have given here is as unbiased as is humanly possible. In fact, I find the book perfectly logical and "honest". A manual on civil defence necessarily has to awaken Swiss consciences on the political realities of war, and the desire to take civil defence seriously can only be instilled by considering war as something dreadful. Unfortunately, the historical model used by the authors is worn out and, as it only reproduces the past, cannot pretend to be a trustworthy vision of the future. Besides, the lay-out of the text is so crude, the contents so chauvinistic, that this Churchillian saga sometimes reads like a hilarious caricature.

(PMB)

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