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[Chemicals in War. A Treatise on Chemical Warfare.](#)

Author(s) : [PRENTISS, A. M.](#)

Book : [Chemicals in War. A Treatise on Chemical Warfare.](#) 1937 pp.xviii + 739 pp

Abstract : The reason for drawing attention to this book four years after its publication is the present interest of the subject matter and the paucity of comprehensive information in the English language on the subject of chemical warfare. The variety of information contained in it should ensure a place on the reference shelves of relevant libraries. Its main purpose is to render available a text on what the author regards as a misunderstood and misrepresented subject, and the material is presented in a clear and concise manner. Part I deals with basic principles and definitions, technical and tactical requirements.

chemical agents, methods of dissemination, and military organization for chemical warfare. Part II deals with classification of agents according to chemical, physical and biological properties, and to military use. Successive chapters deal with lachrymatory agents, injuriants, systemic toxic agents, vesicants, respiratory irritants, onocerae, incendiaries. Part III covers the technique and tactics of chemical warfare, including objectives, tactics of infantry and special gas troops, of artillery and air corps; it considers defence against chemical attack, individual and collective protective measures, protection in battle, chemical intelligence service, and protection of civil population. The book deals with the relation of chemical industry to chemical warfare, effectiveness of chemical warfare, philosophy of such warfare, and international attempts to restrict it. The view is expressed that neither on grounds of logic nor humanity is there any reason to repudiate chemical methods of warfare rather than any other methods. Indeed it is more humane than the use of explosives and there is much scope for effective use. By chemical means all desired effects can be produced, from lachrymation to immediate death.

The volume carries a useful bibliography and a good index.-H. H. GREEN.

Record Number : 19412201630

Publisher : New York & London : McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc.

Language of text : English

Language of summary : English

Indexing terms for this abstract:

Organism descriptor(s) : man

Descriptor(s) : bibliographies, classification, efficacy, explosives, lungs, mental ability, personnel, monographs, objectives, properties, protection, publications, soldiers

Identifier(s) : goals, intelligence, targets

Broader term(s) : Homo, Hominidae, primates, mammals, vertebrates, Chordata, eukaryotes

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