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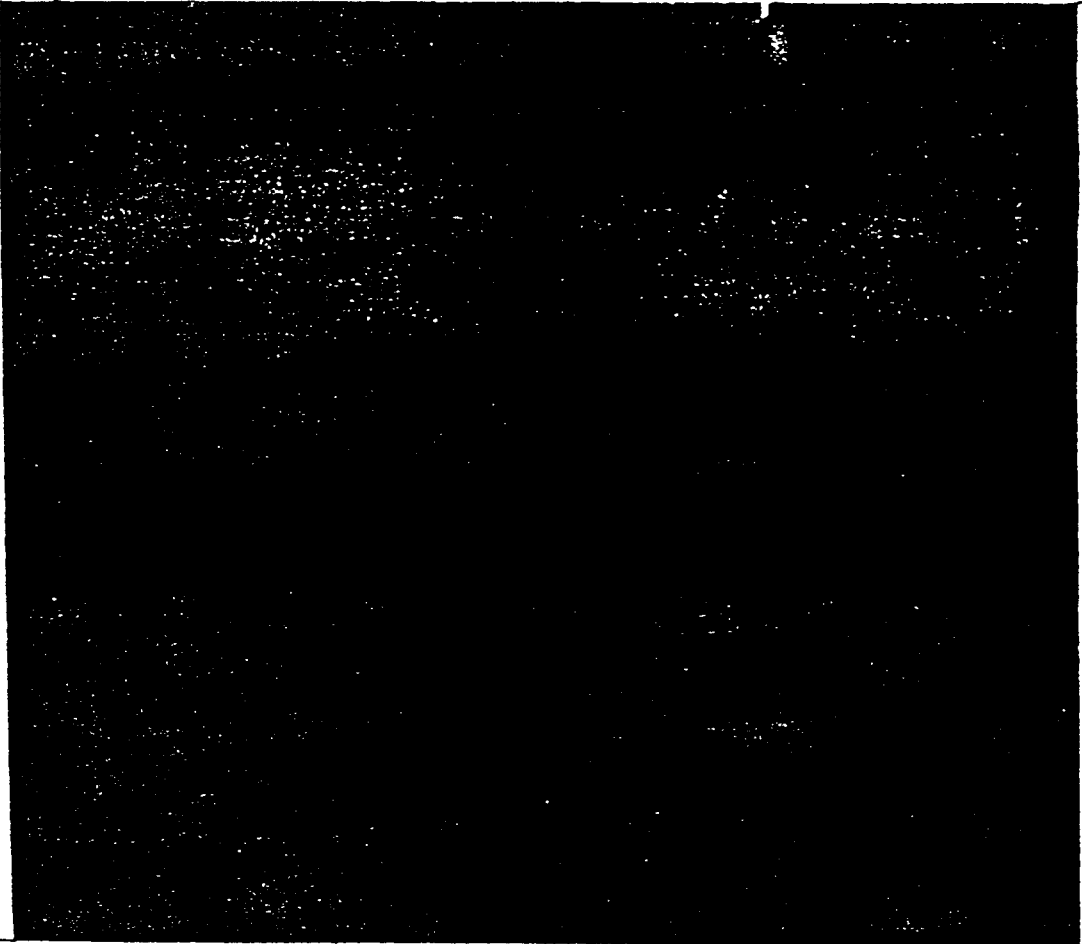
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USSR: Increased Emphasis on Weather Modification Research. 8

The upgrading of the Soviet Main Administration of the Hydrometeorological Service to a State Committee will result in an increased emphasis on weather modification.



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USSR: Increased Emphasis on Weather Modification Research

One of the results of the elevation of the Main Administration of the Hydrometeorological Service (GUGMS) to a State Committee will be a greater emphasis on weather modification research [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] This will further strengthen the Soviet weather modification program, which already is one of the largest in the world.

In terms of manpower and funding, the Soviet civil weather modification program is several times larger than the combined US civil and military programs. The reported increase in emphasis will probably be aimed largely at reducing weaknesses than at broadening the scope of the Soviet program, although there likely will be some of the latter also.

The most obvious weaknesses of the Soviet program are in experimental design and instrumentation. Soviet practice has been to carry out experiments without proper consideration for verification techniques. This problem can be alleviated by having good statisticians involved in both the design of the experiments and the analysis of the results. The instrumentation problem has been gradually improving, and this trend probably could be accelerated by purchasing some Western equipment.

The scope of the Soviet weather modification program has been broadening for the past 10 years and is now a very comprehensive program. The Soviets have begun an intensive study of typhoons in recent years that may be expanded to include modification experiments similar to the US Project Stormfury. [REDACTED]