

## **Duck 'n Cover: How U.S. Government Documents Helped Shape a Cold War Culture of Doom**

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This handout, presentation, and a government document bibliography are available for your viewing and downloading pleasure at: <http://msugovdocsdept.pbwiki.com/Conference+Presentations> (Click on "Popular Culture Association Conference").

Images of nuclear explosions, atomic test sites, and apocalypse abound in movies, novels, comics, and other mediums of American popular culture, but how did U.S. Government Documents help shape these symbols of doomed fate? Let us examine the various government documents published by the Federal Civil Defense Administration (FCDA) in the 1950s and the Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization (OCDM) during the 1960s that were popularized through the media such as the film *Duck and Cover*, the comic book *Mr. Civil Defense Tells About Natural Disasters*, and documentations of atomic bombing test sites. Extensive bibliographies and digital repositories of these resources will be shared via the website listed in this handout, including such government resources as, such as Internet Archive's collection of Civil Defense films and documents, the Department of Energy's website of atomic bomb test site film clips, and "atomic attack survival guides" published by the Government Printing Office that are available at your local Federal Depository Library.

### **Further Readings:**

"Civil Defense Documents and Films...My Current Obsession," FGI website blog post by Rebecca Blakeley  
<http://freegovinfo.info/node/1755>

Civil Defense Museum  
<http://www.civildefensemuseum.com/>

Documents, Films, Audio Files etc. about or from the Civil Defense at the Internet Archive website  
<http://www.archive.org/search.php?query=%22civil%20defense%22>

"Duck and Cover!" Blog post by Rebecca Blakeley  
<http://msugovdocs.blogspot.com/2008/03/duck-and-cover.html>

### **Government Films:**

"Duck and Cover", Civil Defense Administration, 1951.  
<http://www.archive.org/details/gov.ntis.ava11109vnb1>

Civil Defense Films at YouTube.com  
[http://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=%22civil+defense+film%22&search\\_type=](http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=%22civil+defense+film%22&search_type=)

Historical Nuclear Test Films from the DOE  
<http://www.nv.doe.gov/library/films/testfilms.aspx>

Nuclear-Atomic-Civil Defense Films at Internet Archive website  
<http://www.archive.org/search.php?query=subject:%22Atomic-nuclear:%20Civil%20defense%22>