Soviet Census Resources

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The Australian Centre of the Asian Spatial Information and Analysis Network (ACASIAN), has received a final installment of map materials matching the 1959 Soviet census from our colleagues at the Laboratory of Cartography, Institute of Geography, Russian Academy of Sciences, in Moscow. An earlier collaborative project, completed in 1997, produced a 1:1 million resolution Geographic Information System (GIS) spatial database containing all ADM3 (raion and

gorsovet) level administrative units plus all cities and rural towns included in the 1989 Soviet census. We have digital versions of the unpublished figures for total, male, female, urban and rural populations at the same local levels for the 1959, 1970 and 1979 Soviet censuses. Our long-term goal is to create the spatial data for those three earlier census dates, beginning with 1959, which would constitute a spatio-temporal GIS for the entire Soviet Union in the post-war period.