

# Disarming Choice

***"An Approach to Peace and Other Essays,"* by H. Stuart Hughes** (Atheneum. 204 pp. \$4.50), proposes that the West unilaterally abandon nuclear weapons. Frank Altschul is chairman of the Committee on International Policy of the National Planning Association.

By FRANK ALTSCHUL

IT IS somewhat difficult to come to grips with this book, in which chapter headings have been assigned to a number of essays unrelated in the main to the theme of the first and most searching half of the volume. Maybe the best way out of the difficulty is to focus attention on the title essay, "An Approach to Peace," in which H. Stuart Hughes suggests a "new start" in foreign policy aimed at arresting and hopefully turning down the fateful spiral of the thermonuclear arms race.

In the light of recent developments, few would question the desirability of seeking an escape from the sterility of the bitter and dangerous exchanges in which we and our Soviet adversary are increasingly engaged. The author finds little hope of such an escape in the fruitless and interminable negotiations in respect to a ban on nuclear tests or general and complete disarmament. And he is prompted by a sense of urgency, feeling that "our country's situation is even more precarious than it appears to be and that it is time to cut our losses and to make the best bargain we can—in several parts of the world—before it is too late."

However, the manner in which it is suggested that we cut our losses will strike many as frightening in the extreme. In essence, it amounts to the unilateral abandonment of nuclear weapons by the West. Mr. Hughes is aware of "the awful risks that such a decision would involve. Every conscientious unilateralist has spent countless hours of worry over the implications of what he recommends. . . . We face a choice of evils—a choice of risks. All we can say is that to us the risks involved in depriving our country of nuclear weapons loom less threateningly than the dangers of going on with the arms race."

This is a conclusion that may in some measure have been prompted by Mr. Hughes's disposition to put "the physical

preservation of humanity ahead of loyalty to one's nation or to any particular economic or social system." Yet to those who have observed the manner in which the Soviet Union brandishes its nuclear weapons at a time when it is faced with an adversary possessing at least equivalent power, unilateralism opens up an appalling prospect. With the danger of a thermonuclear response removed, can anyone doubt that the Soviet Union would proceed "peacefully" to accomplish its avowed purpose of achieving world dominion? This would inevitably mean the end of all those values to which we attach supreme importance: justice under law, individual freedom, and national independence.

**B**UT if this proposal of Mr. Hughes can be dismissed out of hand as running violently counter to our traditions and instincts, he develops another line of thought which seems visionary at the moment, but which should not be too lightly cast aside. "If only we can preserve the peace for a few more years, the United States and the Soviet Union may come to recognize the interests and aspirations they have in common."

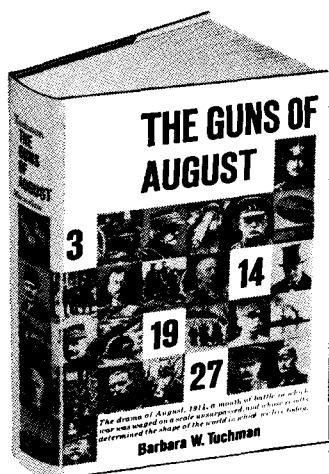
These "interests and aspirations" held in common are very real and with any return to sanity in international affairs it is not too much to hope that they may prove to be determining. First and foremost among them is the interest that the Kremlin must share with us in avoiding the unparalleled disaster that thermonuclear war would inflict on all humanity. Beyond this is the aspiration we both have in common to preserve and in an atmosphere of peace to extend the advances in the well-being of mankind which modern technology has brought within reach.

There are forces at work that may drive the Soviet Union in this direction sooner than we now anticipate. There is the emerging power of Communist China, the growing desire within the Soviet Union for a more rapid improvement in the standard of living and an awakening disposition to see the area more widely extended in which freedom of thought and inquiry is permitted. And so the time may come when with some hope of a favorable reply we may be able to say to Mr. Khrushchev: "We stand at the crossroads of history. One path leads to utter destruction, the other to the brightest prospect ever open to the human race. 'A Soviet-American understanding for the preservation of the peace,' in Mr. Hughes's words, 'offers the most realistic, indeed the only hope of forestalling the very worst that our future may hold.' The choice is yours to make."



"Who is Benny Goodman?"

# POWERFUL BEST SELLER



A compelling drama of the fateful first month of World War I. The best seller by Barbara W. Tuchman that has been praised by *every leading reviewer* in the country.

\$6.95 at your bookseller's. If he's sold out, mail us a check or money order and we'll pay shipping costs.

**THE MACMILLAN COMPANY**  
Dept. SR-12 60 Fifth Avenue, N. Y. 11, N. Y.

Now  
Enjoy  
Restful

## SLEEP

SHUT OUT DISTURBING NOISES!

**FLENTS\* Anti-Noise  
EAR STOPPLES**

Easy to use, comfortable. Recommended by doctors. Used by thousands for 35 years!

Trial box of 1 pr. 40¢ ppd.

SHUT OUT DISTURBING LIGHT!

**FLENTS\* LIGHT SHIELDS**

Sleep soundly. Nap anytime, anywhere. Soft satin padding for snug fit and comfort.

Black sateen, \$1.50 ppd.

At Drug or Dept. stores—or send check or M.O. to:  
**FLENTS PRODUCTS CO., Inc., Dept. S**  
103 Park Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

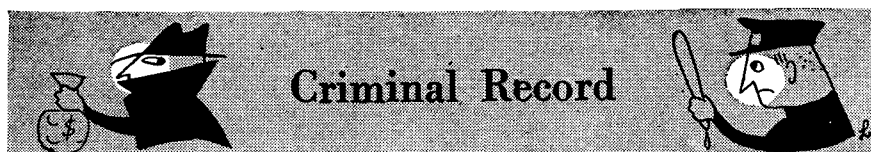
## The New England Guide

*The only Complete guide  
to all New England*

Full magazine size. 144 pages illustrated in full color and black and white. State maps, what to do and see, fascinating N.E. stories, rare N.E. paintings in full color. An invaluable companion on your vacation.

**PLUS FREE ROAD MAP  
FOR ALL NEW ENGLAND**

Send 50¢ plus 4¢ stamp to  
Box 108Q, Concord, N.H.  
3 copies for \$1.25.



**THE SPY WHO LOVED ME.** By Ian Fleming. Viking. \$3.95. This delayed Kinsey Report is a slice of life by a Canadian miss who owes her salvation to British Secret Service Agent James Bond when bullets zing and holocaust rages in Glens Falls, New York. Sparks fly in this one, all right.

**THE AFFAIR OF SWAN LAKE.** By Patrick O'Malley. Mill-Morrow. \$2.95. That rollicking pair, Counter-Intelligence Agents Harrigan and Hoeffler, move into Minnesota hunters' paradise to smell out suspected hostile anti-missile activities. As pert as ever.

**THE FIVE-DAY NIGHTMARE.** By Fredric Brown. Dutton. \$2.95. Arizona investment counsel jolted when 25G ransom demand for wife turns up in his typewriter; it says, "Call no cops," so he works it out alone to a moderately surprising finish. Air of authenticity.

**GIDEON'S MARCH.** By J. J. Marric. Harper. \$3.50. Impending London visit of big three Allied heads of state gives Yard brass extra headache, but meanwhile the "little" murders and lesser felonies go on and on. Usual superb job of organization.

**THE CRUEL FIRE.** By Edward Atiyah. Crime Club. \$3.50. Man of property in Lebanese village, hated by wife and grown-up children, panic-murders Yankee tourist (f.); no secrets here. Chief interest is in shots of life in Near East.

**THE CANNIBAL WHO OVERATE.** By Hugh Pentecost. Dodd, Mead. \$3.50. Hate campaign of ace British-born war correspondent reaches climax at his late-age birthday party in swankiest Manhattan hotel; three are dead. Warms up after cool start.

**MURDER BOUND.** By Poul Anderson. Macmillan. \$3.50. Trygve Yamamura, San Francisco private eye, looks into marine vanishment case that involves hangover from Quisling days in Norway. Usual well-managed performance.

**KILLERS UNKNOWN.** By John Godwin. Collier. Paperback. 95¢ Thirteen unsolved murder cases (five USA, two Britain, two Australia, two Germany, one Italy, one Siam—1881-1959) are offered in this excellent packet by a capable London reporter.

**DEAD MAN CALLING.** By Gavin Black. Random House. \$3.50. English businessman on spot when rival is knifed in Tokyo hotel; everybody suspects everybody else as assassin strikes again. Fine pace and an excellent travelogue.

**TRY ANYTHING ONCE.** By A. A. Fair (Erle Stanley Gardner). Morrow. \$2.95. Donald Lam, tiny peeper partner of big Bertha Cool, prowls alone again and bags Los Angeles area slayer; Sergeant Frank Sellers apologizes temporarily. The mixture as before.

**HOMICIDE TRINITY.** By Rex Stout. Viking. \$2.95. These three fine yarns, all laid in Manhattan, find Nero Wolfe ornery as ever, Archie Goodwin brash as ever, and Inspector Cramer mean as ever. Prosit!

**THE MURDER TRIAL OF JUDGE PEEL.** By Jim Bishop. Simon & Schuster. \$3.95. Detailed narrative treatment of the deaths of Judge C. E. Chillingworth and his wife at Palm Beach (1955) and of the 1961 court case that saw another jurist in jeopardy. Fine addition to the fact-crime shelf.

**BLACK WELCOME.** By Nigel FitzGerald. Macmillan. \$3.50. Yank visiting Western Ireland home of his forebears runs into double slaughter; fine Supt. Duffy asks plenty of questions. Firm job, with good scenery, well-drawn characters.

**A BONE AND A HANK OF HAIR.** By Leo Bruce. British Book Centre. \$3.25. English schoolmaster who plays at private eyeing looks into disappearance of woman compatriot with ingeniously startling results. Pleasant tale, with nice touches of humor.

**TROUBLEMAKERS.** By T. R. Fyvel. Schocken. \$4.95. This study of "rebellious youth in an affluent society" accents Britain's Teddy-boy problem, but there is also much good data on the American angle (and even Russia has its *stilyagi*). Sound sociological analysis, with excellent case histories.

**TO SEE A STRANGER.** By Margaret Lynn. Crime Club. \$3.50. Was she Dorcas Mallory or was she Lisa Landry, bride of today or wife of fifteen years' standing? English gal has one devil of a time getting the answers; arson precedes death by violence. Nerve-bender.  
—SERGEANT CUFF.