

Why Vietnam?

Frank N. Trager. Praeger. 238 pp. \$4.95.

The author finds an answer to the question posed in the book's title through an appraisal of the history of Indochina—with particular attention to the outcome of the 1954 Geneva Conference and the record of the Diem regime. Dr. Trager, who is professor of international affairs at N.Y.U. and a former director of the Point Four Program in Burma, argues the need for continued American involvement in the present struggle.

Secular Christianity

Ronald Gregor Smith. Harper & Row. 222 pp. \$5.00.

"The reality of secular Christianity," Smith asserts, "cannot be expressed either in terms of the simple presence or the simple absence of God. But secular Christianity means the dialectical expression of the presence of the Spirit, which is the way of Christ in the world, in forms which can be neither objectively distinguished nor enumerated. The form of Christ in the world is certainly a historical reality; it is *the* historical reality. . . . The theology of faith is a theology of the cross, and thus a *theologia viatorum*. It is a theology of a pilgrim journey which makes its own map as it goes."

The Play Within the Play: The Inside Story of the U.N.

Hernane Tavares de Sa. Knopf. 309 pp. \$5.95.

Employing an expression from his native Brazil, Mr. Tavares notes that he is certainly not the "owner of the truth" about the organization he served for five years as Under-secretary for Public Information. His experiences have led to a book which "runs counter to current slogans and hallowed platitudes about the U.N." and to characterization of the United Nations as a body "which is at one and the same time intimately immersed in world events and yet primly self-contained."

The Developing World: AUFIS Readings, Vol. I

American Universities Field Staff. 256 pp. \$3.00 (paper)

The dozen Reports which comprise this volume were selected, in consultation with the Social Sciences and Humanities Center of Teachers College, Columbia, from those produced by AUFIS Associates in the period 1963-65. Although the Reports are written for college and university use, this collection is intended to serve the needs of high school teachers and students, providing them with a "variety of approaches to international understanding" and knowledge of developments in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East.

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