

What Is Behind The Mushroom Of Cumulus Smoke?

By NORMAN COUSINS
 In The Saturday Review

AT A RECENT MEETING in St. Louis, scientists, theologians, and philosophers a stark but simple statement was made. The statement was easily the most important thing said during our lifetime.

The statement was to the effect that the United States and Soviet possess more than the number of fission and fusion bombs required to burn off all forms of life on this planet.

It was also pointed out that responsible leaders of government have served public notice that nothing would be held back in the event of war. And, in order that no one might make the mistake of thinking that any of this was academic, the group was reminded that some of our highly-placed military men, regarding war as inevitable and not wishing to be placed at a later disadvantage, had urged that the United States launch the holocaust by dropping the first bombload overseas.

FEARFUL PROSPECT
 There is, however, something far more horrible than the fact that the means are now at hand for the total extermination of life. In all the speculation over the possibility that the scientists may be wrong and that humankind could survive the next war. In all the speculation over the possibility of extinction, the more dreadful prospect of fragmentary survival has been overlooked.

NO REASSURANCE
 The government cannot provide such reassurance because there is no such reassurance to be had. All the government can do is to confine itself to what is certain: That all civilization and all works would be leveled in an atomic war. It is left to others to guess whether man would go down with society or, in the event that man did survive, exactly what life would mean under those circumstances. Will mere survival

mean that the human species will at least have cured itself of its intelligence, the highest manifestation of which was its skill in overcoming nature's congeniality to man? And what about the phrase so favored by philosophers and theologians to describe the precociousness of the individual: the dignity of man? This human uniqueness so venerated in church and story — what form will it take? Will it be the uniqueness of the mumbling and helpless idiot foraging to sustain a senseless life?

ONRUSHING REALITY
 These things are not the scare stories or aberrations of the total nightmare. They are the products of an onrushing reality. They are as real as your anticipation of the next paycheck; as real as the house you are getting ready to build; as real as the family reunion at Thanksgiving; as real as the newspaper in your hand that gives so many examples of the differences among men that divide them and frighten them and very little about the common destiny that should inspire them.

RIGHTS OF THE STATE
 The rights of the state are many. They include the right to sacrifice human life or to take human life in the defense of the



HYDROGEN BOMB EXPLOSION
 The Age Of The Cave Man Can End

not only because of its own aims and means, but because of our own inability to grasp the problem at its largest. What we see that our highest purpose and greatest security rest in championing the natural rights of man in the world around when we define the working basis of peace and freedom, communism will have no place to go.

Despite the many categories of the historian, there are only two ages of man. The first age, the age from the beginning of recorded time to the present is the age of the cave man. It is the age of war. It is today. The second age, still only a prospect, is the age of civilized man. The test of civilized man will be represented by his ability to use his inventiveness for his own good by substituting world law for world anarchy. That second age is still in the making. It is not a part-time job, however. It calls for total awareness, total commitment.

Why Not Try The American Way?

PAUL-HENRI SPAAK was irritated. The Belgian foreign minister had been designated by the 14 NATO foreign ministers' meeting in Paris to report on their action to the press Saturday. A reporter had inquired whether unanimous agreement of all NATO members would be required before the atomic warfare plan agreed upon by the ministers could be effected.

"Come, come now," said Mr. Spaak. "Do you suppose the rest of us are going to sit and wait to decide such a question while the telephone is being repaired?"

Thus did the foreign minister who man shrug off of a problem the diplomats had shielded away from. It is not the much-publicized question of who would give the word that atomic weapons shall be used, and how the decision would be reached. The question is: When is law going to replace diplomatic anarchy as the means by which the momentous decisions of free world policy are made?

CONSIDER the background of NATO and the validity of the unnamed reporter's question: clear NATO was set up as an association of sovereign states, each having absolute veto power. Each, in addition, has a secondary veto in its power to delay action. NATO is merely a treaty. That type of instrument, as Hamilton aptly observed in "The FEDERALIST," has "no other sanction than the obligations of good faith," and therefore ought not to be depended upon. Nevertheless the NATO countries have built upon this legal framework a costly structure comprising of a council and permanent secretariat, a general staff with its own commander-in-chief and combined defense forces. This one-branch "government" is ruled by men, rather than law.

The inability of an organization such as NATO to function according to its design was well put by Clarence Streit in his recent book, *FREEDOM AGAINST ISRAEL*, which ought to be studied lightly by western diplomats. Speaking of NATO, he said:

"It is democratic only in the sense that all its 14 members, small and great, are represented in its Council and have equal status there, as in the Wilsonian League. But this is the 'democracy' of national sovereigns, the 'democracy' of divine right kings meeting in conference in the age of absolute monarchy. True democratic government is based on the citizens as equal sovereigns. In a federal union, states are represented in proportion to the number of their citizens, the larger people having more representatives than the smaller ones in one house, and the same voice in the election of the executive. But NATO's 'democracy' gives each nation the same voting power. It counts one Belgian as equal to five Frenchmen, one citizen of Luxembourg as equal to 180 Britons, and one Icelandic as equal to 1,000 Americans.

Obviously NATO cannot function effectively on such a basis. When any na-



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'Twas Brilliant And The Slithy Toves

GREATEST sports section in the world? bumbled our visitor enthusiastically, waving a copy of THE CHARLOTTE NEWS high in the air. "But, tell me," he whispered, "Where do I get the pony?"

"The pony?" he asked.

"Yeah, the pony for the sports page headlines—the translation—the decoding chart—'Gezz'—used to think 'VANIER' was a puzzle."

"You mean you don't dig—ah—understand the headlines in the greatest sports section in the world? And you call yourself a sports fan? Fi on you, sir. What don't you understand?"

"Well, this. Before you could get an eyelash into left eye I've flashed a clipping at us. The headline blared:

PATS BOTHERS LR
 In Work For Ayrps

"That simply meant that in preparation for a football game with Appalachian State Teachers College, the Mohr Rhyme College Bears were concentrating their efforts in practice on making points-after-touchdown, a phase of the game that had been giving them some difficulty. See how simple it is?"

"Well, okay, but how about this?"

BOLD PASS, BRASH SOPH 'CATS' MEOW

"Well, uh, . . ."

"And this?"

BURLESQUE SURPRISE . . . REES SAVE GCCA REP. . . RICE HIGH ON LAOD

"Hmmm. Heavens-to-Betsy! You don't suppose there is a pony around here somewhere do you?"

PINK STUCCO IS OKAY

SOME American interior decorators and designers may feel frustrated by purchasers who ignore the esthetic in picking out furniture. But reports from Russia indicate that designing furniture there won't send the manufacturer to Siberia in no easy job.

The official instruction for research in interior decoration has announced certain political norms. The ultra-modern reveals the designer as "an enemy of the national cultural heritage and an ally of cosmopolitanism and that policy of American imperialism." The high vaults of the Gothic were designed "to estrange people from the realities of life and diverted the attention of the masses from their class interests, mak-

People's Platform

Letters should be brief. The writer's name and address must be given, but will be withheld from publication in the discretion of the editors. The News reserves the right to condense.

News Comic Strip Performs Service
 Chicago, Ill.
 Editor's The News:
 Attention to Rex Morgan, M.D., appearing in The Charlotte News.

The current story tells the plight of a man making a gallant fight to overcome epilepsy.

I wish to express the gratitude of the National Epilepsy League to the author of Rex Morgan, M.D., and The Charlotte News for publishing this enlightening revelation of the social, economic and emotional problems of people with this disorder.

This is the first time in recorded history that the story of epilepsy has been told dramatically and forcefully to a general public that is woefully unaware of the truly remarkable medical progress in this field. It will help perform miracles in dispelling the superstitions and ignorance about epilepsy, particularly as our people need a report of the bleak facts about legal inequities affecting epileptics.

Above all, the Rex Morgan, M.D., story is giving new hope to the 1,500,000 people with epilepsy and their relatives and friends.

—BEN H. GRAY
 Director, National Epilepsy League.

The People Need To Be Awakened
 Charlotte
 Editor's The News:
 I WISH to thank you for publishing the professor's predictions as our people need a some help to awaken them from their lethargy. As to my own belief, I will not say I am about blind anyway. You have my thanks.

—H. E. MARKS

Editor's Note: Reader Marks probably refers to Dr. Charles Laughlin's prediction that "catapults" will rack the world tomorrow.

Drew Pearson's Ridgway Favors 'Limited Intervention'

WASHINGTON
 AN important shift has taken place in the clash between the State Department and the Defense Department regarding the question of an armed intervention to protect Chiang Kai-shek. This debate involves the most important policy before Eisenhower at this time—possible preventive war.

Gen. Matt Ridgway, Army chief of staff, who previously sided with the State Department and fought inside the joint chiefs of staff against any armed involvement over the Nationalist island of Quemoy, has shifted his ground a bit. He is now willing to have American troops and warships defend the Nationalist-Tachen Islands.

These are 200 miles up the Red China coast from Quemoy and a little easier to defend. Quemoy is so close to the city of Amoy that a good swimmer can swim across. Tachen Islands, 15 miles from the mainland, are now being used as a guerrilla base for Chiang Kai-shek's frequent attacks on the Chinese mainland. Hence, it is not the chief reason why the joint chiefs of staff want to defend it.

Their reason is that low-lying fog hangs over the Strait of Formosa in the early morning and would serve as a cover for a Communist invasion force seeking to reach Formosa. The Red Chinese stones to Chiang Kai-shek's stronghold.

The long drawn out debate between the Pentagon and the State Department over these islands highlights the larger debate in Congress and inside the administration over the theory of preventive war. It also brings the debate right back to the same place it was during the Truman administration.

Secretary of State Dulles takes exactly the same position as Dean Acheson that the United States does not want to get involved in a war with China. He is so vigorous on this point that he even made a special trip to Formosa to urge Chiang Kai-shek to withdraw from the difficult-to-defend islands, Chiang refused.

He knew, of course, that the joint chiefs of staff favor a much more vigorous policy of defending these islands, even at the risk of war. Other military men not on the joint chiefs of staff go along with the State Department's position for an all-out showdown with the Red China-Russian combine now while we are ahead in the race for a stockpile of A-bombs.

So far Eisenhower, faced with this difficult decision inside his own office, has sided with the State Department.

Sen. Lyndon Johnson, who did a masterful job of defending the Red Chinese

Arsenic Seasoners Always Have Plenty Of Husbands

NEW YORK
 THE CASE of the gallant old lady in Oklahoma, who has confessed to poisoning four husbands, is being studied as a study of worm anking. I never did know a dame who could mix a decent drink.

The henlock in the cup that cheers has been a particular province of the females since we started history, ranging from the Marston and the Brimble who poisoned several hundred bystanders, a few of the distaff Borgias, an English girl named Cotton who accounted for 21 souls, and a pleasant lady from Ohio whose name escapes me but who finally gave up employing a foot-leech hand with the "ratnip."

PLENTY OF HUSBANDS
 What particularly intrigues me is that the wholesale arsenic seasoners always seem to get plenty of husbands to exterminate, whilst a gal who is sweet and brings the slippers and pats the head usually has a difficult time corraling the second if she loses the first.

This charming old trout in Oklahoma confessed to five on the roster, and said she had another lamb all lined up even before No. 5 crawled under the house, so to speak, for trusting her with ratsbane and warm Martina, which was undoubtedly keeping him awake nights.

SPEED UP SCIENTISTS
 I am not a scientist, but I think that the reason women poison men is because they have had so much practice in making inferior coffee and warm Martina that they weary of the slow effort and wish to speed up the process.

There is one thing that definitely tends to preach. The old girl from Oklahoma's old-lady diet, said that "her husband would drink that nasty old roight whisky," a sure affront to a pure, and so she gave him a cup, Keely never thought of. Come to think of it, having drunk some of that Oklahoma roight, I would prefer arsenic. It tastes better going down.

SLIGHT DEVIATION
 There is always a high moral aspect to these as a study of worm anking. Our heroine from Tulsa poisoned them for their own good, but she was not in the least bit sorry. The "newbie" who poisoned my blood kin. This is where she deviates slightly. Most people would take more pleasure in toying a little as de mull into a cousin's cocktail than in straining some "wolfbane" into a stranger's glass.

It is a chronic prisoner, using such easily detectable means for employing a foot-leech and his combinations, always have a hater's dozen husbands, friends and innocent bystanders plotted under the plum tree before the cops get around to wondering why Miss' Mary done snaked up at meetin' with a new man, or that nobody's seen little Ezzy since he come back with a bait of rathbone from the drugstore last January, 1926.

Ridgway Favors 'Limited Intervention'

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When Sen. Eastland, during the McCarthy debate, started lining up against his own Mississippi colleague and Sen. McCarthy, Lyndon Johnson tried to persuade him not to. Finally Eastland said he would vote against McCarthy if he were assured the Internal Security chairmanship. Johnson made no definite promise but it now seems that he kept his word in his Democratic Party.

Meanwhile, Kilgore figures he will follow the precedent of the late Sen. Pat McCarran of Nevada and serve as chairman of the Internal Security Subcommittee himself.

He has become especially firm in this decision since he learned Sen. Eastland has a Gerald L. K. Smith representative on his staff.

At this point the persuasive senator from Texas came forward with some strategy which would practically nullify Kilgore's power as chairman. He proposed appointing two of the most reactionary members of the Senate to the Judiciary Committee to serve under Kilgore—Price Daniel of Texas and Alan Bible of Nevada.

Both have well known views on civil rights and civil liberties. Bible having trailed under Republican Pat McCarran. Their appointment would mean that