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Floodtide in Europe

B. B. Garlinghouse
U.S. Navy

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BOOKS

Cook, Don. *Floodtide in Europe*. New York: Putnam, 1965. 384 p.

In *Floodtide in Europe* the former chief European correspondent of the New York *Herald Tribune* has written a contemporary political history. Mr. Cook has divided his book into three parts: background, events relating to or resulting from the historic Nassau Conference, and future prospects. In each part he weaves a whole new fabric around France, Germany, and Britain, and those great men who shaped the history of their time, skillfully highlighting the interrelationships. The book is excitingly readable, at times in free journalistic style, at others in near-Churchillian prose. The author writes with such vivid, intimate insight that the reader often wonders how he could have been hiding behind so many curtains, in so many cities, at so many instantaneous moments. Actually, he has combined excellent research of the many principals' memoirs with the knowledge gained from his many personal acquaintances as chief foreign correspondent to provide this penetrating exposé of contemporary events up through early 1965. Author Cook may have come closer to discovering the hidden mechanism in De Gaulle's psyche than any journalist—certainly any historian—to date; he suggests that President Kennedy may have revealed it only weeks before his assassination. "I came to the conclusion that the strategy of General de Gaulle, which I do not quite understand, needs a certain tension between France and the United States. Apparently he thinks that only this tension can give Europeans the will to think for themselves instead of relying lazily on American dollars and political leadership." Mr. Cook concludes that it took Western Europe a century and a half to get over Clausewitz' dictum that "war is an extension of politics by other means." With the obvious failure of the MLF, and with a newborn nationalism, a subtle shift is taking place in the balance between dependence on purely military security and a new trust in political security. This is the new "floodtide in Europe."

B.B. GARLINGHOUSE
Commander, U.S. Navy

Etzioni, Amitai. *Political Unification*. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1965. 346 p.

This book has three major goals: to examine the successes and failures of four specified regional associations, to suggest a general