

1964

## Disarmament and the Cold War in the Thirties

Hugh R. Wilson

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/nwc-review>

---

### Recommended Citation

Wilson, Hugh R. (1964) "Disarmament and the Cold War in the Thirties," *Naval War College Review*: Vol. 17 : No. 1 , Article 8.  
Available at: <https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/nwc-review/vol17/iss1/8>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at U.S. Naval War College Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Naval War College Review by an authorized editor of U.S. Naval War College Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [repository.inquiries@usnwc.edu](mailto:repository.inquiries@usnwc.edu).

and of the International Court of Justice in particular. Unfortunately, the standards which Hammarskjold and a few others establish in their writings are not maintained by the bulk of contributors, who devote more time to a rendition of abstract principles than to concrete uses of international law. The book was intended for the general reader who is not to be overwhelmed with footnotes or facts. If the reader assumes the value of international law, the book may be useful, but if he is a skeptic at the beginning he is likely to remain one.

Wilson, Hugh R. *Disarmament and the Cold War in the Thirties*. New York: Vantage, 1963. 87p.

In this book, the author portrays the diplomatic maneuvers and events of a period in international affairs bearing remarkable similarities to the present. By quoting extensively from letters he received during these years and from his personal diary, he instills in the reader a feeling of being there as history unfolds. The author presents a firsthand account, since he was officially and intimately involved in many of these significant events. The first part of the book deals with the frustrations in the attempts at disarmament during the period between the wars. The problems associated with disarmament today seem much the same as those of three decades ago. Germany, like Russia today, was interested in disarmament only to the extent that she might gain in relative power. French stubbornness hindered coordination in much the same manner then as now. The latter part of the book deals with the uneasy peace which finally was submerged by World War II. Of particular note is the analysis of the United States' preoccupation in the Far East, as the storm clouds gathered over Europe. The author suggests that this running verbal battle with Japan helped convince Hitler that the United States would not intervene in his plans for Europe. As a concluding admonition, the author cautions against the United States tendency to scold, although unwilling to back such scolding with force. Scolding for the sake of relieving one's feelings, he points out, has no place in international relations.

Keats, John. *They Fought Alone*. Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1963. 425p.

John Keats has done an excellent job in presenting the extremely interesting, fast-moving World War II story of Colonel Wendell Fertig, USAR. Wendell Fertig was a mining engineer who chose to take his chances in the jungles of the Philippines