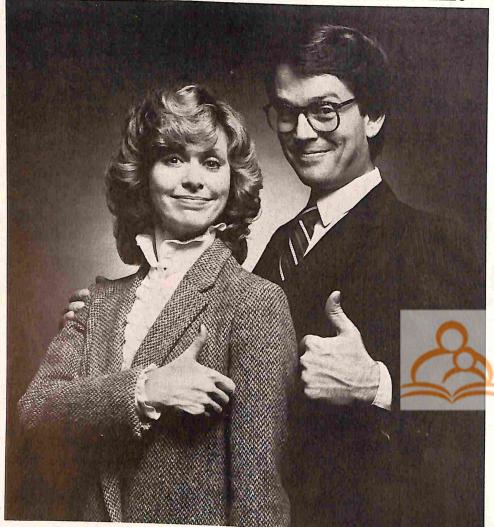
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DECEMBER 5, 1983 Vol. 122 No. 24

THE WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

A Letter from the Publisher

hen the Soviets walked out of the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) talks in Geneva last week, Diplomatic Correspondent Strobe Talbott, who wrote the behind-the-scenes

history of the negotiations that accompanies this week's cover story, confessed to some pessimism about the course of events. Nevertheless, he is confident that arms control is an unfinished story. Says Talbott: "The interruption of these talks closed an episode, but there will probably be more chapters to come."

Talbott has closely followed the labyrinthine plot twists of arms-control negotiations for ten years. He covered the U.S.-Soviet Strategic Arms Limitation Talks from 1973 to 1979 and subsequently turned his observations into a 1979 book, Endgame: The Inside Story of SALT II (Harper & Row; 319 pages; \$15). Strobe Talbott and a backdrop of Soviet leaders His fascination with Soviet-American

relations goes back to his teen-age years, when he studied Russian at the Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, Conn. A student of Russian literature at Yale and then at Oxford, Talbott worked as a 1969 summer trainee at TIME's Moscow bureau, and has since returned to the Soviet Union more than a dozen times on reporting assignments. In 1970 and 1974 he translated and edited the



two volumes of Nikita Khrushchev's memoirs. His interest in Soviet affairs led naturally to a concern about arms control. Says Talbott: "At the most basic level, avoiding nuclear war is what Soviet-American relations are all about.'

The presidency of Ronald Reagan, marked by its harsh criticism of SALT II, signaled a new era in superpower diplomacy and

HUGH PATRICK BROWN heightened Talbott's interest in arms control. During the past three years, he has gathered information week by week, talking with officials at various levels in numerous agencies of the U.S. Government. He traveled to Moscow, Geneva, London and Bonn, interviewing North Atlantic Treaty Organization spokesmen as well as experts from the Soviet Union. The result is a vivid look at what really happened as the representatives of the superpowers wrestled to find agreement at Geneva. This week's story will be expanded by Talbott into his second arms-control book, to be published by Alfred A. Knopf next year. Sums up Talbott: "Arms control can be a very com-

plex, esoteric subject. I have tried to bring a human dimension to it by describing the forceful personalities who shape policy on both sides of the negotiating table."

John a meyers

Cover: Illustration by David Suter



Soviets walk out of the Geneva talks, ending a two-year process that has been marked by infighting and intransigence. Americans, meanwhile, still react to the shock of an apocalyptic



World: Arafat and the P.L.O. rebels reach a compromise that would end the fighting in Tripoli. ▶ In Nicaragua, conciliatory moves by the Sandinistas and new doubts about the contras. > Britain's historic gold heist



Nebraska: Beating Oklahoma last Saturday, the undefeated Cornhuskers set their sights on the Orange Bowl and a national championship, But they have already won a place among the greatest college teams ever. See SPORT.

Nation

A TV game ends a make-believe crisis. ▶ Ruckelshaus cleans up the EPA. ▶ Marines celebrate with turkey in Grenada.

Music

Four titans of the '60s have new rock albums: Dylan, Simon and the Stones triumph, but McCartney bloody, profane—and drowns in treacle.

Law

There is a time bomb ticking away behind bars—the nation's dangerously overcrowded prisons and jails.

Cinema

An updating of the Howard Hawks classic Scarface, starring Al Pacino, is big, entertaining.

Economy & Business Computers

turned itself into a trend setter. ▶ Openstar in a tax scam.

Education

The funding of public schools is becoming more private as local groups raise money to supplement tight tax revenues

Once dowdy Sears has The hot-selling programmed fiction games put the mysing bell for new phone tery on the screen and a delectable survey of let the players write the plot.

Books Pitch Dark is Renata Adler's knowing and beautifully shaped work. ▶ Wise Virgin is bloodshed in a real that rarest of fictions: a war. They provided

88 Art

David Hockney creates three-dimensionhis theater designs in Minneapolis.

100 Essay

Almost unnoticed in the furor over The Day After was a film of real funny social comedy. sharp contrasts.

90 Theater

Cutesified and trivialized, Garry Trudeau's al "environments" for musical Doonesbury is a libel on his hip, cynical comic strip of the 1970s.

> **6 Letters** 79 People 99 Milestones

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A Turning Point

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