

**THE EISENHOWER
DIARIES**

edited by Robert H. Ferrell
Norton, 1981
445 pp. \$19.95

The revival of scholarly interest in "Ike"—the General who directed D-Day, the President who eased us through the '50s—will receive a further boost with the publication of these diaries. This selection, edited by historian Ferrell, opens with Eisenhower's assignment to the Philippines in 1935, his uneasy relationship with Douglas MacArthur, his difficulty in understanding the Filipino mind ("no lack of intelligence, but . . . unaccustomed to the requirements of administrative and executive procedures"). Throughout, Eisenhower's assessments of colleagues and subordinates reveal slight interest in personality, except as it touches on the more important areas of performance. Finding the right person for the slot, balancing the "flashy . . . type of adventurer" against the "methodical, ritualistic person"—this he considered the "real job of the commander," and perhaps suggests why Ike may be remembered more as a manager than as a tactician. His eyes were always on the "big picture"—and on those charged with managing its endless details. In the White House, he worried that excessive and inappropriate defense spending could leave the nation "broke" and still poorly defended. The diaries of this modest, dutiful man show he possessed the first requirement of the good observer: self-effacement. But his gaze was seldom fixed upon himself. ("Father died this morning. Nothing I can do but send a wire.") The inner Ike remains hidden.

*Contemporary Affairs***PRICES AND
QUANTITIES:**

A Macroeconomic Analysis
by Arthur M. Okun
Brookings, 1981
367 pp. \$19.95 cloth,
\$7.95 paper

The putative failure of Keynesian economics to deal with the "stagflation" of the 1970s drove many economists to supply-side theory, but not the late Arthur Okun, of the Brookings Institution. While Okun concedes in this posthumously published book that traditional macroeconomic strategies did not stop inflation, even with the decade's several recessions, his analysis suggests no greater suc-