BOOK REVIEWS

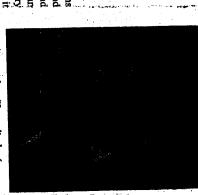
THE MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT (Harper & Row) \$10.00 ADAM YARMOLINSKY **American Society** its impacts on

a favorite target of Washington condeveloping in ways determined by a evil conspiracy against the public inment not as a monolithic, inherently olates a cherished attitude of the left. tain to win wide attention-which vito Defense Secretary McNamara, was brilliant and aggressively liberal aide pack in the Kennedy-Johnson tangle of circumstances. tion, quite capable of good and bad, terest but as a multifaceted institu-He writes of the military establishinformed and incisive that it is cerican military establishment—one so has produced a study of the Amerservatives. Now he is about to receive usillades from another direction. He years, Adam Yarmolinsky, the

armed forces, by design and otherahead of the nation in integrating wise, have done their own kind of soed the job training, the health care whites and blacks, and have providcial reforming. They have been well The book emphasizes that the A sober judgment on the Pentagon

black, to gain greater income and and the psychological breakthroughs emies or in the type of men influencstatus when they returned to civilian which permitted millions, white and ing Pentagon decisions. nature of the instruction at the acadratic civilianization, whether in the has been undergoing a marked if erhas burgeoned in size and power, it life. And all the while the military

sees a possible "fatal" confrontation tion of American life all the way down in a low-keyed, clinical way, just how arms establishment, he keeps asking ing any easy devil theory about the military leaders and an inward-look-In a particularly somber passage, he and many congressmen are chilling heart relationship of the Pentagon making foreign policy and the sweetdescriptions of the military role in for decorating battle monuments. His to florists who take in \$6,000 a year lishment, and he details its permea-Varmolinsky yields to no one in his ing Pentagon. But, constantly avoidbetween a public disenchanted with its did all this come to be? How can the fear of the gigantic arms estab-



Adam Yarmolinsky

mands of modern weaponry and the considerations ranging through the structure and habits of the United special nature of the cold war, the deat his best, he is dealing with matters mechanistic handling of social trends; cause of Yarmolinsky's somewhat ommendations are less persuasive begon rather than a poodle for it. At make it a watchdog over the Pentatee on the military constructed to tions are also of varied types, perhaps States government. His recommendacentral point. er. Yet it is difficult to gainsay his ritated dissents from almost any readtouching so many interests and emotimes both the analysis and the rection of a joint congressional committhe most promising being the suggestions that he is likely to provoke ir-He explains what has happened by

the problem in the American people Yarmolinsky locates the root of

> establishment off their backs but have military establishment were not here on the national resources whenever it ment and shying away from serious never really liking an arms establishhave shown a persistent ambivalence, themselves. Over the decades they to stay, or speaks of controlling it in a dissidence has developed, much of nomic rewards. During recent years cries peril. They have wanted the arms ing its doctrine that it has first claim tain awe of the military and acceptbother with it, yet standing in a cerprogram of what the nation actually military in its place, which would seek which talks romantic notions of a been more than willing to take its ecoof the military and fit the armed forces brush aside the allegedly prior claims aims to achieve at home and abroad some coherent, broadly acceptable thinking necessary really to put the shown a readiness for the exacting tion. All along, few Americans have a haze of moralistic oversimplifica-"peace" America, as if a substantial hese larger purposes. -not to speak of the rest of us-into

puts it, "the American people get the kind of military establishment they In the last analysis, as Yarmolinsky

by Eric F. Goldman

Tragedy of Lyndon Johnson. Mr. Goldman, a historian and White House consultant (1963-66), wrote The