

*Don't miss this meeting! John Gardiner writes a regular column on the Far East in the Manchester Union Leader.*

JOHN P. GARDINER TO SPEAK ON

"THE DILEMMA OF VIETNAM"

in Wellesley

*- Gil Stubbs*

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The Americans for Constitutional Action is presenting the eminent lecturer and journalist, John P. Gardiner, as the speaker at a public meeting on Thursday evening, May 11, 8 to 10:30 PM at the Hunnewell School, Cameron Street, Wellesley.

Speaking on "The Dilemma of Vietnam", Mr. Gardiner will discuss the strategic relationship between the military operations in Vietnam and the anti Vietnam war propaganda operations in the United States and elsewhere.

John P. Gardiner was born in Cohasset, Mass., just after the turn of the century to a family whose forebears include farmers, fishermen, merchants, legislators, diplomats, clergymen, lawyers, and shipping tycoons. Among the latter was one of the first Yankees to visit China, pioneering in the early China Trade between New England and Canton.

He was educated at Middlesex School and Harvard from which he graduated in 1929, having specialized in History, Government and Economics with particular emphasis on the Far East. As an undergraduate, he was awarded high honors in two graduate courses dealing with China and Japan. He subsequently attended the Universite de Poitiers in France from which he holds a certificate. Mr. Gardiner has a working knowledge of the French, Japanese and Chinese (Cantonese) languages.

In the early '30s, he was in the financial business in Boston and then went to China where he spent four years in the financial worlds of Shanghai, Canton and Hong Kong. During this period, he travelled extensively and had many unique experiences, among others becoming a member of a Chinese club, the Tai Tung, which operated only at night where he was privileged to know the Chinese in their more intimate moments -- something normally denied the "Fan Quai Lo" (Foreign Devil) -- the white man. While in China he became a Reserve Officer in U. S. Naval Intelligence.

While living in Shanghai, he met a Hungarian girl who was making a tour of the Far East, an authoress, whom he subsequently married in Budapest. Shortly after returning to the United States, he went to Washington where he specialized in economic operations relating to the French Colonies and China in The Foreign Economic Administration and in The Department of State. While serving in the latter, he was on the secretariat of The State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee; this committee, the immediate forerunner of the present National Security Council, was the first organization in American history established to formulate and to coordinate high level politico-military operations. "SWINK", as it was called, operated in intimate collaboration with the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Mr. Gardiner had a hand in drafting "The Terms of Surrender for Japan" and subsequently became Assistant Secretary General of the Far Eastern Commission. He then returned to the Far East with his family of four and served as First Secretary of Embassy in Korea and Japan with the assimilated rank of Brigadier General.

He retired in the early '50s and since that time has been a newspaper columnist, writer, and lecturer.

The meeting is open to the general public. All are invited to attend and to participate in the discussion period. There is no admission charge.

G. S. Stubbs, Chairman