

The subject is described and evaluated in five main chapters. One is dedicated to earlier developments between 1949 and 1978 while another deals with historical and ideological aspects. Various supplements are a much appreciated service for the readers. Altogether 16 documents are translated into English, six from the 1950s, the others from 1979 onwards. Here we have the criminal law, the law of criminal procedure, excerpts from the 1982 constitution, the provisional act on lawyers, etc. In addition there are a glossary of Chinese terms (pinyin and the characters), a highly informative, useful bibliography (15 pages), four tables and a ten page detailed index. The notes are arranged at the end of each chapter, all in all more than 740, and many of them provide references for further reading.

We are given a scrutinizing description and assessment of the legal structure, and also of numerous other institutions that affect people's lives. The public security apparatus includes for example various mass organizations and social groups such as resident committees and security defense committees. While presenting to us the dual existence of the formal and informal (societal) model, the whole description is close to daily life in China.

Perhaps the University Press was under pressure when the book was prepared for publication. There are some typographical errors and some misspelled names in the bibliography. However, this does not hamper the reader's understanding.

Shao-chuan Leng and Hungdah Chiu have written a comprehensive as well as concise book that is highly informative and worth reading. There are numerous publications on China's legal reforms but to the best of my knowledge this is the first monograph on criminal justice in post-Mao China. It is to be welcomed and highly recommended to specialists and interested laymen alike.

*Werner Pfennig*

**Karl-Rudolf Korte:** *Nippons neue Vasallen? Die Japanpolitik der Europäischen Gemeinschaft.* (Mainzer Beiträge zur Europäischen Einigung, Band 3). Bonn: Europa Union Verlag, 1984. 103 pages, DM 19,80.-

The author, a staff member of the Institute for Political Science at the Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz, has been systematically analyzing the policy of the European Commission towards Japan since the beginning of the 1970's. His special concern was not only to depict the activities arising from the economic relations and to make them clear, but also to include foreign and security policy. It is clear that, due to the constantly growing imbalances in the current accounts, trade policy has been the dominating subject in the dialogue between the two

economic giants in every phase of the period investigated by the author. From the present point of view it has to be stated that – despite some progress – they have not succeeded in fundamentally improving the economic relations. The focus of the EC-policy towards Japan is still, above all, the demand for reduction of (actual or alleged) import barriers which the Japanese comply with very hesitatively and which they counter with the reproach that European exporters do not make adequate efforts.

In his chronological presentation of the EC-policy towards Japan Korte differentiates between 4 periods:

- (1) The beginning of the European-Japanese dialogue in the years 1970 – 72 with the failure of the negotiations on a comprehensive trade agreement;
- (2) the institutionalization of the dialogue in 1973 – 75, which was increasingly conducted in a double-tracked manner after the oil crisis – i.e. member countries besides Commission – and as a rule remained fruitless;
- (3) the perceived worsening of the negotiation atmosphere between 1976 and 79 by the EC (the result of severe structural crises facing some sensitive European industries). The common actions were, above all, restricted to the demand for the opening of the Japanese market, as EC member states could not reach agreement on measures to limit Japanese deliveries (e.g. cars); and
- (4) between 1980 and 1983, years characterized by – in the opinion of the author – substantial Japanese compromises on trade policy. Meanwhile, out of the 'trauma' of isolation, and aspiring to group consensus, the Japanese are willing to make sacrifices to avoid becoming a "protruding nail" as far as trade and foreign policy is concerned, which is – according to a Japanese proverb – constantly hammered.

The study published in 1984 has not lost anything of its topicality – on the contrary: the explosive effect of trade on political relations between the EC and Japan has been aggravated in the course of the past three years, as reflected in the trade figures. And now, in 1987, there are conspicuous parallels, for example to the early 70's, when the 'Nixon-Shock' of the Japanese became a 'Japan-Shock' for the Europeans. Just as in those days, when the U.S. import restrictions led to a massive rerouting of exports intended for the U.S. to Europe, today intensified Japanese efforts can be noticed to compensate the export loss on the U.S. market – due to the depreciation of the U.S.-Dollar – by intensifying sales campaigns in Europe.

*Helmut Laumer*