

tion facilities, energy shortages, scarcity of skilled labour and experienced management and unavailability of financial resources. These bottlenecks provide a further explanation for the failure of industry to realize the objectives emphasized above. In addition, it would have been important to investigate to what extent the process of industrialization has fostered agricultural development, particularly as it is pointed out at the beginning of the analysis that only an integrated approach can achieve the desired results.

Overall, Bronger's study represents an introduction to the development and the current structure of Philippine industry. It contains a vast amount of data on the subject (indeed, two-thirds of the book consists of tables), which so far have not been published in such a comprehensive form. Therefore the book provides a basis for other studies that intend to analyze specific aspects of the industrial sector in the Philippines.

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EINHART SCHMIDT: *Raumplanung in Malaysia - Imperialistische und nationale Einflüsse auf räumliche Planung in einem Land der Dritten Welt.* (Sozialwissenschaftliche Studien Nr. 5). Bochum: Studienverlag Dr. N. Brockmeyer, 1979. 293 pages; 20 tabs.; 2 graphs; 8 maps. DM 39, 80.

As stated in the Preface, this study is the slightly altered version of a doctoral thesis accepted by the Dept. of Regional Planning, Dortmund University. It consists of four parts, namely

- (1) "Introduction" (pp. 5-17) with reflections on "Regional Planning and Development Studies", and the author's intentions.
- (2) "Malaysia-Model Case of a Neo-Colony" (pp. 18-114);
- (3) "Regional Planning in West Malaysia - the Example of the New Settlement Regions" (pp. 115-202);
- (4) "Main Features of the Housing Policies since 1957" (pp. 203-268)

Part One ("Introduction") discusses theories of modernization vs. theories of imperialism under the aspect of social equality. Why? It is important to analyse the causes, extents, and consequences of the existing deformations of regional structures" (p. 12). Later: "Despite farreaching parallels... each of the regions has its particular economic structure and regional distribution of productive forces" (p. 16). Finally: "The differences - and this is my principal thesis - express the changing balance of power between imperialist and comprador interests on the one hand, and national interests on the other. Regional planning is one of the fields of class conflict between international and national bourgeoisies" (ibid.).

Part Two ("Model Case of a Neo-Colony") sets the stage for subsequent interpretations giving a gloomy account of nearly all facets of Malaysian history, economy, living-conditions, etc. But there are also occasional humorous spots, such as: "...one may not think of Malay villages ... persisting (up to the British era) as primeval communist societies" (p. 81). Certainly not!

Part Three ("Regional Planning") contains the first signs that SCHMIDT is willing to move from theory to matters of his own experience. Thus, in the context of the newly opened Land Development Schemes (Jengka Triangle; Johor Tenggara; Pahang Tenggara) we find some valuable information. Tabs. 15-17 (pp. 193-195) are particularly informative: by comparing the settlers' actual and projected "distance budgets" (i. e. the mileage calculated for one year for the respective areas) they throw light on an particular set of problems at the pioneer fringe. Moreover, this chapter (when reduced to its essentials) gives an idea of the changing planning policies, and of the knotty questions that ensue.

Part Four (on "Housing Policies" and urbanization) returns to theory and mere conjecture. Where, e. g. , is evidence of recent "step-migration" from rural to metropolitan areas (p. 213)? Where is evidence that rural-urban migrations are a matter of "sheer survival" (p. 215)? And where is evidence that migrants "on the average" are below standard in education or occupational training, compared with the town-dwellers (p. 217) or evidence of generally "increasing town-squatter problems" (as vaguely commented p. 218)? Furthermore, why is no hint given that notoriously congested low-cost flat-towers are primarily a new version of old "Chinatown", with a network of ties and values far from easily understood by outsiders? And why is no remark made that the forcible eviction of squatters at Tasek Utara (pp. 245-262) was an incident untypical of the Malay squatter scene? Etc., etc.

This is not the place to go into further detail; a look at the modus operandi will do. The oversimplification of history; the indiscriminate use of economic criteria within the context of a 'dual' (or better: multiple) economy; the systematic overlooking of inconvenient facts; the eager search for suitable reference, and be it ever so remote (as third-hand information, unpublished papers, or even political leaflets); the clinging to the basic hypotheses at all costs (plausibility included). Such practices make the reader feel like Alice in Wonderland. By and large, this portrait of Malaysia is painted for naive believers, not for sceptics; it reminds one of a popular ditty (with apologies to Cole Porter): "... though your smile is ugly - it is wrong!"

Dietrich Kühne