

The author uses a somewhat strange and unclear terminology. There are "Chinese satellites", a "red summit conference" was held, the "Pravda wrote saucily" and the "Red Guards were always counted as one of the pillars of the Red Trinity"; (p.348). This language is quite often close to political journalism. On page 67, for example, we read that "thus the first buoys for China's ideological voyage were set". Important events are mentioned en passant. On page 67 "China made war against India from the Himalayas". That is all, nothing more is mentioned!

The book also presents a mixture of transcriptions for Chinese names. On page 329 someone called Ta Tschu is mentioned. It should be T'ao Chu.

The whole book lacks a systematic approach. Historical perspectives are given but the author is stepping back and forth in history does not contribute to the book's clarity. There are long passages of quotations, but quite often important ones are given without note or reference, and the book has only a poor bibliography.

This is not a book for academic circles. Is it a book for the interested public? Yes!

It provides interesting reading for those who want to learn something about politics in Third World countries. However, the new edition came too early for the author to be able to include important events such as the policy of OPEC, the renaissance of Chinese foreign policy after the Cultural Revolution and the new concept of the "Three Worlds" which transformed the Theory of the Intermediate Zones.

The author should make use of a new edition to include the important new developments, which may cause him to rethink many of his former statements and could induce him to rewrite the whole book.

Werner Pfennig

Barbara Böttger, 700 Millionen ohne Zukunft? Faschismus oder Revolution in Indien und Bangladesh. Reinbek, Rowohlt-Taschenbuchverlag, 1975. 255 pages.

Barbara Böttger's answer to the question as to the future of the 700 million inhabitants of the subcontinent is not an optimistic one. Concentrating mainly on material from West-Bengal and Bangladesh, she argues that we will witness a growing polarization between the haves and the have-nots in India in general. Though she has to admit that the country lacks a nation-wide movement with the political capaci-

ty to challenge the Indira-Raj, she believes that pressure from above and open resistance from below will grow since the regime is unable to fulfil the basic needs of the poor.

I consider the study to be a well-documented piece of non-academic writing. It has to be seen in the context of so many critical studies of India's political performance, which all take the democratic heritage for granted. What would happen if, for a change, we tried to see Indian society from within? Or if we did not quote all those window-dressed statements from the capital to prove our own analytical approach? Maybe only then would we be in a position to understand the success of Indira Gandhi, whose political career is a genuine blend of Western slogans and Indian political realities. To Westminster-trained minds the only alternative seems to be fascism or revolution, whereas the Indian citizens might have a different social definition of their situation.

D. Kantowsky

Wolfgang Höpker, Wetterzone der Weltpolitik. Der Indische Ozean im Kräftespiel der Mächte. Stuttgart, Seewald Verlag, 1975, 187 p.

"A sharp new wind is blowing over the Indian Ocean, which for a long time seemed to be out of the limelight of world politics and world strategy. The third ocean besides the Pacific and the Atlantic no longer has the reputation of being "an ocean on the side-lines" or of being connected to 'major politics' only loosely". (p.11)

The politico-strategic significance of the Indian Ocean area has increased dramatically since the so-called oil crisis. The maritime race in the Indian Ocean and the political developments of the littoral countries have become a focal point and have provoked a flood of publications. Often enough such reports are based not so much on facts as on speculation. Wolfgang Höpker's book is no exception. Here, the chance to analyse this important subject in a scientific way has been missed.

In nine chapters the book touches upon subjects such as the power vacuum in the area, the interests of the two super powers and of practically all the countries around the ocean; West Africa and the Mediterranean are also taken into consideration. There are even some comments on countries like Yugoslavia, Albania, and Italy. While the reader is given a general survey, the analysis remains