

Reviews

The reviews in Internationales Asienforum try to give a brief evaluation of recent German publications

Christel Bergmann, *Die sozialökonomischen Auswirkungen von „Food for Work“ Projekten.* (Schriften zu Regional- und Verkehrsproblemen in Industrie- und Entwicklungsländern, Bd. 15); Berlin: Duncker & Humblot 1974, 184 pages, DM 48,60.

Food-Aid has been an important element in the development policy of the industrialized countries of the West. These countries thereby try to ease the structural imbalance between supply and demand in agriculture-dominated economies. Yet this form of aid has been severely criticized during the recent past. It is argued (1) that food-aid does not really help economically weak countries but only secures high income-levels on the donating side; (2) that the aid stabilizes the international price-system for the benefit of the western countries; (3) that the development of a modern agricultural sector in the developing countries is hindered.

This criticism has indeed had some impact, so that more recently new methods of food-aid have been discussed. These new approaches try to secure employment, to improve the infrastructure and to stimulate agricultural production. It is hoped that these so-called "food for work" programmes will ultimately have the same effect as capital aid.

In this context it is to be welcomed that the German organization "Misereor" has sponsored a research-project to determine more clearly the socio-economic effects of "Food for Work" programmes which so far have not been subject to a thorough scientific investigation.

Six case-studies in Bihar, Northern India, are presented in this volume. The field-data are analyzed within a theoretical framework of development policy and finally suggestions are made for the formulation of better and more successful „Food for Work“ campaigns than those evaluated so far.

Eberhard Weller

Jürgen Domes / Marie-Luise Näth: *Die Außenpolitik der Volksrepublik China. Eine Einführung.* (Studienbücher zur auswärtigen und internationalen Politik 7). Düsseldorf: Bertelsmann Universitätsverlag, 1972. 221 pages, DM 22,-.

In Germany comprehensive analyses of China's Foreign Policy are still rare. Jürgen Domes' and Marie-Luise Näth's introduction to the subject deserves not only to be mentioned but to be read. Within the very limited space of about 100 pages the authors have succeeded in presenting a well balanced description and analysis of Peking's foreign policy problems.

This short book is divided into four chapters dealing with the theoretical and conceptual basis of China's foreign policy, the periods of cooperation and confrontation with the Soviet Union and the beginning of a Sino-American détente. The second half of the book consists of 18 carefully selected documents beginning with Mao Tse-tung's thesis of "leaning to one side" published in June 1949, and concluding, ironically, with the Shanghai Communiqué of Februar 1972.

Both the analysis and the documents provide the student with the basic data of China's foreign policy. The descriptive and analytical chapters are well written, lucid and convincing.

It is interesting, indeed, to read again the last part of chapter 4 in which the authors try to outline the perspectives of China's foreign policy as seen from 1972, the year this book was published. So far this evaluation has generally proved to be correct: there is no probability that a Sino-Soviet alliance will be revived; the conflict between the two Communist giants is still a constant factor in China's foreign policy; China did not promote again a militant