

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

solidarity with Afro-Asian states. The importance of China's relation with Japan is also pointed out correctly.

Writing before the Sino-Japanese normalization took place one really could not foresee that Japan's attitude towards China would be so subservient that Peking would be able to achieve its goals so surprisingly fast. It was Tokyo which had to compromise on vital questions, not Peking. And it was Peking which skillfully manipulated the domestic scene in Japan, including Sato's retreat.

Speaking about China's future compromises with Japan the authors probably underestimated Peking's diplomatic ability which is especially obvious in dealing with its neighbours.

At the end of the book the student interested in China's foreign policy will find a brief annotated bibliography including the most important books and periodicals on the subject.

Joachim Glaubitz

Gudrun Eger, *Familienplanung in Pakistan. Forschung zur Familienplanung und die Entwicklung des Familienplanungsprogramms in Pakistan 1952 bis 1971.* (SSIP-Schriften Heft 15). Saarbrücken: Verlag der SSIP-Schriften Breitenbach, 1973. 146 Seiten, DM 28,—.

The main concern of this book is to provide information on the state of family planning research and politics in Pakistan. Since hardly any publications on this subject are available in Germany, the Author went to Karachi and Lahore for about five months to survey the relevant literature there in both Sociology and related fields.

While no more than a superficial treatment is given to the political aspect of the problem (such as national population programmes and government family planning schemes), great attention is devoted to the review of the family planning studies undertaken between 1952 and 1971 by social scientists in Pakistan. For most of the rather numerous studies a brief outline is given referring to the respective author(s), the object of research, sample(s) selected, and region and period of time covered. Yet hardly anything is said about the results and conclusions reached by the vast number of reports, articles, and monographies.

An explanation for this "omission" is given in the concluding chapter. Though a great amount of research work has been done in the field of family planning in Pakistan, the most relevant and interesting data (such as data on factors influencing the fertility patterns of different socio-economic classes) are, as Gudrun Eger maintains, still missing. According to her, this is due to various theoretical and methodological weaknesses which most of the literature is suffering from: no elaborate theoretical frameworks or set of hypotheses have been formulated so far on which the empirical studies could have been based; the sampling techniques are handled in a rather careless way; and only very simple statistical tools are used analyzing the empirical data. This may be true. However, who has the financial resources and technical equipment necessary for carrying out an analysis of variance or a factor-analysis? And moreover, who would be interested in such an analysis? The Pakistani family planning doctors and workers, the nurses, and, last but not least, the women troubled by frequent pregnancies would surely be able — if only asked — to tell us enough about the problem of birth control. Talking and listening to them would probably reveal more interesting findings than any refined theory or complex statistical analysis designed to meet all the (western?) requirements of scientific research.

Yet, even though little information is given about the actual situation as reflected in the findings of existing studies, Gudrun Eger's book is a very comprehensive and definitely useful introduction to the literature on family planning in Pakistan.

Inge Kaul

Uwe G. Fabritzek, *Gelber Drache — Schwarzer Adler. Geschichte der deutsch-chinesischen Beziehungen.* München, Gütersloh, Wien 1973. C. Bertelsmann Verlag. 320 pages, DM 25,—.

The reader of literature on this subject already knows Mr. Fabritzek. He has written numerous articles in German periodicals on Sino-Soviet, Sino-European and Sino-German relations. Now we can read his first book entitled *Yellow Dragon — Black Eagle, History Of German-Chinese Relations.* It is to be hoped that this zoological title was not invented by the author himself but proposed by a public-relations man of the publishing company.

In the space allotted here, there is not room enough for a detailed review; the following will,