

Gottfried-Karl Kindermann (ed.): *Stimmen des anderen China – Nationalchinesische Experten zu entwicklungspolitischen Alternativen für China.*

Weltforum Verlag, München 1974, 88 pages with chronology, bibliography and list of authors, pamphlet, DM 15,—.

At a time when German publications on the People's Republic of China are becoming more and more numerous and the key to development problems of backward countries is supposed to be found in Mao's country, the director of the seminar for International Politics at Munich University has undertaken to draw public attention to the alternative program of the Republic of China. As bastion of the National Chinese Government of Chiang Kai-shek since 1949, Taiwan indeed offers an abundance of remarkable facts and achievements which are part and parcel of a complete notion of China.

Kindermann has limited himself the book to a concise preface to analysing the problem-structure and the self-interpretation of the „other China“, and to taking into particular account the opposite ideological stand of the Kuomintang founded by Sun Yat-sen. Most of the well-documented exposés have been written by leading political National-Chinese experts who report here on the conception and practical results of a Chinese development policy which in two and a half decades has successfully transformed this south-east Asian island and its now 15 million people, from a country of peasants into an industrial state and one of the most powerful exporting countries of East Asia. Minister of Economics Yun-suan Sun outlines the mainsprings of the country's boom which in the most recent past has resulted in a volume of foreign trade which to some degree exceeds that of the People's Republic. The agrarian reform, considered internationally as exemplary, is also dealt with. The country's minister of education, who took his doctor's degree in Germany, describes the latest approaches of National-Chinese reforms in the field of education. Yang Hsi-kun, a diplomat well-known for his successful Africa-policy, discusses ideological and foreign policy aspects of the National-Chinese resistance. The survey concludes with a detailed analysis of Taiwan's defence problems.

Apart from some passages marked by a rather personal and emotional touch, the exposés offer a fairly unbiased documentation of the way in which the Chinese are handling today's development problems in a relatively liberal system. But one should not expect this booklet to offer "development alternatives for China", as announced in the subtitle. Considering the quantitative, geographical and historical distinctions between Taiwan and the mainland, some of the solutions presented prove to be, in an overall Chinese context, complementary variants rather than transposable alternatives. Social aspects have been neglected altogether, a field in which the Taiwanese do not always differ unfavourably from the mainlanders.

M. H.

James Riedel, *The Industrialization of Hong Kong*, Kieler Studien 124, Tübingen: J. C. B. Mohr (Paul Siebeck), 1974. VIII, 160 pages, DM 43,—.

This is a book of a very high standard. Of all the studies on the economy of Hong Kong Riedel's book is the most theoretical. He has primarily employed the tools of neo-classical theory to analyze the remarkable economic growth achieved by Hong Kong since 1949.

The specific objectives of the study are:

1. to delineate the major factors contributing to the Colony's industrialization,
2. to discuss the obstacles in the way of Hong Kong's future development, and
3. to relate Hong Kong's experience to other less-developed countries.

Although the study covers virtually every aspect of industrialization in Hong Kong, the manufacturing sector has been chosen as the core of the analysis. This unbalanced treatment is, however, justified for the following two reasons: the manufacturing sector has been the heart of the economy since 1949, and statistical data are most easily available for this sector; the book contains a good statistical collection.

Riedel has tried hard to formulate a so-called "Hong Kong Model of Industrialization". The "model" has the following features: (1) the *laissez-faire* policy which granted entrepreneurs the greatest freedom to achieve a high degree of flexibility in the manufacturing sector, (2) specialisation in the manufacture of standardized consumer goods, (3) production for export