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BOOK NOTES

THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA. John King Fairbank, third edition. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1971. xvi, 500 pp. \$9.95.

This work, often considered classic and now in its third edition, redefines our understanding of Asian realities and of the United States' aggressiveness. **THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA** questions the U.S. policy of containment in the Asian context. Is it possible that the U.S. did not understand China? History is bringing in the verdict now. To co-exist and even to survive, the U.S. will have to re-examine itself with regard to the real Asia and our own very doubtful benevolence. Edwin O. Reischauer claims in his introduction that no one has written with more clarity or perception about China.

The format is essentially that of a text outlining what the U.S. knows of China and what recently has resulted from its policy. The style is formal, and the order and classification of happenings are helpfully headlined. As a source of material the generous section for suggested readings offers a wealth of citations for one interested in pursuing areas in depth.

PEACE WITH CHINA? U.S. DECISIONS FOR ASIA. Earl C. Ravenal, editor. New York: Liveright, 1971. x, 248 pp. \$7.50.

This book is a symposium of the views of eighteen experts who represent one of two groups: the radical critic or the government servant. Former members of the Kennedy and Johnson administrations examine the foreign policies and their resultant implications which still determine U.S. policy today. The debate between the critics of our Asian policy and those instrumental in forming that policy often becomes heated. The question is raised of whether a tolerant concession to the real needs of all people is evolving rather than the continued effort to impress this nation's principles on the rest of the world.

The style is informal and the format allows each participant to present his views, which are responded to by other participants. This gives the reader a stimulating and informative variety of perspectives. For the researcher or scholar there are few references to which one might look for further informa-

tion. The materials presented, however, are in themselves perceptive analyses.

A NEW LOOK AT RED CHINA. Joseph Newman, directing editor. Washington, D.C.: Books by U.S. News & World Report, 1971. 317 pp. \$2.95.

This book written by the staff of the *U.S. News & World Report* serves as an informative and enjoyable document on the recent emergence of China from behind the Great Wall. From Stalin's death to the present the delicate winds of world politics are traced in reference to China. The most striking aspect of the book is the analysis of the diplomacy between the U.S., China and the U.S.S.R. which gives the reader an idea of the realities underlying sensitive and complex foreign relations. The authors remained true to their aim throughout the book when they cautioned that the work was not to have been a detailed study but rather a guide to only some of the major factors and issues which have come into play. The views of various journalists and government officials point towards a means of reaching sound conclusions about open societies as well as the greatest closed society in modern history. The colorful and informal style allows the reader who is less familiar with the subject a chance to enjoy the fascinating strategies normally hidden behind elusive diplomatic language.

THE GROWTH OF WORLD LAW. Percy E. Corbett. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 1971. 205 pp. \$7.50.

In a comprehensive summary of the trend in international organization, Professor Corbett, a distinguished author and scholar, traces the development of legal institutions from international law to a law which transcends states and acknowledges the rights of the individual and humanity as a whole. In his analysis he surveys the integrative processes which are responsible for this transition to supra-nationalism, and specifically discusses such agreements as the Geneva Conference of 1958 on the Law of the Sea, the 1969 Conference in Vienna on the Law of Treaties, the IBRD Convention of 1965, and the United Nations and regional organizations, such as the Organization of American States, and the Organization of African Unity; and the polemics of international propaganda. The text covers in the form of an historical exposition what is happening in the world community, and assesses optimistically, but at the same time realistically, prospects for the growth of world law.

EYEWITNESS IN GREECE. John A. Katris. New York, New Critics Press, E.P. Dutton and Co., Inc., 1971, 317 pp. \$9.95.

The exciting drama of the recent military takeover in Greece comes alive through the eyes of an on the spot observer, Greek journalist John A. Katris. Mr. Katris has served as political editor and editor in chief of a number of major Greek newspapers during the past two decades. From the vastly publicized assassination of Greek M.P. Gregory Lambrakis (one of the most celebrated accounts of which is the book "Z" by V. Vassilikos) to the April 1967 night that NATO supplied tanks advanced through Athens and marked the final phase of the military take over, Mr. Katris' political novel dramatically traces the death of democracy in the land of its birth. In addition to his eyewitness account of the events in Greece, the author draws upon his many conversations with his personal friend George Papandreou in compiling this chronical of political upheaval. Of outstanding merit is the author's objective presentation of the nature and extent of NATO, CIA and Pentagon involvement in the perpetration of this decade of corruption and terrorism, ending in military dictatorship. Mr. Katris warns that the danger of such a military takeover threatens all nations where the military is allowed to grow unchecked in response to the threat of communism. Clarity and objectivity are maintained in the author's writing as he presents a dramatic and accurate account of the events, their causes, and their significance.

SOVEREIGNTY AT BAY: THE MULTINATIONAL SPREAD OF U.S. ENTERPRISES. Raymond Vernon. New York: Basic Books, Inc., 1971. 336 pp. \$8.50.

This is the first of five volumes presenting the result of Harvard's Multinational Enterprise Project which was started in 1965 and funded by the Ford Foundation. It is a general view of the variations of multinational corporation with particular emphasis on those based in the United States, describing their history, growth, composition, and impact. **SOVEREIGNTY AT BAY** is well documented with frequent tables and data from the study it reports, and is easily read. The author concludes that the regulation of the vast multinational enterprises be assumed by an international organization in possession of "a set of social yardsticks that are multinational in scope".

THE CLOSING CIRCLE. Barry Commoner. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1971. 326 pp. \$6.95.

Although the environmental situation has been called a "crisis", the roots of the problem were implanted long before the present realization. Barry Commoner, biologist, ecologist and educator, has devoted the large part of his career attempting to emphasize the critical balance between man and the earth on which he lives. As a scientist, the polemics of the ecology debate are patently clear to Mr. Commoner. *THE CLOSING CIRCLE* has the insight of scientific inquiry coupled with the broad experience of the political and educational channels. In short, it is a most readable work devoted to calmly informing the public that it has only a few decades in which to build a rational social-economic system for survival.

THE CLOSING CIRCLE is the explanation of the interrelationship of man and the physiological environment. Somehow such scientific expositions always seem to lack the practical reality needed for a concerted motivation to do something . . . but this is not the case here. The book starts by giving a very clear and understandable analysis of the balance and then proceeds to show thru actual case histories how this balance can be upset. Clear and concise case histories of the poisoning of the air in Los Angeles, the earth in Illinois, and the water in Lake Erie are representative of the problems. The results of some of the unsettling problems such as plastics (Polyvinyl-chloride) and atomic fallout (Strontium 90) will not be known until the next generation.

Unquestionably, Mr. Commoner makes no attempt to find a "scapegoat" in solving the ecological crisis. It is the basic value system of each and every one of us which must change. Allegiance to our present values contains the seeds of our own destruction.

This book is a creative and nondoctrinaire approach to a problem which deserves all the discussion that current authors give to it. The goal of survival cannot be attained until the enemy is thoroughly understood.

RISE TO GLOBALISM: AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY SINCE 1938. Stephen E. Ambrose. London: Allen Lane The Penguin Press, 1971. 351 pp. \$8.95.

"As she moved into the 1970's, America remained determined to hold the empire she had won, whatever the cost." With these words the author summarizes the result of American foreign policy developments which occurred between 1938 and 1970. He views the tremendous growth of America, from

the economic depression of the 1930's to its current position of world dominance, as being caused by a revolution in attitudes, policies and methods.

Mr. Ambrose analyzes the military, economic and political events of the era by describing this revolution. He believes that underlying the Second World War, the Korean Conflict, and the Vietnam War there were developing American characteristics of economic aggressiveness, racism, fear of communism and national pride. To these characteristics he ascribes the rise of American power, and they are the basis of his analysis.

This refreshing historical perspective is a valuable contribution to the historical studies of this era. It is a fascinating narrative, and those involved with international law will find *RISE TO GLOBALISM* a useful source towards understanding the background of the present world situation.

STALIN: THE HISTORY OF A DICTATOR. H. Montgomery Hyde. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1972. 679 pp. \$12.95.

Mr. Hyde has written many historical biographies ranging from Castlereagh to Oscar Wilde, and *STALIN* is treated with the same exacting approach. The book is woven together with many narratives and interviews to make a complete story of Stalin, the man, and Stalin, the dictator. Even though the history of Stalin is well known there are few works which attempt to trace the evolution from birth to grave of a famous man.

Stalin's early years in Georgia are portrayed in the starkness and hostility of Tsarist Russia. Even down to the fact that Stalin had latent anxieties about his physical shortcomings, the life of the dictator is relived. The absolute power is astounding when one realizes his methods and his control. When reduced to but a helpless dependent in his declining years, Stalin still provoked fear and terror.

In the chapter entitled "The Deadly Pact", Hyde shows how Stalin's only real match was Hitler. Even after the first Nazi invasions of Russia, Stalin still sent supplies to Germany. In fact, he was rendered helpless by the complete misunderstanding of Hitler's designs. This mistake was never made again. As Hyde explains, America was literally used to help build the Russia of today. Stalin's paranoia is a thread which runs throughout the book and the "Doctors' Plot" was only defeated by the death of Stalin.

Nikita Khrushchev's memoirs are utilized to add evidence that Stalin was indeed barbaric, but highly successful with this use of force. *STALIN* is illustrated with maps, letters, pictures and even criminal files. One cannot help but conclude that this is one of the most thorough and complete works even written about Stalin.

HOLOCAUST OR HEMISPHERIC CO-OP: CROSS CURRENTS IN LATIN AMERICA. William O. Douglas. New York: Random House, 1971. 215 pp. \$5.95.

In Latin America, 80 per cent of the population is destitute, 10 per cent of the landowners control 90 per cent of the arable land, and the population growth rate is one of highest in the world.

Justice Douglas makes the suggestion that the United States abandon the traditional role of hemispheric leader and work with Latin America as a partner in a cooperative economy. He discusses a series of innovative programs designed to deal with indigenous Latin American institutions. The existing foundations of Latin American culture must be taken into consideration in any new plan, even though they may not coincide with our "American" way of life and capitalistic economy. Justice Douglas proposes a hemispheric co-op which would allow Latin American nations to work together for their mutual gain while allowing political and technological diversity.

HOLOCAUST OR HEMISPHERIC CO-OP describes the animosity shown toward the United States as a product of the South American national's view of United States involvement as condescension and exploitation. The work covers such diverse topics as the military and the elite, as well as current misconceptions of Latin American folklore. The book is incisive and immensely realistic in its approach to proposals for significant improvement in the quality of life for the impoverished of Latin America.