

the Balkan allies in Albanian affairs had made further discussion of common action between Kemal and the Greek government impossible.

Kondis fails to note the importance of the Balkan Alliance as a turning point in Greco-Albanian relations. The Balkan Alliance led ineluctably to Balkan wars and the redrawing of the Balkan map at the expense of the Turks and Albanians. Greece had become an ally of the Slavs and, therefore, an enemy of both the Turks and Albanians. As far as Albanian nationalists were concerned, there was little to distinguish the designs of the Greeks in southern Albania from those of the Montenegrins, Serbs, and Bulgarians in other territories inhabited by Albanians to the north and east.

There would seem to be little reason to believe, as Kondis does, that the Greeks were any more "upright" toward the Albanians than were the Italians, Austrians, or Slavs. Careful analysis of southern Albanian public opinion in the period 1912–14 has never been able to show that the local Orthodox Albanophones were solidly behind the intellectual and political leaders of the Grecophone minority in northern Epirus (southern Albania). Without evidence of such support, it is difficult to accept the Greek view of the Epirus question without serious reservations. This was the opinion of two international commissions and also that of Edith Pierpont Stickney, whose dissertation, in spite of the inadequacy of the sources available to her more than fifty years ago, would still seem to offer the best commentary on Greco-Albanian relations following the conclusion of the 1912 Balkan Alliance.

For the period 1908–12, however, Kondis's well-documented and moderately pro-Greek presentation of Albanian-Greek relations is unquestionably the best study on this subject in any language.

EDWARD C. THADEN

University of Illinois at Chicago Circle

THE ALBANIANS: EUROPE'S FORGOTTEN SURVIVORS. By *Anton Logoreci*. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press, 1977. 230 pp. + 8 pp. plates. \$16.00.

This book is a reasonably interesting and accurate background review of contemporary Albania. It contains sections dealing with the history, culture, economics, politics, sociology, and foreign policy of the country, and, unlike other books on the subject, it is written from an Albanian perspective. The author is quite understanding and sympathetic to the Albanian people and, fortunately, avoids the vituperative exchanges on historical interpretations characteristic of the Albanian émigré community.

The major fault with *The Albanians* stems from an overreliance upon a single-factor historical theory of political behavior. Logoreci suggests that Albania's past and present behavior is a direct result of the nationalist fervor of a people surrounded by powerful and greedy neighbors. While nationalism may be a prevalent cause of Albania's present predicament, the author inadvertently does a disservice by minimizing any other considerations. Logoreci's interpretation of the Hoxha regime is remarkably objective and his quarrel with the government, in this reviewer's opinion, appears to be more tactical than substantive. His approach, therefore, is somewhat refreshing in its avoidance of ideological polemics that often accompany works of this kind.

When the specific topical sections of the book are analyzed, considerable variation in quality becomes evident. The historical sections lack depth, and the economic, sociological, and political chapters could be more detailed. The best sections, however, are those that deal with the state of art, literature, and culture in contemporary Albania.

Although not without its faults, in general, Logoreci's *The Albanians* is the best single-source, English-language introduction to contemporary Albania in print today.

JAMES H. SEROKA

Appalachian State University