

of Soviet influence. Nor is it certain that "in the future Soviet policy will illustrate a greater degree of caution towards the Arab world" (p. 84). Is the Soviet Union really worried about Arab internal friction, as the author intimates (p. 100)?

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SOVIET POLICY IN WEST AFRICA. By *Robert Legvold*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1970. xii, 372 pp. \$13.00.

This study by Dr. Legvold, in contrast to the earlier Western studies on Soviet involvement in Africa, is intensive and comparative. It thoroughly analyzes the evolution and shifts in the USSR's relations with six West African states—Ghana, Guinea, the Ivory Coast, Mali, Nigeria, and Senegal between 1957 and 1968. During the first contact with independent Africa, according to Legvold, it was "an African nation's foreign policy, not internal development" which determined the Soviet attitude toward the country. The author points out the initial unfounded Soviet optimism about their opportunities in such "radical" states as Guinea, Ghana, and Mali. However, he notes that it was Guinea's independence and not Ghana's that "marked a turning point in Soviet relations with Black Africa."

The resultant failures in the USSR's policies in the Congo and Guinea and the movement toward a "broader African unity" among the "radical" Casablanca and the "moderate" Monrovia group of states caused a shift in the Soviet Union's policy, and it began to develop "businesslike" relations with "moderate" African states such as Senegal and Nigeria. Simultaneously, certain Soviet theorists, especially Khrushchev, began to reappraise less critically such ideological concepts as African socialism and pan-Africanism. The author notes that the Sino-Soviet competition influenced these changes in Soviet policy.

Legvold skillfully discusses the additional shifts in Soviet policy following the ouster of Khrushchev from power and after the overthrow of friendly leaders like Nkrumah and Keita. Soviet policy-makers became disillusioned with the "African revolutionary democrats," and broadened their relations with "moderate" African states such as the Ivory Coast, Nigeria, and Upper Volta. However, this reviewer has serious reservations about the impression created (pp. 325, 327, and 329) that Western powers were "neutral" in contrast to the USSR during the Nigerian Civil War. Other minor mistakes include disjointed sentences (p. 316) and a typographical error (p. 320).

In summation, the organization of the book is very good, and judicious use has been made of various Soviet, African, and Western source materials. The book deserves a wide circulation in public libraries, embassies, and among students and teachers. But it seems doubtful that Soviet authorities will permit their citizens (other than a few officials) to read this well-researched and interesting volume.

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COMMUNIST PARTY-STATES: COMPARATIVE AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES. Edited by *Jan F. Triska*. Indianapolis and New York: Bobbs-Merrill, 1969. xxxv, 392 pp. \$9.00.

In recent years, attempts have been made by specialists in Soviet and Communist systems to break with the tradition of so-called area studies and to integrate the