

One real problem of the publication is the contemporary nature of the seminar presentations and conclusions. Though many of the chapters have been supplemented with material covering 1975, and even into 1976, the great bulk of the research pertains to the sixties and early seventies. Published as part of the Praeger Special Studies program that "makes available to the academic, government, and business communities significant, timely research," the book appears too late for the nature of the contents. "Speed" printing may be responsible for the many typographical and other errors (battle of Sinope 1855, death of Stalin March 1963), at least three different styles of transliteration, and the absence of a bibliography and index, but it still failed to accomplish the stated goal, especially since a number of the chapters appeared elsewhere earlier and a summary of the seminar was available immediately afterward (Ken Booth, *Soviet Naval Developments—III: Summary of Proceedings of the 1974 Seminar*, Halifax, 1974). The book has value, however, in providing additional details in convenient form and in recording the Western perception of Soviet naval intentions in a particular time frame.

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L'URSS ET LA RÉVOLUTION CUBAINE. By Jacques Lévesque. Travaux et recherches de science politique, no. 42. Montreal: Presses de la Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques, Presses de l'Université de Montréal, 1976. viii, 222 pp. \$15.00, paper.

Lévesque's monograph is an interesting and scholarly contribution to a growing literature concerned with Soviet relations with various regions of the Third World. Specifically, it represents an effort to paint an overview of the sequential stages of Soviet policy toward Cuba between 1959 and 1975, within the context of Communist influence in Latin America. Lévesque develops a narrative of this bilateral relationship by focusing mostly on the changing nature of Soviet policy scenarios created by the vigorous and revolutionary environment of the Cuban polity. For factual material the author draws extensively on Soviet newspapers and periodicals; he relies on sound, albeit standard, Western investigations of Soviet-Latin American relations for background information.

Initially, it took an unusual amount of juggling for theoreticians to come up with a proper abstraction of Castro's position within the socialist universe. The originality of the Cuban revolutionary process led the Soviet leadership toward a less rigid approach vis-à-vis the evolution of socialism in nontraditional areas of the world. With occasional pain, yet ultimate success, the Cuban revolution made the transition from "national democracy" to "revolutionary democracy," and in the end was the only state to adapt fully to socialism over the past twenty years.

Yet, even with a high degree of tolerance, the Cuban experience has been a costly proposition for the USSR. This is true not only from a material standpoint but also, as Lévesque cogently points out, in terms of the considerable diversity of potential strategic dangers which the situation posed for the USSR. Not until 1969 did the Soviet leadership finally face a more manageable Cuban outlook and a stabilized Cuban internal polity. This monograph makes a strong effort to detail the dual nature of the Cuban experience—Cuban brashness coupled with Soviet flexibility resulting in the fairly positive consequences of the Cuban revolution.

Cuban policy toward Africa, however, a new and very consequential development of Cuban foreign policy (which the author cannot be faulted for not covering since it is post-1975), underlines the continuing revolutionary nature of Cuban foreign policy and the nature of its Soviet counterpart. What this research effort highlights,

and what the Angolan adventure has perhaps brought to the fore, is the potential inability of the Soviet Union to control particular phases of socialist expansion around the world, while remaining flexible enough to gain long-term advantages.

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THE SOVIET UNION AND BLACK AFRICA. By *Christopher Stevens*. New York: Holmes & Meier, 1976. xiv, 236 pp. Tables. \$24.00.

SOVIET AND CHINESE INFLUENCE IN THE THIRD WORLD. Edited by *Alvin Z. Rubinstein*. New York: Praeger Publishers, 1975. xii, 232 pp. \$17.50, cloth. \$4.95, paper.

The intricate and often perplexing pattern of Soviet relations with the Third World forms the basis of the two works under review. In terms of approach, Dr. Stevens confines his inquiry to the Soviet Union and seven nations of Black Africa (Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, Somalia, and Tanzania), while the area specialists contributing to Professor Rubinstein's study encompass a broad geographical spectrum of such diverse nations as India, Indonesia, Egypt, and Cuba, in an attempt to examine Soviet (and to a lesser degree, Chinese) influence in the Third World at large. However similar the two works may appear in their exploration of Soviet ties with developing states, fundamental differences surface in the objectives and techniques adopted for the volumes. Stevens sets forth and probes the evolution and specific nature of Soviet-African relations with the aim of arriving at a series of general observations concerning those relations. Rubinstein, on the other hand, presents an analytical framework for the concept of influence building and calls upon the various contributors to assess the effects of Soviet and Chinese influence relationships upon target states. Thus Stevens's renunciation of grand theories in favor of "recording facts" stands in sharp contrast to Rubinstein's inductive method of testing a theory through empirical data.

Dr. Stevens's study is noteworthy for its richness of detail, which attests to the author's obvious familiarity with the African political and economic scene. The chapters dedicated to the patterns of trade and aid are a laudable feature of the study and, through numerous tables and charts, offer the reader a lucid and perceptive assessment of such topics as cost-benefit calculations, the effectiveness of foreign aid, and the adaptability of Soviet economic endeavors to conditions in technologically backward regions which are not always receptive to economic programs and formulas designed in Moscow. Unfortunately, a significant portion of the statistical data assembled by the author does not extend beyond 1970, and therefore needs to be updated.

In terms of the work's overall value, it is regrettable that attempts to relate economic pursuits to political objectives receive only casual treatment in the body of the text, with the author's own interesting and at times provocative conclusions left for the last few pages. As a result, statements such as "there appears to be some correlation between the USSR's economic and foreign policies" lack the persuasiveness which a set of hypotheses clearly stated at the outset and systematically examined throughout the study could have provided. These shortcomings notwithstanding, Dr. Stevens has succeeded in vividly portraying an area which, as more recent events have shown, figures prominently in the course of Soviet foreign policy.

Professor Rubinstein's *Soviet and Chinese Influence in the Third World* pursues the ambitious goal of analyzing Soviet and Chinese relations with developing states by utilizing the concept of influence within a well-ordered methodological framework. The first chapter, written by Rubinstein, is a commendable attempt at drawing definitional parameters around an elusive topic. With notable skill, the assumptions underlying the idea of influence are lucidly conveyed, the hypotheses succinctly stated, and