

could be, and should be, evaluated. The journal editors are to be congratulated for providing this international forum for Slavic ethnography and for bringing the aims and accomplishments of this discipline to the attention of the non-Slavic world.

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OBRAZOVANIE MOLDAVSKOI ASSR. By *Afanasii Vasil'evich Repida*. Kishinev: "Shtiintsa," 1974. 184 pp. 1.25 rubles.

Neither the style (somewhere between popular and academic), nor the content (typical Soviet characterization of a people's struggle to achieve national self-determination) of this work on the formation of the Moldavian Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic is as important as its message. The book is unashamedly anti-Rumanian. Great attention is paid to Rumanian intervention in the Civil War, the Rumanian conquest and occupation of Bessarabia, and Rumania's constant refusal, until 1940, to return the area to the USSR. Of course, the Rumanians in question are bourgeois interwar Rumanians, and the author's tone is less aggressive than in some other books published recently in Moldavia, but the point seems to be that Rumanians are basically hostile to the aspirations of the Moldavian people and the Soviet Union in general. The very fact that the Soviet-held section of Moldavia became an autonomous republic in 1924, rather than a less important autonomous oblast (province), is attributed to the Politburo's desire to stress the territorial claim against Rumania while simultaneously allowing self-determination.

The author's conclusion that the area's economy greatly benefited because of the creation of the MASSR seems exaggerated, as is his assertion that its formation had a "huge revolutionary influence" on the toilers of Bulgaria, Italy, France, and England. However, one must agree that the MASSR aided the further development of Moldavian culture and national identity, served as a constant reminder to Rumania that the USSR wanted Bessarabia back, and encouraged a certain amount of antigovernment activity in Bessarabia.

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DIE WEIZSÄCKER-PAPIERE, 1933–1950. Edited by *Leonidas E. Hill*. Berlin: Propyläen Verlag, 1974. 684 pp.

A student of the Third Reich is likely to reach eagerly for this bulky edition of Weizsäcker's selected private papers. Brought to light from the family archives by Canadian historian Leonidas Hill, they not only present a unique view of events from an important vantage point, but they also promise to provide a more authentic picture of the man than either the official documents—which Weizsäcker often signed but had not authored—or the self-serving memoirs he wrote after the war as a convicted war criminal's *apologia pro vita sua*. Unfortunately, they do not deliver all that they promise.

The papers contain little of historical significance regarding the critical events the author witnessed at close range, as state secretary in the German Foreign Office