Pacific Affairs

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ABSTRACTS

The Philippine Bases and U.S. Pacific Strategy

Gregory P. Corning

Although manageable, the loss of U.S. military bases in the Philippines would entail high relocation costs and a significant decrease in operational flexibility. Yet, the price of compensation for the bases has increased dramatically and antinuclear sentiment in the Philippines threatens operational freedom. These factors coupled with rising Filipino nationalism leave the status of the Military Bases Agreement far from certain after 1991. The U.S. might well be evicted from the bases or choose to leave the facilities voluntarily. The basing question means not only delicate negotiations with Manila but fundamental decisions on relations with ASEAN and the Soviet Union. The United States must come to terms with Gorbachev's active diplomacy in the Asia-Pacific and work to minimize regional hostility with ASEAN. The current challenges to U.S. Pacific strategy provide an important opportunity to relax superpower tensions in Southeast Asia.

"Men Are More Able":

Rural Chinese Women's Conceptions of Gender and Agency

Ellen R. Judd

The present paper explores conceptions of gender and agency expressed by rural Chinese women during fieldwork in three Shardong villages in 1986 and 1987–88. It situates these conceptions in terms of differing patterns of division of labour and separation of activity in the three villages studied. The villages — one still collective, one decollectivized and developing rural industry, and one concentrating on household-based commodity production — are compared in terms of the opportunities and constraints each context offers for women. Reference is made in each case to women's organization at the village level and to current policies of the Women's Federations addressed to rural women and recently implemented in the third village studied.

Regionalism in the South Korean Job Market: An Analysis of Regional-Origin Inequality among Migrants in Seoul Eui-Young Yu

This paper has attempted to deal with regionalism as it is reflected in the occupations of migrants in Seoul utilizing data from the 1980 census. The paper shows a clear pattern of discrimination against migrants, particularly males, from the Honam region, irrespective of whether they came from rural or urban areas. In white collar occupations, males are even less represented than their female counterparts from the same region. Relatively few people from the Honam region have succeeded in Seoul in obtaining positions that plan, administer, manage, or supervise. People from the Honam region are treated as a group, not as individuals. The analysis presented here strongly suggests that regionalism is one of the most powerful social mechanisms in Korea dictating the lives of millions of workers.

Islamization and Legal Reform in Pakistan, 1979–1989 Charles H. Kennedy

This article examines the policy environment and implementation of President Zia's Islamic legal reforms in Pakistan during the past decade. It argues that such legal reforms have had only a minor impact on Pakistan's legal system either in regard to legal structures, procedures, or in regard to criminal law. The article further argues that the policy environment facing Pakistani decision makers helps to explain the slow pace of implementation.

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ABSTRACTS

The *People's Daily*: Politics and Popular Will — Journalistic Defiance in China During the Spring of 1989

Frank Tan

It is commonly assumed that a communist party newspaper, especially in China, automatically does anything the party leadership demands. People also tend to think that a party newspaper is a unified machine presenting a single voice with everyone who works for the paper contributing to that voice. This study explores how editors and reporters at the pinnacle of China's official news apparatus, the *People's Daily*, defied government controls to express prodemocracy sentiments and promote the cause of student demonstrators in the spring of 1989. Analysis of two months of news coverage and other editorial matter in the *People's Daily* indicates that a variety of tactics were employed to relay suppressed information and convey their sympathies. In terms of content, the tactics of rebellion included subtle use of journalistic techniques such as factualness, balance and attribution, as well as recourse to avoidance, allusion and distortion. Tactics related to presentation included use of headlines and other elements for emphasis and deemphasis, and manipulation of story placement and page layout.

Conflict And Non-Compliance in Chinese Politics: Party Rectification, 1983–87

Bruce J. Dickson

The poor work style of party cadres has been a continual problem since the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) came to power in 1949. Following Mao Zedong's death in 1976, the party's work style declined as cadres engaged in self-interested and corrupt behavior. Beginning in 1983, the CCP undertook a large-scale campaign to revive the traditional party norms of democratic centralism and "serve the people." However, the organization set up to monitor this campaign did not have the institutional authority to enforce these norms, and the party offered no selective incentives — neither positive inducements nor threats of punishment — sufficient to encourage the compliance of individual party members. The choice of the party cadres, given this reward structure, was predictable: the continued pursuit of self-interest, rather than the collective goal of an improved party work style.

Institutions Without Leaders: The Hong Kong Chinese View of Political Leadership

Lau Siu-kai

Hong Kong possesses an institutional structure which exercises political leadership functions and which is generally trusted by the people. It fails however to produce a group of trusted political leaders. The trust that Hong Kong Chinese have in the leadership of their political institutions is diffuse, though institutions closely associated with the colonial government enjoy a moderately higher level of trust. What we might in turn call "political trust" is based largely upon "instrumental" considerations. The general acceptance of the existing nondemocratic political institutions, however, has impeded the rise of indigenous political leadership and engendered an idiosyncratic view of democracy. As a result, while the scheduled termination of colonial rule in 1997 threatens the breakdown of the existing institutional structure, the establishment of alternative democratic institutions and the emergence of trusted political leaders are made difficult. Accordingly, the leadership problem constitutes part and parcel of the "1997 malaise" in Hong Kong.

Delicate Diplomatic Debuts: Chinese and Soviet Participation in the Pacific Economic Cooperation Conference Lawrence T. Woods

The utility of a nongovernmental approach to diplomacy in the Asia-Pacific is illustrated in this paper. Two case studies of consensus building within the Pacific Economic Cooperation Conference (PECC) in advance of its fifth general meeting in Vancouver in 1986 are examined: the effort to secure the participation of the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the debate over observer status for the Soviet Union. Chinese participation was complicated by the desire of representatives from Taiwan to participate as well, a problem resolved with the aid of the Olympic Formula. Japanese objections to the Soviet request were eventually overcome by appeals to the principle of nonexclusiveness and the weight of consensus. The research suggests that the nongovernmental coup embodied by the Chinese, Taiwanese and Soviet presence at PECC V was dependent upon governmental recognition of and attempts to preserve this organization's diplomatic value.

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ABSTRACTS

No Great Reversal in Japan: Elections for The House of Representatives in 1990 Michael W. Donnelly

The Liberal Democratic Party in Japan won a resounding victory in elections for the Lower House held in February 1990. This essay attempts to explain the results. It does so by formulating a way to understand the relationship between candidate-oriented election campaigns in individual districts and party strategies fashioned at the national level. The argument is that the way in which the LDP organized a *national* approach to the campaign was important, possibly crucial to the conservative victory. The essay also examines the strengths and difficulties faced by the JSP in its approach to national campaigning.

Soviet Policy in Southeast Asia: Towards Constructive Engagement Muthiah Alagappa

Since 1985 Soviet foreign policy has continued to undergo profound changes in all of its dimensions. In the Asia-Pacific region it is becoming more supportive of security and stability. This is visible in its commitment to a negotiated settlement of the Cambodian conflict and in the restructuring of its relations with Vietnam, both of which contribute to the reestablishment of the regional balance of power and also make Vietnam more amenable to political and economic cooperation with the ASEAN countries. Soviet relations with the ASEAN states have also improved quite substantially. By contributing to reduction of tension and resolution of regional conflicts, the Soviet Union is moving towards constructive engagement in Southeast Asia. However, as geopolitical concerns recede to the background, and economics and economics-related issues become more important, the weakness of the Soviet Union in these areas is likely to make it less relevant and limit its capability for constructive engagement in the region.

Canada's Relations with Malaysia: Picking Partners in ASEAN Richard Stubbs

Canada's relations with Malaysia, and more generally with the members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), have gone through three phases. These phases have been determined by the extent to which the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) has been able to coordinate the activities of the increasingly fragmented bureaucracy responsible for the international aspects of Canada's policies. From the late 1950s to the early 1970s Commonwealth ties meant that the PMO looked on Malaysia as Canada's main link with the region. During the 1970s, at the prompting of Prime Minister Trudeau and the PMO, Malaysia was replaced by Indonesia as the preferred partner. Since the early 1980s, however, the ASEAN region has not received the attention of the PMO and as a result there has emerged an ill-focussed set of bilateral relations with Malaysia and the other original members of ASEAN.

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Soviet Strategies For Development: East Asia and the Pacific Basin

Charles E. Ziegler

This article examines Soviet economic policies toward east Asia and the Pacific basin under Gorbachev. Soviet initiatives toward the region have involved abandoning the Brezhnev regime's policy of military intimidation in favour of economic cooperation and integration. This strategy is closely linked to domestic economic restructuring, in an effort to both reduce security costs in the Soviet Far East and to invigorate perestroika through qualitative new linkages to the dynamic Asian economies. Although there has been visible progress in developing economic relations with the People's Republic of China and the Republic of South Korea, political disputes and structural impediments have limited Soviet attempts to obtain Japanese technology and investment. Overall, the chief obstacle to a major breakthrough in economic relations with east Asia is the Soviets' inability to enact major structural reforms in the domestic economy.

Whither Malaysia's New Economic Policy?

K.S. Jomo

The paper looks at the major social forces affecting the future of Malaysia's New Economic Policy (NEP) as the end of the NEP's Outline Perspective Plan (OPP) for 1971-90 draws near. The origins of the NEP are traced to the development experience in the dozen years after Independence before May 1969, and especially the failure of essentially laissez faire policies and the weak efforts at positive discrimination in favour of the indigenous (mainly Muslim Malay) Bumiputras. The NEP record is then examined in terms of the achievement of its objectives. Despite considerable poverty reduction and inter-ethnic redistribution, especially in terms of share capital ownership and occupational distribution, inter-ethnic tensions have grown—thus, negating the very premise of the NEP. It is then argued that the post-1990 period should be conceived in terms of several transitions of different durations to reduce excessive state intervention for inter-ethnic redistribution. Greater emphasis needs to be given to reducing inequalities (between ethnic groups, regions and classes), improving entitlements, enhancing efficiency, modernizing the economy and strengthening national economic resilience. Recent 'structural adjustments'-e.g. privatisation without enhancing competition, regressive reforms of taxation and public expenditure-are criticised, and conditions conducive to progressive social reform are identified.

Emigration and the Future of Hong Kong

Ronald Skeldon

Emigration is not new from Hong Kong but its volume is presently at an alltime high. This paper examines whether this exodus is in response to the return of Hong Kong to Chinese sovereignty in 1997. While the impending transfer is clearly one factor, there are more important reasons to be found in the policies of potential destination countries and in those conditions which are giving rise to an increase in the movement of Chinese peoples throughout Asia. The characteristics of the emigrants are biased towards the upper end of the educational and occupational spectrum. The loss of these personnel to the local economy may cause shortterm problems in particular sectors but Hong Kong's long-term viability is more likely to be associated with the potential for regional development in the Pearl River delta as a whole than with the outflow of population.

Exploring Theories of Female Leadership in South and Southeast Asia

Linda K. Richter

Asia with its reputation for holding women in low regard has nonetheless had numerous female leaders over the last thirty years. Why this should be so and what effect that has had is examined in this research.

This study (1) explores several key variables in the political prominence of Asian women, (2) assesses what if any advantages or disadvantages women have in leadership roles in south or southeast Asia, (3) attempts to determine what if any impact women have as women in the politics of these regions, and (4) predicts rather gloomy prospects for female leadership in these regions.

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