

authors, we should have supported Israel more consistently and used its military success to bargain effectively with the Arabs and the Soviets instead of giving in to them. In the future, the argument continues, Israel is indispensable to us if we want to break the oil price; and if the time comes when we have to use force against the oil producers, the most propitious occasion will be the next Arab-Israeli conflict. The authors have little to say about Soviet policy. Indeed, because the argument against OPEC is so shrill and so absorbs their attention, we never get a clear idea of what the great détente disaster is, except that American illusions and mistakes have turned it into a one-sided bargain in Moscow's favor.

This is a book of debater's points following (and often repeating) each other in rapid succession. Questions and counterarguments will spring to the mind of many readers. Nevertheless, at a time when the United States and its Western partners seem uncertain of what their vital interests are and unwilling to make any sacrifices at all, we need to hear more cries of alarm and pleas for political will, even if we choose not to respond to this particular recipe for action.

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SOVIET-THIRD WORLD RELATIONS, vol. 3: SOVIET-AFRICAN RELATIONS. By *Charles B. McLane*. London: Central Asian Research Centre, 1974. 190 pp. Tables. £5.00. \$15.00. Distributed by Columbia University Press, New York.

In the third and final volume of *Soviet-Third World Relations*, Professor McLane provides an overview of Soviet relations with Africa and brief sketches of Soviet relations with thirty-six sub-Saharan African states. Each of the sketches is complemented by a chronological listing of the major political, economic, and cultural developments which have influenced these relations. The volume concludes with tables summarizing Soviet political relations with African states, Soviet economic assistance to Africa, and Soviet trade with Africa.

As in the volumes covering Soviet relations with Asia and the Middle East, McLane has produced descriptive summaries rather than detailed analyses of Soviet policy. (The analytic study is to appear as a separate book entitled *Russia and the Third World*.) But in spite of the lack of analysis, *Soviet-African Relations* will be useful to both neophyte and specialist, for it contains, within the covers of a single volume, a wealth of data on Soviet relations with Africa, plus an excellent selected bibliography and numerous additional references in the notes.

Professor McLane deserves gratitude for providing the student of Soviet foreign policy with ready access to so much specific information on Soviet relations with developing countries.

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FINANCIAL CHECKS ON SOVIET DEFENSE EXPENDITURES. By *Franklyn D. Holzman*. Lexington, Mass.: Lexington Books, D. C. Heath, 1975. xvi, 103 pp. Tables.

Contemporary interest in arms control devices tends to focus on limitations of specific weapon systems or forces, expressed in physical units. Ever since the