

OTHER NATIONS

conflict and be hypersensitive to personal criticism. Mao liked to take big risks in politics: the rush to collectivize in 1955, the Cultural Revolution, and the Nixon visit are good examples. Avoiding day-to-day administration, his style was to withdraw for extended periods, reflect on solutions, and then suddenly intervene with his own ideas.

Maoism and Chinese Oil

"Political Implications of the Petroleum Industry in China" by Jessica Leatrice Wolfe, in *Asian Survey* (June 1976), University of California Press, Berkeley, Calif. 94720.

China's fast-growing petroleum industry—315 million barrels produced in 1972, increasing by 20–25 percent annually—has attracted attention in the West especially since the 1973–74 energy crisis. Most specialists look at China's oil exports potential. But it is more valuable to observe Maoist principles of economic development, argues Jessica Leatrice Wolfe, a graduate student in business administration at Berkeley. The Chinese appear to have exempted the oil industry from certain ideological constraints; they are importing *en masse* foreign-developed processing techniques and equipment, bypassing Mao's maxims of national self-reliance and "technical democracy" (the mass application of human muscle to improve production). "Self-reliance emerges greatly diluted," Wolfe comments. "The Chinese are in fact increasingly dependent on foreign technological imports." Furthermore, the author suggests, this deviation may widen existing political and ideological cleavages. However, the Chinese still follow Mao's idea of "simultaneous development" of complementary economic sectors. The petroleum industry's growth is geared to the expansion of agriculture (which uses more and more petroleum products as mechanization progresses), the economy's infrastructure (roads, pipelines, etc.), finance capital, domestic consumption, and exports. And China is beginning to use oil as an instrument of foreign policy, selling to Japan to keep Tokyo from buying from Moscow, and to Southeast Asia nations as a gesture of friendship.

Nation-Building in Nkrumah's Ghana

"Army in a Multi-Ethnic Society" by J. Bayo Adekun, in *Armed Forces and Society* (Feb. 1976), Social Sciences Building, Chicago, Ill. 60637.

What is the armed forces' role in an ethnically fragmented society? J. Bayo Adekun, a Nigerian doctoral candidate at Brandeis University, examines the experience of Ghana under Kwame Nkrumah (1957–66). When Nkrumah became prime minister in March 1957, he recognized that tribalism (there are four major ethnic groups in Ghana) could seriously threaten national unity. He thought a well-trained national