

Bourbons, and the Revolution of 1820 as these events are viewed today by historians. Goya's Liberalism led him inexorably to the desperation (and mental breakdown) revealed in the "black paintings" and in later engravings and drawings. Not always totally convincing, Williams's dual portrait of the man and his time nevertheless deserves attention.

**THE MAN WHO LOST
CHINA: The First Full Bi-
ography of Chiang Kai-Shek**
By Brian Crozier
with Eric Chou
Scribner's, 1976, 430 pp.
\$12.95
L of C 76-10246
ISBN 0-684-14686-X

Crozier, for 10 years the *Economist's* specialist on Chinese and Far Eastern affairs, has produced the first full, "unauthorized," English-language biography of Chiang Kai-Shek. The Generalissimo died at 87 in 1975 on Taiwan. By then, he was head of a Republic of China that had been expelled from the United Nations, while the regime of his rival, Mao Tse-tung, on the mainland had been given U.N. membership. Chiang, a tragic figure because of his own inadequacies, gets sympathetic treatment from Crozier and Chou. They blame his ultimate failure to keep the mainland partly on the historical accident that "forced him to share the Chinese scene with a man still more exceptional than he," who "had the edge over him in ideology," and more importantly on the blunder of his initial policy of non-resistance to Japanese aggression in 1931. This decision made clear his order of military priorities: "bandits and other rebels first, foreign invaders second" and in the end "sealed his own fate."

Contemporary Affairs

**THE CONCEPT OF THE
POLITICAL**
By Carl Schmitt
Rutgers, 1976, 105 pp.
\$8 cloth, \$3.50 paper
L of C 76-10977
ISBN 0-8135-0821-5
ISBN 0-8135-0833-9 pbk.

Just as France's novelist Celine, though a Nazi collaborator, is now regarded by many as a pioneer of contemporary fiction, so the early work of Carl Schmitt, a key theoretician of the Total State, who joined the Nazi Party soon after it came to power, appears to be coming into vogue again in the field of political theory. Schmitt (born in 1888 and still living in West Germany) is so controversial that none of his work has until now been