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Mask of Asia

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changes, the reader may expect, as a byproduct, identification of the unchanging characteristics of the economy as well. No attempt is made to generate acceptance of new ideas or to gain adherents to current alternatives of economic doctrine. Contributing authors create an awareness of the strengths, imperfections, and inadequacies of the various components of the economy but make no particular effort to tell how to eliminate or improve the weaknesses. On balance, the reader is likely to be left with a feeling of cautious optimism over the economic prospects of the United States.

This book is considered to be an outstanding source for those who have a need for more knowledge and appreciation of America's dynamic economy. Likewise, it should appeal to those who seek to be able to understand and interpret vital national and international issues in terms of the economic implications which appear to grow in importance as U.S. efforts become increasingly directed toward the conduct of the affairs of the world society.

C.F. NEELY
Captain, SC, U.S. Navy

Donham, Philip and Fahey, Robert J.
Congress Needs Help. New York:
Random House, 1966. 203 p.

Congress Needs Help is a report of a management study of Congress by the Arthur D. Little Company. The study resulted from the realization, both from within Congress and from outside, that Congress was not doing its job effectively. The task of the authors was rather delicate in that Congress is sensitive to a change in its procedures, but yet its members are aware that they have not been sufficiently informed on the measures which have come before them for a vote. The authors do not fault the individual Congressmen, but point out that the myriad of tasks confronting a Congressman, the inad-

equately staffed, and the diversity of legislation are the primary factors in Congressional ineffectiveness. An example used to support this thesis was the House Science and Astronautics Committee, which, in addition to other functions, has under its jurisdiction the national Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The Congressional Subcommittee for NASA has the equivalent of only six full-time staff members to assist it as compared to the DuPont Company's 40-man staff for a similar type operation. Consequently, the committee has to rely mostly upon the information coming from NASA briefings and usually has only what NASA wants it to hear. Using for its basis briefings by the agency being reviewed, the committee then passes upon the multibillion dollar operation of the committee. The book provides an excellent perspective as to how Congress functions today, its strengths, its frustrations, and the role it can play on the national scene. The recommendations submitted appear to be feasible, but, as the authors state, Congress itself is the only body which can implement the recommendations. The book is well written, interesting, and refreshing in that it offers constructive criticism on a problem which affects us all.

R.H. WILSON
Commander, U.S. Navy

Farwell, George. *Mask of Asia*. New York: Praeger, 1966. 227 p.

Mr. Farwell has taken the title of his latest book, *The Mask of Asia; the Philippines Today*, from a quotation of Mr. Adrian Cristobal, which says in part: "Where Asians conducted a guerrilla war to preserve their identity, the Filipino, as a tactical ruse, put on the mask of the foreigner. He did survive the latter's regime, but when the time came to take off the mask, it had become a part of his face." The theme of the book is the problems of the

Philippines, and the inference from the title is that the root of the problem lies in this ruse of the Filipino. The stating of the problems contradicts this idea. True, some of the difficulties that beset that nation result from World War II, but the remainder are in no apparent way related to either the wartime occupation by the Japanese or the prewar control by the United States. Of the problems related in graphic detail, the most serious, in the reviewer's judgment, are the extraordinary graft, corruption, brutality, and general lawlessness in the Philippines. The first two would appear to be the most urgent and important because of their magnitude and scope. Both seem to be on the increase and are flagrant among the elected as well as the appointed officials at the highest levels. The enumeration of these problems, their causes, and their seriousness is indeed complete. The lack of an assurance by the Author that there is any move or feeling to combat these ills is frightening. This apparent apathy on the part of the people casts a pall over the reader as he contemplates the future of this independent nation.

Despite the lack of connection between the basis for the title and the body of the book, Mr. Farwell has, in a complete and serious manner, recounted the myriad problems confronting the Philippines today.

F.C. GILMORE
Commander, U.S. Navy

Khrushchev's pre-World War II days. Starting with his appointment or election as First Secretary of the Ukrainian Central Committee in 1938, the author traces Khrushchev's career from his rise to the top of the Soviet hierarchy after Stalin's death to his eventual downfall in 1964. He reveals in some detail three dilemmas which he claims Khrushchev never really understood, let alone resolved. The first was the Party's claim to total authority, which conflicted with the need for freedom of initiative as the economy and social structure became sophisticated. Another was the conflict between the U.S.S.R. and the remainder of the Communist world, where the Soviet Union's domination diminished as communism spread. And, finally, Khrushchev's policy of peaceful co-existence with the West conflicted with his conviction that communism had to defeat capitalism. Khrushchev did understand that a need for change existed and that the change was heavily dependent on the successful development of the Soviet economy; this phase of the problem he never succeeded in solving. The author is severely critical of his subject in many instances but also gives credit where he deems it warranted. The biography appears to this reviewer to be unbiased and of help, at least in some small measure, in trying to understand the actions of one Soviet statesman.

B.V. AJEMIAN
Captain, U.S. Navy

Frankland, Mark. *Khrushchev*. New York: Stein and Day, 1966. 213 p.

The author states in the Preface that writing a biography of a living statesman is difficult, but writing of a living Soviet statesman "must be very tentative indeed" because of lack of reliable reference and source materials. Mr. Frankland has, however, done a creditable job in producing a readable and informative book. Not much can be written about

Gittings, John, *The Role of the Chinese Army*. London: Oxford University Press, 1967. 331 p.

As the author himself states, this is not a military history, and it certainly does not deal with Chinese Communist military strategy. The main emphasis of the book is on the changing character of the People's Liberation Army since 1949, the fluctuating position which it occupies in the scale of national priorities, its relationship with the Commu-