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LADJINSKY, WOLF - ARTICLES and SPEECHES (1970-1971)

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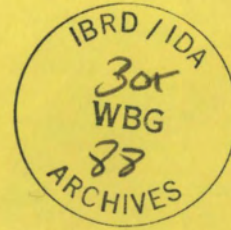


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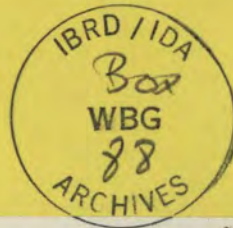
July 1970

FOREIGN AFFAIRS - "Ironies of India's Green Revolution" Article



LADEJINSKY

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THE NEW YORK TIMES, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1971

F-Speeches

Mr. WOLF LADEJINSKY

Experts Find Outlook Gloomy in Asia

By ROBERT TRUMBULL

Special to The New York Times

CANBERRA, Australia, Jan. 12—Many developing Asian lands face gloomy prospects both politically and economically in the years immediately ahead, according to views expressed by authorities on the area who concluded a week-long conference here today.

Experts attending the 23rd International Congress of Orientalists, a scholarly gathering held every three years, predicted more bloodshed in Southeast Asian countries even after the end of the Vietnam war.

An examination of progress in agriculture, basic to economic health, produced a pessimistic appraisal of the Asian peasant's lot in spite of spectacular improvement of crop yields in localized areas through the so-called Green Revolution, using new techniques and better seeds.

Discussions in the political sphere were dominated by the enigma of Communist China. The coming impact of China under a heavily militarized Government and the dynamics of a resurgent Japan were among the politically oriented topics discussed in a conference that was devoted mainly to more esoteric subjects, ranging from obscure byways of ancient Asian literature to the current fad among Afghan peasants of turning on with hallucinogenic mushrooms.

18 Concurrent Programs

Twelve hundred scholars from some 50 countries attended the congress, which was divided into 18 separate programs that went on simultaneously in different buildings at the Australian National University.

An official of the congress

said that China and other Asian Communist countries had ignored invitations to send delegates. But the forums on Communist China and Southeast Asia were heavily attended by scholars in fields unrelated to politics.

Tracing the rise of insurgencies in Southeast Asian countries, Prof. Richard C. Butwell of the American University in Washington declared: "Unless the trend reverses itself, the conclusion seems inescapable that the rest of the nineteen-seventies will be even more bloody, destructive and tragic than the past 10 years."

The Southeast Asian expert cited the separate dissident movements incited in Burma by the Communists, disaffected tribal groups and the supporters of U Nu, the deposed Premier, against the military Government of Gen. Ne Win.

'External Intervention' Seen

He described Cambodia as "more divided than ever before," pointed to "low-level but escalating insurgencies" along the northern, northeastern and southern borders of Thailand, and declared that "it is only a question of time" until the South Vietnamese Army enters the quarrel among Communist and non-Communist forces in Laos, "if they aren't there already."

He added, "The divisions are mainly indigenous and real [but] their importance, survival, nonresolution and exaggeration are externally encouraged. There is no reason to expect a decline in external intervention."

Two Indian students of Communist Chinese affairs, Prof. L. C. Ojna of the department of political science at Boston University, and Mrs. Darji Dutt of Jawaharlal University, New

Delhi, agreed that Peking had chosen an outward-looking foreign policy.

Professor Ojna described Communist Chinese policy as "cautious and realistic" toward other powers. He cited as an example Peking's pullback when the Communist forces were in a position to expand into India during the brief border conflict between the two countries in 1962.

"The Chinese are continually reassessing their foreign policy," Mrs. Dutt declared. She noted that Peking propaganda had been progressively less critical of India's role at successive conferences of the nonaligned powers.

Efforts toward agrarian reform have failed in most Asian countries, said Wolf Ladejinsky, a land expert for the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development in New Delhi. Mr. Ladejinsky became known internationally for his role in instituting land reforms in Japan under the post-World War II American occupation.

"Until the peasantry begins to vote in its own interest, the chances are that integrated agrarian reforms in this part of the world by due process of law will be almost impossible," he declared, alluding to the developing countries of Asia.

Prof. M. L. Dantwala, a land expert at the University of Bombay, ascribed the success of land reform programs in Japan and Taiwan to the fact that they had "coincided with a period of general economic growth."

The assembled Orientalists voted today to hold the 1973 centenary session of the congress in Paris, where the periodic gatherings of Asia scholars began in 1873.