

sustained its African role, however, without considerable Soviet support. Evidence produced in the book suggests that, while Cuba may have taken the initiative in Angola, it followed Soviet policy in the Horn of Africa, which is of much greater strategic interest to the Russians. Moreover, one contributor, William M. LeoGrande, concludes that Cuba's involvement in Angola was on balance beneficial to Cuban interests while its policy in Ethiopia was not. Cuba's overall African policy is adjudged to have enhanced its prestige among the socialist and Third World countries, and to have increased its leverage in securing economic concessions from the Soviet Union. Prominent upon the debit side of Cuba's activities in Africa is the postponement of a normalization of relations with the United States.

Although it contains much valuable comment and analysis, *Cuba in Africa* does not provide firm answers to the main questions to which its subject gives rise. It would be unreasonable, though, to expect them in the absence of harder information than is currently available. The book is a useful addition to the growing literature on Cuba's role in world affairs.

University of Hull

GORDON CONNELL-SMITH

The Dominican Republic: A Caribbean Crucible. By HOWARD J. WIARDA and MICHAEL J. KRZANEK. Foreword by RONALD M. SCHNEIDER. Boulder: Westview Press, 1982. Maps. Illustrations. Tables. Pp. xv, 153. Paper. \$8.50. Cloth. \$18.50.

Even though University of Massachusetts Political Science Professor Howard J. Wiarda has departed from the Caribbean as a research area, and concentrated on the Iberian Peninsula, he remains the most knowledgeable Dominicanista in the world today, especially in the post-Era de Trujillo period.

Michael J. Kryzanek teaches in the Political Science Department of Bridgewater State College, Massachusetts. He has concentrated upon Dominican Republic political parties, opposition political tactics and democratic-left parties in Latin America.

Wiarda and Kryzanek see the Dominican Republic as a crucible of circum-Caribbean politics and economic development; a geostrategic area that President Ronald Reagan has belatedly recognized. Because of discriminatory United States quota restrictions upon foreign-grown sugar cane, and manufactured-goods' tariffs, a nation like the Dominican Republic, with a relatively prosperous economic development, democratic-

left government, and an example of what United States policy-makers have been attempting to achieve all over the Western Hemisphere, will probably be penalized under the Reagan administration's plans.

After excellently covering the Dominican Republic's social, political, and economic institutions and processes, the authors present a fascinating analysis of public policy-making in the Dominican Republic. They correctly point out that the Dominican Republic is a perfect example of such "dependency variables" as: declining sugar revenues; increased prices for oil; inflated prices for imported manufactured goods; reduced capital investment; shortages of technical equipment, also imported from the outside; or United States disfavor with a regime or policy that is introduced into the country. These sometimes result in severe setbacks in the country's development efforts. Its fragile political system might become destabilized as well (p. 122).

The authors conclude by describing the Dominican Republic in the international arena, especially relations with the vitally important United States government as one of "suprasovereignty" (p. 126).

Their fine work is a most suitable addition to Westview Press, Frederick A. Praeger, Publisher's Nations of Contemporary Latin America series, edited by Ronald M. Schneider.

University of South Alabama

R. MICHAEL MALEK

A History of the Guyanese Working People, 1881–1905. By WALTER RODNEY. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1981. Maps. Illustrations. Tables. Notes. Bibliography. Index. Pp. xxv, 282. Cloth. \$26.50. Paper. \$6.95.

This study of the evolution of British Guiana's ethnically divided labor force from 1881 to the riots of 1905, analyzes negative environmental factors and dependent articulation into an international capitalist economy (in deep structural crisis at the end of the nineteenth century) as major constraints upon working-class welfare.

Planter hegemony, formalized in control of the legislature (through a limited franchise) and constitutionally unchallenged until the 1890s by an emergent professional and commercial class (chap. 5), ensured the rise of the law as a restraining (and retaliatory) instrument on and against former slaves' access to land, and as a perpetuating tool of plantation bondage.

The very tendency of planters to reduce wages or expand task work, however, stimulated the resistance of the emancipated labor force to the