

author's own experiences and observations and his asides about what "most Israelis," "many Arabs," and others think on a variety of subjects. Although the author refers to few if any opinion polls, he reports, apparently from his own observations, that "most Israelis don't like Woody Allen," that they "tend not to like speaking of theories, generalities or abstractions," and that "they are rude to an extent that it even bothers other Israelis." These comments add color to the descriptions of Israeli life scattered throughout the book. The account begins with Jewish history from biblical times to the end of WW II and proceeds with chapters covering social structure, economy, politics, and political institutions of the modern Jewish state. About a third of the book (two of the seven chapters) covers the country's foreign policy, the peace process, and relations with the US and with American Jewry. Frequent comparisons with US institutions and politics indicate that the book was written for an American audience. It would be a lively supplement to Don Peretz and Gideon Doron's *The Government and Politics of Israel* (3rd ed., CH, Jul'97). All levels.—D. Peretz, emeritus, SUNY at Binghamton

**35-0531** JC599 96-10752 CIP  
**The Individual and the state in China**, ed. by Brian Hook. Oxford, 1996. 231p index afp ISBN 0-19-828931-6, \$24.00

Hook (Univ. of Leeds) has edited an outstanding study of the relationship between the individual and the state in the PRC after the adoption of the reform and opening-out policies of the early 1980s. The contributors include renowned China scholars such as Robert Ash (Univ. of London), Michel Bonnin and Yves Chevrier (both at Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris), Thomas Gold (Univ. of California, Berkeley), Hook himself, Lucian Pye (MIT), David Shambaugh (Univ. of London), Andrew Walder (Harvard), and Gordon White (Univ. of Sussex). The book has eight chapters. Following the introduction and overview, chapters 3 through 7 focus on the relationship between workers, managers, and the state; the peasant farmer and the state; the soldier and the state; the intellectual and the state; and youth and the state. Chapter 8 evaluates the methodological utility of the term "civil society" and suggests that if liberalization and democratization are to occur in China, they will result from a gradual, managed process. Footnotes but no bibliography. Strongly recommended for undergraduates, graduates, and faculty.—S. K. Ma, California State University, Los Angeles

**35-0532** JN94 96-5600 CIP  
**Kalyvas, Stathis N. The rise of Christian Democracy in Europe**. Cornell, 1996. 300p bibl indexes afp ISBN 0-8014-3241-3, \$45.00; ISBN 0-8014-8320-4 pbk, \$19.95

Kalyvas offers a persuasive explanation of party formation, backed by impressive data on an underresearched phenomenon, Christian Democracy. He posits a rational choice model depicting parties not just as the natural product of social division, but as a result of strategic choices by key elites—in his case study, 19th-century church leaders. Yet he challenges conventional wisdom among historians, stressing that the hierarchy itself never wanted to create religious parties, fearing they might become rivals for leadership in the Catholic community. Facing liberal-secular assault, the bishops sought to defend their own prerogatives by mobilizing the laity, but they miscalculated by encouraging the new organizations to take part in parliamentary politics in support of Conservative candidates. In five of six countries, the surprising electoral appeal of politically organized Catholicism spawned separate parties. France was the exception: Kalyvas devotes a chapter to showing how French bishops, counting on the hated secular republic to collapse, delayed organizing their laity. Given its theoretical focus and the detail Kalyvas musters, this book may perhaps not be the place to start in learning about early Christian Democracy, but scholars in political science and history will find its analysis impressive. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty.—C. Clemens, College of William and Mary

**35-0533** DS113 96-45757 CIP  
**Khalidi, Rashid. Palestinian identity: the construction of modern national consciousness**. Columbia, 1997. 309p bibl index afp ISBN 0-231-10514-2, \$29.50

Khalidi provides compelling challenges to the prevailing assumptions concerning the origins of Palestinian nationalism. He explores the interplay

between the narratives that make up Palestinian history and examines theious constituents of Palestinian national identity. In so doing he illustrates heretofore little-known aspects of Palestinian singularity, in particular the circumstances that gave rise to the shift from Arab/Ottoman to Palestinian/Arab identity. Beginning with the later Ottoman Empire, Khalidi Arabic, Turkish, Hebrew, and Western archival sources as well as unpublished sources—notably from the Khalidi Library in Jerusalem—to stantiate his thesis. He argues that the origins and growth of Palestinian nationalism were not so much a reaction to Zionism as a response to the influences of late 19th-century Palestinian scholars, the Arab press, British occupation, and later, Zionist colonization. The material, intellectual, and spiritual importance of Jerusalem to Palestinians is well substantiated. Khalidi biographies of Yosuf Diya and Ruh al-Khalidi—scholars, diplomats, and members of the Ottoman Parliament—provide valuable context and perspective. This original research sheds new light on the question of Palestine. It should be read by everyone concerned about accurate historiography, cultural mythology, the social construction of national identity, and a peaceful resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.—C. A. Rubenberg, Florida International University

**35-0534** JQ1698 96-26393  
**Kohno, Masaru. Japan's postwar party politics**. Princeton, 1996. 172p bibl indexes afp ISBN 0-691-02629-7, \$55.00; ISBN 0-691-0151 pbk, \$17.95

Kohno has produced a cogent microanalysis of post-1945 party politics in Japan. He systematically links the electoral system and other institutional constraints to the options and resulting choices of major parties during key stages in the evolution of the party system. His chapter on coalition building prior to 1955, politics within the Liberal Democratic Party, and the 1993 general election are especially significant. His use of rational-choice approach not only highlights the incentives and bargaining power of individual actors, but places an understanding of Japanese party politics within the theoretical frameworks typically used to explain party development in other advanced industrial democracies. The results are an informative re-creation of the political environment in which party leaders interact and significant insight into the decision-making process that logically followed. Libraries will find the book an important companion to Ron Hrebenar's *The Japanese Party System* (CH, Mar'87; 2nd ed., 1992). Highly recommended for advanced undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty with an interest in the strategies pursued by political parties and party systems.—J. M. Peek, Centenary College of Louisiana

**35-0535** DC423 96-32466  
**Murray, Joseph P. Grand disillusion: François Mitterrand and the French Left**. Praeger, 1997. 168p bibl index afp ISBN 0-275-95731-5, \$57.95

Mitterrand and the French Left have been the subject of numerous academic and journalistic studies. Mitterrand's election to the presidency of France in May 1981 when he led a redesigned French Socialist Party provided an important political victory for the Left, and first allowed the non-Gaullist opposition to accede to the pinnacle of power under the Fifth Republic. This work is essentially a political biography of Mitterrand written from a somewhat sympathetic ideological perspective. It glosses over many of the major scandals of the Mitterrand era. The bibliography omits important materials such as biographical accounts by Denis MacShane, *François Mitterrand: Political Odyssey* (CH, Oct'83), and by Sally Baumann-Reynolds, *François Mitterrand: The Making of a Socialist Prince in Republican France* (CH, Nov'95). The author is a retired teacher, lawyer, and writer, who has focused on attempted socialist revolutions on several continents. General reading for upper-division undergraduates through faculty.—V. McHale, Case Western Reserve University

**35-0536** OI  
**Poznanski, Kazimierz Z. Poland's protracted transition: institutional change and economic growth, 1970-1994**. Cambridge, 1996. 320p bibl index (Cambridge Russian, Soviet and post-Soviet studies, 98) 151-0-521-55396-2, \$54.95; ISBN 0-521-55639-2 pbk, \$19.95