
Book Review

Mao's legacy of genocide in China

by Mary M. Burdman

Slaughter of the Innocents: Coercive Birth Control in China

by John S. Aird
The AEI Press, Washington, D.C., 1990
196 pages, hardbound, \$16.95

Reading this well-documented book reminds one that the great failure of all but a few in assessing Communist China is always to underestimate the insanity and stupidity of its rulers. Dr. Aird has done two very useful things to write this book: One, he based his conclusions on hundreds of internal Chinese articles, statements, and exhortations never before translated and certainly not meant for distribution outside China; and two, he documents that the international family planning advocates, such as the U.N. Fund for Population Activities, resort to outright lies in their denial that birth control is coercive in China, in order to advance their cause. Indeed, Dr. Aird states in his preface, it was Western neo-malthusians that provided the impetus for China's forced birth control programs.

Dr. Aird challenges, though tentatively, the malthusian overpopulation dogma. "It is time," he writes in his conclusion, "for a careful review of the issue of human rights in family planning and a reconsideration of the 'population crisis' ideology which is undoubtedly part of the explanation for the tolerance that family planning advocates and other humanitarians have shown toward China's use of coercion in family planning." It has been well established by economic scientist Lyndon LaRouche that the human race is nowhere near its maximum population potential on the Earth. There are many economists and demographers—some briefly referenced in this book—who are as disgusted with the massively funded and supported "population crisis" ideologues as are other scientists with the "global warming" or "ozone hole" hoaxsters. It is time for these scientists to come forward. Dr. Aird's book is excellent motivation.

I refer to a recent essay by Simon Leys, one of the few truthful observers of the Communist Chinese, in the Oct. 11 *New York Review of Books*, for an assessment of the brutality

of those who run China. It is best to remember that it was the Beijing regime which created and continues to support the genocidal Khmer Rouge and Pol Pot. The same methods Pol Pot applied in Cambodia are applied in China. Science, education, and all rationality are the enemies of the regime—as the Tiananmen Square massacre so clearly demonstrated. Chinese communism—or Maoism, for it bears little resemblance to even Russian communism—is based on brainwashing through public denunciations and terror. The methods Mao Zedong applied from his first power base in Yan'an up through the Cultural Revolution, are applied by his successors—most emphatically the "reformer" Deng Xiaoping—in coercive population control in China.

Family planning terror

Thus you have the population control policy so well documented by Dr. Aird, based on forced IUD insertions, abortions, sterilizations, and even infanticide of "unauthorized" babies by hospital staff, all in order to limit births to one per couple. Couples are forced to undergo abortions of unauthorized pregnancies and sterilizations, exorbitant fines, tremendous social and financial pressure at their workplaces, loss of food rations, cutoffs of water and electricity to their homes, and brute force, all measures authorized by communist "law." In some cases, the death penalty, widely used in China in public executions, is given to recalcitrant parents. State Family Planning Commission (SFPC) head Wang Wei stated the purpose of these measures: "The emphasis in family planning work is not only on meeting a certain population plan quota, but also on relieving the masses of the influence of old ideology. . . . Changing their views on having children is a long process in the construction of socialist spiritual civilization."

The result of the SFPC's work, Dr. Aird documents, is demographic disaster. The determination of Chinese parents to have a son has led to a revival of female infanticide on such a scale that in many areas male births outnumber female by 10-20% above normal.

All this is possible because, Simon Leys wrote, because Mao, alone of all communist leaders explicitly denounced the concept of a "universal humanity" by asserting that the proletariat alone is fully endowed with human nature. Under such an ideology, any scale of murder is possible.

Dr. Aird traces the history of population control by the communist regime, debunking all the claims of "reform" under Deng Xiaoping who presided over the most recent "crackdown" beginning in 1987-88, which equals in brutality the 1983 campaign when there were over 14 million abortions and 21 million sterilizations. With China's family planners claiming that from an "ecological" standpoint, China's optimum population, now 1.2 billion, is 700 million to 1 billion, murder on a scale as yet unimagined will be happening unless China's true revolutionaries soon succeed in ridding their nation of Maoist insanity.