

As a sin of omission, the book never even mentions the Chinese drugtrafficking policies developed during the Vietnam War, although the story of Chou En-lai's grand strategy to use drugs to undermine American society via the soldiers in Vietnam is well-known and generally available in the public domain through the revelations of Mohammed Heikal, a close adviser to the late Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt. The strategic thinking behind Chou's strategy is implied in the "debilitate the Kuomintang army" concept mentioned above. (Overall, this reviewer gets the impression that Faligot and Kauffer are, on balance, sympathetic to Chou, as a "moderate" and "diplomatic" counterweight to Kang Sheng and others.)

There are many books that one can read documenting Chinese Communist involvement in international drugtrafficking, but it is sad that a book on the Chinese Tewu misses the boat. Richard Deacon's *The Chinese Secret Service* (1974; republished 1989 by Grafton Books, London), which also deals with the drug issue cursorily, at least establishes the point that the Chinese Communists use drugs for political and strategic intelligence goals. By contrast, Faligot and Kauffer, while establishing the fact that certain historical, cultural, and political links exist between Kang Sheng and Peru's Shining Path terrorists, write an entire chapter on the Tewu's operations in Ibero-America, but never even moot how the Chinese might have played a role in cultivating that continent's "narco-terrorist" capability.

Worse than that, and this gets to the core of the problem of the book: In its totality, Chinese involvement in drugtrafficking is portrayed, historically and up to the present, as a kind of joint-stock venture of Kuomintang, secret societies and secret society-related gangs like the Green Gang, and the Communists, with the CIA thrown in on the Kuomintang side. A naive reader of the book would somehow assume this problem is endemic to certain Chinese groups per se. Yet they never even mention the question of China's "Opium Wars," the flooding of China with drugs by the British.

It should be stated in conclusion, that the book has a wealth of raw data, including a 32-page glossary. It also contains a number of tantalizing leads, including reporting Soviet agent Guy Burgess's important role in advising British policymakers on China in the period leading into the Korean War; former British MI-5 chief Roger Hollis's links to both Soviet and Chinese intelligence networks; and the origins of the Chinese atomic bomb capability in the old networks of Agnes Smedley, Richard Sorge, the "Red Orchestra," and the international "peace movement."

Note: (*The Chinese Secret Service* was originally published in French, in Paris 1987, by Editions Robert Laffont. In 1988, it was published in German, by Ehrenwirth Verlags GmbH, Munich, under the title, *Meister der Schatten: Kang Sheng u. der Chinesischen Geheimdienst, 1927-1987*, 712 pages with index, 49.80 deutschmarks.)

Chairman Mao was a dirty old man

Visitors returning from mainland China report that one of Mao Zedong's palatial summer villas in the area of Hangchow, in the western lakes, has been opened to tourists. The anecdotes related by the tour guides leave no doubt that Chairman Mao was a sex maniac and satyr, with his erotic furor increasing as he grew older. The guides show visitors a private movie theater on the estate which was used by Mao, and which was found stocked with the most exotic, triple-X rated blue movies, all from the corrupt centers of the decadent capitalist world. Apparently, Mao's recreation was to bathe in these corrosive bourgeois influences.

Mao is known to have had a wife, the infamous Qiang Qing of the Gang of Four, who had emerged in the chairman's final decade as a political power in her own right, with a large public following. Mao also kept several mistresses. Beyond these, the Great Helmsman of the Revolution, imitating the tradition of some Chinese emperors, had a voracious appetite for one-night stands with female Red Guard playmates in his final decade. Mao constantly scheduled command performances of his personal female ballet troupe, which amounted in practice to an opulent harem of chosen beauties between 18 and 25 years of age. Perhaps the chairman's insatiable libido had something to do with the choice of the "Revolutionary Detachment of Women," the ballet that was shown to Nixon and Kissinger during their 1972 state visit, since this work would have given Mao the most ample choice of post-performance partners.

Mao's widow, Qiang Qing, has now been released from jail and is seriously ill with cancer. Her three cohorts from the Gang of Four remain in prison. The guides in Hangchow report that Qiang Qing was a formidable nymphomaniac in her days of power, and that she used Mao's pornographic movie theater almost as much as the chairman himself. Qiang Qing is reported to have carried on with Mao's bodyguards, as well as with her athletic colleague in the Gang of Four, the Sports Minister Wang Hung Wen.

—Webster Tarpley