REVIEWS

Timothy M. Manley, *Outline of Sre Structure* (= *Oceanic Linguistics Special Publication* 12). Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1972. 239 pp.

Manley's grammar of Sre is a most welcome addition to the still scanty literature on the Mon Khmer languages of Vietnam. It is of special interest in that it uses case grammar concepts in its theoretical model, an approach which I feel in general has great potential for the better understanding of language structures in Southeast Asia. Not least of its attractions, furthermore, is the fact that it is on the whole a very readable piece of work.

Sre is one of a group of mutually intelligible dialects for which the cover term Kɗho is frequently used. Sre itself is spoken by the Montagnard population in and around the Vietnamese city of Di Linh. Manley's contact with it was through working with a student at the University of Hawaii, supplemented by four months at Di Linh (9).

The heart of Manley's grammar is the syntax (narrowly defined), discussed in the last three chapters. This is preceded by an introductory chapter, then chapters on phonology and "Archaic Morphological Processes". These archaic morphological processes refer to relics of earlier prefixation, infixation and reduplication which are still to be found in the lexicon, but the formations are now usually non-productive, as is often true of languages in the area. The description of the phonology is a structural (not generative) description of the phonemes underlying the transcriptions used in the volume. Other matters are also treated, including useful observations on the orthographies (usually based on Sre) which have been used to write Kɗho. The first chapter, the introduction, touches on previous work about and in the language (none of it on syntax), cultural information and location around Di Linh, and miscellaneous information such as the dialects making up Kɗho.

As for the description of the syntax itself, Manley uses Chomsky's *Aspects* as his basic descriptive model, with three important departures, which he lists as follows:

(1) the role of the syntactic component will be limited to accounting for syntactic phenomena alone and will not attempt to handle any phenomena based upon knowledge of the world or logic or reality;

(2) case relationships are recognized as playing a significant syntactic