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A New Book (Almost in the Bookstores) and Some Boston to Boulder Speaking Dates

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Back when the “China Beat” was in its infancy (figuring that blog years should be reckoned like dog years, it is now solidly in its adolescence), those of us involved in launching it thought that a fair amount of its content might well end up taking the form of “Self-Promotion Saturday” posts (shamelessly touting activities we’d been involved in) or “Coming Distractions” reviews (discussions of books that were about to appear, films that were in the works, upcoming conferences, etc.). Thankfully, the content has turned out to be much more varied, so these two features have only made up a small part of the total postings. Still, they continue to have a place at the blog, and this post is a combination of the two.

The self-promotion part (quite shameless, though it seems less worrisome to veer in this direction on a blog than in another format) is obvious: I want to call attention to my soon to be published book, China in the 21st Century: What Everyone Needs to Know, the official publication date for which is April 15, and also to mention (here’s where the “coming distractions” part comes in as well) some talks I’ll be giving in the next couple of weeks (at which I will be able to hand around for inspection an advance copy of said book). I’ll follow up this post soon with one that tells of post-publication talks I’ll be giving on the West Coast in mid-April and the East Coast in late April, which will take various forms (from straightforward book launches to sessions in which I’ll just be one of several participants speaking). For now, though, I’ll stick to things I’m doing in the next two weeks, before and after attending the Association for Asian Studies meetings in Philadelphia, a March 25-28 gathering that will be covered in various ways by “China Beat” contributors.

I’ll be giving several talks in Boston this coming week: two at Harvard on March 22 (one sponsored by the History Department, and for that there’s a paper to be read in advance, the other by the Carr Center for Human Rights, with no special prep required) and then two on March 23 (one at Boston University, which will be a repeat of the Carr Center presentation on patterns of dissent and repression, and another, on Shanghai, on a triple bill, with Harriet Evans and Richard Baum being the other two speakers, as part of a meeting of the Fairbank Center’s New England China Seminar). Then, after AAS, I’ll be speaking in Colorado Springs at Colorado College on March 31 (focusing on Shanghai) and then in Boulder on April 1 at the University of Colorado (focusing on themes in the book).
Readers who live near any of those places and are interested in hearing what I have to say can find out details about time, location, and format by following the links above (though note that the BU event will end at 4, not 5...). And to find out what “China Beat” has said in the past about work by Harriet Evans and Richard Baum, respectively, click here and here.

I promise not to do too many posts of this sort. But I do like any excuse to show off the eye-catching cover that the talented production staff at Oxford came up with for the new book.