

The Soviet Union prefers the sector principle, extending the line approximately north of its land territory and thus pushing the claim as far west as possible. It is interesting and encouraging to realise that the disputed 'grey zone' between the two has been the scene of annual compromise agreements over fishing in the last few years and that a Soviet attempt to explore for oil a few km within the Norwegian claim was amicably agreed by all to be due to a positioning error. The chapters on different national viewpoints are important. No real progress in arms negotiations can come without appreciation of the other view. The more people know about other viewpoints, the higher the level of debate within individual countries will be. A book such as this deserves to be widely read.

Three comments arise when considering a wider readership for the book. First, there is no coherent view of the physical environment and its stability. This means that the reader has no clear idea of the distribution of marine resources and no perspective in the important issue of current climatic deterioration and the implications for fishing, ice navigation and offshore oil exploration. Second, the view of strategy is inevitably that of the world's core industrial areas. Global strategic arguments are remote to individuals living within the area and it would have been interesting to see, for example, the Inuit viewpoint and its implications argued fully. The chapter on Iceland was a most interesting exception in that Icelandic views emerged clearly. Third, the use of acronyms is a legal and strategic nightmare. One paragraph on page 26 contains the following: LOSC, EFZ, EEZ, EC, NEAF, NAFO, NEAFC, ICNAF. All are explained somewhere but it is galling not to be able to read a paragraph without frequent interruptions. These minor points apart, Clive Archer and David Scrivener have done a fine job. They have focussed on a zone with complex strategic issues in need of wider discussion. They have combined the insights of an international team and produced a thought-provoking book which deserves to be widely read. (David Sugden, Department of Geography, University of Aberdeen, St Mary's, High Street, Old Aberdeen AB9 2UF, Scotland.)

LAW AND SOVEREIGNTY IN ANTARCTICA: AN AUSTRALIAN VIEW

INTERNATIONAL LAW AND AUSTRALIAN SOVEREIGNTY IN ANTARCTICA. Triggs, Gillian D. 1986. Sydney, Legal Books. 403p, hard cover. ISBN 949553 23 9. Aus\$39.50.

The concept of sovereignty is of fundamental importance in any legal study of Antarctica. In 1959, when the Antarctic Treaty established a moratorium on claims to sovereignty in Antarctica, seven states claimed sovereignty over parts of Antarctica and these claims were disputed by certain other states, in particular the USA and the USSR. In this book Dr Triggs is principally concerned with examining Australia's claim to sovereignty over approximately 42% of the Antarctic continent. However, the study is of much wider significance, both because of the importance to the future of Antarctica of Australia's claim, and because of the author's treatment of the applicable international law.

Having explained in detail at the outset the principles of international law governing the acquisition of territory, the author applies these principles to Australia's claim. British and Australian exploration and scientific activities in the region of Australian Antarctic Territory are described. A substantial part of the book is devoted to Australian treaty practice in relation to Antarctica, with separate chapters on the Antarctic Treaty 1959, protection and conservation of the Antarctic environment, and the negotiation of an Antarctic minerals régime. A further chapter deals with Australian legislative and administrative activities in Australian Antarctic Territory. Dr Triggs then considers the relevance of the attitudes of other states to claims to sovereignty in Antarctica, with

particular reference to the concepts of recognition, acquiescence and estoppel, and the applicability to Antarctica of the concept of the common heritage of mankind. In the final chapter conclusions are drawn in relation to various possible competing claims to sovereignty and to the right to exploit natural resources. Throughout the work particular issues are skilfully related to a clear exposition of legal principles. There is extensive citation of legal authorities and very detailed treatment of State practice.

Antarctica constitutes a particular challenge to international law and international lawyers. As exploration and research increasingly reveal the potential natural resources of the continent and its adjacent continental shelf and maritime zones, and in the light of the possibility of a review of the operation of the Antarctic Treaty, it has become particularly important that international law should keep abreast of technical and scientific developments and the needs of the international community, and ensure that it is able to provide a secure structure for the further development of an Antarctic régime. This scholarly work, which is of much wider importance than its title might suggest, makes an outstanding contribution to the study of Antarctica and is likely to lead to a better understanding of the role of international law in this context. It is essential reading for all persons charged with responsibility for the future of Antarctica. (David Lloyd Jones, Downing College, Cambridge.)

ANTARCTIC TREATY SYSTEM: THE BEARDMORE DISCUSSIONS

ANTARCTIC TREATY SYSTEM: AN ASSESSMENT: PROCEEDINGS OF A WORKSHOP HELD AT BEARDMORE SOUTH FIELD CAMP, ANTARCTICA, JANUARY 7–13 1985. US Polar Research Board, National Research Council (editor). 1986. Washington, DC, National Academy Press. 435p, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 0–309–03640–2. US\$22.50 in US, Canada and Mexico, US\$27.00 export.

The 1980s have demonstrated an increased tendency by governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to interpret Antarctica as a problem, perhaps even as a crisis point. This trend has encouraged a succession of Antarctic conferences and seminars in different parts of the world, including Canberra, Kiel, London, New Delhi, Rhode Island and Wellington. The reader interested in Antarctica has been confronted with a rapid succession of proceedings volumes, and the appearance of yet another one prompted a somewhat lukewarm response. All tend to show variable levels of editorial control, an uneven quality of individual contributions, and the repetitive use of certain individuals who have only so much to contribute.

Nevertheless I welcome this particular volume as a valuable addition to Antarctic literature, for it provides a range of informed and relatively well-balanced insights into the operations of the Antarctic Treaty System at an appropriate time: the celebration of the treaty system's 25 years of existence, when the international community is debating the future management of Antarctica. The book originated from a workshop organized by the US Polar Research Board, held in January 1985 on the Bowden Ice Névé in the Transantarctic Mountains. This recalls the 1982 symposium held at a Chilean Antarctic base, papers from which were published in *Antarctic Resources Policy* (1983) edited by Francisco Orrego Vicuña).

Like the workshop itself, the book is organized around five main themes: introduction, history and overview; legal and political background; Antarctic science; resource and environmental questions; the Antarctic Treaty System and institutional aspects. In a brief review it is impossible to be too specific about the uneven nature of the 20 or so papers. The names of many of the contributors, for example Christopher Beeby, John Heap, R.