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BOOK NOTES

FIFTEEN MEN ON A POWDER KEG: A HISTORY OF THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL. Andrew Boyd. New York: Stein and Day, 1971. 383 pp. \$8.95. Andrew Boyd takes the reader on a fantastic voyage through the channels and reefs of the ocean of power within the United Nations, the mysterious Security Council. One begins to understand the apparent ambiguities of the actions of the various members of the august body, the seemingly illogical changes of position, the ever-moving balance of power. Beyond this, there is an exceptional analysis of U.N. action and inaction in the major and minor crises of the last two decades, and perceptive insights on the possible course of the planet and its "governing" body in the coming years.

POWDER KEG must be considered a primary reference point for anyone professionally affected by the U.N. and a primer for anyone interested in the politics and diplomacy of multinational existence.

REVOLUTION THROUGH PEACE. Dom Helder Camara, A. McLean translation. New York: Harper and Row, 1971. xix, 149 pp. \$5.95. This book is one in the series—World Perspectives. The series is dedicated to defining the essential nature of man by developing a new consciousness which will enable man to direct his evolution toward fulfillment rather than destruction. Contemporary problems are studied in an effort to contribute to an awakening and understanding of the interrelationship between man's knowledge and his existence.

This volume is a message by Archbishop Helder Camara which calls for a peaceful revolution through reform of existing social structures in Latin America and the International Community. His goal is human dignity in both the spiritual and temporal order. A special call is pronounced urging youth to commit themselves to the brotherhood of man, and to free humanity from the madness of war and the madness that widens the gulf between the developed and the underdeveloped worlds.

Although the phraseology is consistently Christian, this writing is not a religious book. It carries a Christian philosophy but more than that, it offers specific and definitive objectives pursuant to the goal of an integrated and developed Latin America.

THIS ENDANGERED PLANET. Richard A. Falk. New York: Random House, Inc., 1971. 495 pp. \$8.95. The environmental crisis is not

confined to the highly technological Western nations, but rather has assumed global dimensions. Nor is technology the only threat to the world. Mr. Falk enumerates four principal threats to the planet Earth: (1) The war system; (2) Overpopulation; (3) The depletion of natural resources; and (4) The deterioration of the entire environment, so that it is approaching the point where it will no longer be life-sustaining.

The author, in recapitulating several of his earlier theories concerning stability in international affairs, calls for an "ecological politics" in which "man in nature" will replace the image of "man versus nature", which has motivated and encouraged our abuse of the Earth.

Two alternate images of the future are presented to support the need for radical changes in philosophical, economic and political systems. One foresees a continuation of present values and practices, in which we descend from "The Politics of Despair" through "The Politics of Catastrophe" to "The Twenty-First Century—An Era of Annihilation." The other image, predicated upon a world which has come to grips with the present crises, foresees decades of "Awareness," "Mobilization," and "Transformation" leading to "The 21st Century—The Era of World Harmony".

CRIMES OF WAR. Richard A. Falk, Gabriel Kolko, and Robert Jay Lifton, editors. New York: Random House, Inc., 1971. xvi, 575 pp. \$10.00. This volume is a multifaceted exposure to the element of responsibility in war crimes. The editors have presented the legal framework, the political setting, and the psychological and ethical context of the Vietnam War Crimes. The book lends itself not to acceptance, but rather to an understanding of contemporary atrocities. It significantly probes present realities that most often are viewed as history.

The section on legal framework covers treaties and documentation on prohibitions of war crimes dating from Petersburg, 1868 to Vietnam, 1970. Political documents focus primarily on atrocities committed in Vietnam both in combat and prison settings. The psychological and ethical context includes contributions by prestigious writers and concerns itself largely with an examination of societal guilt and the agonizing experience of atrocity.

The editors of this book have gathered an impressive collection of documents and sensitive writings (many firsthand experiences) to illustrate the void of idealism and the senseless struggle of the Vietnam War. It is *in toto* a plea for an intelli-

gent commitment to humane government: but in relating so vividly the crimes it decries, the reader is often benumbed by the experience. However, it may well be necessary to experience the impact of the problem as being the first step in the solution.

THE FUTURE OF THE OCEANS. Wolfgang Friedmann. New York: George Braziller, Inc., 1971. 132 pp. \$5.95 (hard cover), \$2.45 (paperbound). Seventy-one percent of the earth's surface lies under the oceans. In the water, and on and beneath the ocean floor there exists resources of food, oil, natural gas, and minerals in quantities to stagger the imagination. The U.N. General Assembly has resolved that these shall be the common heritage of mankind and has called for an international regime to administer the area. **THE FUTURE OF THE OCEANS** presents basic concepts and data pertinent to this sea world, and in readable fashion, surveys recent developments as nations reach out to exploit these resources. The author, believing that "freedom of the seas cannot remain a *laissez-faire* freedom" urges prompt action to reverse the current trend toward offshore appropriation by coastal nations. The work is an excellent checklist in preparation for the 1973 U.N. Conference on the Law of the Sea, and includes a discussion of the draft convention submitted by the United States to the United Nations Seabed Committee in August 1970.

THE LAW RELATING TO ACTIVITIES OF MAN IN SPACE. S. Houston Lay and Howard J. Taubenfeld. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1970. 333 pp. \$17.50. The burgeoning space activities within the last decade have precipitated much interest in the law of outer space. This study, written with the assistance of the American Bar Association and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, analyzes the present law controlling man's activities in outer space and on the celestial bodies. Although not intended as a draft code of law governing space activities, it is a comprehensive look at the subject. Particularly useful is the chapter on "Natural Resources, Pollution, and the Law of Activities in Space", which should have considerable effect on future policy making. The book is well organized and should serve as a valuable reference on the law of outer space.

THE ART OF THE POSSIBLE: DIPLOMATIC ALTERNATIVES IN THE MIDDLE EAST. M. Reisman. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 1970. 158 pp. \$1.95. Professor Reisman reviews briefly but with keen understanding the innumerable complexi-

ties which beset the entire Middle East. He presents us with a highly readable and extremely challenging analysis of the present situation, setting out of his four-fold proposals for achieving the minimum order so vital for the establishment of peace. In the past, diplomacy has failed. But now, "within the limits of feasibility and possibility, there is . . . room for creative diplomacy. If the rewards for success are not great, the penalty for failure may be enormous." The world today is far too interdependent for any political conflagration to be confined to a particular region, and a confrontation or collision in the Middle East could easily destroy the whole world. Professor Reisman's approach is fresh and innovative; his alternatives challenging and provocative.

INTERNATIONAL LAW. Charles S. Rhyne. Washington, D.C.: CLB Publishers, 656 pp. \$22.50. The review of a legal text is difficult at best, and even more so when the subject is international law. Anyone who has ever endured such a course has little desire to ever again see such a tome, and professors either prefer to write their own texts or find fault with any text in print. However, please accept the heartfelt enthusiasm which follows.

To list the degrees and accomplishments of Professor Rhyne would require several pages; instead his work in preparing this text is eloquent testimony. The format follows the citation system found in most state codes, forcing the neophyte to think as a lawyer and permitting the professional to employ the text efficiently. Without belaboring the point, the text covers fully the historical context so essential in international law and gets on to the present state of the art, covering in sufficient depth the major treaties, documents, agencies, and trends affecting international law today.

INTERNATIONAL LAW must be considered imperative as a text and important as a tool.

THE PENTAGON PAPERS. Neil Sheehan, Hedrick Smith, E. W. Kenworthy and Fox Butterfield. New York: The New York Times and Bantam Books, Inc., 1971. 677 pp. \$2.95 (paperback). In mid-1967, Robert S. McNamara, then Secretary of Defense, commissioned the Pentagon papers. A massive top-secret history of the United States' involvement in Indochina, the Pentagon papers have been the subject of much controversy both as to the actual content, and as to the legality of their printing.

The 47-volume study attempts to encompass American involvement in Indochina from World War II to the start of the Paris peace talks in May, 1968.

On June 30, 1971, the U.S. Supreme Court freed the news-

papers to continue the publication of these papers, which had been labeled by the Government as harmful and irreparably injurious to the nation's defense and security.

Written by a team of anonymous government historians, this compilation of the memoranda, cablegrams, and orders of the principal actors shows the four-administration commitment to a non-Communist Vietnam and an ultimate frustration in doing so.

The history project was to be "encyclopedic and objective" according to Mr. McNamara but the actual candid form which evolved renders it most readable. The organization of this compilation is chronological but lacks consistency and an overall conclusion. Perhaps one must read *THE PENTAGON PAPERS* in the encyclopedic manner for it is based on documentary records and not a unified, cohesive story which would result from combining interviews to fill the gaps in the documents. But this also allows the documents to be revealed without the embarrassed rationalizations and interpretations so ever-present in government policy matters.

This compilation obtained by *The New York Times* does lack the four volumes on the secret diplomacy of the Johnson administration. But despite this limitation it does in its printed form disclose a vast amount of information concerning the American commitment to South Vietnam and the manner of operation of the United States government. The Pentagon account stated that at various times the highest administration officials not only kept information about their real purposes from the press and Congress, but at times actually misled the public media on grounds of the necessity for secrecy and expediency.

As an inside view of the decision-making process this work merits considerable attention, but the approach of the various chapters differs as the individual authors vary in style and analysis. Although fragmentary, the effect is to give the public a new source of information. In this respect it is more complete and informative than any information the public has to date.

OF LAW AND MAN. Shlomo Shoham editor. New York: Sabra Books, 1971. 387 pp. \$8.95. This work is a compilation of writings in tribute to Justice Haim H. Cohn, an Israeli Supreme Court Justice whose respect for law and human rights has earned him international acclaim. The subject matter of the selections varies from the philosophical or religious to the legal particulars involved in international, civil, and criminal problems. There is an underlying directive throughout the book

which encourages better and more humane legal systems. From the readings a great deal can be gleaned about the rules of law and the practices of law which are employed by different nations (especially Israel). Most often the essays treat the subject matter in an analytical fashion and for this reason are of interest to those who are concerned with learning more about international relations and politics as well as those who are professional legalists.

AGGRESSION: OUR ASIAN DISASTER. W. L. Standard. New York: Random House, Inc., 1971. 228 pp. \$6.95. The illegality of the United States' involvement in the war in Vietnam is developed clearly and logically with the documentation of United States' violations under the U.N. Charter, the SEATO Treaty, the Nuremberg Principles, and the United States' own Federal Constitution and with numerous quotations and excerpts from public pronouncements and writings. Included also is a brief survey of campus unrest, domestic disapproval and the United States world-wide military complex. With great forthrightness Mr. Standard presents the view that the war in Vietnam can only be endlessly protracted and that its only solution is the total withdrawal of the United States from Indochina. The writing is fresh and vigorous with a keenly aware factual analysis.

THE JAMES EARL RAY EXTRADITION FILE. U.S. DEP'T OF STATE. New York: The Lemma Publishing Corp., 1971. 134 pp. \$17.50. Collected in this volume are the documents used by the U.S. State Department to effect the extradition of James Earl Ray, who was sought in the United States to stand trial for the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The petitioning process is traced from Shelby County, Tennessee to Great Britain where Ray had fled. Included are 34 petitions, documents, and depositions developed to show sufficient cause for Ray's extradition. Affidavits from F.B.I. experts, statements of Memphis police officers, and eyewitness statements, are supplemented by technical depositions taken from the physician who performed the autopsy on Dr. King and from a surveyor who mapped the bullet's trajectory. Also included are the drawings, diagrams and photographs which were appended to the various affidavits.

While much of the text consists of repetitious statements and dry certifications, as might be expected from such a collection of documents, the publisher correctly points out that since Ray pleaded guilty to the murder charge and therefore no testimony was heard, the book represents "the most complete file of evidence against him [Ray] published to date".