

CASES AND MATERIALS ON INTERNATIONAL LAW. By D.J. HARRIS.
Second Edition. [London: Sweet & Maxwell. 1979. xxxii+
829 pp. (with index). Paperback £13.50 net].

There were a number of significant developments in international law between 1972 and 1978. After several years, negotiators at the Third U.N. Conference on the Law of the Sea reached substantial agreement on many issues, and produced a negotiating text which will serve as the basis for a comprehensive convention on the Law of the Sea. The World Court's decisions in the *Nuclear Tests Cases*, *Fisheries Jurisdiction Cases*, and the *Western Sahara Case* were to a large extent ignored by the States concerned. Nevertheless, the cases were significant in several areas of international law, such as the legal effect of unilateral declarations, the rights of coastal states over fishing resources, and the legal status of the principle of self-determination. Several new conventions were adopted to cope with problems of international terrorism such as hijacking and crimes against internationally protected persons. The developing countries attempted to use U.N. General Assembly Resolutions as instruments to establish a new international economic order, and to create new rules governing sovereignty over resources and the expropriation of the property of aliens. In the United Kingdom, steps were finally taken, first in the courts, then through legislation, to follow most of the rest of the world and adopt a restricted view of sovereign immunity. In Europe, developments in the area of human rights resulted from an increased number of decisions by the European Court of Human Rights.

All these developments have been incorporated into the second edition of the Harris casebook. The Law of the Sea chapter has been greatly adapted in order to include the developments at the Third U.N. Conference on the Law of the Sea. Other chapters or sections have also undergone changes. For example, the sections on hijacking, expropriation and use of force were re-edited, and the chapter on the World Court was expanded. The result is that the first edition has been improved and updated as of June 1978.

In the Preface to the second edition the author notes that a new chapter on the United Nations again could not be included because

of page limitations. The omission is unfortunate, since the absence of a chapter on the United Nations is the only serious shortcoming of the casebook. The book does contain materials on the United Nations in the chapters on Sources, International Personality, Human Rights and Use of Force. In addition, the United Nations Charter and the General Assembly Declaration on Principles of Law Concerning Friendly Relations are included as appendices. Nevertheless, there is no single chapter introducing generally the United Nations Charter. Without a basic understanding of the history of the Charter, the purposes and principles of the United Nations, and the structure and organization of the United Nations, including the problems of voting, it is very difficult for the student to understand materials in other chapters relating to the United Nations, *i.e.* the legal status of Namibia, the legal effect of General Assembly Resolutions, the role of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security.

There are other minor shortcomings in the casebook. First, the Table of Contents is very brief. It would be much easier for the reader to locate materials in the casebook if there was a detailed table of contents at the front of the book or at the beginning of each chapter. Second, when selected articles from multilateral conventions are printed in the book, the author generally reprints the complete text of the articles, but not the title or heading of the article. Searching for a particular article is thereby rendered unnecessarily inconvenient. Third, the Table of Cases in the front of the text fails to distinguish between the page where the case is reprinted in the book, and where it is merely cited. If the page where the case is reprinted were in bold type, it would enable the reader to locate a case much more easily.

Nevertheless, the casebook is excellent for use in teaching a basic course in Public International Law. It is well edited and contains all the essential basic documents as well as the important cases and other materials. The accompanying notes are brief, but generally well-written. The choice of materials is designed to cater to the British student, but it also contains materials of a comparative nature on certain topics. The student may find the detail rather heavy going on some topics, or may find it necessary to supplement the casebook with an introductory textbook. Nevertheless, the casebook is an invaluable tool for any student attempting to master the basic principles of Public International Law.