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INTERNATIONAL
LAW*

*PROCEEDINGS
of the
81st ANNUAL MEETING*

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EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

The *Proceedings* of the 1987 Annual Meeting of American Society of International Law reflect a rich diversity of concerns and developments. To some extent, of course, this diversity is a natural result of the spectrum of current developments over the past year, but it also reflects the vibrant and varied continuing interests of the members of the Society and the participants in the Annual Meeting Program. In either event, this diversity is a measure of the strength and currency of the Society as an institution devoted to international legal issues.

The *Proceedings* track an Annual Meeting consisting of some 40 separate events. The range of interests represented by these events may give some indication of the current concerns of serious scholars and practitioners in the field of international law. In the area of international trade and investment, we see such topics explored as high technology and international affairs, space stations as an aspect of technology and law; worker rights and international trade; the role of nonmarket economies in trade negotiations; international commercial arbitration; and economic development in the Third World. In the area of public international law, we see many new topics and some hardy perennials, including such topics as the protection of the victims of war, the law of the sea, the budgetary crisis at the United Nations, the role of "equity" in international law, the *Revised Restatement of U.S. Foreign Relations Law*, the roles of Congress and the Executive in national security; and the decision of the International Court of Justice in the *Nicaragua Case*. At least three panels were devoted to various aspects of terrorism. At least three others explored various emerging issues in international human rights law.

The *Proceedings* also continue to exhibit variety in form and presentation. In addition to the traditional "panel" presentations by groups of scholars and practitioners examining various aspects of an overall panel topic, the Annual Meeting was enriched by many relatively more informal workshops, seminars, open forums and special projects. The results of such innovative formats are refreshing and will, it is hoped, continue in future Annual Meetings of the Society.

On the practical side, from the crabbed perspective of an editor, such diversity and variation naturally raise pragmatic concerns about the need to pull the material together, in a timely fashion, for the readers of the published *Proceedings*. It should be obvious from a brief perusal of the table of contents of the *Proceedings* that the potential for delay and disaster in completing the editorial task is considerable. In an effort to counter this potential, we have also initiated some innovations. We have attempted to be punctilious—in every sense—about deadlines set for participants and reporters of panels. This concern has led us on occasion to reassign panel reports where the original reporter has been recalcitrant. In addition, inordinate delays (or disappearances) of panel participants has on occasion caused us to insert "editorial summaries" in place of reported remarks of participants. These summaries, denoted as such as they occur, are precisely what they suggest—summaries, not actual reports of re-

marks; editorial in nature, not necessarily reflecting the final, considered views of a given participant.*

This editorial task would have been pointless if not impossible without the support and assistance of many individuals. The Editor wishes to acknowledge in particular the kind and constant support of Keith Highet, President of the Society, and John Lawrence Hargrove, Executive Vice President and Executive Director of the Society, throughout this project. Further, no acknowledgment could sufficiently express the Editor's appreciation for the help of Judith R. Hall, the Assistant Editor of the *Proceedings*, whose efforts both current and of longstanding are a necessity for the completion of the *Proceedings*. The Editor also wishes to thank his research assistants Robyn Lipsky, of the Fordham University Law School Class of 1989, and especially Timothy F. Malloy. Finally, the Editor wishes to thank Marilyn Alexander and the faculty secretarial staff at Fordham University School of Law for their invaluable and generous assistance.

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July 1989

* It should be noted further that, owing generally to the lack of panel reporters or, in some cases, to the failure of assigned reporters to perform, it has been necessary to resort to the device of the editorial summary much more frequently than we would have wished, with the result that in some cases the reports are not nearly so complete as is the usual practice. Given the fact that publication was already much delayed, it was felt that this was the least of available evils and that publication could not be held up further to include more complete reports. The Society and the Editor deeply regret the necessity for this decision and hope that the problem will not recur.

Information on the cassette recordings referred to can be obtained by writing Convention Cassettes Unlimited, 75-355 Santa Fe Trail, Palm Desert, California 92260 (Phone: (619) 773-4498).

PROCEEDINGS OF THE EIGHTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

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