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This book consists of twenty-five essays written by some of the world's most eminent practitioners and publicists in the field of international law. Among those authors most likely to be familiar to United States scholars are Manfred Lachs, President, and Philip Jessup, former Judge, of the International Court of Justice, and Professors Harold Lasswell, Myres McDougal, Edward McWhinney, Georg Schwarzenberger, and Louis Sohn. In addition, the book contains essays by highly respected Norwegian, Swedish, Finnish, Indian, British, and Soviet authors, some of which reflect the individual perspectives on international law held by their respective nations. As a result not only of the eminence of its authors and the merit of their thought, but also because of the breadth of perspective which the volume brings to bear on contemporary legal issues, the book constitutes an important contribution to international literature.

Essays¹ is dedicated to the memory of the late Krishna Rao, first Legal Advisor to the Indian Ministry of External Affairs, noted contributor, as Chief Delegate of India, to the Vienna Conferences of Diplomatic Relations and the Law of Treaties, and one of the founders of the Indian Society of International Law. The essay authors, while sharing the common dedication of their work to the memory of Mr. Rao, have exercised their discretion in choosing widely varying topics within the international legal field. The essays may be divided into three types: those which begin with a broad overview of the goals of international law and attempt to evaluate its past and prospective successes; those which more specifically critique the methods and institutions of the international legal system, notably the United Nations and the International Court of Justice; and those which comment on highly specific issues in international law and state practice. Although the last type of essay is likely to be of limited interest to the student or general reader, the majority of the articles are of the former two types, and these should be of great interest and value to the general audience seeking insight into both the theory and practice of international law.

The essays of broader scope, not surprisingly, are written largely from a highly internationalist perspective. Professor Erik Castren of

¹. ESSAYS ON INTERNATIONAL LAW IN HONOR OF KRISHNA RAO (M. Nawaz, ed. 1976) [hereinafter cited as ESSAYS].
the University of Helsinki argues that international law has largely met its goals of promoting peace, economic cooperation, and human rights. Professor Louis Sohn of the Harvard Law School reasserts the need to strengthen the United Nations, establish a true world court system, and create an international peace force. Defending idealism against iconoclasm, the late Wilfred Jenks, former Director-General of the International Labor Organization, suggests that, but for the international idealists, an international legal regime would not have come as far as it has. Professor Georg Schwarzenberger of the University of London recalls "stimulating talks [with Krishna Rao]... on the absurdities of national egocentricities and ideologies in international studies. Yet, critical voices are heard as well, and national egocentricities and ideology are a part of international politics which international law cannot afford to ignore. Professor Sohn expresses serious reservations about classifying past peacekeeping efforts as successful, and Professor Gregory Tunkin of the University of Moscow defends, inter alia, the apparently everlasting Soviet position that international law, rather than constituting an inherent limitation on sovereignty, is voluntary.

The reviewer found the essays generally readable, informative, and stimulating. Though its utility as an authoritative source on specific legal issues is limited to a few highly specific essays on rather esoteric topics, the book fulfills its major purpose of providing serious scholarly discussion on the workings of the international legal system as a whole by those who, in large measure, manage and advise that system. The work is a suitable tribute to the memory of Krishna Rao, and is recommended for all libraries collecting in the international field.

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2. Castren, What We Expect of International Law, in Essays, supra note 1, at 43-46.
4. Jenks, Idealism in International Law, in Essays, supra note 1, at 40.
5. Schwarzenberger, Towards a Comparative History of International Law, in Essays, supra note 1, at 92.
8. See, e.g., Agrawala, The Plea of Sovereign Immunity and Indian State Practice, in Essays, supra note 1, at 314; and Rubanov, Conflicts of Laws in Inheritance Cases in Treaties between the Socialist Countries, in Essays, supra note 1, at 303.

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Books Received


This pamphlet, one of a series published under the auspices of the Foreign Policy Research Institute, discusses the October 1973 Middle East war emphasizing the misjudgments made by both the United States and Israel, even though both countries had evidence of the impending attack. The author considers the effect of the Yom Kippur War on international politics, in particular its effect on perceptions of the international system. He analyses the illusions that distorted both American and Israeli judgments before the war, suggesting that effective United States foreign policy can only be made by discarding these illusions and fully understanding the implications of the war.


The author combines lengthy interviews with forty randomly chosen bureaucrats and legislators in Indonesia with published accounts of past and recent events in an innovative account of the Indonesian elite’s political beliefs and the personal experiences that shaped these beliefs. Professor Emmerson concludes that the elite’s capacity to accomodate changes in their environment without losing their sense of community is influenced more by the cultural and political differences of their world than by the content of their opinions.


Consisting of sixteen essays by faculty members of the University of Kansas, this volume explores Ireland’s long and varied cultural tradition. The historical chapters explain events which led to the emergence of Ireland as an independent nation and also serve as background for the later chapters covering drama, art and literature in twentieth century Ireland, as well as the Irish experience in America.


The author, a specialist in Soviet and East European affairs, lived in Moscow for three years and traveled extensively throughout the Soviet Union before being expelled in 1970 for his writings about the dissident movement. In this book he reveals what life is like in the Soviet Union. Among the factors discussed are the Soviet view of education, reasons for the increase in crime and the role of women.