

## FRENCH MARITIME AND AIR LAW ANNUAL

Since 1976, the Center of Maritime and Air Law of the Nantes University Law School has published an annual dealing with the legal, economic and political problems of the air and sea, as well as with the newly emerging issues of space law. *Annuaire de Droit Maritime et Aerien*, as the publication is entitled, is edited by Professor Mircea Mateesco-Matte. It should not be confused with the *Annals of Air and Space Law* of the McGill University Institute and Center of Air and Space Law in Montreal, Canada, edited by Dr. Nicolas Mateesco Matte. The two publications are completely distinct and contain different materials despite many surface similarities.

Volume IV (1979) of the *Annuaire de Droit Maritime et Aerien*, which is the most recent issue of this publication, contains about 490 pages. It is available from Editions A. Pedone in Paris, France, for the price of FF 140. The language publication is French.

In order to give an idea of the content of this publication, we list a selection of articles published in volume IV:

René Rodière: La jurisprudence française et la competitivite de nos chantiers dans la concurrence.

Joseph Martray: Premières consequences du drame de l'Amoco-Cadiz sur le droit de la mer et sur l'organisation de la lutte contre la pollution en France.

Michel Bazex: Les problèmes juridiques soulevés par la liaison fluviale Rhin-Main-Danube.

Françoise Moussu-Odier: La circulation maritime et la Conférence sur le droit de la mer.

Charles Knellwolf: La vente FOB et les contrats de transport au Havre.

Vincent Delaporte: Conférence maritime et nouveau code de conduite.

Nicolas Mateesco-Matte: La Convention de Genève relative à la reconnaissance internationale des droits sur l'aéronef, trente ans après.

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 LEGAL ANTHROPOLOGY

A useful survey of literature on legal anthropology appears in the last chapter of *Order and Dispute: An Introduction to Legal Anthropology* by Simon Roberts, published in paperback by Penguin Books in 1979. The author teaches law at the London School of Economics. He is the author and editor of several works on the tribal laws of Africa. The price of the present book in the United Kingdom is £1.25. An excellent

overview of the subject, it should be a worthwhile addition to the steadily growing literature on legal anthropology.

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### ARAB LAW

In view of an increasing interest in Arab law, it might be in the interest of the readers to mention four new books containing analyses and English translations of laws of the various countries on the Arab Peninsula: *Business Laws of Kuwait* by N. H. Karam, *Business Laws of Saudi Arabia* by N. H. Karam, *Business Laws of the United Arab Emirates* by M. J. Hall, and *Property Law in the Arab World* by F. J. Ziadeh (Professor and Chairman of the Near East Department of the University of Washington in Seattle). The first three titles are produced in looseleaf form and are supposed to be updated by regularly appearing supplements. All four books are published by Graham & Trotman, Ltd., London, leading publishers of books providing information about Arab business and finance. The prices of all four of the above books are like the cost of oil. The books on business law are priced at £53 each (£94 with an update service for the first year); *Property Law in the Arab World* costs £26.50. The publishers plan to issue two more law titles in the near future: *The Development of Law in the Arabian Gulf* and *Legal Aspects of Business in Saudia Arabia*.

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### COMPUTERIZED LEGAL INFORMATION RETRIEVAL SYSTEM IN GREAT BRITAIN

In 1979 the Society for Computers and Law recommended the establishment of a computer-assisted legal information retrieval system for the United Kingdom in a report entitled *A National Law Library—The Way Ahead*. The report was received favorably by both branches of the legal profession (the barristers and solicitors), as well as the judiciary, the government, and the law publishers. Now an organization has been formed to promote the establishment of a system. The new organization, named the National Law Library, is a corporate trust with charitable status. It is sponsored by the Law Society of England and Wales, the Law Society of Northern Ireland and the Bar Council, and the Society for Computers and Law. Lord Scarman is the first president of the trust. The actual development of the system is conducted by the National Law Library Limited as a fully-owned subsidiary of the National Law Library Trust.

The purposes of the National Law Library include the establishment of standards for organizations offering data bases to the legal profession,