

The author's use of many terms-of-art in international legal studies is in many cases inaccurate and self-contradictory. Thus, for example, the term 'humanitarian law' is used indiscriminately in the book to refer to, *inter alia*, humanitarian law of armed conflict, international human rights law, any norm connected to human welfare, norms which stand above and outside international law, norms which are part of international law, moral dictates, etc.

In sum, the book's treatment of this important issue of international law is unimpressive.

Oren Gross
Harvard Law School

Michael R. Horten and Philippe Sarrailhé, *Les Joint-Ventures Franco-Américaines (Aspects juridiques et fiscaux de l'établissement d'une filiale commune aux U.S.A.)*, Paris, Bruxelles: Larcier (1994) 408 pages. FB 3.300.

This book is aimed at the prospective French businessperson envisaging a joint venture in the United States with a US firm. The various business steps and procedures preceding the conclusion of an agreement are addressed. Caveats a businessperson must keep in mind when entering such an agreement are laid out in a clear and comprehensive manner designed to increase the potential joint venturer's confidence. The reader will be more aware of the limits of the legal risk that such an operation entails and the steps to take to reduce these risks. Whereas the bulk of this text is a general overview, the annexes contain samples of the different contracts involved, giving a precise idea of what the actual rights and duties will be in real life. This book is recommended to French lawyers as it will serve as a valuable resource for introduction to US business law.

Henri Etienne
Sacred Heart University Connecticut, USA

Edward McWhinney, *Judge Shigeru Oda and the Progressive Development of International Law*, Dordrecht, Boston, London: Martinus Nijhoff Publishers (1993) 666 + xvii pages. \$175; £123.50.

According to the author, this is the first book in a series dealing with leading international judges. This book analyzes the contribution of Judge Oda to the jurisprudence of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and to the development of international law. The analysis seeks not only to deal with the specific content of each of Judge Oda's decisions on the bench, but also to draw a broader picture of his, and the ICJ as an institution, judicial philosophy.

The combination of Judge Oda's career stops – a diplomat, an international law scholar (expert on the law of the sea), and a judge on the ICJ – and his legal education – exposed to European continental influences as a student in Japan, and to American influences as a graduate student at Yale Law School under the supervision of Professor McDougal – is enough, in itself, to make the book fascinating reading.

The book's strength lies in the original task undertaken by the author, which he carries out well. The major weakness of the book is that which is missing from it. The author explains on several occasions that the episodic, hit-or-miss nature of the ICJ agenda, and the relatively small number of cases brought before it, makes it difficult to fully comprehend the legal and judicial philosophy of the judges, in general, and their approach to specific areas of international law, in particular. In other places, the author emphasizes the extra-judicial scholarly work in which Judge Oda has been engaged throughout his career. However, the book fails to put the two together and to examine Oda's extensive scholarly work in order to complete the picture painted by judicial decisions. In that respect the book focuses on Judge Oda, without taking advantage of the