

ANTARCTICA:

In [1984] Australian I.L. News 51, 82 we noted the divergence of views as to the status of the Antarctic. Mr. J.G. Starke Q.C. reports on these matters in relation to the Twelfth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting in Canberra on 13-27 September, 1983: (1984) 58 ALJ 59. According to recent reports, a meeting of the Treaty countries has failed to make significant progress towards creating a regime for mineral extraction: Sydney Morning Herald, 29 February, 1984 at 7. While the proposal to treat the Antarctic as res communis, or the common heritage of mankind, is supported by a number of third world powers, it is interesting to note that Argentina and Chile are among the original signatories to the Treaty, and Brazil and India have been granted consultative status. Among the observers at the meeting in 1983 were Papua New Guinea and Uruguay. Further, among the Socialist States, Poland enjoys consultative status, and Bulgaria, China, Czechoslovakia and the German Democratic Republic were observers.

LAW OF THE SEA - USSR CLAIMS EEZ.

From 1 March 1984 USSR has by decree claimed a 200 miles exclusive economic zone: BBC World Service 29 February, 1984.