

Preface

The fact that the former commercial publishers were unwilling to continue to produce the Year Book placed its whole future in doubt. However, the Faculty of Law of the Australian National University was prepared to assume complete responsibility for the financial side of the operation. Not for this reason alone, but also because of the need for close co-operation with the Department of Foreign Affairs in Canberra, it was felt that the editorial work should also be handled by the A.N.U. Law School. It has been my pleasure to carry out this task.

However, the reappearance of the Australian Year Book would not have been possible without the support of those who have been generous enough to contribute articles and of the Department of Foreign Affairs and of the Attorney-General's Department in providing the invaluable section on Australian practice in International Law. In this context, a tribute must be paid to Mr Eli Lauterpacht, Q.C., who was until recently Legal Adviser on International Law to the Australian Government, for promoting the importance of a comprehensive section on Australian practice, and to Ms Erika Feller of the Department of Foreign Affairs who devoted so much time and energy to compiling the records published in this volume. The range of information provided is a fitting testimony to her efforts.

My thanks are also due to my colleagues, Mr Bill Edeson and Mrs Robin Burnett, for their assistance and to Mrs Margaret Godson who did so much to repair manuscripts scarred by the Editor's pen!

This volume is the first to bear a number instead of a date. The change was made to avoid the illogicality of a volume that would otherwise have borne the date 1974-75 containing articles dealing with cases and events occurring in later years.

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