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## **THE LAW OF THE SEA: BOOKS RECEIVED**

**CONSENSUS AND CONFRONTATION: THE UNITED STATES AND THE LAW OF THE SEA CONVENTION.** Edited by John M. van Dyke. Honolulu, Hawaii: Law of the Sea Institute, 1985, 576 pp.

The representatives of over 100 nations, including the United States, assembled in Venezuela in 1974 for the Third United Nations Law of the Sea Conference. The goal of the Conference was to negotiate a treaty resolving the myriad of ocean issues disputed over the years.

In 1982, the Conference finished writing the Law of the Sea Convention. Since then, many countries have ratified the treaty. The United States, however, persists in refusing to sign the treaty.

The Law of the Sea Institute gathered the views of distinguished scholars on the Convention's significance. This compilation, edited by John M. van Dyke, provides a comprehensive analysis of the issues covered in the Convention. Entire chapters are devoted to the positions of both the United States and the ratifying nations. Views in favor of the Convention are given by Singapore Ambassador Tommy T.B. Koh, the second and last president of the Law of the Sea Convention; Hasjim Djatal of Indonesia; and Satya Nandan of Fiji. Views supporting the United States' position are offered by Brian Hoyle, Director of the Office of Law and Policy at the U.S. Department of State; State Department lawyer David Colson; and Conrad Welling of the U.S. ocean mining industry. Another chapter discusses deep seabed mining, the issue the Reagan Administration cites as the basis for the United States' holdout. In addition, the compilation considers the treaty's resolution of navigational, environmental, and fishing issues. The work closes by drawing a number of conclusions about the benefits and drawbacks of the treaty.

