

Hanns J. Buchholz, *Law of the Sea Zones in the Pacific Ocean*. Hamburg: Institute of Asian Affairs; Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 1987. Pp. 115, bibliography. US\$15.00.

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This book attempts to portray the regionalization of the Law of the Sea in the western Pacific Ocean. In particular, the author summarizes the broad sweep of coastal-state actions from a historical perspective for Australia, New Zealand, and the states of the Pacific Islands, Southeast Asia, and East Asia. Much valuable historical information is collected and now available in a single reference. The emphasis is on regional implementation of the new Law of the Sea, which significantly extends coastal-state jurisdiction, but the data go only to 1980. Consequently, one gets a picture restricted to the initial stages of the new regime's introduction.

In addition to the record of state action compiled herein, the book is valuable as a regional reference for the large number of maps that treat in some detail issues of boundaries and zones. Analytically, however, the book is a disappointment because the underlying conceptual structure is almost totally undeveloped. The author never defines what he means by "regionalization of the Law of the Sea" and readers are never provided with criteria for judging what constitutes "regionalization" by which they can follow the author's analysis. We have only a useful compendium of facts about what states have done with respect to boundaries, zones, and issues of policy; neither the author nor the reader has any basis for comparing the trends presented.

Chapters 2 to 5, which are the heart of the book, do not constitute an analysis of regional trends concerning the economic and political significance of the phenomenon of extended coastal-state jurisdiction. Each chapter provides only yet another listing of the potential value of what each coastal state has at stake, particularly with respect to outer continental-shelf oil, gas, and fishing. Even so, fishing conditions are highly dynamic and the data go only to 1980. There have been enormous changes since then, but the uninformed reader will go away without even a hint of the possibility of this change since no indication of either direction or dynamics is provided.

In his conclusion the author does attempt to draw general conclusions, but both their utility and depth are constrained by the absence of any conceptual underpinning. This is to be regretted since a more self-conscious approach to the analytical dimension would have made this book much better and far more useful.