

BOOKS AND REVIEWS

THE LAWS OF ARMED CONFLICTS¹

This book, edited by D. Schindler, a member of the ICRC, and J. Toman, deputy director of the Henry-Dunant Institute, is a corpus of all international conventions relating to the law of armed conflicts, traditionally known as the law of war (*jus in bello*).

This collection includes the texts of all the conventions currently in force, several conventions that are no longer in force but still of historical interest and the texts of other conventions which are not or not yet applied. It does not contain any texts of solely national interest, except for the Lieber Instructions of 1863, which mark the beginning of a codification of the law of armed conflicts.

The book further provides the final acts and resolutions adopted by the intergovernmental conferences that drew up the conventions reproduced in the book and the resolutions of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations quoting provisions of the law of war.

Each convention or resolution is preceded by a short introduction summing up its historical background, mentioning also its date of entry into force, the authentic language(s) of its original drafting and the source (official or not) from which the text in the book has been drawn.

After each convention is a list, up to 30 April 1978, of signatures, ratifications, accessions or declarations of succession, and a full reproduction of reservations made by States on becoming parties to the treaty.

Gathered in relatively summary form in this single book is a wealth of information and precise documents that will be extremely useful to all readers interested in international law relating to armed conflicts.

¹ *The Laws of Armed Conflicts: A Collection of Conventions, Resolutions and other Documents*. Dietrich Schindler and Jiri Toman, editors. Sijthoff and Noordhoff, Alphen aan den Rijn; Henry Dunant Institute, Geneva. Second edition 1981, 933 and XXXIV pp. Price 105 dollars.