



NEWSLETTER

Foreign, Comparative and International Law
Special Interest Section



From the Editor

by Dan Wade

Our "trompetero" heralds the inaugural issue of this newsletter, while the demure Japanese figure gazes in wonder at its appearance. In this issue you will find our Secretary's report of the last meeting in Washington, our Chair's comments about work in progress, and announcements about next summer's AALL meeting in Chicago, the post-meeting workshop, and the IALL pre-meeting course on international law. A special feature is the piece by Fred Chapman of Harvard on "Alternative Means of Obtaining the Documents of the Iran-U.S. Claims Tribunal".

By the grace of providence, this spring there will be at least one more issue of this newsletter, which for the moment must be considered an "irregular" serial. Your contributions are earnestly sought, both for the newsletter, as well as the SIS column in the *AALL Newsletter*. Only by your participation can our SIS reach its full potential!

The editor wishes to thank all those who contributed to this first issue, as well as Robert Downie and his staff at Baker & Botts who so ably prepared the typescript.

From the Chair

by Linda L. Thompson

This is the first issue of the *SIS Newsletter* since the 1986 AALL annual meeting in Washington, D.C. I would like to express my thanks to the outgoing Chair, Claire Germain, for launching this SIS and giving it the momentum to carry on. She did a fine job of establishing contacts and sorting out some administrative problems.

Your officers this year are Ellen Schaffer, Vice Chair/Chair Elect, and Jeanette Yackle, Secretary/Treasurer. Jeanette is covering last summer's SIS meeting for you elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Dan Wade has agreed to be the editor of this *SIS Newsletter* as well as to continue producing the monthly SIS column for the *AALL Newsletter*, so please send your newsworthy contributions to him (University of Houston

Law Center Library, 4800 Calhoun, Houston, Texas 77004). Dan also produced the SIS membership directory last spring.

Last spring, the SIS acquired the Special Committee on International Placements, and I appointed Roberta Shaffer to be Chair for this year. See her item in this Newsletter regarding CIP information and its name change. All CIP members must now be members of this SIS, and anyone in the SIS who is interested in working on the CIP can do so without payment of additional fees.

Jolande Goldberg and Malo Bernal have agreed to work on a publicity brochure for this SIS which can be displayed at the SIS Council booth next summer in Chicago. If you have any catchy ideas for logos or color or content, please contact them at the Library of Congress. I am sure they would welcome your suggestions.

Last summer's meeting also produced a lot of enthusiastic volunteers who agreed to do three programs and a workshop at the 1987 meeting in Chicago. Two programs and the workshop were approved by AALL so I hope to see you in attendance. These are written up elsewhere in this Newsletter.

At this time, we have 116 members. There was a mix-up regarding dues for this SIS in the invoices mailed by AALL for 1986/87, and some names of people who were members last year and who thought they were members this year do not appear on the membership list. If you know of anyone who did not receive this Newsletter who should have, please tell them to call AALL Headquarters to sort things out. The staff there are aware of the problem and have tried to help.

A Nominating Committee has been appointed to select candidates for next year's officers. If you have an interest in running for office, or if you would like to take on responsibility for a special committee or project, please let me know. Some ideas were proposed at last summer's meeting for committees and projects, and they are still under consideration.

Dan Wade, Editor University of Houston Law Center Library
Produced by the staff of Baker & Botts, 3000 One Shell Plaza
Houston, Texas 77002

The AALL has initiated a new series of publications titled *Occasional Papers*. If you have anything you wish to publish, please contact Anne Myers at the University of Maine Law Library for a sample author's guide. If you have ideas for our SIS regarding publication, please let me know or bring it up at the annual meeting next summer.

I would like to encourage all of you who are interested in this SIS to join the International Association of Law Libraries--IALL. Adolf Sprudz, University of Chicago, is the current president, and he has expressed an interest in working cooperatively with our group. They are producing a workshop in Washington, D.C. next summer, just prior to the AALL meeting in Chicago, so perhaps we may get to meet some of their members in Chicago. Their workshop on Comparative Constitutional Law is written up separately in this Newsletter. IALL also produces a very handy journal titled the *International Journal of Legal Information*.

Dan Wade has submitted an item for the *AALL Newsletter* column which mentions the inauguration of a new group--the Latin American Law Librarians. At this time the group is in the process of getting off the ground and has not sought affiliation with AALL, IALL or this SIS. If you are interested in obtaining more information, please contact Dan (address above).

It is not too soon to begin thinking of ideas for future workshops, programs and other items of interest for the next annual meeting. Do get together among yourselves to work on ideas, proposals, and the future direction of this SIS. Meanwhile, keep an eye on the *AALL Newsletter* SIS column until the next *SIS Newsletter* appears.

From the Secretary

by Jeanette F. Yackle

Report on the Meeting of the Foreign, Comparative and International SIS at the AALL Convention on July 6, 1986.

Claire Germain, our outgoing Chair, opened the meeting by giving a review of the activities of the SIS for the previous year:

- 1) We sponsored two programs at the 1986 AALL Convention: "Washington, D.C. as an Information Resources Center for Foreign and International Law" which was coordinated by Ellen Schaffer and "African Law and Legal Systems" coordinated by Lance Dickson.
- 2) *Linda Thompson* chaired a committee which drafted a questionnaire to survey the information

needs of SIS members. There was a consensus among the membership that we would like to use the *AALL Newsletter* to communicate rather than publish our own newsletter. The Chair appointed Dan Wade to edit our column for the *Newsletter*.

- 3) The Special Committee on International Placements has become a standing committee of our SIS. Linda Thompson, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect appointed Roberta Shaffer to be the 1986/87 Chair of this committee.
- 4) *Dan Wade* compiled the first SIS Directory. In addition to the names and addresses of the members, it contains a history of the SIS by Claire Germain and a list of useful Washington, D.C. numbers compiled by Ellen Schaffer.
- 5) In August 1985 we had 84 members. In an attempt to increase membership, a report on SIS planned activities was mailed to AALL members that had expressed an interest in the SIS and by May 1986 we had 135 members.

Ms. Germain also noted a few problems: our budget was not adequate for our needs, Duke paid for some of our mailings and we did not have any money to prepare a publicity brochure of the SIS.

Dan Wade gave an unofficial treasurer's report. Our revenues consisted of \$335.00 (from one-half of the membership fees of the SIS) and our expenses, \$393.50 resulting in outstanding liabilities of \$58.50.

The Chair of the Election Committee, Margaret Aycock, reported the results of the election of SIS officers. Ellen Schaffer was elected Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect and Jeanette Yackle was elected Secretary/Treasurer for 1986/87.

Lauri Flynn, as outgoing Chair of the Special Committee on International Placements, gave a report on their activities. Forty requests for information from the Clearinghouse were received and answered and information about the Clearinghouse was sent to six foreign newsletters to encourage use of the service. Tim Kearley's subcommittee on National Bibliographies prepared bibliographies for 17 countries which were distributed at the program the Committee sponsored at the AALL Convention. The program was entitled: "Living and Working in Another Country."

Dan Wade and Claire Germain led a discussion concerning the SIS column in the *AALL Newsletter*. The guidelines of the *Newsletter* will restrict the column length to 500 words and the editor asked that news be of general interest for the coming year. There was agreement that

in light of these space and content limitations we needed to have a newsletter of our own. Dan Wade agreed to serve as editor of both the column in the *AALL Newsletter* and as editor of the *SIS Newsletter*.

Kathy Carrick, SIS liaison to the AALL Education Committee, reported that the committee would welcome a proposal for an Institute and suggested one dealing with foreign legal bibliography and legal research. This led to a general discussion among many members of possible topics (see report of a planned workshop elsewhere in the Newsletter).

Tim Kearley gave his report as SIS liaison to IALL. He noted the election of new officers for the organization: President-Adolph Sprudz First Vice-President--John Rodwell, Second Vice-President--Yoshiro Tsuno, Secretary--Timothy Kearley, and Treasurer--Ivan Sipkov. IALL is planning another of its Courses in International Law Librarianship. It is entitled "Crossroads in Comparative Constitutional Law Development" and will be held in Washington, D.C. from June 28 - July 2, 1987. Mr. Sprudz has introduced a new president's newsletter entitled the *IALL Messenger* which should prove to be quite beneficial.

Linda Thompson, our new Chair, introduced a discussion of future plans. She spoke of the possibility of creating a committee on public relations to handle such responsibilities as staffing the AALL Exhibits Booth at conventions and designing a publicity brochure. Jolande Goldberg and Marie-Louise Bernal were appointed to a special committee to design a brochure on the SIS.

Ms. Thompson also asked for suggestions for a program at next year's convention. This led to a spirited discussion of ideas until our allotted time had been used. It was decided to appoint a committee to plan a program which would meet later. The meeting was adjourned.

1987 Annual Meeting

Chinese Commercial Law for the Non-Specialist
by Linda Will

Scheduled for Tuesday, July 7, 1987 between 1:30-3:00 p.m., this program will provide an overview of law governing commercial transactions between the People's Republic of China and the United States. Special attention will be paid to English language sources of this law.

Bob Berring, University of California School of Law Library at Berkeley, will introduce the program, Professor James Feinerman of Georgetown University Law Center will discuss sales transactions, and Preston Torbert of Baker & McKenzie, joint ventures and licensing. It is hoped several

librarians will provide supporting materials, one of which will be a "Bibliography of Chinese Commercial Law Bibliographies (in English)" by Mon Yin Lung of the University of Kansas School of Law, Law Library.

If a site can be found, a reception for the speakers sponsored jointly by the SIS and the East Asian Law Librarians will be held following the program.



Passing the Torch

by Jeanette Yackle

The SIS will be sponsoring a program at the AALL Meeting in Chicago entitled: 'Losing our International Resources: How to Prepare a New Generation of Law Librarians Specializing in Foreign, Comparative and International Law'. The speakers will be Timothy Kearley (Associate Law Librarian, University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign); Blanka Kudej (International and Foreign Law Librarian, New York University), Jane Rubens (Librarian for Coudert Brothers), and a paper prepared by Jan Stepan (Former Director of the Swiss Institute of Comparative Law Library) will be presented. Tim Kearley will address the need for foreign and international law librarians in the field, and in the U.S. particularly. Blanka will address how to train such librarians. Jane Rubens will talk about law firm librarians and their needs in this area. All four speakers will use part of their time to consider suggestions of future AALL or SIS programs to continue training librarians, i.e., what types of institutes, workshops, internships, and programs on what topics they would recommend.

1987 Workshop:

The European Community and the Law Library

by Linda Thompson

Under the very capable direction of Adolf Sprudz and John Strzynski, this SIS is producing its first workshop, which will follow the AALL annual meeting next summer in Chicago.

It will be held on Thursday, July 9, 1987 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and the registration fee is \$50. This workshop will present a basic overview of the European Community and will focus on the special problems confronting the law librarian.

The program will include: an introductory lecture on the European Community, its framework and institutions; discussions of official publications and other literature; basic reference and resources; on-line databases; and problems of collection development and maintenance. A rather distinguished list of faculty will present lectures and end with a panel discussion. They are: Ms. Irene Berkey, Foreign Law Librarian, Northwestern University; Professor Timothy Kearley, University of Illinois; Dr. Holger Knudsen, Director of the Library, Swiss Institute of Comparative Law; Frank Lukes, Law Librarian, Baker & McKenzie; Thomas H. Reynolds, Assistant Librarian, University of California at Berkeley School of Law; Adolf Sprudz, Foreign Law Librarian, University of Chicago.

Participation is limited to 50 registrants, so if you wish to reserve a place, look for the announcement and application form which appeared in the *AALL Newsletter* and submit your name as quickly as possible.

If you wish to have more information at this time, contact either of the co-directors listed here.

Adolf Sprudz
1121 East 60th Street
Chicago, IL 60637
(312) 962-9599

John Strzynski
IIT Chicago-Kent Law Library
77 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60606
(312) 567-5234



Crossroads in Comparative Constitutional Law Development

by Roberta Shaffer

The International Association of Law Libraries' ninth course on international law librarianship will be held in Washington, D.C. this summer between June 28 and July 2. The theme, "Crossroads in Comparative Constitutional Law Development," will give participants the opportunity to examine constitutional law from a multinational perspective. In addition to panel discussions led by subject specialists, there will be bibliographic guides and handouts, and specially tailored on-site orientations at the United States Supreme Court, the Library of Congress and the U.S. Capitol. This course offers American law librarians an interesting and informative way to commemorate the 1987 bicentennial of the United States Constitution.

The registration fee of \$200 covers the entire 4 1/2 day program, including dinner on the first and last days, a picnic lunch, three morning coffees, and an afternoon tea. Transportation to and from the on-site programs is also provided. Housing options include suites with kitchens at a newly-renovated hotel (\$70 per suite per night) or a dorm room (\$28 single per night; \$15 double).

Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis with priority to IALL members. For a registration form or answers to questions, please contact either of the course co-chairs--Anita K. Head, Jacob Burns Law Library, National Law Center--G.W. University, 716 20th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20052, 202-676-7336 or Roberta I. Shaffer, Law Library, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540, 202-287-5065.

Clearinghouse for International Placements

by Roberta Shaffer

As of January 1, the Committee on International Placements has a new name--Clearinghouse for International Placements. This name more accurately reflects our current mission under the umbrella of the FCIL-SIS, and lets us keep our CIP acronym.

CIP chair, Roberta Shaffer (Law Library, Library of Congress), has completed a brochure about the clearinghouse which will be distributed shortly. It will also be sent to related professional organizations and will be a handout for various AALL functions, and for chapters, committees and other SIS's.

The CIP country bibliography project is continuing under the capable hand of Mary Ann Denham at Georgetown Law Library. Mary Ann agreed to take over the project from Tim Kearley. She has copies of bibliographies for the following countries: AUSTRIA, SWITZERLAND, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, WEST & EAST GERMANY, FRANCE, BELGIUM, ISRAEL, HUNGARY, SPAIN, and PORTUGAL. If you compiled a bibliography and it is not on this list, please get in touch with Mary Ann *immediately*. She is trying to get everything standardized into a single format.

The CIP Language Proficiency File has received a good response. If you haven't completed a form, you will find a copy in the yellow pages insert of the September *AALL Newsletter*.

Alternative Means of Obtaining the Documents of the Iran-U.S. Claims Tribunal*

The Iran-U.S. Claims Tribunal at the Hague was set up pursuant to the Algiers Declarations which resolved the hostage crisis of 1979-81, and has been in operation since July of 1981. The Tribunal is composed of three panels of three judges each. One judge on each panel is Iranian, one is from the U.S., and the chairman of each panel is from a third country. The cases before the Tribunal include:

- (a) "small" claims (for less than \$250,000) filed by the U.S. government on behalf of U.S. nationals (approx. 2,700 in number);
- (b) large claims of U.S. nationals against Iran (approx. 500);
- (c) state-to-state claims (approx. 75);
- (d) bank claims (approx. 450);
- (e) interpretive disputes concerning the meaning and implementation of the Algiers Declarations, jurisdiction of the Tribunal and other matters (approx. 20).

The Tribunal issues: (1) *Decisions* (involving disputes between the 2 governments); (2) *Awards and Interlocutory Awards* (concerning claims by private parties which are contested); (3) *Awards on Agreed Terms* (claims by private parties in which a settlement agreement has been reached and approved by the Tribunal; if a party requests the Tribunal to keep the agreement confidential, only the Award, but not the agreement, is officially released); (4) *Orders*; (5) an *Annual Report*, which is sometimes not officially released. (In order for a document to be officially released by the Tribunal, both the U.S. and Iranian government representatives must agree to its release.)

* Contributed by Fred Chapman, Harvard Law School Library, Langdell Hall, Cambridge, MA 02138. This item was originally submitted for publication in the *AALL Newsletter* column in the spring of 1986, but space constraints did not allow it.

The above documents are available from the following sources:

(1) *The Tribunal itself*

The Registry of the Tribunal in the Hague will make available all Tribunal documents which are officially released. The Registry requires payment in advance by means of a deposit account (\$250 minimum). This deposit account may be used to purchase all Tribunal documents on standing order, or only certain classes of documents on standing order (e.g., all Decisions and Awards, but not Awards on Agreed Terms), or individual documents by firm order.

Address: The Registry
Iran-U.S. Claims Tribunal
Parkweg 13
2585 JH
The Hague
The Netherlands

Contact: Jeff Gulliford
(U.S. co-Registrar)

Tel.: 011-31-70-520-064

Cost: \$5 per Award (for \$5 one receives all of the following: (1) the text of the Award itself; (2) all concurring or dissenting opinions related to it; (3) all interlocutory awards issued to date in the same case; (4) air mail postage; (5) English and Farsi texts of all documents (the Registry requests that those who request documents indicate whether they do not wish to receive both languages). The \$5 is deducted from the deposit account as the Awards are sent. It is believed that specific documents other than Awards which are ordered individually will also cost \$5 per document.

Experience has shown that the Registry responds rapidly and efficiently to requests. It produces an Annual Report which contains a very comprehensive subject index; the Annual Report may be purchased as a separate document.

(2) *The Iranian Assets Litigation Reporter (IALR)* published by:

Andrews Publishing
P. O. Box 200
Edgemont, PA 19028
(215) 353-2565

Cost: \$2,000 per year

The IALR contains Decisions, final Awards, and Interlocutory Awards of the Tribunal, as well as some Orders (which are mostly procedural, and are not made available to the public by the Tribunal itself). It also has some current awareness or "update"-type information, and information concerning related cases in U.S. courts. It is in looseleaf format, and consists primarily of photocopies of Tribunal documentation. It comes out twice a month and its cost of \$2,000 per year makes it the most expensive source of this material. It is frequently cited, and it generally publishes documents very soon after they are released by the Tribunal. The IALR produces an index semi-annually; it is not available as a separate publication, and its references are to the page numbers of the IALR itself.

(3) Mealey's Litigation Report (MLR) published by:

Mealey Publications
P. O. Box 446
Wayne, PA 19087
(215) 688-6566

Cost: \$700 for 6 mos; \$1,200 per yr.

MLR appears twice a month, and contains all Decisions and Awards of the Tribunal plus all concurring and dissenting opinions, plus some orders, extensive editorial summaries of U.S.--and European-related litigation, articles by attorneys with Tribunal experience, some of the U.S. briefs, and some material not officially released by the Tribunal. Issues are on three-hole punched paper for insertion into a binder (binders are not supplied). Discounts for law schools may be available.

The MLR has a yearly cumulative index, which they hope to be able to issue twice yearly in the near future. Like the IALR, the MLR publishes Tribunal documents as soon as they are released.

(4) Iran-U.S. Claims Tribunal Reports (Iran-USCTR) published by:

Grotius Publications Limited
Sales Division
Llandysul, Dyfed
SA44 4 BQ
U.K.

Cost: \$110.33 (L75) for vol. 5 (covering the 1st part of 1984)

Comes out in as many bound volumes as are necessary to contain the Tribunal's documentation for a given year. (For 1983, there were 3 volumes.) Much less timely than

the Tribunal, IALR, or MLR; vol. 5, covering documents issued through April of 1984, was received in November of 1985. Like IALR and MLR, Iran-USCTR contains all Decisions, Awards, Interlocutory Awards, and Selected Orders. In addition, each volume contains three cumulative Tables of Cases (by case no., category, and alphabetical) and a cumulative Subject Index. Vol. 1 of the Iran-USCTR also contains the text of all important documents governing the establishment and operation of the Tribunal, including the Algiers Declarations, agreements with the various banks temporarily holding the assets, and the Tribunal rules. Unlike IALR and MLR, the Iran-USCTR contains no editorial commentary, articles, or other non-documentary material.

Nominations and Elections

A Nominating Committee has been appointed to select candidates for 1987-88 SIS Officers. The members are Alan Diefenbach, Marta Tarnawsky, and Kathy Carrick. You will be notified before April 1st of their selection, and you should receive your ballot before May 15th. An Election Committee consisting of Earl Weisbaum, J. Denny Haythorn, and Myra Saunders will handle the election returns.

SIS AALL Newsletter Column

by Dan Wade

Dan Wade, editor of the SIS column in the AALL Newsletter, is soliciting contributions to the column. Contributions, which should be limited to five hundred words, generally focus on acquisition suggestions on a specific subject or jurisdiction, but creative alternatives are welcomed.

If you would like to contribute to the column, please fill out the form below and mail it to Dan Wade (University of Houston Law Center Library, 4800 Calhoun, Houston, Texas 77004). 1987 contributors will be selected from the applicants on or about May 1, 1987.

Name: _____
Position: _____
Address: _____
Topic: _____
Preferred Month for Submission _____