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## Editor's Note

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

The Editorial Board of 1978-79 is pleased to publish the *Journal's* second Topical Survey of Recent Developments in International Trade Law. Although we were unable to give attention to every category referred to in Volume Two's initial Topical Survey we are confident that our readers are provided with an adequate synopsis of the more significant events currently taking place in the field of international trade and investment law.

The Survey is furthermore enhanced by the distinguished contributions of Messrs. Marcus B. Finnegan, Thomas L. Irving and Don C. Piper. The article by Messrs. Finnegan and Irving incisively examines conflict of law problems which arise from the efforts of a foreign employer to claim assignment rights in a U.S. patent secured by a foreign employee. Specifically addressed are the factors which would influence a U.S. court's decision concerning what law to apply and how and when foreign judgments with respect to this issue will be enforceable in U.S. courts.

Mr. Piper presents a comprehensive analysis of the security of American property interests abroad and the extent to which they are protected by customary rules of international law and by bilateral treaty provisions against uncompensated expropriation. The article then proposes various modes of action that the United States might pursue in order to offer more protective assurance to property owners.

Upon departing the *Journal*, I wish to express my personal thanks to this year's Editorial Board and Staff Members for countless reasons which need not be put into words. Furthermore, I am confident that the *Journal* has been left in good hands under the direction of next year's Editorial Board and that it is well on its way to becoming an established publication in the field of international trade and commercial law.

*Judith M. Warfield*

