

indicators for making choices among the means of thus proceeding. Developments in human rights law and trade law as well as in developmental and environmental law will also be necessary.

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Aut Dedere aut Judicare: The Duty to Extradite or Prosecute in International Law. By M. CHERIF BASSIOUNI and EDWARD M. WISE. [Dordrecht: Martinus Nijhoff. 1995. xiv + 340 pp. Index. ISBN 0-7923-3349-7. \$95/£72]

PROFESSORS Bassiouni and Wise are among the most experienced and well-known writers on the law of extradition. The content and status of the *aut dedere, aut judicare* principle is one of the most interesting questions in the modern law of extradition. One approached this book with a sense of high anticipation which was, regrettably, far from fulfilled.

First, the book is not quite what it may seem, an extended treatment of the principle. The text runs only to about 70 pages. The remainder is taken up with extracts from a long list of international documents which contain versions of the *aut dedere, aut judicare* principle. The list of them alone runs to 16 pages. The extracts are reproduced in large type, with extravagant margins. The book is inflated far beyond what is useful because very few of these provisions are subjected to the extended analysis which requires immediate access to the texts. Some of the most interesting ones, such as the obligation of States to co-operate with the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia, are not commented upon at all.

Second, the authors do not agree with each other on matters large and small, although the exact extent of their disagreements is hard to discern. It is a curious basis for collaboration. It contributes to the third reason for disappointment, which is the inconclusive quality of those judgments they reach. Indeed, in setting out the method which they will adopt to decide whether *aut dedere, aut judicare* is a rule of customary law with respect to "international offenses" and, if it is, whether it is a rule of *jus cogens*, they say, "it will be left to the reader, if any[!], to judge how far these assumptions are or are not valid" (p.25). Parts of what follows are not without their interest but the "Evidence of Customary Status" occupies only eight pages and most of those are to do with method. If there is no more to say than this (and surely there is: the Hammadi incident, for instance, and the US complaint to France about its failure to extradite a suspected terrorist to Switzerland), might that not be evidence of how fragile the claim is that there is a customary rule embracing the principle? It is an outcome which seems the more likely when the discussion moves on to the *jus cogens* status of the rule—it is, as they say, "the problem of content". The authors seem agreed that the principle is "extradite or prosecute" (hence their title) but is a request necessary to trigger the obligation? If there is a request, is there a (presumptive) duty in favour of extradition or is the matter wholly in the discretion of the requested State? They have a look at *Lockerbie* but, of course, are driven to conclude that it may or may not help to resolve this question. Like so much else in the discussion, it all depends.

In the face of such thoroughgoing agnosticism, perhaps the authors were not being disingenuous when they wondered if they would have any readers! Certainly their publishers, by charging so much, have not helped their cause.

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Protecting Human Rights in Africa: Strategies and Roles of Non-Governmental Organizations. By CLAUDE E. WELCH Jr. [Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. 1995. xiii + 356 pp. ISBN 0-8122-3330-1. No price given]

PROFESSOR Welch needs little introduction to those with an interest in the subject of human rights in Africa. He is a distinguished political scientist, Co-Director of the Human Rights Center at the State University of New York at Buffalo, who has written extensively on the area. The focus of this book is on non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and the role they