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PRÉFACE

The publication of this series was inaugurated by the Naval War College in 1894. As the volumes are numbered for index purposes, this is the forty-seventh in the series; the titles vary slightly from year to year. The preceding volume, "International Law Documents 1948-1949," was published in 1950.

The texts reproduced in this volume show the development of the law concerning victims of war, which has culminated in an outstanding achievement of international legislation with the promulgation of four international conventions by the Diplomatic Conference for the Establishment of International Conventions for the Protection of Victims of War, held at Geneva in 1949, at which sixty-three governments were represented. The need for a collection of the successive texts has been felt for a long time. Sharing the general humanitarian interest in this subject, the armed services are particularly concerned with the development of this legislation.

This volume has been prepared with the collaboration of the Associate for International Law of the Naval War College, Judge Manley O. Hudson, Bemis Professor of International Law in the Harvard Law School.

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NEWPORT, 1 June 1951.

