Abstract

Chinese Claim of "Nine-Dashed Line" in the South China Sea and International Law: In Case of Historic Waters and Historic Rights

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China's Claim of so-called "Nine-Dash Line" in the South China Sea, involving the disputed Spratly and Parcel Islands, has been raising serious criticism from not only the coastal states of the South China Sea, also other states beyond the region. Chinese Government has never explained the legal basis or significance of the Nine-Dash Line, and for this reason, many Chinese international legal scholars are attempting to explain the said points of argument which are relating to the Nine-Dash Line. The chief objective of this article is to explore international legal aspects of the Nine-Dash Line, chiefly focusing upon the theoretical questions relating to historic claim such as historic waters and historic rights in international Law.

The end of the Anglo-Japanese alliance: The influence of the First World War and the United States of America

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The Anglo-Japanese alliance, which was signed in 1902 and revised in 1905 and 1911, came up for review at the time of the Washington conference in 1921 and was replaced by the four-power treaty. The replacement virtually meant the alliance came to an end. For Japan, the alliance had been regarded as the key-stone of her diplomacy during the era of her becoming one of the world's power, and also for Britain, the alliance could have played positive role to maintain her worldwide empire with her gradually declining power especially in the far east. To throw the light on such a decline of the alliance which had been beneficial to both countries, some external factors should be examined, and two of them would be critical. The first is the outbreak of the First World War in 1914, which marked the end of an era and the beginning of a new one. The second is the influence of the United States that continued intervention in the alliance and took the lead of constructing the new era after the First World War. This paper analyses the influence and impact of the First World War and the U.S. to the alliance.

Floating Armoury Business operated by Private Maritime Security Companies (PMSCs) : The Present Situation and Issues in Sri Lanka

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The Somali based piracy has rapidly increased since 2008 and has spread from the Gulf of Aden to the West Indian Ocean. Shipping companies have begun to get privately contracted armed security personnel belong to Private Maritime Security Companies (PMSC) on board to guard their merchant vessels against the pirates.

Speaking of PMSCs, the images of UK and US based PMSCs come to mind first. Then, it is a fact that the most of the earlier research has focused on UK and US based PMSCs.

However, Sri Lanka based PMSCs have made their presence more recently. It is worth notice that the Sri Lankan government owned PMSC has developed new business such as operating floating armouries with other PMSC.

This paper focuses on Sri Lanka based PMSCs and aims to analyze the following aspects: a) Why have Sri Lanka based PMSCs been on the rise recently? b) Why are the floating armouries worthy of attention?

The conclusion of the paper is to clarify the issues regarding the floating armouries.