

2. "PERSONAL INJURY AWARDS IN EC COUNTRIES"

By David McIntosh and Marjorie Holmes

Lloyds of London Press Ltd.,

This book is actually a report prepared by DAVIES ARNOLD COOPER for Tokio Marine & Fire Insurance Co., and reproduced with the permission of the latter.

The object is ambitious: the comparison of the level of personal injury awards in EC countries in specific hypothetical cases.

The real achievement of this book is that the authors do a surprisingly good job of comparing apples and oranges.

The authors were confronted with the immense diversity of the various legal systems, lawyer fees, medical care systems, types of awards, methods of evaluation and so on, among the EC countries. They manage to re-shape the raw data and lay it all out in neat little homogeneous comparative tables. Interestingly enough, the level of awards do not vary as much as one might expect, given the diversity of legal systems.

The methodology of the study is clearly set out in an explanatory note, which contains practical data about various aspects of personal injury awards in each country.

Whilst it is an interesting book, it would have comparatively little use to practitioners because the examples chosen are so selective. It does, however, have value for indicative purposes, as an extremely detailed cross-section of the workings of 12 different legal systems in highly specific areas of litigation.

Glen Travis

3. WORLD INSURANCE 1991

Longman Industry and Public Service Management.

Price £105.00

The now familiar Blue and White Directory is in its 15th Edition and its 1991 appearance will be welcomed by its many users. In these difficult days, access to information, especially reliable information, quickly and easily is essential and this is just what World Insurance 1991 gives. It is perhaps ironic that the only two mistakes I