

The following information from the Registry of the International Court of Justice has been communicated to the Press:

On Tuesday, November 10th, 1953, the International Court of Justice held a public hearing at the Peace Palace, The Hague, in the Nottebohm case between the Principality of Liechtenstein and the Republic of Guatemala.

On opening the hearing, the President read the following telegram, which he had received on November 9th, 1953, from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Guatemala and which was transmitted to the Court by the Chargé d'affaires of that Government in Paris:

"In accordance instructions from Excellency Minister Foreign Affairs my country have honour transcribe to you the following STOP QUOTE To honorable International Court of Justice The Hague STOP Officially my government requests postponement date oral proceedings preliminary objection lack of jurisdiction in dispute Liechtenstein v. Guatemala and fixing new hearing STOP In any case we request adjudicate exclusively on preliminary objection by reason expiry period compulsory [character of] jurisdiction Court in regard Guatemala STOP In case negative decision Court on objection proposed, Guatemala reserves right to be represented dispute and raise further objections STOP Thanking in anticipation honorable Tribunal STOP Raul Osegueda Minister Foreign Affairs of Guatemala have honour present to you assurances my high consideration - Francisco Linares Aranda Chargé d'affaires of Guatemala in France."

The President noted that the Agent and Counsel for the Principality of Liechtenstein were present in Court and that the Republic of Guatemala was not represented.

The Court then heard Dr. Erwin H. Loewenfeld, LL.B., Agent of the Government of Liechtenstein, and Professor Georges Sauser-Hall, of Geneva, Counsel for that Government, in their oral arguments on the preliminary objection to the jurisdiction of the Court raised by the Government of Guatemala.

The President then declared the closure of the oral proceedings on this question.

The Hague, November 10th, 1953.