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**INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE**

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**Communiqué**

*unofficial  
for immediate release*

No. 83/3  
29 July 1983

Delimitation of the Maritime Boundary in the  
Gulf of Maine Area  
(Canada/United States of America)

Time-Limit Fixed for the Filing of Replies

The following information is made available to the press by the Registry of the International Court of Justice:

By an Order of 27 July 1983, the submission of replies by Canada and the United States in the present case has been authorized and the time-limit for their filing fixed at 12 December 1983.

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Canada and the United States have submitted to a specially formed Chamber of the International Court of Justice a dispute over the boundary separating the fishery zones and continental shelves of the two countries off the Atlantic coast in the Gulf of Maine area. The proceedings were instituted on 25 November 1981 by the filing of a Special Agreement.

The Chamber was constituted by an Order of the Court on 20 January 1982. It is composed as follows: Judge Ago, President of the Chamber; Judges Gros, Mosler and Schwebel; Judge ad hoc Cohen. This was the first time in the history of the Court that the parties to a dispute had made use of the possibilities, embodied in the Statute and Rules of the Court, of sending their case to a special chamber instead of to the full Court.

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The Parties have already submitted two pleadings. The first pleadings (the Memorials) had been filed on 27 September 1982 and the second pleadings (the Counter-Memorials) had been filed on 28 June 1983. Provision is made for the possibility of another round of pleadings (the Replies) in the Special Agreement by which Canada and the United States brought their dispute before the Chamber constituted by the Court. It is the submission of these replies which the Order of 27 July 1983 made by the President of the Chamber has authorized.

29.7.83

DO PEACE PALACE (1635)

PRESS NOT CALLED.