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# INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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**Communiqué**

*unofficial  
for immediate release*

*Sept 27, 1984*  
*Indy...*  
*10/27/84*

No. 84/28  
27 September 1984

Hearing to open on 8 October in the case  
concerning Military and Paramilitary Activities in  
and against Nicaragua (Nicaragua v. United States of America)

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

On Monday 8 October 1984, at 3 p.m., the International Court of Justice will open at the Peace Palace in The Hague a public hearing on the questions of whether it has jurisdiction to deal with the merits of the case brought by Nicaragua against the United States of America on 9 April 1984, and whether Nicaragua's application is admissible.

Nicaragua has alleged that the United States is responsible for the conduct of unlawful activities of a military and paramilitary nature in and against Nicaragua, and it accompanied its application with a request that the Court indicate provisional measures of protection pending its decision of the case, a step which the Court is able to take before definitively resolving the question of its jurisdiction. After hearing the Parties, the Court granted that request in an Order of 10 May 1984 (see Press Communiqué No. 84/18) in which it also decided that the written proceedings should first be directed to questions of jurisdiction and admissibility. A second Order, of 14 May 1984, indicated 30 June and 17 August as the respective time-limits for the filing by Nicaragua of a Memorial, and by the United States of a Counter-Memorial, on those questions, and these pleadings have been duly submitted.

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Meanwhile, El Salvador has filed a declaration of intervention within the meaning of Article 63 of the Court's Statute, which enables States to intervene if notified that the interpretation of a treaty to which they are party is in issue (see Press Communiqué No. 84/25). The Court's decision in regard to this declaration will be made known to the press in a subsequent communiqué.

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Nicaragua has chosen Professor Claude-Albert Colliard, of French nationality, to sit as a judge ad hoc in the case in accordance with the provisions of Article 31 of the Court's Statute, which entitles a Party to make such an appointment where the Bench does not include any judge possessing its nationality. At the first public sitting Judge Colliard will, as the Statute requires of every judge taking office, make a solemn declaration that he will carry out his duties conscientiously.

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NOTE FOR THE PRESS

1. The public sitting will be held in the Great Hall of Justice of the Peace Palace. Members of the press will be entitled to attend it after presentation of a press identification card and provision of a photocopy thereof. The tables reserved for the press are situated on the far left of the public entrance to the courtroom.

2. Photographs may be taken before the opening and during the first few minutes of the sitting. Filming for cinema or television purposes is however subject to special authorization.

3. In the Press Room, located on the ground floor of the Peace Palace (Room 5), the oral proceedings will be relayed through a loudspeaker.

4. Members of the press may use only the public telephones in the Post Office in the basement of the Palace.

5. Mr. C. Poux, First Secretary of the Court (telephone extension 233), or, in his absence, Mr. Noble (extension 248) will be available to deal with any requests for information by members of the press.