

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

The Secretary-General of the United Nations has notified the International Court of Justice of a Resolution of the General Assembly requesting an Advisory Opinion on the following questions :

"I. Do the diplomatic exchanges between Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania on the one hand and certain Allied and Associated Powers signatories to the Treaties of Peace on the other, concerning the implementation of article 2 in the Treaties with Bulgaria and Hungary and article 3 of the Treaty with Romania, disclose disputes subject to the provisions for the settlement of disputes contained in article 36 of the Treaty of Peace with Bulgaria, article 40 of the Treaty of Peace with Hungary, and article 38 of the Treaty of Peace with Romania ?"

In the event of an affirmative reply to question I:

"II. Are the Governments of Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania obligated to carry out the provisions of the articles referred to in question I, including the provisions for the appointment of their representatives to the Treaty Commissions ?"

In the event of an affirmative reply to question II and if within thirty days from the date when the Court delivers its opinion, the Governments concerned have not notified the Secretary-General that they have appointed their representatives to the Treaty Commissions, and the Secretary-General has so advised the International Court of Justice:

"III. If one party fails to appoint a representative to a Treaty Commission under the Treaties of Peace with Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania where that party is obligated to appoint a representative to the Treaty Commission, is the Secretary-General of the United Nations authorized to appoint the third member of the Commission upon the request of the other party to a dispute according to the provisions of the respective Treaties ?"

In the event of an affirmative reply to Question III:

"IV. Would a Treaty Commission composed of a representative of one party and a third member appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations constitute a commission, within the meaning of the relevant Treaty articles, competent to make a definitive and binding decision in settlement of a dispute ?"

In application of Article 66 of the Statute, the Registrar of the Court is giving notice of the request to all States entitled to appear before the Court. The signatories to the peace treaties are also being notified by a special and direct communication that the Acting-President has fixed Monday, January 16th, 1950, as the time limit for presenting written statements on the question under Article 66, paragraph 2, of the Statute.

The Hague, November 5th, 1949.