



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE
Peace Palace, 2517 KJ The Hague. Tel.(070-302 23 23).Cables: Intercourt, The Hague.

Telefax (070-364 99 28). Telex 32323.

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**New Zealand's Request for an Examination of the Situation in
accordance with Paragraph 63 of the Court's 1974 Judgment in
the case concerning Nuclear Tests (New Zealand v. France)**

Progress and conclusion of the Court's public sittings

The public sittings held by the Court in order to enable New Zealand and France to inform it of their views on the following question: "Do the Requests submitted to the Court by the Government of New Zealand on 21 August 1995 fall within the provisions of paragraph 63 of the Judgment of the Court of 20 December 1974 in the case concerning Nuclear Tests (New Zealand v. France)?" and which opened on Monday 11 September 1995, were concluded today, Tuesday 12 September.

At the opening of the sitting Sir Geoffrey Palmer, the judge ad hoc chosen by New Zealand made the necessary solemn declaration.

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During the first round of oral arguments, on Monday and Tuesday, statements were made:

- on behalf of New Zealand, by Mr. Paul East, Agent and Counsel; Mr. Don McKay, Co-Agent and Counsel, Mr. John McGrath, Sir Kenneth Keith and Professor Elihu Lauterpacht, Counsel;
- on behalf of France, by Mr. Marc Perrin de Brichambaut, Sir Arthur Watts, Professor Pierre-Marie Dupuy and Professor Alain Pellet.

Mr. Paul East, for New Zealand, and Mr. Marc Perrin de Brichambaut, for France, presented conclusions.

Questions were put to either or both of the representatives of the two States by Vice-President Schwebel, Judges Weeramantry, Shahabuddeen and Koroma and Judge ad hoc Palmer.

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A further exchange of views took place at the end of the sitting on Tuesday 12 September. The speakers were:

- on behalf of New Zealand: Mr. Paul East, Agent and Counsel; Mr. John McGrath, Counsel;
- on behalf of France: Mr. Marc Perrin de Brichambaut.

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The Court will now begin to consider its decision.