

I.C.J.

Communique No. 57/3  
Unofficial

The following information from the Registry of the **I**nternational Court of Justice has been communicated to the Press:

The Court will hold a public sitting on Monday, May 13th, 1957, at 11 a.m. in the Peace Palace, The Hague.

The sitting will first be devoted to the installation of a recently elected Member of the Court: Dr. Wellington Koo, who will make the Solemn Declaration prescribed by Article 20 of the Statute of the Court. (A curriculum vitae of Dr. Wellington Koo is attached hereto).

At the same sitting, the Court will begin the oral hearings in the case of certain Norwegian loans.

Proceedings in this case were instituted on July 6th, 1955, by the Government of the French Republic against the Government of the Kingdom of Norway.

Following the deposit of the Application, the Court fixed time-limits for the filing of the first two pleadings: the Memorial of the French Government and the Counter-Memorial of the Norwegian Government. On April 20th, 1956, that is, within the time fixed for the filing of the Counter-Memorial, the Government of the Kingdom of Norway filed a document setting out certain preliminary objections to the jurisdiction of the Court and contending that the claim submitted by the Application was inadmissible. The Court then fixed a time-limit for the filing by the French Government of its Observations and Submissions in regard to the Norwegian Objections, and the Registrar informed the Parties that it was the Court's intention to open the oral hearings on June 25th, 1956. However, at the request of the Norwegian Government, the Court decided to postpone the opening of the oral proceedings and to extend to August 31st, 1956, the time-limit for the filing of the French Observations and Submissions. The Government of the French Republic having, in its Observations and Submissions filed on the said date, asked that it might please the Court to join the Objections to the merits, and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway having considered that they should not object thereto (whilst maintaining in their entirety the Objections they had raised), the Court joined the Objections to the merits and fixed time-limits for the deposit of the remaining pleadings on the merits: Norwegian Counter-Memorial, French Reply, Norwegian Rejoinder. The last of these pleadings was deposited on April 25th, 1957 and since then the case has been ready for hearing.

The present hearings will be devoted both to the Preliminary Objections and to the merits.

The Parties will be represented as follows:

The ....

The Government of the French Republic

- Agent : Professor André Gros, Legal Adviser of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs
  - Counsel : Professor Paul Reuter, Assistant Legal Adviser of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs
  - Advocate: M. le Bâtonnier Marcel Poignard, of the Paris Bar
  - Experts : M. Claude Chayet, Legal Officer of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs
- M. Paul-Edmond Bertin, Administrateur civil of the Ministry of Finance
- M. J.J. de Bresson, Procureur de la République, Detached to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs
- Me Henri Monneray, Barrister, of the Paris Bar.

The Government of the Kingdom of Norway

- Agent and Counsel: Mr. Sven Arntzen, Advocate at the Supreme Court of Norway
  - Agent : His Excellency Mr. Lars J. Jorstad, Norwegian Ambassador at The Hague
  - Counsel : M. Maurice Bourquin, Professor at the University of Geneva and at the Graduate Institute of International Studies
- Mr. Jens Evensen, of the Bar of the Norwegian Courts of Appeal
- Experts : Mr. Frede Castberg, Rector at the University of Oslo
- Mr. Johannes Andenæs, Professor at the University of Oslo
- Mr. Bredo Stabell, Director at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Norway
- M. Pierre Lalive, Professor at the University of Geneva.
- Secretary : Mr. Einar Løchen, Chief of Division in the Norwegian Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

The Hague, May 8th, 1957.

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Judge Wellington Koo

Born in 1888. B.A., M.A., Ph.D., Columbia University; Honorary LL.D. from Yale, Columbia, St. Johns, Aberdeen, Birmingham and Manchester Universities; Honorary D.C.L. from Miami University.

From 1912 to 1915, served as high official in the Chinese Government; Chinese Minister to U.S.A. (1915-20). In 1919, President of the Chinese Delegation to the Peace Conference and, from 1920 to 1922, Chinese First Delegate to the Assembly of the League of Nations and China's Representative on the League Council; Chinese Minister to Great Britain (1920-22); successively Chairman of the Chinese Government Finance Commission (1922); Minister of Foreign Affairs (1922-24); Acting Prime Minister (1924); Finance Minister (1926); Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs (1926-27); Chinese Assessor to the League of Nations Commission of Enquiry regarding the Manchurian question (1932); Minister, then Ambassador to France from 1932 to 1941; was during the same period Chinese representative to the Council of the League of Nations (1932-34) and the Assembly of the League (1933-36-38), to the World Monetary and Economic Conference (1933) to the Conference for Reduction and Limitation of Armaments (1933) and to the Brussels Conference on the Far East (1937); Ambassador to the United Kingdom from 1941 to 1946, participated, as the head of the Chinese Delegation, in the work of the Dumbarton Oaks conversations (1944), of the San Francisco Conference (1945), of the United Nations Preparatory Conference (1945) and of the Second Part of the First Session of the General Assembly (1946). In 1946, was appointed Chinese Ambassador to the U.S.A. and held that post for ten years. Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration since 1948.

Author of "The Status of the Alien in China" - Columbia University Press, 1912.

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