

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

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has filed in the Registry of the Court two Applications, one against Argentina and the other against Chile, relative to certain Antarctic territories. The United Kingdom contends that the Government of Argentina on the one hand, and the Government of Chile on the other, have encroached upon certain territories which are situated South of the 50th parallel of South latitude and which are under British sovereignty. It requests the Court to recognize the validity of its titles to sovereignty and to declare that the pretensions of Argentina and Chile, as well as their encroachments in those territories, are contrary to international law.

The Applications specify that the two Governments concerned (Argentina and Chile) have not yet filed any declaration accepting the Court's compulsory jurisdiction under Article 36, paragraph 2, of the Statute, nor specially accepted the Court's jurisdiction in the present cases; but they have both frequently expressed their adherence to the principle of judicial settlement of international disputes and are legally qualified, upon notification of the Applications, to take the necessary steps to appear before the Court and thereby cause the Court's jurisdiction in the case to be constituted.

In accordance with Article 40 of the Statute, the Applications were communicated forthwith to the two interested Governments and will shortly be notified to all other States entitled to appear before the Court.

The Hague, May 6th, 1955.