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Telex 32323

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Military and Paramilitary Activities in and
against Nicaragua (Nicaragua v. United States of America)
El Salvador requests permission to intervene

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

The Republic of El Salvador filed a declaration of intervention in the case concerning Military and Paramilitary Activities in and against Nicaragua (Nicaragua v. United States of America). It is based on Article 63 of the Statute of the Court which reads as follows:

"1. Whenever the construction of a convention to which States other than those concerned in the case are parties is in question, the Registrar shall notify all such States forthwith.

2. Every State so notified has the right to intervene in the proceedings; but if it uses this right, the construction given by the judgment will be equally binding upon it."

The Government of El Salvador indicates in its declaration that the object of its intervention is to enable it to argue that the Court does not have jurisdiction over Nicaragua's Application. In this connection, it refers to certain multilateral conventions on which Nicaragua relies in its dispute with the United States.

Under Article 83 of the Rules of Court, the declaration of intervention was immediately communicated to the Parties, and a time-limit (14 September 1984) fixed by the Vice-President for them to present written observations thereon.

It will be for the Court to decide whether the declaration of intervention is admissible. Should an objection be raised, it will hear the Parties and El Salvador before deciding.

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This is the second time that a declaration of intervention has been filed with the Court under Article 63 of the Statute. The first declaration of intervention was filed by Cuba in the case concerning Haya de la Torre (Colombia v. Peru) (1951).

P.O. Peace Palace

17.8.84 (1500)

Press (THE HAGUE)

16.8.84 (1800)