

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

To-day, March 25th, 1953, the International Court of Justice held two sittings in the Ambatielos case (Greece v. United Kingdom).

At the beginning of the morning sitting, the Vice-President of the Court, who is Acting President in the case, spoke as follows on behalf of the Court:

"The Court has heard with grief the news of the death of H.M. Queen Mary. It joins sincerely in the mourning of the Royal Family and that of all the people of the Commonwealth.

Throughout her long life, a life of dignity and greatness, filled with so many joys and sorrows, the Sovereign who has just passed away won the respect and admiration of the whole world.

The Court desires to express its condolences to the British representatives now before the Court, and would ask them to transmit these condolences to their Government. It wishes too to express its feelings of affectionate sympathy to its President, Sir Arnold McNair."

After the Deputy-Agent of the Hellenic Government had stated that he wished to be associated in the expressions of sympathy which had been conveyed by the Acting-President, the Agent of the United Kingdom Government thanked the President and stated that he would pass the Court's message of sympathy to his Government.

The Acting-President then called upon Mr. G.G. Fitzmaurice, Counsel for the Government of the United Kingdom.

The next sitting of the Court will be held to-morrow, March 26th, at 4 p.m. Mr. Fitzmaurice will then continue his speech.

The Hague, March 25th, 1953.

---