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I.C.J.

Communiqué No. 61/7
(Unofficial)

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

At 10.30 a.m. on 10 April 1961, the Court opened the public hearing in the case concerning the Temple of Preah Vihear (Cambodia v. Thailand) (Preliminary Objections).

At the beginning of the hearing, the Court installed the six new Members who were elected by the General Assembly and the Security Council of the United Nations in November 1960. They are: Sir Gerald Fitzmaurice, M. Vladimir M. Koretsky, Mr. Kotaro Tanaka, M. José Luis Bustamante y Rivero, Mr. Philip C. Jessup and M. Gaetano Morelli. Biographical notes concerning these Judges were appended to Communiqué No. 61/5.

After the Judges concerned had made the solemn declarations provided for in Articles 20 of the Statute and 5 of the Rules of Court, the President announced that Judge Córdova was prevented, for reasons of health, from attending the present session and that Judge Jessup had stated that in pursuance of Article 17 of the Statute of the Court, he would not be able to participate in the decision of this case.

Having noted that the Agents of the Parties and their Counsel were present, the President then called upon the Agent for the Government of Thailand, H.S.H. Prince Vongsamahip Jayankura, Ambassador of Thailand to the Netherlands, who made a short statement, whereupon Counsel for Thailand, Sir Frank Soskice, Q.C., Member of the English Bar and formerly Attorney-General of England, Mr. James Nevin Hyde, Member of the Bar of the State of New York and a Member of the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States, and Me. Marcel Slusny, Member of the Bar of the Brussels Court of Appeal addressed the Court.

Me. Slusny will continue his speech at the hearing which will open at 10.30 a.m. tomorrow, 11 April.

The Hague, 10 April 1961