

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

Peace Palace, 2517 KJ The Hague. Tel.(31-70-302 23 23). Cables: Intercourt, The Hague. Telefax (31-70-364 99 28). Telex 32323. Internet address : http://www.icj-cij.org

> Communiqué unofficial for immediate release

No. 99/12 8 March 1999

<u>LaGrand Case</u> (Germany v. United States of America) Fixing of time-limits for the filing of written pleadings

THE HAGUE, 8 March 1999. The International Court of Justice (ICJ) has fixed time-limits for the filing of written pleadings in the <u>LaGrand (Germany</u> v. <u>United States of America</u>) case.

Germany is to file a Memorial by 16 September 1999 and the United States a Counter-Memorial by 27 March 2000.

The Court fixed these time-limits by an Order dated 5 March 1999, taking into account the views expressed by the Parties and the Order on provisional measures issued by it on 3 March 1999.

The subsequent procedure has been reserved for further decision.

Germany instituted proceedings against the United States on 2 March 1999, alleging violations of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations of 24 April 1963 with respect to the case of Karl and Walter LaGrand, two German nationals convicted of murder in Arizona. It maintains that they "were tried and sentenced to death without being advised of their rights to consular assistance", as required by the Vienna Convention.

Karl LaGrand, 35, was executed on 24 February 1999. His brother Walter, 37, was executed on 3 March 1999, after the Court had earlier issued an Order for provisional measures. In that Order, which was adopted unanimously, the Court had called on the United States to "take all measures at its disposal" to ensure that Walter LaGrand was not executed pending a final decision in the proceedings instituted by Germany.

Website of the Court: http://www.icj-cij.org

Information Office Mr. Arthur Witteveen, Secretary of the Court (tel: 31-70-302 2336) Mrs. Laurence Blairon, Information Officer (tel: 31-70-302 2337) E-mail: information@icj-cij.org