

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

The American Embassy in The Hague has today filed in the Registry two applications for the purpose of instituting proceedings before the International Court of Justice. One of these cites Hungary as the Respondent, the second the U.S.S.R.; both relate to the treatment of the crew of an aircraft of the United States Air Force, and of the aircraft itself, after it had been compelled to land in Hungary on November 19th, 1951.

The claims of the Government of the United States are summarised as follows in the Applications:

The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, acting in concert, wilfully and unlawfully caused to be seized a United States Air Force C-47 type aircraft, together with its crew of four American nationals and its contents, driven over Hungary by winds unknown to the crew; thereafter both Governments engaged in unlawful actions against the crew and against the United States with respect to the incident, constituting both serious violations of existing treaties as well as manifest denials of justice and other international wrongs. For these breaches of international obligation the United States has demanded and demands monetary and other reparation from the two Governments.

In accordance with the provisions of the Statute, these applications have been communicated by the Registrar to Hungary and to the U.S.S.R. and they will be transmitted to all States entitled to appear before the Court.

The Hague, March 3rd, 1954.

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