

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

It is well known that a dispute has existed for some time between Colombia and Peru following the granting of asylum by Colombia, in the Colombian Embassy in Lima, wrongly Peru contends, to a Peruvian national.

On October 15th, 1949, the two States filed with the Registry of the International Court of Justice an agreement dated August 31st, 1949 under which they accept the Court's jurisdiction and agree to refer to it the dispute in question, declaring that either of the Parties could institute proceedings by application without such an act being regarded as unfriendly.

Pursuant to this agreement, the Colombian Government, relying on the Bolivarian Agreement on Extradition of July 18th, 1911 and the Convention on Asylum adopted and signed at the VIth American International Conference of 1928, filed an Application instituting proceedings on the same date, i.e. October 15th, 1949.

The Colombian Government requests the Court to decide the following questions :

First question: Within the limits of the obligations resulting in particular from the Bolivarian Agreement on Extradition of July 18th, 1911, and the Convention on the Right of Asylum of February 20th, 1928, both in force between Colombia and Peru and, in general, from American international Law, was Colombia competent as the country granting asylum, to qualify the offence for the purposes of said asylum ?

Second question: In the specific case under examination, was Peru, as the territorial State, bound to give "the guaranties necessary for the departure of the refugee, with due regard to the inviolability of his person, from the country" ?

The customary notifications have been made.

The following have been appointed Agents by the two States respectively :

Colombia: Professor J.M. Yepes

Peru: M. Carlos Sayan Alvarez.

The Hague, October 17th, 1949.

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