



INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA
TRIBUNAL INTERNATIONAL DU DROIT DE LA MER

Press Release

The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea deeply regrets to announce the death, in Belize, on 11 September 2001, of Mr. Edward A. Laing. Mr. Laing had been a Member of the Tribunal since October 1996. His term of office was due to expire in September 2002.

A register of condolences will be open for signature at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, Am Internationalen Seegerichtshof 1, Hamburg, on Friday, 14 September 2001 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The flag of the Tribunal is being flown half-mast.

Mr. Laing, of Belize nationality, was born in Belize City on 27 February 1942. He graduated from Cambridge University in 1964 and received Masters degrees both from Cambridge University and Columbia University.

His professional experience began in 1966, when he served as Assistant Magistrate in Belize. He went on to act as Crown Counsel in Belize in 1967 and was an Associate of Baker and MacKenzie in New York and Chicago from 1968 to 1969. He worked in a private law practice in Belize from 1969 to 1970.

Mr. Laing was Lecturer in Law from 1970 to 1975 and Senior Lecturer in 1975 at the University of the West Indies, Assistant Professor of Law at the Notre Dame Law School in Indiana from 1974 to 1976, and Associate Professor of Law at the University of Maryland from 1976 to 1981. He was Professor of Law and Director of the Graduate Program at Howard University, School of Law, Washington, D.C., from 1980 to 1985 and Professor of Law at the New York Law School from 1990 to 1993.

Mr. Laing served both as Ambassador of Belize to the United States of America and High Commissioner to Canada from 1985 to 1990. During this period he also acted as Special Counsel to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and as the Permanent Representative to the Organization of American States. From 1993 to 1996 he was

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Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Belize to the United Nations. From 1985 to 1990 and 1993 to 1996 he was a member of Belize delegations to international meetings concerning law of the sea and United Nations economic, humanitarian, legal and social matters and to the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, World Bank, Organization of American States, Caribbean Community and Commonwealth Heads of Government. Mr. Laing acted as an adviser to the Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry in 1981 and had been a consultant to international agencies, including the United Nations Development Programme, since 1996. He was a member of the Belize-Guatemala Permanent Joint Commission from 1987 to 1990 and of the group negotiating the treaty for Association of Caribbean States from 1995 to 1996.

He was a member of the Bars of Barbados, Belize, England, Illinois, and Washington, D.C, of the American Society of International Law and of the International Law Association.

Mr. Laing published numerous articles and papers on law of the sea, governance, inter-parliamentary institutions, Security Council reform, international development, international law, international adjudication, international trade law, public law and legal education.

The Press Releases of the Tribunal, documents and other information are available on the United Nations website: <http://www.un.org/Depts/los/> and from the Registry of the Tribunal. Please contact Mr. Robert van Dijk or Ms. Julia Pope at Am Internationalen Seegerichtshof 1, 22609 Hamburg, Germany, Tel.: (49) (40) 35607-228/227, Fax: (49) (40) 35607-245/275; E-mail: press@itlos.org

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