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**INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE**

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***communiqué***

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No. 71/3  
30 January 1971

Request for Advisory Opinion on the Legal Consequences for  
States of the Continued Presence of South Africa in  
Namibia (South West Africa) notwithstanding Security  
Council Resolution 276 (1970)

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

By an Order made on 29 January 1971 the Court decided to reject the application of the South African Government for leave, under Article 31, paragraph 2, of the Statute of the Court, to choose a judge ad hoc to sit in the proceedings concerning the above-mentioned request for an advisory opinion.

The decision of the Court was taken by ten votes to five, and two joint declarations expressing inability to concur with it were appended to the Order, one by Judges Sir Gerald Fitzmaurice, Gros and Petrán, the other by Judges Onyeama and Dillard.

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The Court also decided that the Organization of African Unity was likely to be able to furnish information on the question put to the Court and might for that purpose make an oral statement.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations and the following States, Finland, the Netherlands, Nigeria, India, South Africa and the United States of America, have further announced their intention to present oral statements to the Court.

The date of the opening of the oral proceedings will be communicated to the Press in due course.