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INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Communiqué

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23 January 1985

Military and Paramilitary Activities in and against Nicaragua (Nicaragua v. United States of America)

Proceedings on the merits

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

In its Judgment of 26 November 1984 the Court, after hearing the arguments of the Parties, found that it has jurisdiction to entertain the case and that the application filed by the Republic of Nicaragua on 9 April 1984 is admissible.

Following this decision, the President received both Agents on 27 November 1984. By a letter dated 18 January 1985 the Agent of the United States made it known that in the view of the United States "the Court is without jurisdiction to entertain the dispute and that the Nicaraguan Application of 7 April 1984 is inadmissible" and that accordingly "the United States intends not to participate in any further proceedings in connection with this case". On 22 January 1985 the President received the Agent of Nicaragua, who informed him that his Government maintained its application and availed itself of the rights provided for in Article 53 of the Statute whenever one of the parties does not appear before the Court or fails to defend its case.

In these circumstances, the President has, on 22 January 1985, made an order fixing time-limits for the written proceedings on the merits. The time-limits fixed are as follows:

- 30 April 1985 for the Memorial for the Republic of Nicaragua;
- 31 May 1985 for the Counter-Memorial of the United States of America.

The subsequent procedure is reserved for further decision.

*Judges and Staff (23-1-85 at 17:00)
Press release 24-1-85 at 10:00 AM
List, P.O. 2 Release 24-1-85 at 10:00*