

DEATH OF MR. JUSTICE FRANKFURTER.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES.

MONDAY, MARCH 1, 1965.

Present: MR. CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN, MR. JUSTICE BLACK, MR. JUSTICE DOUGLAS, MR. JUSTICE CLARK, MR. JUSTICE HARLAN, MR. JUSTICE BRENNAN, MR. JUSTICE STEWART, MR. JUSTICE WHITE, and MR. JUSTICE GOLDBERG.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

"It is on a note of sadness that we open this session of the Court because, since we last met, our friend and Brother, Felix Frankfurter, has passed away.

"It was twenty-six years ago on January 30th that Mr. Justice Frankfurter took his seat on this Court. One week ago he died after a gallant fight for the restoration of the health which he had lost three years ago. In more than 23 years of service here, he had one of the longest and, without doubt, one of the most brilliant careers in the history of the Court.

"He was one of the most knowledgeable of men. He came to his high position with a combination of scholarship and public experience rarely equalled. As a scholar, teacher, public servant, man of letters, patron of the arts, and the confidant of Presidents, he had already made great contributions to the life of our Nation. But, notwithstanding his manifold activities, the law was always his preoccupation. He caught its spirit early in life, and to his very last day devoted himself fervently to its development under the Constitution which he revered.

VIII DEATH OF MR. JUSTICE FRANKFURTER.

"His death leaves a great void in the communities of scholars and jurists, but fortunately his written words, so pregnant with meaning, will be a heritage for all who love the law and believe in it as the sheet anchor of our civilization.

"We of the Supreme Court who knew him so well mourn his passing, both as our associate and friend, but we also know that his ebullient spirit would want us to get on with our always unfinished work."