

APPOINTMENT OF MR. JUSTICE POWELL

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 1972

Present: MR. CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER, MR. JUSTICE DOUGLAS, MR. JUSTICE BRENNAN, MR. JUSTICE STEWART, MR. JUSTICE WHITE, MR. JUSTICE MARSHALL, and MR. JUSTICE BLACKMUN.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

In this special sitting of the Court, we will receive the commission of Justice-designate Powell, and at this time the Court recognizes the Attorney General.

Mr. Attorney General Mitchell said:

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE, may it please the Court:

I am happy to advise that the President of the United States has nominated, the Senate has consented, and the President has appointed Mr. Lewis F. Powell, Jr., of Virginia, as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

I bear with me the commission, dated December 9, 1971, signed by the President of the United States, and attested by me as Attorney General, and, with the permission of the Court, I will turn the commission over to the Clerk of the Court.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

The commission is accepted, Mr. Attorney General.
Thank you.

The Clerk then read the commission as follows:

RICHARD NIXON,

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

To all who shall see these Presents, Greeting:

KNOW YE; That reposing special trust and confidence in the Wisdom, Uprightness, and Learning of Lewis F. Powell, Jr., of Virginia, I have nominated, and, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, do appoint him an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and do authorize and empower him to execute and fulfil the duties of that Office according to the Constitution and Laws of the said United States, and to Have and to Hold the said Office, with all the powers, privileges and emoluments to the same of right appertaining, unto Him, the said Lewis F. Powell, Jr., during his good behavior.

In testimony whereof, I have caused these Letters to be made patent and the seal of the Department of Justice to be hereunto affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this ninth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-sixth.

[SEAL]

RICHARD M. NIXON.

By the President:

JOHN N. MITCHELL,
Attorney General.

The oath of office was then administered by THE CHIEF JUSTICE, and MR. JUSTICE POWELL was escorted by the Marshal to his seat on the bench.

The oath taken by MR. JUSTICE POWELL is in the following words, *viz.*:

I, Lewis F. Powell, Jr., do solemnly swear that I will administer justice without respect to persons, and do

equal right to the poor and to the rich, and that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent upon me as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, according to the best of my abilities and understanding, agreeably to the Constitution of the United States; and that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter.

So help me God.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

MR. JUSTICE POWELL, on behalf of all members of the Court, I welcome you to this bench and we look forward to many years of work together in our common calling.

The first part of the book is devoted to the early history of the United States, from the discovery of the continent by Christopher Columbus in 1492 to the establishment of the first permanent settlements. This section covers the exploration of the New World, the struggles of the early settlers, and the growth of the colonies. It also discusses the impact of European diseases on the native population and the role of the British in the development of the colonies.

The second part of the book deals with the American Revolution and the early years of the new nation. It begins with the outbreak of the Revolutionary War in 1775 and the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. This section covers the military campaigns, the establishment of the Constitution, and the early challenges of the new government. It also discusses the role of key figures such as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Alexander Hamilton.

The third part of the book focuses on the expansion of the United States and the westward movement. It covers the Louisiana Purchase of 1803, the Lewis and Clark expedition, and the discovery of gold in California. This section also discusses the impact of the Industrial Revolution on the United States and the role of the federal government in promoting westward expansion.