

DEATH OF MR. JUSTICE HARLAN

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 1972

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

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

Since the last regular sitting of the Court in December, our beloved Brother, Mr. Justice John Marshall Harlan, died, and it is appropriate that we take note today of his death on December 29, 1971.

Much has already been written in professional journals and in the Nation's press of the life and work of Justice Harlan, and much more will be said and written. Everyone acknowledges his great contribution to the work of the Court in which he dedicated so large a part of his career in the law.

For us in the Court, however, the loss is far more than the loss of a colleague valued for his great legal abilities, for his penetrating mind, and as a prodigious worker. He was all of these, but to us he was much more. The deep personal loss to us is the departure of a beloved friend whose warmth and gaiety lightened all the burdens and cheered all the gatherings of the Justices of this Court for 16 years. Words are inadequate to express the deep affection felt for John Harlan and our admiration for his gallant courage in adversity and illness. We will miss him greatly.

In due course there will be an appropriate memorial proceeding in this Court and a date will be fixed for that purpose.

