

DEATH OF JUSTICE FORTAS
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 1982

Present: CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER, JUSTICE BRENNAN, JUSTICE WHITE, JUSTICE MARSHALL, JUSTICE BLACKMUN, JUSTICE POWELL, JUSTICE REHNQUIST, JUSTICE STEVENS, and JUSTICE O'CONNOR.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE said:

Before we open our regular proceedings this morning on this, the last day of oral argument for the 1981 Term, we pause to note with sadness, the death of our colleague former Justice Abe Fortas in his 72nd year. Justice Fortas served on this Court from 1965 to 1969 after a rich and unusually varied experience in government, in private practice and a variety of activities relating to the law. He served as a legal adviser to the United Nations Organization and the American delegation to that Conference at San Francisco, as a visiting professor of law at the Yale Law School and a periodic lecturer at other law schools. His career in government at a very early age included service as General Counsel of the Public Works Administration under President Roosevelt and as Under Secretary of the Interior. After his return to private practice, he served from 1970 until the time of his death as a member of the very important Committee on Appellate Rules of the Judicial Conference of the United States. He had appeared as counsel at this lectern often, and his final appearance in this Court was on March 22, 1982—barely two weeks before his death.

The record will show that the recess of the Court on this final day of oral argument of the Term will be in memory of Mr. Justice Fortas, and in the October Term coming, there will be the traditional memorial service in this Chamber.

DEATH OF JUSTICE PORTER
THE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED STATES
HAS DECIDED THAT HE WAS
NOT GUILTY OF MURDER

It is one of the most important cases in the history of the United States, and the result of the decision will be of great importance to the country. The case is the death of Justice Porter, who was found guilty of murder in 1877, and was executed in 1878. The case is now being tried by the Judicial Committee of the United States, and the result of the decision will be of great importance to the country.

THE CASE OF JUSTICE PORTER
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The record will show that the record of the Court on the first day of the argument of the case will be in memory of Mr. Justice Porter, and in the future, the name of the Court will be the same as the name of the Court.