

STATEMENT OF HONORABLE BOB DOLE  
BEFORE THE  
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES  
UNITED STATES SENATE  
APRIL 10, 1975

MR. CHAIRMAN: THE U.S. COURT OF MILITARY APPEALS  
WILL BE WELL-SERVED BY THIS COMMITTEE'S FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION  
AND APPROVAL OF THE NOMINATION OF JUDGE ALBERT B. FLETCHER, JR.  
TO BE ITS CHIEF JUDGE.

JUDGE FLETCHER IS WELL KNOWN AND HIGHLY RESPECTED IN  
MY HOME STATE OF KANSAS WHERE HE HAS SERVED AS DIVISION 2  
DISTRICT JUDGE OF THE 8TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT SINCE 1961.

MY PERSONAL ACQUAINTANCE WITH JUDGE FLETCHER GOES  
BACK TO THE EARLY 1950S WHEN HE AND I ATTENDED TOPEKA, KANSAS'  
WASHBURN LAW SCHOOL TOGETHER. SINCE THEN, IN PRIVATE PRACTICE  
IN GEARY COUNTY FOR TWELVE YEARS, AND AS DISTRICT COURT JUDGE  
FOR THE LAST TEN, HE HAS EARNED A REPUTATION WITHIN THE STATE  
AS AN OUTSTANDING JURIST AND A CAPABLE ADMINISTRATOR.

- ~~UPI~~ Ted
- ~~AP~~ ~~233-8553~~ 234-5654 Lew
- Wichita
- ~~G.C. Union~~ (913) ~~762-5000~~ Austin Farley out of town  
Harold Taylor
- ~~KJCK~~ Bruce Karns  
6-8 Senators
- ~~Henry~~
- Pete
- Junction City Republic - Ed Kessinger

NATION-WIDE REPUTATION

HIS REPUTATION IS NOT CONFINED WITHIN THE BORDERS OF THE STATE OF KANSAS. HE HAS BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN JUDICIAL CONFERENCES OF SEVERAL STATES, HAS LECTURED AT UNIVERSITIES IN SEVERAL MORE, AND IS KNOWN FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO SUCH NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AS THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE TRIAL JUDGES AND THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION.

JUDGE FLETCHER IS A MAN WHOSE VERY DISTINGUISHED REPUTATION IS FULLY DESERVED. HIS REPUTATION IS IN PERFECT PROPORTION TO HIS TALENTS.

HIS FAIRNESS, INTEGRITY AND INTELLIGENCE ARE BEYOND DISPUTE, AS IS HIS CONCERN AND COMPASSION FOR PEOPLE. BUT IT IS THE LAW WHICH IS HIS CHIEF CONCERN AND PRIMARY DEDICATION.

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TRUST AND CONFIDENCE

THIS IS A TIME, MR. CHAIRMAN, WHEN LIKE MANY OF OUR MOST IMPORTANT INSTITUTIONS, THE LAW IS UNDERGOING A PERIOD OF CAREFUL, ANXIOUS, EVEN SUSPICIOUS SCRUTINY. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS, NO LONGER REPOSE AN AUTOMATIC TRUST AND CONFIDENCE IN THEIR INSTITUTIONS WHOSE ABILITY TO INSPIRE CONFIDENCE, ONLY A SHORT WHILE AGO, WAS UNQUESTIONED.

AMONG OTHER THINGS, WHAT IS NEEDED IN THESE TIMES, IS THE APPOINTMENT TO RESPONSIBLE POSITIONS, OF MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE PERCEPTIVE ENOUGH TO APPRECIATE THE DIMENSIONS OF THIS PROBLEM AND INNOVATIVE ENOUGH TO DEAL WITH THEM. AS WELL, MR. CHAIRMAN, WHAT IS NEEDED IN THESE TIMES IS AN ASSURANCE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THAT THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE PLACED IN POSITIONS OF HIGH TRUST ARE WORTHY OF THAT TRUST.

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BECAUSE HE IS A FRIEND, A CLASSMATE, A FELLOW  
KANSAN, IT PLEASES ME TO ASSURE THIS COMMITTEE THAT  
JUDGE ALBERT B. FLETCHER, JR. IS SUCH A MAN.