

Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
OCTOBER 2, 1991

CONTACT: WALT RIKER
(202) 224-5358

DOLE APPLAUDS VETERAN NOMINATION TO
COURT OF MILITARY APPEALS

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE (R-KS) APPLAUDED THE NOMINATION BY PRESIDENT BUSH OF JUSTICE HERMAN F. "SPARKY" GIERKE TO THE COURT OF MILITARY APPEALS.

"SPARKY BRINGS TO THE COURT OF MILITARY APPEALS A DISTINGUISHED JUDICIAL CAREER IN ADDITION TO AN OUTSTANDING MILITARY RECORD." SENATOR DOLE SAID.

DOLE ADDED THAT "SPARKY'S INSPIRED LEADERSHIP IN SUPPORT OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO PROTECT 'OLD GLORY' WAS APPLAUDED BY VETERANS NATIONWIDE. AS THE VETERAN WHO LED THE FIGHT AGAINST FLAG-BURNING, I WAS PLEASED TO ENCOURAGE PRESIDENT BUSH TO NOMINATE HIM TO THE COURT AND WILL DO ALL I CAN TO ENSURE HIS QUICK CONFIRMATION BY THE UNITED STATES SENATE."

ONE OF THE YOUNGEST PERSONS EVER APPOINTED TO THE NORTH DAKOTA STATE SUPREME COURT IN 1983, JUSTICE GIERKE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY RE-ELECTED TO A TEN YEAR TERM IN 1986. PRIOR TO HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE NORTH DAKOTA SUPREME COURT, JUSTICE GIERKE SERVED AS THE STATE ATTORNEY FOR MCKENZIE COUNTY AND WATFORD CITY, NORTH DAKOTA.

GIERKE SERVED AS A CAPTAIN IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL CORPS FROM 1967 TO 1971, AS A PROSECUTOR AND DEFENSE COUNSEL BEFORE BEING SELECTED TO SERVE AS A FULL-TIME MILITARY JUDGE IN 1970. JUSTICE GIERKE WAS AWARDED A BRONZE STAR AND AN AIR MEDAL FOR HIS SERVICE IN VIETNAM.

ACTIVE IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, JUSTICE GIERKE WAS THE 36TH DISTRICT CHAIRMAN OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY IN NORTH DAKOTA, AND WAS 1984 RECIPIENT OF THE GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA. HE HAS SERVED AS THE STATE COMMANDER, AND THE NATIONAL COMMANDER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION. A LIFE MEMBER OF THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS, JUSTICE GIERKE IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION, AMERICAN JUDICATURE SOCIETY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA PRESIDENTS CLUB.

###