

# Eastland's Data Backs Rehnquist

11-13-71  
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The Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman, James O. Eastland (D-Miss.), accused civil rights lawyers yesterday of "the crassest type of character assassination" in their testimony against Supreme Court nominee William H. Rehnquist.

In a 20-page memorandum to supplement the record of Rehnquist's confirmation hearing, Eastland said Joseph L. Rauh Jr. and Clarence Mitchell of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights went outside "the bounds of propriety" in their attacks.

In reply, Rauh said, "If that memorandum is the best that the Justice Department can produce and if Senator Eastland is the best front they can get, the nomination must be in deep trouble."

The committee meets Thursday to consider the nominations of Rehnquist and Lewis F. Powell Jr. for the two Supreme Court vacancies. At present a large majority of the 16 members supports sending Rehnquist's name to the Senate floor for approval, and no member has come out against Powell.

Eastland charged that Rauh and Mitchell made "highly misleading and unfairly prejudicial" statements about Rehnquist when they testified Tuesday.

The memorandum cited charges that Rehnquist harassed black voters in Phoenix, berated a black political leader, opposed the goal of intergration and made extreme statements hostile to civil rights and civil liberties.

Actually, said Eastland, there was no credible evidence that Rehnquist showed hostility to Negroes in Arizona and his views were "far more moderate" than opponents claimed.