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Tunney to Vote Against Rehnquist

Washington

Senator John V. Tunney said yesterday he would oppose the appointment of William Rehnquist to the United States Supreme Court but would vote in favor of Lewis Powell.

"The single prevailing reason why I oppose William Rehnquist is that he does not have the fidelity to the Bill of Rights that a Supreme Court justice must have in order to carry out his political mandate," the California Democrat said.

"I believe he places a very low value upon fundamental principles of equality and individual liberties. His justification of a vast expansion of the Subversive Activities Control Board, his defense of unrestricted governmental surveillance and his rationale for preventive detention all demonstrate he gives greater weight to federal authority

than to the liberties of the individual."

Rehnquist, a Stanford Law School graduate and Assistant U.S. Attorney General, has been accused in Senate hearings of playing an active part in fighting equal rights legislation.

Tunney said he believes that Powell, a Virginia lawyer, demonstrated "a deep concern for the maintenance and protection of individual liberties and a reasoned and open-minded approach."

Our Correspondent