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OAS Pays Tribute to Late Justice Thurgood Marshall

At the January 27, 1993 session of the Organization of American States Permanent Council, U.S. Ambassador Luigi R. Einaudi led a tribute to the late Thurgood Marshall, distinguished Justice of the United States Supreme Court. Ambassador Einaudi's remarks follow:

"Mr. Chairman, United States Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall died this past Sunday, January 24. I speak because I believe his death saddens all Americans, not just <u>estadounidenses</u> (citizens of the United States).

We are all the beneficiaries of Justice Marshall's great battles against <u>de jure</u> racial segregation, Jim Crow, and other forces that worked to keep some in bondage for a century after the great conflict fought here to break those bonds.

At the time of his greatest victory -- the landmark 1954 U.S. Supreme Court decision Brown versus the Board of Education of Topeka -- Americans were inspired by his dedication in giving equality of opportunity the force of law in the critical area of education. We are no less inspired today by his enduring legacy.

Justice Marshall's body lies in state today at the Great Hall of the U.S. Supreme Court building until 9 PM. The Court is located at the corner of East Capitol Street and First Street Northeast. Tomorrow, a memorial service for Justice Marshall will be held at 11 AM at the Washington National Cathedral, located at the intersection of Massachusetts and Wisconsin Avenues Northwest."

Following Ambassador Einaudi's remarks, the Chairman of the Permanent Council, Chile's Ambassador Heraldo Munoz, said that Justice Marshall's fight for civil liberties was "in the best tradition of the OAS Charter", and asked the Ambassadors to rise for a minute of silence. Extemporaneous remarks followed from the Representatives of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Mexico, and Costa Rica.