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John F. Sonnett Memorial Lecture Series

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# Invitation to the Twentieth Annual John F. Sonnett Memorial Lecture Series: The Advocate: Should He Speak or Write?

James Mackay House of Lords

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## The Fordham Law Alumni Association



announces the

John F. Sonnett Memorial Lecture

to be delivered by
The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mackay
Lord Chancellor of Great Britain

Wednesday, April 3, 1991 6:00 P.M.

James B. M. McNally Amphitheatre Fordham University School of Law 140 West 62nd Street New York City



John F. Sonnett 1912 - 1969

John F. Sonnett, a 1933 graduate of Fordham College and a 1936 graduate of the School of Law, was a senior partner in the firm of Cahill Gordon & Reindel. This lecture series has been endowed by his partners and friends as a permanent memorial to him.

In 1933, Mr. Sonnett joined that firm, then known as Cotton & Franklin, as a managing clerk, a position he held for the next three years while attending Fordham Law School. Upon graduation he became an associate at the firm. In 1941 he joined the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York where he became Chief Assistant United States Attorney.

During the Second World War, Mr. Sonnett was Special Counsel to the Under Secretary of the Navy.

Later, as Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Navy holding the rank of Lieutenant Commander, he conducted the final Navy investigations of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

At the conclusion of the war, Mr. Sonnett was named Assistant Attorney General and Chief of the Antitrust Division of the United States Department of lustice.

He returned to the Cahill Gordon firm in 1948 and established an international reputation as a pre-eminent trial and appellate lawyer. A devoted son of Fordham, his death in July 1969 was a great loss to the profession and his alma mater. His excellence as an advocate is memorialized through this lecture series.

#### **Previous** John F. Sonnett Memorial Lecturers

Hon, Tom Clark

Hon. Cearbhall O'Dalaigh

Hon. Irving R. Kaufman

Hon. Warren E. Burger

Rt. Hon. Lord John Widgery

Hon. Robert J. Sheran

Hon. Leon Jaworski

Hon, Griffin Bell

Hon. William Hughes Mulligan

Hon. Benjamin R. Civiletti

Hon, Lawrence H. Cooke Rt. Hon. Sir Robert E.Megarry Hon. William T. Coleman

Hon. Wilfred Feinberg

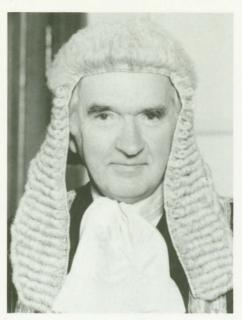
Hon. Thomas A. Finlay

Hon, Sol Wachtler

Hon. Francis T. Murphy

Hon, John J. Gibbons

Hon. Olé Due



The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mackay

Lord Mackay was appointed Lord Chancellor in 1987. In that capacity, he occupies a unique position in Great Britain, being part of the three branches of government. As part of the executive, he is a member of the Prime Minister's cabinet and has the primary responsibility for the appointment of judges. As president of the House of Lords he is a central figure in the legislature, and at the same time, he heads the judiciary (which through the Lords of Appeal functions as the English Supreme Court). He was Lord Advocate of Scotland from 1979 to 1984 and was a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary from 1985 until his appointment as Lord Chancellor in 1987.

James Peter Hymers Mackay was born in 1927. He was educated at George Heriot's School, Edinburgh, and at Edinburgh University, where he graduated Master of Arts with Honors

in mathematics and natural philosophy. He was a lecturer in mathematics at St. Andrews University between 1948 and 1950, subsequently studying at Cambridge where he obtained a first-class degree in mathematics and was awarded a Senior Scholarship at Trinity College. He returned to Edinburgh, where he obtained a Bachelor of Laws degree with distinction in 1955 and was admitted to the Faculty of Advocates.

Lord Mackay has been standing junior counsel to the Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer, the Scottish Home and Health Department and the Commissioners of Inland Revenue in Scotland. He became a Queen's Counsel in 1965. He was Sheriff Principal of Renfrew and Argyll from 1972 to 1974 and Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Advocates from 1973 to 1976, when he was elected Dean. He was a part-time member of the Scottish Law Commission from 1976 to 1979 and served on the Insurance Brokers' Registration Council from 1977 to 1979. He held these positions until his appointment as Lord Advocate. From 1984 to 1985 he was a Senator of the College of Justice in Scotland.

Lord Mackay is a fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, a Fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, an Honorary Fellow of the Institute of Taxation, an Honorary Member of the Society of Public Teachers of Law and an Honorary Member of the Law Society of Scotland. He has received honorary doctorates in law from the universities of Edinburgh, Dundee, Strathclyde, Aberdeen and Cambridge.

Lord Mackay is married with a son and two daughters. His home is in Edinburgh.



# The Twentieth Annual John F. Sonnett Memorial Lecture

The Fordham Law Alumni Association 140 West 62nd Street New York, New York

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