

**NOMINATIONS OF RICHARD C. WESLEY, OF
NEW YORK, NOMINEE TO BE CIRCUIT
JUDGE FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT; J. RON-
NIE GREER, OF TENNESSEE, NOMINEE TO
BE DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN
DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE; THOMAS M.
HARDIMAN, OF PENNSYLVANIA, NOMINEE
TO BE DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN
DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA; MARK R.
KRAVITZ, OF CONNECTICUT, NOMINEE TO
BE DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF
CONNECTICUT; AND JOHN A. WOODCOCK,
OF MAINE, NOMINEE TO BE DISTRICT
JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF MAINE**

THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2003

UNITED STATES SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC.

The Committee met, pursuant to notice, at 2:02 p.m., in room SD-226, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Hon. Saxby Chambliss, presiding.

Present: Senators Chambliss, Specter, and Schumer.

**OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS, A U.S.
SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF GEORGIA**

Senator CHAMBLISS. [presiding.] The Committee will come to order.

We are pleased to see so many of our colleagues here. It looks like we almost have a quorum. This is great.

We want to issue a special welcome to all of our colleagues from the Senate and to my dear, good friend, Congressman Reynolds from the great State of New York. We are pleased to have you all here to make statements regarding these nominees, and I am going to submit my opening statement for the record, because we do have such a large number of folks to speak, and call first upon my colleague on the Committee, Senator Specter, for any comments he has regarding these nominees.

[The prepared statement of Senator Chambliss appears as a submission for the record.]