

[1947]

STATEMENT OF J. STROM THURMOND, GOVERNOR OF
SOUTH CAROLINA, ON THE 29TH ANNIVERSARY OF
CZECHOSLOVAK REPUBLIC, PREPARED FOR THE CZECH
AND SLOVAK LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS NEW YORSKE LISTY
AND NEW YORSKY DENNIK

Ever since the Middle Ages, the Czech and Slovak people have struggled valiantly for their independence. More than most peoples, they have suffered religious and political persecution.

Not until 1918 could Czechoslovakia really call itself free. The great Czechoslovak Republic showed that democracy could work in Central Europe. We in America will not forget that it was in the Czechoslovakian "Sudetenland" that World War II began. The unhappy days of German domination have now ended. In their stead, we have seen the virtual annexation of Czechoslovakia by Russia.

America, bound by close ties of sympathy to Czechoslovakia, has viewed with distress your recent turbulent history. We hope that it will not be long before Czechoslovakians can live in their own nation without dictation or interference from any other nation.

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