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Donation of Property to South Carolina for Establishment of a Trade School

Strom Thurmond

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ANNOUNCER: Citizens of South Carolina, Radio Station W G O S

is happy to have a part in a most momentous occasion,

that of delivery of a deed to a very valuable piece

of property to The Governor of South Carolina, and

The Director of the South Carolina Area Trade Schools,

a donation in fee simple from The War Assets Administration,

representing the United States Government.

Here in the Governor's office is assembled a group of

prominent South Carolina officials who will assist

Governor Thurmond in making this property of real service

to South Carolinians in the important project of

establishing trade schools to the end that we may have

trained personnel for the many industries that desire

to establish plants in South Carolina.

With Governor Thurmond are Mr. L. W. Bishop, Director,

South Carolina Research, Planning and Development

Department; Mr. Jesse T. Anderson, State Superintendent

of Education; Mr. B. R. Turner, Director, South Carolina
Area Trade Schools; Mr. J. W. Cherry, Business Manager,
South Carolina Area Trade Schools.
The War Assets Administration is represented by
J. A. Gresham, Regional Public Relations Officer, acting
for L. B. Strom, War Assets Administration's Southeastern
Director in presenting a deed to Governor Thurmond to
97.63 acres of land and 29 buildings, located at the
former Charleston Army Air Base.

Governor Thurmond, you have shown such a keen interest
in the development of trade schools in our State, I
know every South Carolinian will appreciate a statement
from you. Governor Thurmond -

GOVERNOR THURMOND

I am indeed interested in this forward step for our
State, in making it possible for a large number of our
citizens to become proficient in many trades, that will
allow them to obtain maximum returns for their labor,
rather than accept wages paid for unskilled services.
This will make for a higher standard of living in keeping
with other industrial areas of our great nation.
South Carolina has much more to offer industry than
does most other areas. In addition to just about the
most favorable climate, in the Nation, we have abundant
raw materials, tremendous electrical power, excellent
transportation, railroads, paved highways and air
traffic. However, our greatest asset is our native
born citizenship over 90% pure Americans, one of the
highest in the Nation.

One of my fervent prayers is that we can make the great
masses of our citizens more self-sufficient, which can
only be accomplished by greater educational advantages.
Every person who becomes skilled in his chosen trade
can demand full pay for his trained services. This will
mean wholesome living conditions and a happy family
life for which our people are justly entitled. We must
prevent exploitation of our people as cheap, unskilled
labor. We must advertise to the world an abundance of
skilled people, which will inevitably attract the type
of diversified industry that will allow South Carolina
to assume leadership in other sound industries as
we have in Textiles.
New industries, skilled workers along with our
abundant natural resources is the aim of this
administration, and I shall ever strive to accomplish
this aim in the shortest possible time.

Mr. Anderson, I am sure this addition to the State's
educational facilities has your hearty approval. We would
like your comments on the value of trade schools.

I am happy to say that South Carolina has made rapid
strides in Education. Our elementary as well as high
schools have been greatly improved in the last few years,
and we are constantly striving to give our children a
better and more complete education. We are particularly
interested in more and more practical education that
will enable our people to earn a good living. I firmly
believe the establishment of trade schools is one of the
forward steps in this direction. I heartily agree with
Governor Thurmond that making it possible for our people
to become skilled in many trades, enabling them to obtain
maximum pay is one of the greatest needs of our State.

Your State Department of Education pledges its wholehearted
efforts in support of trade schools, and will ever strive
to accomplish this objective.
Mr. Bishop, in your efforts to bring new industries to South Carolina, skilled labor should be quite a factor. Will you give our listening audience your views on the value of trade schools.

I heartily agree with Governor Thurmond that our greatest need for South Carolina is a balanced economy. With ample skilled workers we can attract many industries to our State that will be of permanent benefit to all of us. We have made great strides in Textiles, now being one of the largest Textile Centers in the Nation. Another step in the right direction is the huge Celanese Plant at Rock Hill. We have many other sound industries considering our State and I definitely consider the establishment of trade schools will cause great strides in our industrial development.

This seems to be the right time to do a little signing for the Government and the State of South Carolina.

I wish to present Mr. J. A. Gresham, representing War Assets Administration's Southeastern Director.

Mr. Gresham, as you deliver the deed to the trade school property, we will appreciate some personal comments from you.
Thank you. It is indeed a privilege and my personal pleasure to represent the War Assets Administration in presenting to the State of South Carolina a deed to 97.63 acres of land and 29 buildings for the establishment of an area trade school.

This property, as you know, is located on the former Charleston Army Air Base and originally cost the Government the sum of $580,029.00. Covered by the deed is a heating system, drainage system and that portion of the water system, sewerage disposal system, and electrical distribution facilities attached to and comprising a component part of the buildings.

We are convinced from the remarks of Governor Thurmond, State Superintendent Anderson, and Mr. Bishop that this property will be used in rendering a real service and that this action by the Government is fully justified.

Speaking for the War Assets Administration, I wish to emphasize the statement often made that our Government is attempting in every instance to donate property, both Real and Personal to states, municipalities and political sub-divisions, so that the property will
be of real service to their citizens.

The Government's policy in disposing of such properties as the trade school area is on the basis of service to the greatest number of people, rather than to obtain its value in dollars.

Governor Thurmond, I am happy to present to you as Chief Executive of South Carolina the deed to this valuable property. Will you please accept this property for the citizens of South Carolina, and with it our belief that it will be used for the benefit of every citizen of your fine State. Please also accept my personal congratulations for you and your associates for the fine spirit shown in negotiations for this property. Having lived in South Carolina for more than 30 years makes my official action today a source of great personal satisfaction.

GOVERNOR THURMOND: Mr. Gresham, in accepting this Trade School property for South Carolina, I wish to not only express the appreciation of all our citizens, but also to assure you that we will ever strive to merit the confidence of the Government in making this property available to us by rendering the best service possible to everyone concerned.