

ADVANCE FOR RELEASE WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 at 8 P.M. CST.

Dallas, Texas, Sept. 8 -- Governor J. Strom Thurmond, States' Rights candidate for president, tonight called on Truman and Dewey to acknowledge publicly they were supporting a communistically inspired program, or to repudiate their endorsement of the proposed FEPC laws.

Governor Thurmond declared that the FEPC section of the civil rights program was "lifted bodily from the All Races Law authorized by Joseph Stalin."

Addressing a throng of Texas States' Rights Democrats at a state-wide rally, the South Carolina Governor asked if the Republican candidate did not know the communistic background of the FEPC, and demanded to know "what you are going to do about it, now that its origin has been exposed and its purpose and philosophy uncovered.

"If you did know it," Thurmond asked, "why did you conceal that fact from the American people?"

Similar questions were aimed at Truman.

Attacking the President's present relations with Congress in exposing communists in the government, Governor Thurmond asserted Truman has "locked up the records and placed every obstacle in the way of congress ferreting out dangerous Reds in high places in our government.

"The American people," the States' Righter continued, "are not going to have an administration in Washington with a Russian look...that is too cowardly, too yellow, too sneaking, too spineless to look the Reds, the Pinks, the 'comrades' and 'fellow travelers' in the face and to tell them to get out of the United States and stay out."

Governor Thurmond charged Truman Democrats with deserting the party by "discarding the time-honored principles of local self-government and states' rights."

The die was cast, he asserted, when the President appointed a "stacked committee composed of people who could be trusted to bring in a report expressing radical views. This report gave birth to the FEPC and presented to the American people the features most dangerous to human liberties."

The Truman "Civil Rights" proposals attracted the attention of Dewey and Wallace, who likewise were eager to bid for the votes of radicals, he said.

Thurmond declared, that as a result of their indorsement of these measures, the Truman Democrats, Republicans and Progressives had formed an "unholy alliance of left-wingers, psuedo liberals and radicals of as many hues as Jacob's coat."

"The Trumanites bought these radical elements for a dime a dozen," he continued. "They bought them with the bread and circuses of ancient Rome. They paid for them on the barrel head, bartering away the heritage of free America."

As a result, he said, the Truman faction of the Democratic Party has created an "engine for the destruction of freedom in this country."

The conventions in Philadelphia this summer were analyzed by the States' Rights presidential candidate. Bitterly attacking the Republican and Democratic platforms as "tools of minority groups," Thurmond labeled Wallace's Progressive Party the "Russian Party", and its candidate a "poor, helpless tool of Russia."

Truman's proposed anti-lynching bill, he said, "is nothing more than an opening wedge to Federal control of the enforcement of local laws, and it is the broad highway to the establishment of a Federal police power, enforced by Federal police."

Thurmond termed the measure an "excuse" to fasten upon the nation "that police power which was denied to the central government by the founding fathers."

Truman's demand for complete elimination of segregation also violates the principles of American government, he charged, adding that the measure advocated the creation of "thought police" charged with the education of the people.

Referring to the Southern States, the States' Rights leader said that section was united as never before.

"Here and there is a politician who is hobbling along," he said. "but they are the exception not the rule. The people are not divided. From Virginia to Texas they are one mind."

He termed the States' Rights campaign one of "facts, not theories."

✓ "This is no fight against the negro race," he said. "We have worked out a way of life, in difficult circumstances, between the two races. The negro race has progressed farther in three score years than any race in history. It has progressed because it has had the sympathetic help of the Southern white people of good will. Destroy it and chaos will result."

The presidential candidate concluded by telling the crowd that "this is a fight for local self-government, for the preservation of our individual freedom. It is a fight against the police state."

My Fellow Americans:

Whenever there was a war to be fought, freedom won, and liberty to be preserved, Texas and South Carolina have been found fighting side by side. We are not going to separate now.

When Texas was fighting for liberty, and glorious history was being written in blood at the Alamo, it was two distinguished sons of South Carolina, Bowie and Travis, both born at Edgefield in my state, who died heroically for the cause of freedom in the Lone Star State.

The first troops within the fortifications of Mexico were a South Carolina regiment, and the first flag that floated over the city was that of "The Palmettoes." Texans were standing by our side.

In 1843, when the question of Texas' admission to the union was under consideration, the Legislature of Massachusetts, with a northern Democratic Governor in the chair, and a majority of northern Democrats in both branches of the Assembly, resolved:

"That under no circumstances whatever can the people of Massachusetts regard the proposition to admit Texas to the Union in any other light than as dangerous to its continuance in peace, in prosperity, and in the enjoyment of those blessings which it is the object of free government to secure."

They threatened to secede from the Union if Texas were admitted. It was then that South Carolina and Alabama came to the front and championed your cause, your effort to be admitted to the Union. South Carolina declared that a refusal to admit Texas upon the grounds stated in the Massachusetts resolutions would be good cause for a dissolution of the Union. The meeting to retaliate against Massachusetts was held in Ashley, in the Barnwell district, in South Carolina in the autumn of 1843. Its intention was to unite the southern states to Texas, if Texas was denied admission into the Union. Alabama stood staunchly by South Carolina, and banners saying "Texas or Disunion" waved throughout the South--almost invariably in Democratic hands. That 's one reason why I say Alabama, South Carolina and Texas will remain united for liberty, freedom and justice.

It is a privilege to come to take part in the battle now being waged in Texas--a battle in which the issues are vital to all America, and the result of which may easily mean freedom or slavery for the people of this great nation.

Freedom or slavery! Am I guilty of exaggeration? Can it be true that in this year of our Lord 1948 there are in existence forces dedicated to the destruction of personal freedom in America? Are there those who would dare to seek to undermine our constitutional guarantees, those bedrocks on which is erected

the whole structure of freedom under law, our sacred and our priceless heritage?

Let me talk with you just a little while in seriousness, let me paint for you the true picture of this threat to you and to me, to my people of South Carolina and to you people of Texas.

There can be no knowledge of affairs today unless we turn to the pages of history. It is not a dusty and uninteresting study; it is life, and liberty, and the true meaning of all things dear to us.

The governments of ancient days were all tyrannies, all highly centralized, all controlled and administered by bureaucracies. No man had inherent rights, since no law was higher than the king, who made all laws.

Through the ages until the founding of this republic this type of government was universal. With 1776 there was begun the great experiment, the experiment of a society where there was a government of laws, and not of men; a government with a written constitution, sharply limiting the powers of the bureaucracy, either executive, legislative, or judicial; a government in which, for the first time in history, there was a force stronger than the men in control, a force of law which the rulers must obey.

The men who founded this country and its government had experience with the governments of Europe. They knew their history. They knew, none better, that men hunger for power, that in that hunger rules and regulations of human decencies go by the board; that there is no restraint of religion, or conscience, or good faith powerful enough to check and stop men so hungry. They knew that without the restraints of law, fraud and chicanery, corruption and crime take the place of justice and reason in the administration of government. They knew that there could be no trust in men in power in government without eternal vigilance, eternal watchfulness, lest these men use the great power of government to destroy freedom itself.

When they won freedom from a foreign foe they were determined to preserve it against all attack, and so when they formed the central government, realizing its necessity for matters such as affected all states alike, they were careful to safeguard their newly-won liberties against it. They surrendered the questions of foreign policy, the military defense, the right to coin money. They greatly limited the powers of the central government, and they adopted the Tenth Amendment, as follows:

"The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states, respectively, or to the people."

There were those who wanted a powerful, centralized government, who believed, indeed, in a monarchy. They doubted the wisdom of any people to govern themselves.

And since that time there has been continuous warfare between these schools of thought: those who sought to make all-powerful the government at Washington, and those who have feared always the use of those powers in the hands of unscrupulous men against individual liberties, and have determinedly sought to restrain them.

The national Democratic Party, from its inception, stood for personal freedom, and against the police state. It is the party of local self-government. It is the party that recognized that schools are local affairs, as is the police force, the fire department, the city and county governments, the habits of the people, the building of roads, the conduct of local business, all the myriad affairs of daily life. It was the party which recognized that the right to work or to loaf, to choose your vocation and change your job, to guide the education of your children, to attend the church of your choice, to work with whom you please, and go where you chose. The Federal government was denied the power to interfere with these rights.

The national Democratic Party has stood always against any scheme meant to aggrandize the power of the Federal government in Washington. The national Democratic Party has been always a tower of strength throughout the years in the maintenance of the personal freedoms of the individual. Is this just history fit for the school rooms, devoid of life? Was all of this settled in 1861-65? My friends of Texas,--NO! It is the background of the struggle now going on, a struggle you must win, or else your liberties will be lost. It is a struggle in which the liberties of all are in jeopardy, -not only those of us who happen to live in the South.

To secure the Negro vote in the doubtful states, Truman appointed a stacked committee, composed of people who could be trusted to bring in a report expressing radical views. After a pretense of consideration it brought in a document called "The Report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights." This report was sent by Truman to Congress, and from it was selected by him, the heart, the features most dangerous to human liberties, for his recommendation for enactment into law. But he endorsed it all, accepted it, sent it broadcast over the land as expressing his views, and the views of the leaders of organized Democracy.

Let's go back a little, find where this report originated, why it was made, why it expresses the heart of this new movement, so dangerous to our way of life, so dangerous to the liberties of us all.

Back in 1865, contrary to the thinking of Abraham Lincoln, contrary to the thinking of Andrew Johnson, there were adopted by a Republican Congress, vindictive against the newly conquered territory south of the Mason and Dixon line, a series of so-called "force bills," the purpose of which was to remake the South, in the image of their Republican masters. It was considered that, with the men

of the South disfranchised, there could be built a Republican stronghold of the southern states against which there could be no successful attack; the region would, as a result of the gratitude of the newly enfranchised slaves, be forever Republican. As a result of these force bills, equaled since that date only by the "Civil Rights" program of Truman, the South became solidly Democratic, and has since so remained, often against its own interests.

For many years the vote of the Negro was not worth striving for, by either party. The situation in the South made impossible trading and trafficking for his influence. The Supreme Court has decided that under the Federal Constitution the states had the right, as they undoubtedly did, to set the qualifications of voters, and the nation composed its affairs and went to work, unaffected by alien influences.

Gradually this situation changed. Determined to retain power by the influence of the radical city political machines in the North, some party leaders became convinced that there was a chance of capturing the Negro vote. They strengthened migration to the North where it became a dominant factor in ward politics. Those city machines were governed by no impulse save the desire for patronage. They knew nothing of the traditions of America, they knew nothing and cared less for constitutional guarantees of personal freedom. They were the boss-ridden relics of an unsavory era in American politics, an era when suffrage was for sale, and was freely bought, an era in which we in the South knew too little of national politics, and, unfortunately, cared less. They were dominated by an unholy alliance of left-wingers, pseudo liberals and radicals of as many hues as Jacob's coat.

Those men had no knowledge of or respect for American traditions--they despised them. They thought the thoughts of Eastern Europe, of people to whom violence and chicanery was the birthright and a heritage.

Democracy to them meant nothing save as it gave them power to disorganize the forces which stood for liberty in America.

The Northern Democratic Party bought these new votes. It bought them for a dime a dozen. It bought them with the bread and circuses of ancient Rome. It paid for them on the barrel head, bartering away the heritage of free America. It bought them as the people of Eastern Europe, accustomed to fraud and chicanery, powerful in the corrupt city machines, asked it to buy them. And it created an engine for the destruction of freedom in this country.

The Northern faction of the Democratic Party, remember, was the party which was doing these things. It had begun to depend on widely divergent groups for its support. The "solid South" was "in the bag." The radical fringes in the North had to be wooed and won.

And then came the Philadelphia conventions. Let's analyze them from the point of view of Texas, from the point of view of the average American, from the point of view of the man who wants to live his own life, raise his own children in freedom, attend the church of his choice, work when he wants to, work with the men with whom he chooses to work, attend the lodge of his choice, whether it be the Masons, the Knights of Columbus, or B'nai B'rith. Let's analyze them from the point of view of the union halls and the home of the working people of America.

First came the Republican convention. At that meeting it was decided that there was to be an end of freedom on the part of the working man, so far as concerned his choice of those with whom he was to work. It was decided that the FEPC was to take charge of him and his destinies. It was decided that he was no longer to have the right to say who was to belong to his union, who was to work with him, who was to receive promotion, who was to vote for him and control his destinies. Read the FEPC plank in the platform of the Republican Party, you men who labor, and see where you will end, with the controls they seek to place upon you.

And then came the convention of the Democratic Party. We had been taught that, throughout the years, the Democratic Party was the party of the liberals, the party of the working man, the party of those who earned their living by labor, the party of those who toiled. You saw the Democratic Party in Philadelphia adopt the FEPC, and you saw it join with those who would make freedom a mockery in this country, trying to lead astray our people from the tested paths of freedom.

And then came the fitting climax. You saw the Russian Party, admittedly the party of Stalin, admittedly the party of those who would destroy the liberty of the laboring man, admittedly the party of those who would establish a police state, -you saw the so-called Progressive Party of Henry Wallace, poor, helpless tool of Russia, take over the mantle of liberalism, advocate the anti-lynching bill, the anti-poll tax bill, the FEPC, the other baits for the so-called liberal forces of the country; you saw them take the lead from the Republicans, from the so-called Democrats of the Truman faith, and you saw them as the final and the natural champions of the police state in this country, the natural champions of the Russian ideology, the natural leaders in the "new thought" which is anathema to all America, to all of Texas, to all of the real liberal thinkers of the nation.

And you see these three parties who held their conventions at Philadelphia vying with each other in championing the police state in America.

What is this anti-lynching bill? Why should we of the South, where there is no lynching, be opposed to the anti-lynching bill? Because it is the opening

wedge to Federal control of the enforcement of local laws, because it is the broad highway to the establishment of a Federal police power, enforced by a Federal police. Because it is the way by which those who would establish a police control over the people in the local communities seek to establish a Federal Gestapo. Because it is the pattern by which the central government always seeks to establish control over the local authorities.

Lynching is a thing of the past in the South. It is far more prevalent in the gang murders of the Northern cities. It is an excuse, this anti-lynching bill, to fasten upon the nation that police power which was by the founding fathers denied to the central government.

What is this anti-poll tax bill? There are few states that still have the requirement of the poll tax. The constitution clearly leaves the qualification of the voters in the control of the states. Not one per cent of the people are affected. Why then the excitement? Look beneath the surface, you people of Texas. Why do they want the anti-poll tax bill? For one purpose, and one purpose only- to take into the power of the Federal government the control of elections: to take into the Federal government the power to say who shall vote, and when, so that the groups in control of the Federal Government, the pressure groups who are in charge in the doubtful states, may say who shall vote in your elections, and how.

Add these two together. The pattern established thereby should be plain to the people of Texas. You know what happened in Italy. You know what happened in Germany. You know what is happening today in Russia. You know what has happened in every country where the control of elections has come into the hands of a centralized government. You saw the elections in Germany, with 98 per cent for Hitler. You saw the elections in Italy, with 99 per cent for Mussolini. You have seen the elections in Russia, with 99 per cent for Stalin. And you know that the minority was liquidated soon thereafter.

Give the Federal government control of the police forces, the national police forces, the control of elections, and you will soon see freedom dead, and the advocates of freedom dead or in the concentration camps in Texas, as you have seen them in the slave countries of Eastern Europe. And if you think that that cannot happen here, then you deserve your reward. It can, and it will happen, in the shadow of the Alamo, as it has happened in the countries all over the world where the people permitted a police state to exist.

What is this FEPC? People of Texas, listen! The Republican Party advocates it: the party of Truman advocates it: the Progressive Party advocates it. It is a brazen, direct threat against you and your children.

Wherever you live, by law there is to be an amalgamation of races. Suppose that, where you live, there happens to be another race. Suppose that that race composes 25 per cent of the population. Then each business concern that operates in that county must, under the philosophy of this program, employ 25 per cent of that race. And if it doesn't, then the employer will be fined, and if necessary, jailed, until he employs that percentage: regardless of merit, regardless of the ability of the race to furnish that percentage of capable employees. You saw the FEPC operate during wartime. You know that was the method used. You may be sure that the same standards will be applied under the proposed act.

I tell them that we will never take it, and we will never like it, and to those who would make us swallow Joe Stalin and the Russian way of life, the Russian ideology, which is inherent in the FEPC and the denial of freedom in America, I say that we are going back to Valley Forge, to Yorktown, to the glorious victories of former days. We are going back to the Alamo. We are going back to the days when freedom was the breath of life and the way of life of the average American. We are going back to the days when a man and his wife had the right to teach their children to worship God in the way that to them seemed best, when they had the right to teach their children that they could associate with whomever they chose and whenever they chose, and that freedom and justice and the good life lay that way, not the way of the self-chosen disciples of Stalinism who dominated the conventions lately held at Philadelphia.

Remember, not only did the report of the Truman Committee on Civil Rights contain the anti-lynching law, the anti-poll tax law, and the FEPC. It contained, as well, demands for the complete elimination of segregation: the abolition of segregation in the schools as to pupils and teachers: in the buses and trains: in the beauty parlors, and swimming pools and restaurant, in the union halls and and bar associations and medical associations: in hotels and barber shops, and homes and apartments, in business and social clubs: in private and denominational schools: in all the angles and facets of private life, as well as public activities. It condemned the thought of segregation, and advocated the creation of thought police, charged with the education of the people.

Political propagandists would have you believe that the South is divided. I tell you our people are not divided. Here and there you will find some politician who is hobbling along, trying to stay in sight of this great movement that has passed him; here and there is a politician who doesn't know what it is all about; here and there is a politician who thinks more of his committee assignments in Washington than he does his people at home; but these are the exception--not the rule. The people are not divided. From Virginia to Texas they are one mind.

From Maine to California the people are of one mind. We are not going to have an administration in Washington with a Russian Look. We are not going to have an administration in Washington that is too cowardly, too yellow, too sneaking, too spineless to look the Reds and the Pinks, the "comrades" and "fellow travelers" in the face and to tell them in plain words to get out of the United States and stay out.

I have here a copy of Stalin's celebrated "All Races Law." Look at the emblem of Soviet Russia. Read it for yourself. Stalin, himself wrote that law in 1920 when he was "Commissar of Nationalities." Under that law there can be no discrimination in employment on account of race, color, national origin, or ancestry. Stalin has a Secret Police to enforce it. Did you ever dream that any one would undertake to force Americans to conform to this Russian idea and concept? I know you did not. But the attempt is now being made—not by Stalin, but by Wallace, by Dewey and by Truman.

The proposed American FEPC, which is the heart and core of the misnamed civil rights program, is nothing more than an American edition of the Russian All Races Law.

This is no fight against the Negro race. We are faced by facts, not theories. We have worked out a way of life, in difficult circumstances, between the two races. The Negro race has progressed farther in three score years than any race in history. It has progressed because it has had the sympathetic help of the Southern white people of good will. Destroy it and chaos will result.

This is a fight for local self-government, for the preservation of our individual freedom. It is a fight against the police state.

I am not going to take your time talking about other domestic and foreign issues when your government is under attack by every nominee of every Convention held in Philadelphia this year; by every Red, every Pink, every comrade, and every fellow traveler in the world. I am not going to take your time trying to sell you a carpet, or a picture, or some window dressing, when your political house is burning down.

Dewey wants to carpet the place with Republican rugs, tattered and worn, frayed and dirty. Truman wants to decorate it with pictures of a mongrel political family. Wallace would hang red curtains all over the place. Governor Wright and I propose to put out the blaze with a Constitutional fire extinguisher.

Mr. Dewey, did you know when you called for the enactment of the civil rights program that it was lifted almost bodily from the Russian All Races law authored by Stalin? If you didn't know it, what are you going to do about it, now that its origin has been exposed and its purpose and philosophy uncovered? If you did

know it, why did you conceal that fact from the American people?

Mr. Truman, you who locked up the records and placed every obstacle in the way of Congress ferreting out dangerous Reds in high places in our government. Did you know that this program which you so ardently advocate was hatched in the mind of the world's most despotic ruler, Dictator Stalin? If you did not know that, what are you going to do about it now that you cannot remain ignorant of something everyone else is fully informed about.

The Truman Democrats and the Dewey Republicans have joined with the Wallace Reds in offering you theories of government borrowed from the cesspools of Eastern Europe, where all men are slaves. You are offered national socialism, communism, or bureauracy---anything but the Americanism which made this country great.

We, the States' Rights Democrats, offer you the solution. We offer you the only solution that will work, the only one that has worked.

In all this world there is freedom only in the United States. The people everywhere else are subjected to the tyranny of centralized government, the fear of national police. We have had freedom as our heritage, based on the hard-won, bloody victories of the past.

We have freedom in America still---freedom to walk our streets at night, go to our labor halls, our lodge meetings, or our social events, unafraid that federal spies are trailing us. We have freedom to sleep well during the night, to open our shops in the morning and greet our fellow workers whom we trust and enjoy association with.

We have those freedoms today---in 1948./

But we may NOT have them in 1949, unless we wake up to the terrors that are being planned for us--unless we resist with all the courage and strength God has given us against our freedoms being stolen away.

May the God who gave us freedom, make us worthy of it, and make us able to preserve it.

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