

DAY LETTER  
July 26, 1948

John Temple Graves  
Birmingham Post  
Birmingham, Alabama

THANK YOU FOR OPPORTUNITY MAKE STATEMENT TIDELANDS OIL.  
DELAY OCCASION BY OVERWHELMING RESPONSE TO OUR FIGHT STATES'  
RIGHTS SOVEREIGNTY. YOU MAY USE THIS STATEMENT:

"I KNOW NOTHING OF ANY ATTEMPT BY OIL INTERESTS  
TO MAKE ANY CONTRIBUTION WHATEVER TO THE STATES'  
RIGHTS DEMOCRATS. NO ONE DIME HAS BEEN CONTRIBUTED  
BY SUCH PERSONS, AND SO FAR AS I KNOW THERE HAS BEEN  
NO SUGGESTION OF ANY KIND TO COME FROM OIL INTERESTS.  
WE CONSIDER TIDELANDS OIL QUESTION AS A MATTER FOR  
THE STATES JUST AS WE CONSIDER SO-CALLED CIVIL RIGHTS  
LEGISLATION AND MANY OTHER LIKE QUESTIONS TO BE  
RESERVED TO THE STATES BY THE CONSTITUTION. ANYONE  
WHO INSINUATES THAT THERE IS ANY OTHER INTENTION IN THE  
STATES' RIGHTS MOVEMENT THAN THAT OF PROTECTING AND  
PRESERVING THIS CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEE MUST UN-  
DOUBTEDLY BE ATTEMPTING TO SMEAR OUR MOVEMENT."

WITH kindest personal regards,

J. STROM THURMOND  
GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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