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STATEMENT OF J. STROM THURMOND, GOVERNOR OF
SOUTH CAROLINA, CONCERNING THE PROPOSED MERGER OF
THE NATIONAL GUARD WITH THE RESERVE CORPS, AUGUST 13,
1948.

As Governor of South Carolina, I agree completely with the statement of General Ellard A. Walsh, of Minnesota, President of the National Guard Association, that federalization of the National Guard is the surest method of paving the way for a military dictatorship.

If the Federal Government is permitted to usurp the functions of the National Guard, there is nothing to prevent it from seizing the powers of our county sheriffs and of the policeman on the beat.

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