

STATEMENT BY J. STROM THURMOND, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, ON CIVIL DEFENSE. JULY 18, 1950.

Act No. 896, Acts of 1950, establishing a Civil Defense Agency and other organizations for Civil Defense, was approved by me the 6th day of May 1950.

The Adjutant General is Director and the executive head of the Civil Defense Agency. He is responsible for "encouraging and supervising the preparation of plans at all levels by all agencies." The overall plan for the state is to have such state agencies as the Highway Department for traffic control, State Board of Public Health, State Board of Public Welfare, Public School System, American Red Cross, and all other state or local agencies to work together for internal security in any disaster or emergency which may occur without previous warning.

Plans are being made to help each county and each city prepare a workable plan to educate its people on proper procedure in any emergency. Education and cooperation will be strongly stressed.

Civil Defense is not to be confused with State Defense companies (State Guard) which are organized when the National Guard is mobilized. The law is plain on this subject.

The people of South Carolina need not be alarmed. We must, however, work together to accomplish the task set before us under the direction of the Civil Defense Agency, which is at present working hard to complete its organization.

Original
J. Strom Thurmond
Governor