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Formation of South Carolina Civil Defense

Strom Thurmond

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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.