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Accomplishments and Record of Strom Thurmond: A Man of Courage

Strom Thurmond

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RECORD
OF
STROM THURMOND

A MAN OF COURAGE

Strom Thurmond's record as Agriculture Teacher, County School Superintendent, State Senator, Circuit Judge, Combat Soldier and as Governor is one of service to the People of South Carolina and the Nation and establishes his outstanding qualifications to represent our State with Honor and Distinction in the United States Senate.

Written, printed and distributed by friends of Governor Thurmond who are supporting his election to the Senate because he has character and integrity and is a fighter for principle.
Highlights of Governor Thurmond’s Life and Distinguished Career

Farm reared, Clemson graduate, teacher, lawyer and Judge . . . Dropped from the skies over Normandy on D-Day, decorated for heroism in action against the enemy.

As Governor, has instilled character and efficiency in state government; curbed the liquor ring; ended the pardon racket; provided for fair and honest elections; cleaned up the Industrial Commission for the benefit of labor; and eliminated dual-office holding. Brought new industries to South Carolina with $104,000,000 in new payrolls and additional jobs for 48,500; extended government services and maintained balanced budget.

Led South’s fight for real democracy; carried four states and became first South Carolinian to receive electoral votes for President since Andrew Jackson . . . Chairman of Southern Governor’s Conference, being the first South Carolina Governor to hold this honored and important position of leadership.

Member Baptist Church, Masonic Order, Knights of Pythias, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Woodmen of the World, Junior Order of United American Mechanics, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Loyal Order of Moose, Sons of American Revolution, Sons of Confederate Veterans, State Grange, South Carolina Farm Bureau and Lions Club.

Governor Thurmond comes from a fine old Edgefield family. His father, the late Judge J. William Thurmond, shown reading book at an Edgefield County political meeting, was a close friend of the late Senator Ben Tillman.

STROM THURMOND was born in 1902 in Edgefield, the county that produced Ben Tillman and other great political leaders of South Carolina. He was reared on a farm and early in life was exposed to affairs of state. His father, Judge J. William Thurmond, was United States District Attorney and a close friend of Senator Tillman. It was Tillman who gave Strom Thurmond his first lesson in politics—the art
of shaking hands and greeting people.

The elder Thurmond believed his boys should know how to work and should learn the value of a dollar. When Strom was not in school, he was cultivating cotton, milking cows and doing other jobs on the Thurmond farm. One year he packed peaches and later he worked in a cotton mill between his college years to help pay his expenses at college.

Clemson Graduate At 20

When Cadet Thurmond reported at Clemson, he already had a firsthand knowledge of farming and the problems of the farmer.

After his graduation from Clemson in 1923 at the age of 20, Strom Thurmond devoted six years to teaching agriculture in the public schools of McCormick, Saluda and Edgefield Counties. In 1928 he was elected Superintendent of Education of Edgefield County and while holding this office studied law at night under his father. He was admitted to the bar in 1930.

A Circuit Judge At 35.

Elected To State Senate

When only 29, Strom Thurmond was elected to the State Senate from Edgefield and served a second term without opposition. As Senator, he began putting into law his liberal political philosophy of government. He sponsored, supported and drafted legislation for higher pay to teachers, longer school terms and compulsory school attendance. He was author of the bill increasing the benefits to workers under the Workmen's Compensation Act and helped write the first Social Security law in South Carolina. He was member of the committee that prepared the first Rural Electrification Act. He was on the committee that drafted the Santee-Cooper legislation. He supported Franklin D. Roosevelt and served as delegate to two national Democratic Conventions which nominated Roosevelt for President. A review of Thurmond's
record as State Senator reveals his deep-rooted desire to improve government and make it more responsive to the needs of the people.

Leaves Bench To Fight
The esteem and respect which the General Assembly held for Senator Thurmond was reflected in his election as Circuit Judge in 1938, when he was barely 35 years old. Although his position exempted him from military service, Strom Thurmond volunteered for service in the army the day Congress declared war on Germany. He landed with the 82nd Airborne division in Normandy on D-Day. His glider was under enemy fire and crashed. Injuries in the crash, however, did not prevent him from rounding up the men in his unit. They were held under fire for a time, but soon fought their way out. They took the assigned objectives and helped clear the way for the ground forces which followed on the beaches after the air force task groups had landed behind the German lines on that historic day in world history.

Decorated For Bravery
Thurmond fought with the First Army through France and on into Germany. When Germany surrendered, Thurmond was transferred to the Pacific theatre to serve under General MacArthur in finishing the job against the Japanese. Among the twelve military decorations and awards received by Thurmond as a soldier were the Bronze Star for heroism on the field of battle; the Purple Heart for injuries received in action against the enemy and the Presidential Distinguished Unit Citation for extraordinary heroism and outstanding performance of duty in action during the invasion.

Elected Governor
After the fighting was over in the Pacific, Judge Thurmond resumed his duties on the bench. He resigned in 1946 to become a candidate for Governor. His forthright appeal to his fellow Democrats who believed in good and clean government enabled him to lead in a field of eleven candidates in the first primary. He was nominated in the second primary with a majority of 35,000 votes. He carried 33 of the 46 South Carolina counties with his home county of Edgefield giving him 92 per cent of its vote.

Thurmond Kept His Promises
Governor Thurmond’s record as Chief Executive of South Carolina has been outstanding. He has instilled character and efficiency in
government and lived up to the promises he made during his campaign. He did not even consider suggestions two years ago that he run for the United States Senate. He promised the people he would serve a full four-year term as Governor and carry out his program for the betterment of South Carolina, and Strom Thurmond is a man who keeps his promises. A review of his outstanding accomplishments as Governor follows in this booklet.

**Emerges As National Figure**

Governor Thurmond's inaugural address in which he outlined in detail his program for progressive action in the state government attracted national attention. It was regarded as the most comprehensive address on state affairs that had been delivered by an incoming Governor in several generations.

During his first year in office, Governor Thurmond was honored by being selected as one of the principal speakers at the National Governors' Conference in Salt Lake City and was elected a member of the Executive Committee of the Conference. In 1947 he urged the Governors to support a firm policy against the Soviets and called for a strengthening of the national defense to back up such a policy.

Soon after the 1947 Governors' Conference, Governor Thurmond responded to the request of the Democratic National Committee to speak in behalf of the Democratic party and the administration over a nation-wide radio hook-up from Louisville, Ky. That was before

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*Thurmond takes the oath as Governor and delivers Inaugural Address*
President Truman and his administration decided to write the South off and go overboard in appealing for bloc votes in doubtful states.

Truman Stabs South In Back

Like a bolt out of the blue came the Truman Civil Rights Message to Congress. Through the years the Republican Party had sponsored force bills against the South, but the Democratic party had been the bulwark against such legislation. In appreciation, the South consistently voted the Democratic ticket and kept the fires of democracy burning when other sections of the country deserted the party.

No Democratic President had ever before turned his back on the South in dealing with its acute social and economic problems. Breaking all precedent, President Truman called for an enactment by Congress of a package of bills, all aimed at the South and designed to take from the States the rights guaranteed them under the Constitution. Southern Members of Congress were shocked and an air of defeatism prevailed in their ranks.

Southern Governors Resolve To Fight

Governor Thurmond was working on two matters to present to the Southern Governors at their February meeting in Tallahassee when President Truman sent his Civil Rights message to Congress. One was a report from his committee on elimination of freight rate differentials in the South and the other was to provide regional educational facilities for students of all races desiring higher learning.

Governor T h u r m o n d is shown speaking to the delegates at the 1948 National Democratic Convention in Philadelphia, warning them that the South would not accept a Presidential candidate or a platform favoring the so-called Civil Rights program. F o u r Southern States proved he was right.

After consultation with other Southern Democrats outraged at the President's action, Governor Thurmond drafted a resolution for presentation to the Southern Governors. It condemned the proposed legislation and provided for a committee of Southern Governors to formulate a plan of action. The Thurmond resolution was unanimously adopted and the South Carolina Governor was named Chairman of the committee. The Committee went to Washington and urged southern members of Congress not to compromise and not to give up the fight although they had
been betrayed by a Democratic President and a hostile Pendergast leadership of the Democratic Party. The Committee of Southern Governors appealed to the then Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, Howard McGrath, to urge the President to withdraw the program and preserve unity in the Democratic party.

**McGrath Rejects Appeal**

Chairman McGrath rejected the appeal of the Southern Governors and it then became apparent that the present National Democratic party leadership was determined to force anti-segregation, FEPC, and other "civil rights" proposals down the throats of the Southern people.

**Plan of Action**

The Southern Governors decided to fight back. On March 13, 1948, a special meeting of the Southern Governors Conference in Washington adopted a program of action submitted by the Governors of South Carolina, Arkansas, Texas, and Virginia. It called on Southern States to fight the nomination of President Truman. The Democratic National Committee was advised that Southern delegations would participate in the Philadelphia convention with the expressed understanding they would not be bound to support the nominees of that convention if they subscribed to the "civil rights" program or if the Democratic platform declared for the President's proposed legislation.

The Southern Governors' plan of action provided further that if the Democratic Convention nominated candidates for President and Vice

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During the 1948 Presidential campaign, Governor Thurmond carried the fight to the nation in behalf of state sovereignty, Constitutional government, and real democracy. Here he is shown speaking in Gainesville, Florida.
Governor Thurmond was the first South Carolina Governor to be elected Chairman of the Southern Governors' Conference. He is pictured here at Biloxi, Mississippi, where he was elected. Shown with him are Governor Talmadge of Georgia and Former Secretary of State James F. Byrnes, who delivered the keynote address of the Conference, appealing to the Governors to stand up and fight for state sovereignty and against further concentration of power in the Federal Government.

President who favored "civil rights" and adopted a platform endorsing the program, then the Southern States would exercise their constitutional right to cast their electoral votes for candidates who stood for constitutional government and state sovereignty. Each Governor pledged to work to carry out the Southern Governors' Conference program in his respective state.

**Thurmond Carries Four States**

What happened is history. The Democratic Party of South Carolina, following Truman's nomination and his call of a special session of Congress to enact the "civil rights" program, adopted the program submitted by the Southern Governors' Conference. Governor Thurmond, along with Governor Fielding Wright, of Mississippi, were called on to lead the fight. At great odds and in the face of the most vicious propaganda ever unleashed against a political group seeking only to preserve state sovereignty and uphold the Constitution, the program of the Southern Governors' Conference prevailed in four states. Had other Southern States followed the plan adopted by the Southern Governors' Conference, the South would have held the balance of power in the election of a President in 1948.

**Starts People Thinking**

The courageous and aggressive fight Governor Thurmond made for States' Rights started the people thinking, not only in the South, but throughout the country. As a result, the people are becoming more and more aroused over proposed invasions of their liberties by a super-socialistic state in Washington which would destroy individual initiative, free enterprise and the very
institutions which have made the United States the most powerful and progressive nation on earth.

Having received over a million votes of Southern Democrats for President and having helped awaken a sleeping public to the dangers of continued concentration of power in the Federal Government, Governor Thurmond returned home from the national political arena knowing the fight he had made had not been in vain. What gave him the greatest satisfaction was that 90 per cent of the real Democrats of his own state voted for the States’ Rights ticket which it was his honor to head. He became the first South Carolinian since Andrew Jackson to receive any votes in the Presidential Electoral College.

Southern Governors Honor Thurmond

In recognition of Governor Thurmond’s fight for State Sovereignty and his outstanding work as a Southern Governor, the Southern Governors’ Conference elected him Chairman for 1950. This honor has never before been conferred upon a South Carolina Governor.

The State Convention of the Democratic Party of South Carolina held April 19, 1950, reaffirmed its support and devotion to the cause which Governor Thurmond led in 1948, commended those who represented the party in carrying out the program formulated by the Southern Governors’ Conference and heralded to the nation that there would be no retreat.

In the eyes of the people of the nation, Strom Thurmond stands out as a man of courage, of principle and of character. In the hearts of the people of South Carolina, he has won a place of esteem and affection for his service to the cause of South Carolina Democracy and for what he has done in providing better government and moving his state up the ladder of economic progress.

Governor Thurmond with his mother, Mrs. J. W. Thurmond, and his wife, the former Miss Jean Crouch of Elko.
Strom Thurmond Is A Man Of Action, As Shown By His Many Accomplishments As Governor

Has given South Carolina clean, progressive and sound government during his four­year term as Chief Executive.

Brought about many needed reforms in response to mandate he received from people in 1946 election. He kept his promises to the people.

Here Are Some of Governor Thurmond's Outstanding Accomplishments

REORGANIZATION OF STATE GOVERNMENT
The General Assembly carried out Governor Thurmond’s Number One recommendation in his Inaugural Address by establishing a commission to reorganize and streamline the state government in the interest of economy and efficiency. This commission has already submitted several reorganization plans, including the consolidation of eight fiscal state agencies and the adoption of central purchasing which will save the taxpayers millions of dollars annually.

SOUND AND BUSINESS-LIKE OPERATION OF STATE GOVERNMENT
Governor Thurmond has insisted on and brought about a sound and business-like operation of the state government during his administration, the basis of which has been a balanced budget. Governor Thurmond has maintained that a govern-
ment, like a business or a family, must not spend more than it takes in or it will go broke. As a result of the sound fiscal policies the State has followed, South Carolina’s credit rating since Governor Thurmond took office has increased from “A” to Double A, enabling the State to make tremendous savings in interest.

Another fiscal policy which Governor Thurmond has brought into effect for the benefit of the taxpayers has been the elimination of “secret spending” through hidden appropriations. He has insisted before signing any appropriation bill that every expenditure of public funds be included and that sufficient revenue had been provided to keep the state budget in balance.

**SOUTH CAROLINA LEADS NATION IN NEW INDUSTRIES**

Governor Thurmond has proved a super-salesman in bringing new industries to South Carolina. By being able to assure companies considering establishing new plants in South Carolina that they would enjoy sound, efficient and fair government, Governor Thurmond has been able to capitalize on what the state has to offer in excellent labor, fine climate, extensive natural resources and good transportation facilities. As a result, South Carolina now leads all other states in new industrial development. Since becoming Governor, more than $424,000,000 have been spent or allocated on new and expanded industries in South Carolina. These new plants

Many thousands of new jobs were created for South Carolinians by the new industries brought into the State during Governor Thurmond’s administration, through his vigorous efforts as a super-salesman for South Carolina. Here he is shown breaking ground for one of the scores of new plants being built.
have provided over 48,500 new jobs with payrolls totaling more than $104,000,000. In his drive for new industries for South Carolina, Governor Thurmond has appealed to industries which pay good wages, and he has not sought industrial plants looking for cheap wages or an opportunity to exploit labor.

When all the plants which have been established in South Carolina since Governor Thurmond took office are in operation, the state’s industrial payroll will total over $450,000,000 or an increase of about 100%. The per capita income of South Carolina workers has increased from $1,477 in 1946 to $2,143 in 1949.

Business and industrial leaders have admired the type of government Governor Thurmond has promoted in South Carolina and his forthright stand on national political questions. This factor has tipped the scales in favor of South Carolina in many instances when officials were selecting new plant sites.

**PARDON RACKET ENDED**

The abuse of the pardoning power in the Governor’s office has been a stench in the nostrils of law-abiding citizens of South Carolina for a number of years. On Governor Thurmond’s recommendation, the General Assembly proposed and the people adopted a constitutional amendment transferring the pardoning power from the Governor’s office to a non-political board, a majority of which cannot be appointed by any one Governor. As a result, Governor Thurmond brought to an end a condition which has resulted in murderers, rapists and hardened criminals being turned out of the penitentiary and back on communities in South Carolina because they could buy influence and reach the Governor. This made mockery out of the courts of South Carolina, because the stroke of a Governor’s pen voided the work of juries, judges and solicitors in enforcing the laws of the state.

**Governor Thurmond ended the pardon racket which had been a stench in the nostrils of law-abiding people of South Carolina when the General Assembly submitted and the people adopted a Constitutional Amendment removing the pardoning power from the Governor’s office, and placing it under a non-political board, carrying out his recommendation.**
If Governor Thurmond had done nothing since he has been in office other than to put an end to the vicious and corrupt pardon racket in South Carolina, he would have earned the respect and admiration of every South Carolinian who believes in decent government and preservation of law and order.

LIQUOR RING INFLUENCE DEFLATED

When Governor Thurmond took office he inherited a serious situation growing out of an almost wide open liquor bill which was enacted into law with the approval of a former Governor of South Carolina in 1935. Under this law, a powerful liquor ring grew up in South Carolina. Because Strom Thurmond was active in church affairs, supported temperance and fought ring rule in South Carolina, tremendous sums of money were spent by the liquor forces to defeat him for Governor. In his campaign he promised if elected to smash the liquor ring and its efforts to corrupt South Carolina political affairs. The General Assembly responded to Governor Thurmond’s sweeping recommendations toward controlling the liquor traffic, including the passage of a graduated liquor tax which channeled excessive liquor profits into the state treasury. As a result of this one measure, there was brought into the State Treasury an additional $5,000,000 in liquor taxes a year. Strom Thurmond did not pose as a man of church and temperance and then turn around and do favors for and accept favors from the liquor and underworld element in South Carolina. He lived up to his campaign promise to clean up the liquor mess under the 1935 law, and that’s why those who traffic in liquor have fought and are still fighting Strom Thurmond.

NEW ELECTION LAW ADOPTED

Knowing that honest and fair elections are the foundation of good government, Governor Thurmond recommended and threw the full influence of his office behind the modernization of our state’s election laws. The election law passed this year provides for a single registration for all county and state elections, a single secret ballot for general elections, provision for the use of voting machines, punishment for fraud and corruption and other provisions to protect the sanctity of the ballot box in South Carolina. The new law provides for regulating primary elections, the old pri-
South Carolina got a long-needed election law in 1950 when Governor Thurmond signed a comprehensive Act including provision for a secret ballot, single registration, punishment for fraud and corruption, and other provisions which the Governor had recommended. He is pictured here with legislative leaders present for the signing.

mary laws having been repealed in 1944, and affords the maximum protection to the integrity of political party membership possible under federal court decisions.

BREAKS UP DUAL OFFICE HOLDING

Because he believes in constitutional government on the state as well as national level, Governor Thurmond demanded enforcement of the provision in the South Carolina State Constitution against dual office holding. Although men of vast political influence were involved, Governor Thurmond maintained the position that as long as the Constitution of South Carolina prohibited a person holding two offices it should be enforced.

A SCHOOL PROGRAM OF VAST BENEFIT TO SOUTH CAROLINA

Having been a teacher and county school superintendent, Governor Thurmond made improvement in education in South Carolina a major objective of his administration. Here are some of the things which have been done since he became Governor to raise educational standards in the State:

Funds provided for public schools have been increased from $17,613,000 in 1946 to $32,431,000 in 1950, an increase of nearly $15,000,000.

Teachers' salaries increased an average of 50 per cent.

Nine months state-supported school term enacted into permanent law.
School survey conducted to ascertain best program for further improving South Carolina public school system.

Provision made for reorganization of school districts in the interest of improving school curricula, increasing efficiency and getting more for the school dollar.

State Department of Education reorganized to promote efficiency and provide better educational service. Division of school house planning reestablished.

Increased funds made available for public schools, state colleges, adult education, Negro education, vocational training, libraries and pupil transportation.

Provision made for training not heretofore available for South Carolina students in medicine, dentistry and veterinary science through regional educational plan which Governor Thurmond supported and advocated in Southern Governors' Conference.

Time extended for teachers to come under retirement system and provision made for state payment of county school superintendent's salaries.

**STEPS TAKEN TO BENEFIT LABOR**

Industrial Commission cleaned up and working people and their families protected against excessive fees in cases involving compensation for injuries and death of employees.

Area Trade Schools established to enable workers to acquire skilled training and thereby increased earnings.

During Governor Thurmond's administration, education has reached its highest level in South Carolina. Shown above is the Governor being presented with the Educational Survey, which was among the many recommendations he had made to improve our educational system, including an average raise of fifty percent in teachers' salaries.

Occupational disease law passed providing benefits to persons suffering from diseases contracted during employment.

Improvements made in state laws relating to wages and hours of workers.

Promoted better working conditions and better understanding between management and employees with the result that during Governor Thurmond's administration there have been fewer man hours lost through labor disputes than in any other state in the nation.

Working people recognized by appointment of State A.F.L. President as member of State Government Reorganization Commission.

By helping bring new industries with 48,500 new jobs and with $104,000,000 in new wages for South Carolina workers, Thurmond's administration not only provided increased employment, but strengthened labor's bargaining po-
Governor Thurmond signs an Act providing for a State System of Farm Markets which he recommended.

sition by maintaining high level of employment.

**MEASURES TO AID THE FARMER**

Initiated system of State Farm Markets to enable farmers to enjoy better markets for diversified production and a higher and better balanced income.

Cooperated and worked with Clemson College in promoting soil conservation, year-round pastures and development of livestock programs to bolster farm income.

Provision made for an improved livestock sanitation program.

Foundation seed organization created to distribute higher grade seeds to farmers.

Study of fresh water resources inaugurated, looking toward adequate conservation and avoidance of water shortages such as now prevail in certain sections of the country.

Forest resources resurveyed and measures taken to protect and promote this valuable resource in South Carolina, including extension of forest fire control to state-wide basis, increasing planting of seedlings from 2 million to 35 million in 1948-49, and an expanded forest conservation educational program.

Promotion of rural electrification and paving of 4,100 miles of farm-to-market roads.
LEGISLATION TO PROMOTE HEALTH, AID TO NEEDY AND RECREATION

Adequate minimum standards set for hospitals and $6,000,000 provided to counties for hospitals and health purposes.

State Board of Health reorganized to include representatives from dentists, pharmacists and nurses' associations.

Increased funds for cancer control, including new half-million dollar cancer clinic and research program.

Increased support for State Mental Hospital and State Training School for feeble-minded, including new buildings.

Scholarships created to train doctors for rural areas where services are badly needed.

Funds for erection of $10,000,000 teaching hospital at State Medical College provided.

Increased payments provided for the aged, needy blind, dependent children, and physically and mentally handicapped persons, the funds allocated for this purpose being increased from $3,818,000 in 1946 to $5,846,000, or an increase of approximately 50%.

Increase in funds for parks to provide additional recreational facilities which are now being enjoyed by a million and half South Carolinians every year.

OTHER WORTHWHILE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Increased funds provided for Veterans Service Work, carrying out recommendation of State Veterans' Committee appointed by Governor Thurmond.

Highway Dept. has constructed more than 5,300 miles of highways; uniform rules of road act passed to promote highway safety; drunken driving laws strengthened and driver education program in schools accelerated.

Establishment of Surplus War Property division in State government saved cities and counties over $8,000,000 in acquirement of property from Federal Government.

Tax on household goods in owner's home removed.

Influence of women in government greatly enhanced by Governor Thurmond's appointment of more women to public office than in other period in the state's history.

Initiated program to modernize and improve facilities at the State Penitentiary.

Industrial School for Negro girls established.
Approved and supported use of $12,000,000 in surplus funds for building program in public institutions.

Creation of a Water Pollution Control Authority to preserve and protect the purity of South Carolina streams and lakes.

Advocated and worked to secure Clark Hill project and development of Savannah River Valley.

National Guard strengthened by increasing funds for maintenance and new facilities, and as Governor vigorously opposed proposal for federal government to take over National Guard in peacetime.

Cooperated and worked with State Ports Authority in developing South Carolina ports to their largest commercial use since the War Between the States.

Every South Carolinian and all segments of the economy of the State have benefitted from the sound and progressive administration Governor Thurmond has given to South Carolina as its Chief Executive.

Governor Thurmond has demonstrated that he is a man of ideas, a man possessed with ability to get things done, a man of integrity and a man of vision and leadership.

Such a man and such a leader will make South Carolina a great United States Senator.
Announcement by Gov. Thurmond
For The U. S. Senate

TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH CAROLINA:

I will be a candidate for nomination to the United States Senate by the Democratic Party of South Carolina in the July 11 primary. I subscribe to the principles of the Democratic Party of South Carolina as enunciated in
the State Democratic Conventions in 1948 and 1950 and shall abide by the rules of the party.

These are critical times. We are confronted with serious international conditions which are not only snuffing out the liberties of peoples in other lands, but menace our own democracy. The threat of war hangs over the world and our people are worried over the catastrophe it would bring in this age of the atomic and hydrogen bombs.

**AMERICAN SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT CHALLENGED**

Within our own shores the American system of government is being challenged by those who would centralize in Washington the powers that rightfully belong under the Constitution to states and local governments. Geared with this drive for a super central government is a determined effort to socialize many aspects of our economy. The very institutions which have made us what we are—a great, prosperous and progressive nation—are under attack.

In these times, South Carolina can confer no higher honor or place no greater responsibility on one of her citizens than by bestowing upon him the power and prestige of a United States Senator. The Senate remains the greatest deliberative body in the world. It has vast powers to investigate and legislate, tax and appropriate, confirm or reject executive appointees, ratify treaties and provide for the national defense. Those who represent South Carolina in the Senate can exercise a tremendous influence in preserving peace, instilling character and efficiency in government, and in molding public opinion behind those principles and institutions which are essential to the perpetuation of our republic.
WILL NOT SAIL UNDER FALSE COLORS

Realizing this, it is with humility that I offer for the Senate. I do so believing that my experience as a teacher, State Senator, Judge, veteran of the last war, and as Governor for four years, equips me to discharge the duties of this high office and render service to the people of South Carolina and the nation.

In the campaign, I will submit to the people the measures I will advocate, the principles of government to which I subscribe, and the policies which I will follow if elected to the Senate. I will present my views frankly and completely. I will sail under no false colors. I will not engage in hypocrisy.

If honored with a seat in the Senate, I will not be one kind of Democrat in Washington and another kind of Democrat in South Carolina.

The people will have full opportunity to contrast the public records of those who seek their support for the Senate, and then choose the candidate they think will best represent the people of South Carolina, their ideals and traditions, as United States Senator.

SOUTH CAROLINA DEMOCRACY UNDER ATTACK

In entering this Senatorial race, I do not do so in ignorance of the opposition that will be encountered.

Every outside influence that hates and seeks to destroy our way of life in South Carolina will attempt by every means possible, whether by slush funds, or propaganda, or absentee control of bloc votes, to dominate this election, in order to make it appear to the nation that our people have repudiated the courageous stand that our State took for state sovereignty in 1948.
The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and other bloc organizations have been encouraged by the rulings of a turncoat federal judge who has forced into our primary thousands of voters who do not believe in the principles of the Democratic Party of South Carolina.

Their emissaries have already invaded our state to line up support for candidates of their choice, and they have even grown so bold as to publicly announce the candidates that they have marked for defeat.

NO MIDDLE GROUND

Of course, the people of South Carolina know that because of the fight I have made for States’ Rights I will not receive support from these groups. I will depend on the support of the good people of this State who take orders only from their heart and conscience.

With the real Democrats of South Carolina, I shall make the fight for Americanism and against socialism; for the right of the people of a state to govern themselves and against further centralization of power in the national government; and for the right of South Carolinians to choose who is to represent them in the Senate without interference and dictation from far-away bosses who seek to control the government of the United States by having puppets instead of men in the Congress.

There will be no middle ground in this campaign. The time has come when our people must take sides and stand up and be counted if we are going to retain home rule, block the trend toward socialism, and preserve our way of life.

To those ends, I shall wage this campaign and seek the support of every true South Carolina Democrat.

J. Strom Thurmond
Strom Thurmond has served South Carolina with distinction in all three branches of the state government — legislative, judicial, and executive.

He has served his country with valor on the battlefield.

He led the South’s fight for State Sovereignty and Constitutional government. As a presidential candidate, he impressed the entire nation with his sincerity and understanding of national and international affairs.

Seldom in history have the people of South Carolina had the opportunity of electing a United States Senator who has the background, the breadth of understanding of state, national and international problems, and the ability for leadership possessed by Strom Thurmond.

As a United States Senator, Strom Thurmond will courageously discharge his responsibilities with dignity, and ability, promote progressive government, protect South Carolina’s rights in the Federal Government as guaranteed in the Constitution, and utilize the opportunity, as a member of the Senate, to preserve and strengthen the institutions which have made the United States the most powerful nation on earth.

A VOTE FOR THURMOND IS A VOTE FOR SOUTH CAROLINA DEMOCRACY