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Statement for Senate campaign meeting. Judge Waring

Strom Thurmond

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I have been amused at the antics of my opponent in trying to cover up his strange conduct in the 1948 election when he bolted the Democratic Party of South Carolina and supported Harry Truman. The Democrats of South Carolina are aroused over the Truman-Waring doctrine to abolish our segregation laws and change our way of life in this state.

My opponent discovered this when he began campaigning to retain his seat in the Senate, so he attacks Truman and Waring.

Now, I want you good people of Colleton County to listen to this.

My opponent in his opening speech of this campaign solemnly asked this question:

"What happened to the petition with thousands of signatures of good and faithful South Carolinians calling for the impeachment of the Trumanistic Federal Judge, Waites Waring?"

My opponent goes on to say if the Waring impeachment resolution ever comes over from the House he will meet it at the door of the Senate and get immediate action.

Now, just think of that. A United States Senator who has represented South Carolina in the Senate six years having to come to South Carolina and ask the people here at home what happened to the Waring impeachment resolution.
Well, I can tell my opponent where that resolution is— it is before the House Judiciary Committee, and he has not made one move to get any action on it.

What I want to know is why the Junior Senator has been tongue-tied all these months. This Federal Judge has been insulting the people of South Carolina, abusing his office, and demonstrating his unfitness to be a Judge for several years now.

Why did he wait until this campaign to attack the Warings? The Judge has been speaking in Washington and insulting the white people of South Carolina.

Any day and any hour, my opponent could have arisen in his place in the Senate and deplored the conduct of the Warings. He could have used his office to help get action to relieve the people of South Carolina.

Representative Mendel Rivers and other South Carolina members of the South Carolina delegation did not hesitate to take the floor of the House and defend the white people of South Carolina from the Waring attack.

But, my friends, your Junior Senator said nothing either in the press or in the Senate where any Senator can speak on any subject at any time and as long as he pleases. He waits until he gets back to South Carolina to talk about Waring and Truman. He does not talk about them in Washington.

I want you to know when I am your United States Senator I am not going to be one kind of Democrat in Washington and another kind of
Democrat in South Carolina.

And furthermore, when I get to the Senate I am not going to wait for a Waring impeachment resolution to come over from the House before taking action against Waring.

I have promised the people that I will introduce legislation which will make it possible for the people of a state to secure relief from a Federal Judge who destroys his usefulness on the bench by abusing the people over whom he is supposed to preside and by his personal conduct endangers law and order in a state.

As Governor, I have not hesitated to say what I thought about the Warings, and they have publicly attacked me. When I get to the Senate, I promise the people I will not sit with folded arms and my tongue cleaved to the roof of my mouth, as an unbalanced and senile Judge goes up and down the country attacking my state and my people.