

STATEMENT BY J. STROM THURMOND, -JUNE 22, 1950

Governor Thurmond said:

The minority bloc organizations, including the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the CIO Political Action Committee, for whom Mr. Truman stabbed the South in the back in order to promote his anti-segregation program, have applied their pressure in Washington for federal interference in the South Carolina Senate race.

President Truman has personally injected himself into the South Carolina campaign by using the White House as a sounding board to attack Governor Wright's and my democracy. He has the delusion that in this manner he can help the man who supported him for President in 1948 and keep out of the United States Senate the man he does not want in the Senate for obvious reasons.

Mr. Truman must know that ninety percent of the real democrats in South Carolina voted for the presidential electors of our State Democratic Party and against his electors. He should know that the 1950 South Carolina State Democratic Convention strongly re-affirmed our 1948 position in opposing him and said in a voice which he could have heard across the Potomac that there would be no retreat in our fight against his program to destroy our way of life in this state.

If he does not want to recognize the Democratic Party of South Carolina that is his privilege. But he cannot reflect on our democracy because we know it is the true democracy of our party, and it would be an injustice to even compare it with the Pendergast gangsterism brand of democracy from which he sprang in Kansas City.

Mr. Truman's reiteration at the White House today of his previous insult to the two most democratic states in the nation will be answered by the democrats of South Carolina when they go to the polls July 11.

As to the story which also came out of Washington today that Senate investigators were being sent to South Carolina to investigate our primary, I have wired Chairman Gillette as follows: "If you will have your investigators contact me or my headquarters we will be glad to co-operate with them in every way possible. I

would appreciate your sending me the names of those who filed the complaints which you say were to the effect that the so-called Dixiecrats were sending large amounts of money into this state. This is not only an untruth, but it obviously comes from those who seek to slur Democrats who believe in State's Rights and resent the Trumanistic sneer term, "Dixiecrats."

"While your investigators are in South Carolina, I insist that they be instructed to investigate the activities of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the CIO Political Action Committee, and the Democratic National Committee to dominate the July 11 Primary election. I will be glad to turn over to your committee the facts that the CIO Political Action Committee has raised a slush fund of one million dollars to win seats in Congress for their candidates; that Mr. Truman told the CIO Political Action Committee it was rendering a public service in raising this slush fund. We also will be glad to turn over to your investigators the facts as to the visit to this state of Jack Kroll, the National Director of the CIO Political Action Committee, who is directing the spending of this slush fund and his public announcements against me and his support of my opponent. I again assure you of my desire to co-operate with your committee and their investigators and in turn I hope your committee will co-operate with the Democratic Party of South Carolina in preventing these outside organizations from dominating our state primary through the use of great sums of money in getting thousands of people who do not believe in the principles of our Party, registered and voted en bloc to thwart the will of the real democrats of this state. J. Strom Thurmond, Governor of South Carolina."