

PRESS RELEASE
OFFICE OF SEN. THURMOND
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Senator Thurmond (D-S.C.), national president of the Reserve Officers Association, made the following remarks today concerning the President's recommendations for building up the reserve program of the United States:

I am in general accord with the main provisions embodied in this recommendation. As president of the Reserve Officers Assn., I recommended last July to the President when I had a conference with him that the period of active duty training be reduced to six months and the trainees be allowed to complete the balance of their reserve obligations in active reserve units. I am happy to note this feature is embodied in the President's recommendation.

I agree with the general purpose of this recommendation, but I feel 10 years of reserve obligation is too long. Not more than eight or six years should be required.

When some revisions are ironed out, I feel confident this legislation will provide our nation with a good, strong reserve program that is vitally needed.