

NEWS STATEMENT FROM SEN. STROM THURMOND (D-SC)  
February 7, 1955

Washington, Feb. 7--Senator Strom Thurmond (D-SC) Today issued the following statement concerning proposed reductions in the tariff on textile products:

"I am vitally interested in protecting the employers and the employees of South Carolina textile industries against low-grade and low-price imports from Japan and other foreign countries. Our textile industry is a source of income to a large segment of our state, thus it is vital to the economy of South Carolina.

"Whatever proposals are made for tariff reductions will be closely studied by me, and I shall exert every effort to protect our textile industry against unwise legislation in this field. I am fully aware that South Carolina textile employers and employees are dependent upon a healthy industry for full-time work.

"They deserve a healthy industry free from the competition of cheap products placed on the world market by foreign nations where labor pay scales are one-tenth those of the United States.

"I realize that in order to keep certain countries such as Japan out of the Communist orbit we must allow them to trade with the rest of the world. However, I am sure a trade program can be worked out without jeopardizing our textile industry.

"My objective shall be to prevent any lowering in the present level of activity in our textile mills, and, if possible, to try to find ways to stimulate the demand for textile products."