

PRESS STATEMENT BY SEN. STROM THURMOND (D-SC) ON FORT JACKSON  
AND PORT ROYAL PROJECTS, JUNE 22, 1955

WASHINGTON, June 22--Senator Strom Thurmond (D-SC) revealed today he is making a determined effort to gain Senate approval of an eight million-dollar authorization for construction of a hospital at Fort Jackson, S.C., and a 250,000-dollar appropriation for dredging the channel in Port Royal (S.C.) Harbor.

The South Carolina Democrat said he has made a number of personal contacts and has written every subcommittee member presently studying the projects. In addition, Thurmond is also urging that the entire \$40 million in authorizations for military public works construction at South Carolina bases be retained by the Senate. The Fort Jackson 500-bed hospital project is included in this bill, which was approved last week by the House Armed Services Committee.

Funds for the Port Royal Harbor project at Port Royal, S.C., have already been approved by the House and are awaiting action by the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Public Works. An authorization of \$765,000 was approved by the Congress ten years ago.

In pressing for favorable action on the Port Royal project, Thurmond asked for additional money, pointing out that recent construction of wool plants and other new industries in South Carolina have given "even greater justification to going ahead with the Port Royal channel project at this time."

Thurmond told Armed Services Committee members that Fort Jackson is one of the world's largest infantry training centers.

and that it "badly needs permanent medical facilities rather than the temporary structures now serving as a hospital."

The construction bill approved by the House committee carries an authorization of \$8 million in permanent construction money to provide the base with a 500-bed hospital.