

(56-35)

TELEVISION SCRIPT OF SENATOR STROM THURMOND STATING HIS REASONS FOR NOMINATING JOHN C. CALHOUN AS ONE OF THE FIVE OUTSTANDING SENATORS SELECTED BY THE SENATE COMMITTEE, televised April 30, 1957.

I nominated Calhoun because of his great contribution to this nation and for the force of character which he always exercised.

Calhoun was author of the resolution declaring war on England in 1812. As a result, this country forever threw off the yoke of foreign control of commerce on the high seas.

As Secretary of War, he reorganized the War Department and made it effective.

As Vice President, Calhoun unhesitatingly took his position on the side of the South against the ruinous tariffs. He also wrote his Exposition of the Constitution while Vice President, placing himself squarely on the side of States Rights, in spite of his nation-wide popularity and the possibility that he might be elected President.

As Secretary of State, he brought about the annexation of Texas, saving this territory for the United States when there was much opposition to the annexation.

Finally, in the Senate during his last years, Calhoun tilted with Webster and Clay, trying with all his power to save the Union and protect the South at the same time. Even when he was dying, he issued a final warning in the Senate as to the sure results of abolition, if abolition was enforced.

Had Calhoun placed public approval above personal purity he most likely would have been President.