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STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND(D-SC) ON THE NOMINATION OF MR. W. WILSON WHITE
TO BE CHIEF OF THE NEW CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, NOV. 23, 1957

It has been reported in the newspapers that the new Attorney General, William P. Rogers, has recommended to the White House that an Assistant Attorney General by the name of W. Wilson White, who helped chart the Administration's course in the Little Rock crisis, is to be appointed Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Justice Department's new Civil Rights Division, created in the civil rights bill passed at the last session of Congress.

I am informed that the purpose of shifting Mr. White from his present position to his new position is to avoid confirmation by the Senate. This appears to be a back door approach of getting Mr. White into the new position without Senate confirmation. I oppose this procedure and shall demand that his name be brought before the Senate for its consideration. The fact that he was confirmed last year for another position does not mean that he is qualified for a new position which has not heretofore existed. The Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Civil Rights Division will face many delicate decisions, and the Senate is entitled to know his views and qualifications before he assumes the new position.

If this is correct, it gives evidence to me that Mr. Rogers has been well trained in the sly methods of his predecessor, Attorney General Herbert Brownell.

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