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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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I appeal to all news media in this country to give the South a fair break in the news regarding the efforts of Southern States to maintain control over the operation of their public school systems. The attempt by the United States Supreme Court to usurp this power, which was reserved to the States under the Constitution, has divided our people and caused a serious crisis at home when unity is needed as never before to halt the onward march of Communism throughout the world.

During this period of crisis, the news media of the nation face a grave responsibility in presenting to the American people and to the world news coverage which is fair and free of bias. The people are entitled to receive in the news columns and news programs the true facts as they exist, and if they want to receive personal or group views then they can turn to the editorial pages or listen to special programs which give both sides an equal opportunity to present their views to the public.

I have always held most of the news media in this country in high regard, and I hope that all -- and not just part -- of the news media will live up to the important responsibility which is theirs.

END