

75-110

RADIO SCRIPT OF SENATOR STROM THURMOND RECORDED JANUARY 29, 1958.

MY FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS:

In studying the President's special message on education, which was presented to Congress last week, I was struck once again/by the way federal "emergencies" tend to become permanent programs.

The President stressed that his program was a temporary one, to last only four years. He said it was vital to our national security to spend a billion dollars in federal grants.

However, I was glad to see that he had the honesty to admit that our national security, in the immediate future and for the next several years, depends on the brains and skills of persons whose education has already been completed, or nearly completed.

When we talk about a program to improve the education of teachers, or a testing program to discover scientifically inclined children in the elementary schools, we are talking about things that have nothing to do with our immediate weaknesses and needs/
in national security.

We do need some revisions in our educational system. It is imperative that the states take action, as we are doing in South Carolina, to re-examine our school systems, and re-double our efforts to get the maximum public good out of them.

I am not exaggerating one iota/when I say that federal aid/on an emergency basis/is for an emergency that will probably never end.

Now I am not attempting to minimize the fact/that we have an extremely serious situation facing us in the matter of

national security.

I realize fully that it is necessary for us to make a supreme effort -- and a unified effort -- to fill in the gaps in our scientific technology and to bolster up our institutions dedicated to the training of scientists.

It was in this spirit of aiding scientific education/that I have advocated the establishment of a United States Science Academy, as an agency of the Department of Defense.

In this spirit, I have concerned myself with the problem of improving the command structure within our Armed Forces. I expect to introduce legislation in the very near future/calling for a genuine unification of our Armed Forces to improve military efficiency.

I recognize the emergency.

But ... I repeat ... an emergency, by definition, is a temporary state of affairs. Some of the proponents of federal aid to education are looking far into the future, looking for federal participation in our educational program/all the way down to the grade-school level.

Last year, you will recall, the proponents of federal aid/said there was an emergency condition in school construction. They said a temporary program of federal aid for the construction of school buildings/was what was needed.

This year, the emergency is national security. We don't hear nearly as much/about the so-called school construction emergency.

I don't know what it will be next year, but I can promise you that there will be some kind of school emergency, and it

will be seized on as an excuse for more federal aid.

I thank you for listening, and I thank this station for granting me the time.

This is Strom Thurmond in Washington.

END