STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC) RECORDED FOR TELEVISION, MAY 22, 1958.

It seems to be continually necessary to defend the South against slurs cast upon it by persons outside the area who are intent on meddling with Southern affairs.

Several days ago, I took the Senate floor to set the record straight concerning a false statement by former Senator Benton of Connecticut, who charged that South Carolina is not providing its full share of draftees for the Armed Forces. I quoted figures from the Selective Service Director to show that South Carolina is providing more young men, both in numbers and in proportion to the population of the two States.

Now, another statement has been made which distorts the truth and requires an answer. Former Senator Lehman of New York, speaking here in Washington, said that "we are losing the battle of Asia, Africa and Latin America in Little Rock, Charleston and Richmond."

It is quite true that anti-American sentiment abroad has increased. One reason is that the propagandists for integration have twisted the facts about race relations in the South to put our region in the worst possible light.

I told the Senate that I have not heard of any incidents of inter-racial violence in Charleston or Richmond, but that I have heard of a great deal about the wave of violence in the integrated schools of Senator Lehman's home town, New York City.

I am incensed at these slurs on the South. I wish that former Senators Benton, and Lehman, and others, would use their talents to improve affairs in their own States, and spend less time in throwing verbal brickbats at the South.

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