STATEMENT BY SEN. STROM THURMOND (D-SC) RECORDED FOR HIS WEEKLY RADIO BROADCAST, JULY 24, 1958.

MY FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS:

A few days ago, a reporter here in Washington asked me a very interesting question. The question was this: "What do you think the major campaign issues will be in 1960?"

It is human nature to enjoy trying to look into the future, and all of us, at one time or another, have tried to speculate on coming events. However, in view of the swiftness with which events are taking place in America and the rest of the world, it is difficult to accurately predict what the major campaign issues will be in 1960.

In thinking over this question, I concluded that an even more interesting question — and one more practical for discussion would be: that of what the major issues should be in 1958 and 1960. Many times, the issues which are discussed in a political campaign are not the issues most worthy of discussion.

I will not attempt to predict what the campaign issues will be, either this fall or in 1960. Instead, I wish to discuss, quite briefly, the question of which issues I think should be paramount in the national elections.

First, the American people should consider, in every election, the necessity for constant vigilance against Communist penetration, both from within and from without. We must maintain a strong military establishment, including a strong combat-ready Reserve and National Guard Force. To guard against Communist penetration from within, we must maintain a sound national economy by reducing
the national debt, curbing government expenditures, and eliminating
government wastefulness.

Second, it is essential that we return to the principles
of Constitutional government/which have made this country great,
with renewed emphasis/on local self-government, and the rights and
powers of the States.

Third, we should place particular emphasis/on the promotion
of programs that will raise the standard of living/of our farm
population. The average farmer realizes only 69 cents an hour/
for his labor and management, as compared with $2.07 an hour for
the average industrial worker. It is important that the farmer,
as well as other workers, should receive a fair income for his
contribution/to our national standard of living.

Fourth, we must devise a foreign policy/that will enable us
to live in peace and harmony with the other Nations of the world/
while maintaining our self-respect and the respect of other Nations,
avoiding unnecessary entangling alliances, and cooperating, within
constitutional limits, with other countries of the world.

We must abandon the immoral and ineffective policy/of trying
to buy friendship abroad through foreign aid grants. Emphasis
should be on loans/and development through private capital.

Fifth, we must strive to establish a foreign trade policy/
which will permit the expansion of trade/without sacrificing the
jobs of American workers/such as is occurring in our textile and
plywood-veneer industries/in South Carolina.

Finally, we should encourage the growth of the free
enterprise system in every way practicable. Most particularly, we should restrain the government from getting into business, except in those relatively few cases in which the undertaking is unsuitable for private enterprise, and in those cases where considerations of national security demand government participation and control.

The issues I have mentioned are broad issues. The principles I have mentioned are guiding principles in considering almost every piece of major legislation which comes before the Senate.

I firmly believe that a consideration of these principles and issues should have a prominent place in the thinking of every voter.

I wish to thank this station for granting me this time each week, and thank you for listening.

This is Strom Thurmond in Washington.