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STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC) FOR HIS WEEKLY RADIO  
BROADCAST OF FEBRUARY 7-8, 1959 (RECORDED FEBRUARY 5, 1959).

MY FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS:

For the second year in a row, integrationists have attempted to sneak through the Senate/a provision which would permit housing integration by a method of infiltration. Last year/I had this provision removed from the omnibus housing bill/by an amendment/and felt sure that this would settle the matter. As soon as I received a copy of the 1959 omnibus housing bill, however, I found a similar provision well hidden/in the policy section of the title on Public Housing.

I immediately called this to the attention of leading Southerners on the Committee concerned with housing/and the provision was again removed. It would have permitted integration/by making it possible for Public Housing officials/to condemn privately-owned family dwelling units/for conversion to public housing units, where integration has already been required by the Supreme Court.

While we were in the middle of discussion on the Housing Bill, President Eisenhower sent to the Congress/his proposals for so-called Civil Rights legislation. Unlike the hidden clause in the Housing Bill, the President's seven proposals on so-called Civil Rights/are straight and to the point. They are punitive/and directed at the South and its people who favor segregated schools/and the right of employers to hire whomever they wish.

The President's recommendations can serve only to further

divide our people/at a time when national unity is essential. It is a tragedy of our times/that these and other so-called civil rights proposals/continue to be introduced.

I was very pleased this week/by the action of the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee/in giving unanimous approval to the recommendations/submitted by our Special Textile Subcommittee. Our subcommittee made a very thorough study last fall/of the problems besetting the textile industry/with a view toward recommending proposals to make it possible/for the industry to resume its normal operations of previous years. I co-sponsored the resolution authorizing the study/because I have been very concerned about the marginal operations of our textile industry, especially the loss of jobs and the cutback in working hours during recent years.

Our study showed that textile employment is down by approximately 25 per cent/and that working hours have been reduced in practically every segment of the industry. To cope with the decline in textile ~~the~~ employment and activity, we made ten recommendations/calling for action by the Congress and the Executive Branch/to restore textile production and employment. The most significant recommendation/was one calling for import quotas on foreign-manufactured textiles. This recommendation was of much personal satisfaction to me/since I have been asking for quotas on low-wage imports from Japan and other countries/for many years.

During the textile study/I requested the Office of Defense

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Mobilization to make an investigation/in order to determine whether the textile industry/was vital to our national security. The day after our report was made public, the director of the ODM reported to us/that his investigation showed the industry to be very vital/to our national security. This finding, the first of its kind tying the industry so closely to our defense program, should prove of invaluable assistance to us/in our efforts to have these recommendations given favorable action/without delay.

Realizing the importance of textiles to the economy of our State, which is known as THE TEXTILE STATE, I shall continue to work for improvements for our textile industry/and its employees, and I shall exert every effort/to have our recommendations put into effect. When this is done/I feel confident that we will see a new era of textile expansion/and a greater employment opportunities.

This is Strom Thurmond in Washington.

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