The so-called civil rights proposals before the Senate can be described in one word -- punitive. They would punish the South for not accepting the ideas and schemes of non-Southern minority groups and the politicians riding on their coattails.

These proposals would treat the South as a conquered province, in effect giving the Southern states far less consideration in guiding their destinies and private affairs than have been given such recently conquered nations as Germany, Italy and Japan.

I cannot believe that the majority of Senators sincerely favor this conquered province type legislation. I urge that objectivity and reason will supplant those ideas which would persecute the South for its determined struggle by non-violent means to protect its institutions as supported by the vast majority of its citizens.

END

On Wednesday, March 18, Senator Thurmond appeared before the Senate Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights to express his views on civil rights proposals.