

(89-6)

STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC) FOR HIS WEEKLY RADIO BROADCAST OF JULY 11-12, 1959. (RECORDED JULY 9, 1959)

MY FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS:

I should like to discuss briefly with you today/passage of a reduced foreign aid bill in the Senate, President Eisenhower's veto of the ^{omnibus} housing omnibus bill/and recent action taken by the Federal Aviation Agency to prevent transportation in the air/of passengers under the influence of alcohol.

Following considerable debate for the better part of a week, the Senate passed by a 65 to 26 vote a ^{\$ 3 1/2 billion 000} ~~\$3,542,600~~ foreign aid bill. This is \$383,500,000 less than the original Senate figure, amounting to a 10 per cent cut. I opposed final passage of the bill, because the sum is too large and the aims of foreign aid are too indefinite. The United States cannot afford to spend billions of dollars annually/in the hap-hazard way our State Department has been spending/them/since the conclusion of World War II. We have spent in excess of \$70 billion for foreign aid/in 14 years. We have had to borrow virtually every penny of this money/and as a result/have seen our national debt increase to \$285 billion. There has been tremendous waste in the aid program. Large sums of money have been given to communistic countries. As a people and nation, we are not as popular or as well respected today/as we were 14 years ago before the spending began.

Many amendments were offered to the Senate Foreign Aid Bill. I supported all those/favoring cutbacks. In addition, I successfully

voted for an amendment to stop aid to those nations stealing American investments abroad/without thought of repayment--~~such as is the case in Cuba today.~~ I also successfully opposed an international FEPC amendment. *If this amendment had passed,* ~~it~~ would have interfered with the *internal operations of foreign* ~~sovereignty of~~ nations/by cutting off aid to countries discriminating against *certain classes of* United States citizens because of *their* race or religion.

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As I predicted two weeks ago when the Senate passed the omnibus housing bill, President Eisenhower has vetoed this bill. He has recommended that the Congress eliminate the extravagant, socialistic features. I am in full accord with the President on this issue.

There were some good features in the bill, but since the President does not have the item veto power/he had to either accept the whole bill as written/or reject the whole bill. I am confident the veto cannot be overridden/and that the Congress will now send a reasonable bill to the President.

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The Federal Aviation Agency has announced a plan/to restrict the sale of alcoholic beverages on airplanes. While this is a step in the right direction, their plan will be virtually impossible to enforce. The decision as to whether a passenger is, or is not, entitled to a drink of liquor/aboard an airplane/is left up to the airline stewards and stewardesses. They are to determine whether a passenger is already intoxicated/or nearing intoxication. This is ridiculous.

My Air Safety Bill, which has not yet been acted upon by the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee /where it has been pending the past several years, is much more explicit. It would outlaw completely /the service or consumption of alcoholic beverages aboard any aircraft /while in flight between two points in the United States. In addition, it would prohibit the transportation of intoxicated passengers /aboard such aircraft /and the bringing on board of alcoholic beverages /for service or consumption aboard such aircraft.

^{near} tragic accidents have been ~~precipitated because of~~ ^{precipitated because of} ~~precipitated because of~~ drunken passengers aboard aircraft; perhaps ^{some} ~~some~~ unsolved airplane accidents ^{had the same origin.} ~~were not averted for the same reason.~~ Also, it is not right to subject innocent passengers /who are unable to change their seats in flight /to the drinking habits of obnoxious passengers. I am pressing for action on my Air Safety Bill, S. 1432, in this session of Congress.

This is Strom Thurmond in Washington.

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