

148th Anniversary of Establishment of U.S. Army
STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC) MADE ON FLOOR OF SENATE,
THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 1959.

Mr. Thurmond
Mr. President

~~This~~ Sunday, June 14, commemorates the 184th anniversary of the establishment of the United States Army by authority of the Continental Congress. From the date of its establishment in 1775 through the years, the relationship which has existed between the Legislative branch of the government and the Army has been a close one. The action of the Continental Congress in 1775 enabled the freedom-loving people of the 13 Original Colonies to wage war successfully for their independence and to set an example for the entire world. The action of the Congress in strongly supporting our Army is the symbol of its high respect for the Army and the fine job it has done over the years, and is now doing. It must be consoling to the citizens of the United States and of the free world to know that Congress realizes the great importance of a strong Army and solidly backs it. As capable as our Army is today, the Congress must be always on guard to see that it is maintained modern, efficient, and ready to strike rapidly in event of aggression.

I would like to remind the Senators of the colorful program honoring Congress, to be held at Fort Myer, Virginia, at 4 o'clock this Sunday afternoon. There will be a review by the Battle Group at Fort Myer. More important to members of Congress, the Army Band will play for the first time ⁱⁿ public the Congressional Honors March, written by Lt. Col. Donald T. Kellett, of the Army Legislative Liaison office, and which is being dedicated to the Congress by the Hon. Wilber M. Brucker, the able Secretary of the Army.

During the ceremonies, Secretary Brucker will make some dedicatory remarks.

I hope that all members of the Congress, and as many members of their staffs as possible, will accept the Army's kind invitation to attend the ceremonies at Fort Myer. I know that I speak for every member of Congress in thanking Secretary Brucker, Colonel Kellett and the Army, for this high honor and recognition they are bestowing on the Congress as an institution, on the 184th anniversary of the beginning of a wonderful and successful relationship.

I ~~would also~~ like to ask that an informative article entitled "In 1775 Congress Adopted the Army", by Major Frederic S. Otis, appearing in the June issue of "The Army Reservist" be printed in the body of the Record.

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