

STATEMENT BY J. STROM THURMOND, GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA, ON THE
FREEDOM TRAIN, SEPTEMBER 15, 1947

On the eve of the arrival of the Freedom Train in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Governor J. Strom Thurmond today joined the Governors of forty-seven other states in observing the start of a national "Year of Rededication" to the principles of American liberty, coincident with the tour of the Freedom Train, bearing over one hundred great documents of American history. The train will leave Philadelphia on September 19 on a year-long, 33,100 mile tour visiting over three hundred cities and every state capitol of the forty-eight states. Each visit of the train to these localities will climax a local community "Week of Rededication."

This program will do much to educate the people of South Carolina and the Nation on the historical facts of our great Nation.

The twelve-month program, sponsored by the United States Attorney-General's office, is directed by the American Heritage Foundation, a non-profit, non-partisan organization composed of leading private citizens representing business, labor, industry, educational, religious, patriotic and civic groups. The Foundation's Freedom Train is a specially constructed, seven-car railroad unit unique in the annals of railway history.

During its unprecedented tour, Freedom Train will be officially welcomed by each of the forty-eight State Governors.

I urge all the citizens of South Carolina to take advantage of this opportunity and visit the Freedom Train while it is in Columbia.

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