

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Indianapolis, Indiana
May 9-10, 1984**

Resolution No. 44: Distinguished Service Award Nomination

Origin: Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Committee

Submitted by: Internal Affairs Commission

WHEREAS, The American Legion has created The American Legion Distinguished Service Medal and has authorized its award to distinguished Americans in recognition of their outstanding service to the nation; and

WHEREAS, It is in keeping with the principles, purposes, and traditions of this award that it be bestowed upon an American who has served his native state of South Carolina and the nation with distinction as a state legislator, circuit judge, and governor of South Carolina before his election to the United States Senate, where through more than a quarter century of continuous service has earned, among others, such important assignments as president pro tempore, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, senior Republican, and Armed Services and Veterans Affairs Committees; and

WHEREAS, He has been a staunch advocate for a strong policy of continued preparedness and has vigorously opposed those who would break down our defenses and weaken our liberties; and

WHEREAS, He has received numerous awards, civilian and military, including The American Legion Distinguished Public Service Award in 1975, in recognition of his leadership, his statesmanship, and his achievements on behalf of a grateful nation in appreciation for his strong commitment to the freedoms of America; and

WHEREAS, He has always personified and advanced the principles of patriotism in a most honorable manner with added emphasis given during his 26 years of continuous service as a member of The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, He has consistently displayed his pride in The American Legion National Conventions and proudly carrying the United States flag at the head of the South Carolina parade delegation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 9-10, 1984, That the Distinguished Service Medal of The American Legion be presented to the Honorable J. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina.