

Release: Thursday PMs
December 18,

Editors: Note Release Date

(ADVANCE) CHARLESTON, S.C., Dec. 18--Gen. Mark W. Clark, president of The Citadel, announced today that Gov-elect Ernest F. Hollings will be the principal speaker at annual "birthday ceremonies" of the military college on Corps Day, next March 14.

Hollings, who will be inaugurated as South Carolina's chief executive on Jan 20, will speak on the 116th anniversary of the arrival at the old fortress which still stands in Marion Square of The Citadel's first Corps of Cadets -- just 20 young men. This occurred in March, 1843.

"The Citadel is proud," said Gen. Clark, "that Gov. Hollings has accepted our Corps Day invitation, because he is one of The Citadel's most distinguished sons.

"I believe, incidentally, that The Citadel has a unique claim to a special sort of fame as regards South Carolina's governors. Gov. George Bell Timmerman is a Citadel alumnus, Hollings is a Citadel alumnus, and so is Burnet R. Maybank, Jr., our new lieutenant governor. The Citadel, thus, can claim that its alumni have held both top posts in South Carolina government during two successive terms. It is a wonderful tribute to the quality of service which Citadel men are trained to render their state and nation, in war or peace."

Announcement that Hollings will be the next Corps Day speaker coincided with the ending today of pre-Christmas studies at The Citadel. Following the annual Ring Hop in the Armory tonight, the Corps of Cadets will be released at 6:30 a.m. tomorrow (Friday) to go home for the Christmas holidays, and will return here at 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 4.

Gov. Hollings, a native of Charleston, was graduated from The Citadel in 1942, and went immediately into the United States Army, serving for 33 months during World War II in Africa and Europe. He emerged from service as a captain, and enrolled in the law school of the University of South Carolina. He has since practiced law in Charleston, and served three terms in the South Carolina General Assembly. During his last two terms he was speaker pro tempore of the House of Representatives, and during his last four years as lieutenant governor he was presiding officer of the Senate.

He has shown an active interest in The Citadel since his graduation, and served for one term as president of the alumni group, the Association of Citadel Men.
