

THE SOUTH SHALL RISE AGAIN.

By James Collins

Redstone Arsenal is located in Huntsville, Alabama. In the 1980s, I was traveling there on a regular basis doing work with the Department of Defense (DOD). Usually I met our marketing representative and sometimes took an engineer with me to meet with the customer. On one memorable trip, the marketing representative had to leave early for another commitment. That evening I was on my own. From previous trips, I knew a couple of good places to get supper. I took my rental car and drove to a diner just down the road. The meal was excellent and the ambience was lovely. The server was personable and polite. At the end of the meal, I left a good tip and wanted to commend the waitress on her professionalism. Often people are not told they do a good job. So when she came over to pick up the payment. I told her I was impressed by how polite she was. Her response was unexpected and electric.

"Yankee!" she said and paused. All the hairs on the back of my neck went right up stiff. "Just cause we're polite don't mean we like you." I got the message. In that part of the country, they are still fighting the Civil War.

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