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Opening of WSAV (Radio)

Strom Thurmond

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Good evening, Ladies and gentlemen. On behalf of the people of South Carolina, I am indeed happy to extend congratulations and best wishes to the new WSAV. Through this new, powerful WSAV, South Carolina and Georgia are drawn even more closely together, accentuating a close relationship of more than two centuries.

The entire South is entering a new era of prosperity, and it is indeed gratifying to salute our neighboring state of Georgia, and Savannah in particular, for this outstanding achievement in the field of radio. We in South Carolina were especially pleased to learn that WSAV's new transmitter site is located almost on the very boundary between South Carolina and Georgia. Because of this strategic location, equal service is provided to the entire South Atlantic Seaboard.

With this inaugural broadcast, WSAV is now reaching over a million listeners, tens of thousands of whom live in South Carolina. These homes thus will receive, perhaps for the first time, every educational, cultural and entertainment aspect that modern radio has to offer.

Since the earliest days of the American Colonies, the interests of South Carolina and Georgia have closely paralleled each other, gradually strengthening into an insoluble bond. Our two great states, steeped in the tradition and culture of the Old South, also herald the vanguard of the new South -- a progressive South, forging steadily ahead in the creation of a great Industrial Empire.
Radio has helped immeasurably in establishing an industrial South and tonight marks another forward step in this progress. I see this occasion as another hand of friendship extended to South Carolina from Georgia, and it is my pleasure to extend reciprocal greetings to Georgia from South Carolina -- to welcome to our homes the New Voice of Savannah.