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Formal Dedication of Radio Station WDKD

Strom Thurmond

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GOOD AFTERNOON, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

I feel certain that the people of Kingstree, Williamsburg County, and the surrounding section will long remember this day. For on this occasion, a new and important public service is being inaugurated with the formal opening of Radio Station WDKD.

With its dedication broadcast today, WDKD joins the growing number of broadcasting stations which have come to mean so much to the people of South Carolina. As it begins to send its programs into the homes of this section, it accepts a public trust to present a balanced schedule of education, entertainment, and information. Its executives and personnel have pledged themselves to present only those programs which will benefit the masses of the people, and which will help them to lift up their standards of living.

Because I have so much confidence in the high character of the radio industry, I know that WDKD will meet this challenge. I know that its operators will make every effort
to assist the people of this section in broadening their economic opportunities, and to develop along both agricultural and industrial lines.

This new radio station is beginning its career in one of the best sections of our state, and in one of our leading counties. The noble historical background of Kingstree and Williamsburg County is well known to us all. Williamsburg is one of the South's greatest agricultural counties, and it ranks high in this State in the value of crops produced. Moreover, it is making rapid progress in many other fields of endeavor.

Station WDKD, therefore, has every chance for a great success. It has joined a tremendous force for good will in South Carolina, and I am sure that it will make an outstanding contribution to the welfare of our people.