WEEKLY RADIO ADDRESS BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND, APRIL 20, 1955

My Fellow South Carolinians:

This is the first in a series of weekly radio broadcasts that I plan to make while Congress is in session. As a representative of the people of South Carolina in the United States Senate, I feel it is my duty to keep you informed of my activities here. From time to time, I will invite other Senators to join me in discussing legislation and issues of vital concern to South Carolina. It is my hope that you will find these weekly reports both interesting and informative.

Since coming to Washington in January, I have been impressed with the many duties a United States Senator is obligated to perform.

First, a Senator is assigned to two or three committees upon beginning his work. The Senate Democratic leadership gave me three assignments -- all of which I am most pleased with. They are Interstate and Foreign Commerce, Government Operations, and Public Works Committees. Most of the legislative work is accomplished in the Senate's 15 standing committees. All bills that are introduced on the Senate floor are referred to an appropriate committee for initial action.

In committee, the bills are given thorough consideration before being reported to the Senate floor for final action.

Committee hearings and other work occupy most of a Senator's morning. The Senate generally meets at noon.
daily/to receive new bills and resolutions/and to act on
bills reported favorably by the committees.

In the three and a half months I have been in the Senate,
I have introduced and co-sponsored 25 bills, amendments, and
resolutions. Among these are measures to permanently restore/
90 per cent of parity on basic farm commodities; to curb
the Supreme Court's power to handle school segregation cases;
to prevent low tariffs on textile products that would cause
economic injury to our textile employees and industry; to
provide a four-acre minimum acreage allotment for our small
cotton farmers; to authorize additional basic crop acreage/
for farmers hit by crop disasters; and to place farm veterans
on an equal basis with other veterans in obtaining GI home
loans.

I have had the pleasure of sponsoring numerous other
measures which I believe are of vital concern to South
Carolinians. During the past week I offered two more
bills. One would prohibit the Secretary of Agriculture/
from raising emergency government loans to farmers in excess
of three per cent. The other would authorize a survey of
the South Carolina coastal area to determine possible means
of protecting human lives and damage from hurricanes. The
survey would be conducted by the Army Engineers at govern-
ment expense.

In these weekly reports, I plan to keep you informed
of other legislation I may introduce and the progress of these measures I have already entered. I also plan to discuss my votes on major issues and to present my views on pending legislation.

I thank you for listening this week. I hope you will tune in again next week for another report on my activities in the United States Senate.