STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND RECORDED FOR SOUTH CAROLINA
RADIO STATIONS, FEBRUARY 27, 1958.

MY FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS:

During the past week, the Senate approved a bill to raise
the public debt limit by $5 billion. I voted against this bill,
because I believe that it would be unnecessary to raise the debt
limit if the government would practice true economy and eliminate
some of its unnecessary programs.

By coincidence, this was the same week that the Administration
opened its drive for Congressional approval of its foreign aid
program. The Secretary of State appeared on Capitol Hill to tell
the House Foreign Affairs Committee that the Administration's
request for almost $4 billion is a "rock-bottom" figure.

I believe that we should do everything possible to build up
our defenses. But I do not see how we can improve our defensive
position by giving away money to countries that are not friendly
to us. I believe, too, that in giving support to our allies,
we should administer the program with the greatest care, to avoid
waste.

During the week, the Senate also held a lengthy debate on
the bill to increase postal rates. I voted against the proposal
recommended by the Senate Post Office Committee setting the first-
class rate for inter-city mail at 5 cents. I believe that a
4-cent rate for all first-class mail would be easier for the Post
Office Department to administer and would bring sufficient revenue
for the first-class service to pay its own way. The Post Office
Department is losing money in distributing the national magazines
that have millions of subscribers. The loss to the Post Office Department for distributing LIFE magazine alone is estimated at about 9 1/2 million dollars a year. I do not believe that the taxpayers of South Carolina are willing to subsidize magazines that carry propaganda against any one section of the country, as LIFE has done against the South.

When an amendment was offered to cut off all subsidies to magazines above $1,800,000 a year, I voted for it. I would have voted for an even more stringent limitation, because I believe the large magazines should pay a greater part of their own mailing costs.

On Thursday, I appeared before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee to testify in behalf of Senator Jenner's bill to limit the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court in matters pertaining to the control of subversive activity.

I told the Committee that the time is long past due for action by Congress to call a halt to this unconstitutional seizure of power by the Judicial Branch of the government. Perhaps unconsciously, the Supreme Court has made it much more difficult to prosecute Communists, anarchists and other subversives. It has struck down the sedition laws of 42 states, and it has circumscribed the investigating power of Congressional committees. Unless the Supreme Court is curbed, we shall all become the victims of Judicial tyranny.

Finally, before concluding this broadcast, I wish to say just a word about a matter on which at least 22,000 South Carolina citizens have written me. The Federal Communications Commission
has decided to take no action on applications for pay television/
until at least 30 days after Congress has adjourned.

This represents a victory for the owners of the 47,000,000
television sets in this country, all of whom invested money in
television receivers in reliance on being able to receive free
transmissions.

I hope that the Senate Commerce Committee will proceed
promptly to consideration of my bill to prohibit pay television,
so that it will come to a vote before the end of this session.

My time for this week is up. I will be back on this station
next week with another report from Capitol Hill.

This is Strom Thurmond in Washington.

-END-