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Broadcast by the Prime Minister
Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King
Maple Leaf Gardens, Toronto
Not to be released before 8.45 p.m.

OPENING OF THE CANADIAN WAR SERVICES FUND CAMPAIGN, MARCH 24, 1941

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Premier, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen:

✓ It is my privilege to welcome to Canada tonight a
great citizen of the United States, Mr. Wendell Willkie. I
extend this welcome on behalf of the government, and of the whole
Canadian people. In Mr. Willkie, we all recognize a foremost
champion of free institutions of government, of human rights
and ^{human} freedom and of international good-will ^{as well}

Mr. Willkie needs no praise from my lips. He has set
his own splendid example of conduct, of courage, and of resolution.
He has not allowed political strife to dim his eyes, or to blind
his judgment on the momentous issues with which the world is
faced today. Nor has he allowed the memories of political strife
to lessen his enthusiasm for a noble cause, or to prevent his
heart from speaking the faith that is in it.

✓ From the day he was chosen to lead one of the great
political parties in the United States, Mr. Willkie has shown
that, honourably conducted, freedom in debate on great issues
may strengthen rather than weaken the unity of a nation. From
the moment the national verdict was pronounced, Mr. Willkie has
also shown that acceptance of the national will may raise a
political opponent to heights of public esteem, and opportunities
of public service, approaching those of the leader of a victorious