Announcer: The Week in Congress, played on WDOV April 1st, 1953.

Mr. Kelly: From Washington, DC, transcribed, United States Senator J. Allen Frear brings to the people of Delaware the thirteenth in a series of brief reports on current congressional affairs. This week, following annual custom, Senator Frear departs from congressional matters to present a special message for Holy Week. Ladies and gentlemen, Senator Frear.

Senator Frear: Thank you. Each year, during the closing days of the Lenten season, the attention on the congress is called to the desirability of observing a three-hour period of spiritual meditation between the hours of twelve and three PM on Good Friday. A committee composed of prominent Catholic and Protestant clergymen contacts the members of congress to secure their cooperation in allowing religious-minded employees to attend church services during this sacred period. The practice of observing Good Friday is, of course, carried out all over the Christian world, and has been for centuries. All of us are aware of the deep significance of the day and for the necessity for meditating upon the events of the first Good Friday almost two thousand years ago. However, in the rush of modern events, we may perhaps tend to overlook the honor and privilege, which is ours, of renewing our spiritual ties on the occasion of this day. Naturally, the entire season of Lent, and especially Holy Week, should be used as a period to revive our religious obligations. Church leaders are constantly sounding the call to worship. All of us have good reason to heed that call and follow it. As the Committee for the Observance of Good Friday has pointed out, the sad plight of mankind, the inconceivable suffering of countless human beings, the continual frustration of many persons in the face of grave and difficult problems, the reality and the depths of an atheistic philosophy which threatens all forms of religious beliefs. All of these are dark and fearful shadows, but they throw into bold relief the luminous mystery of the Passion and Resurrection of the Divine Savior. The need for divine guidance and inspiration to meet the challenge before us was never more apparent, and so, during these last days of Lent, and especially on Good Friday, may we all take the time and effort to visit as often as possible our respective churches, and therein to prepare for the coming of another Easter. At the same time, let us offer thanks that in spite of the trials and sorrows of conflict, our way of life, and our great country, still stand firm against the forces of darkness.
Mr. Kelly: From the nation’s capital, you have heard United States Senator J. Allen Frear in a special message appropriate to the season of Lent. Senator Frear spoke from the Senate Office Building in Washington, and will be heard again next week at this same time in his regular report to the people of Delaware on current congressional affairs.

[End 04:29]