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Mr. Kelly: From Washington, DC, transcribed, United States Senator J. Allen Frear reports again to the people of Delaware on current congressional affairs. Ladies and gentlemen, Senator Frear.

Senator Frear: Thank you. In many respects the past week has been a most significant one here and throughout the world. It has been marked by an almost unprecedented military operation in the Far East involving the withdrawal and redeployment of Chinese Nationalist troops from almost under the very guns of their Communist enemies on the Chinese mainland. As this delicate but apparently successful mission was carried out, in Washington, the Senate proceeded to give almost unanimous endorsement to the policy of protecting the Nationalist Chinese interests by approving the so-called Formosa Mutual Defense Treaty. It is too early to estimate the final outcome of events in the far Pacific as they relate to the Formosa situation, but there is at least an indication that the calculated determination of the United States to challenge by immediate and tremendous forces any Communist attack against Formosa has caused the would-be aggressors would be forced to reconsider, and perhaps revise their present ambitions, to sweep over the remnants of the free Chinese people. At the time these various activities relating to our national security were taking place, leaders of our defense establishments, including our Secretary of Defense, Mr. Wilson, a chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Radford, the Secretary of the Army Mr. Stevens, and the Army Chief of Staff General Ridgeway, were appearing before Senate and House committees in connection with legislation to revamp the status of our military forces. As I mentioned in an earlier statement, there is a clear difference of opinion on the merits of cutting back the number of men in the armed services, and it is now expected that these differences will become even more evident when the matter is before the full Senate for final debate. Thus, when one reviews these events, coupled with reshuffling within the Soviet hierarchy, it is understandable to describe the past seven days as being most significant ones indeed. One other important legislative matter of international importance was acted upon by a committee of the House of Representatives last week. This was the approval by the Ways and Means Committee of legislation to extend our Trade Agreements Act for an
additional three years. Certain amendments were attached to the bill which will probably be debated more fully when the membership of the House takes up the legislation this week. Following anticipated approval there, the bill will be brought before our Senate Finance Committee for further study and report to the full committee. During the next few days, consideration of major Senate business may be deferred somewhat to allow members of the present minority party to engage in traditional Lincoln Day observances. Later on, majority party members will undertake similar activities. While the programs are largely political in nature, they do afford both parties the opportunity of (unintelligible [04:18]) to their representatives and to the public at large the principles and ideas which may be used as the basis for political conventions in the future, and of course, for legislative proposals as well.

Mr. Kelly: Thank you, Senator Frear. From the nation’s capital, you have heard United States Senator J. Allen Frear in his regular report to the people of Delaware on current congressional affairs. Senator Frear will be heard again next week at this same time, speaking from the Senate Office Building in Washington.

[End 04:58]