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Senator Frear: Thank you, Mr. Kelly. The recent statement by the Soviet government announcing a reduction in the manpower of its armed forces and the mothballing of a substantial number of its ships should not, in my opinion, be construed as a tangible gesture in the interest of world peace. Though widely heralded by the press in Russia and throughout the satellite countries, the announcement does not seem to have reflected much optimism in the United States or other nations outside the Iron Curtain. The reasons are obvious. The Soviet Union will still remain a large and formidable one even if the proposed reduction in the army is carried out. In addition, the personnel relieved from military duty can be utilized in a variety of ways to suit other needs which the Kremlin may direct. One such possibility is for scientific training to further the research, development, and production of nuclear weapons. It is, of course, obvious that the Red leaders are seeking all-out superiority in the atomic arena. We know they are concentrating on the training of individuals in scientific fields and other professions as well. I was especially impressed with this effort last fall after seeing the huge Moscow University. The news that the Soviets are immobilizing a number of ships has a mixed significance. It may indicate that the Russians are merely recognizing that these vessels are obsolete by present standards or that they have decided to emphasize to even a greater degree the use of submarines in place of surface vessels. Of more far-reaching concern, though, is the possibility that the red leaders are satisfied with their progress in the development of long-range missiles, which may be capable of carrying atomic or hydrogen warheads. If this is true, the Soviet military authorities may feel that further requirement for the use of naval vessels can be safely minimized. Our own authorities in the Department of Defense with the cooperation of our diplomatic representatives and other agencies abroad are undoubtedly analyzing this latest Russian move to determine, if possible, its real implications. In any event, it must be kept strongly and firmly in mind that the Soviet Union is by no means reducing its war-making potential,
but is probably increasing it. You will recall the warning by Khrushchev during his recent visit to London when he declared, “Never shake your fist at a Russian.” This merely confirms, in my mind, the fact that the crafty Soviet planners are carefully and deliberately striving to create one impression, that of a peacemaker, while actually maintaining and increasing their armed might. Recently, a number of the nation’s newspaper editors expressed a view that the United States is losing the Cold War. Admittedly, this is a debatable subject in a politically conscious election year. Surely no one, no matter how partisan, wishes to see the United States jeopardized as the result of Soviet penetration in either the economic or political field. But because we are presently at peace, I believe many of us are prone to look at the present international situation rather apathetically. We know the United States has spent vast sums of money to reinforce our allies abroad. We hope that this aid, plus our own defensive preparations, are sufficient to maintain superiority. It must be kept in mind that the Russian policy of chipping away at the free nations of the world has long been an established procedure, and one carried out through every devious and deceitful manner possible. In areas of the Far East, the Middle East, and in South America, Red efforts to foment dissention and upheaval against established governments are common practices. [05:07] Likewise, the encouragement of other nations to adopt a policy of neutrality in the Cold War is being constantly pursued. Though all of us here are heavily preoccupied with our domestic affairs, including the forthcoming election, we cannot, or must not, for a moment, overlook or skirt any opportunity to keep abreast of the Soviet government’s real intentions, and to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure the preservation of the free world’s strength and superiority.

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 06:08]