Senator Frear: Thank you, Mr. Kelly. Congress is moving swiftly toward adjournment. Barring unforeseen complications, it now seems apparent that the Senate and House of Representatives will complete acting on the pending legislative program before the end of July. In the more than one hundred days during which the Senate has actually been in session since January, it has passed over four hundred bills as well as various resolutions of one type or another. Also, a number of special senate reports have been acted upon. In the House of Representatives, a similar pattern of legislative efforts has been occurring. Of course, the consideration bills by congress during formal debate by the membership does not always reflect the long and sometimes arduous conversations held to prepare legislation for discussion on the floor. These activities often are more significant (unintelligible [01:34]) than debate on the floor increase the amount and scope of congressional responsibility. As the (unintelligible [01:42]) approaches, there usually develops a number of quite controversial matters which threaten to delay or postpone the anticipated date for bringing the congress to the end of its deliberations. For instance, at the present time, such matters as the pending social security bill and the school construction bill could conceivably bring back extended discussions which might unduly delay the congressional session as well as to decide consideration of less controversial but nonetheless important bills on the other subjects. It is to be hoped, however, that the congress will be able to avoid such a situation in these final days of its tenure because a sizeable amount of legislation (unintelligible [02:33]) can and should be acted upon in a spirit of bipartisanship. Naturally, as I have mentioned before, the interest and attention of the two major political parties is always chained to the pre-election event and it is impossible to lure out periodic congressional reversions of (unintelligible [02:52]) politics during this presidential election year. I think most persons believe that the majority and minority leaders of the Senate have generally exemplified an excellent spirit of cooperation and understanding of the legislative obligations during these last seven months. Senator Lyndon Johnson, the majority leader, and
Senator William Nolan, the minority head of the Senate, has worked quite successfully to maintain appropriate stature and demeanor in Senate debates. These efforts have resulted in being more efficient and balanced presentation of views by the entire Senate membership. The record of the 84th Congress will form the basis for much of the public discussion from now until November. The many laws approved by congress, the old ones which have been reviewed and in some cases revised and strengthened will become campaign issues by political candidates all over the country. Partisan appraisals of these statutes will be offered and, as in the past, many measures will be condemned as worthless or praised as real accomplishments depending on the point of view of the individual spokesman. As a matter of fact, I have sometimes been surprised and, on occasions, somewhat amused by the interpretation placed on a specific legislative act by political candidates. Actually, the congress, through its process of deliberation and debate, is usually able to perceive most of the complications of legislation before enacting. There are occasions when administration of congressional acts is less than desirable. The acts themselves, almost always, contain affirmative provisions which, broadly speaking, are designed to benefit, rather than hinder, the general welfare. This is true, I believe, even though the record of each congress, when spread across the political platforms of the two major parties, may seem to show up in a different light than was intended. When this occurs, members of congress will probably attribute it to the national enthusiasm of an election year rather than to an objective appraisal of the accomplishments of the Senate and House of Representatives, developed and approved over a period of many months.

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 the same time, speaking from the Senate Office Building in Washington.

[End 06:02]