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Thank you, Bob. Although much of Washington’s official attention is being focused this week on preparation for the inauguration, considerable discussion and congressional activity is being carried forward on the President’s Middle East proposal as well as on preparations for the general legislative program that will soon begin to take shape. In keeping with our democratic tradition, and with the pattern of our past history, the inauguration ceremonies will occupy much of the time and interest not only of the Senate and House of Representatives, but of the various Federal departments, the diplomatic corps, and millions of American citizens who will view the proceedings either in person or by television. As in former years, our office will again be open and available for the convenience of all Delawareans who may be coming to Washington on January the twenty-first or before. We shall be pleased and happy to receive visitors from home and shall endeavor to accord them all courtesies to the fullest extent possible. Meanwhile, congressional concern with the problems of the Middle East is being reflected both publicly and privately as we move toward further debate and a possible decision on the President’s request for stand-by authority to halt Communist threats in that section of the world. There is one thought which I believe is worthy of mention again at this time. It is this: since the end of World War II, well over fifty billions of dollars in American aid, both military and economic, have been expended in behalf of our friends abroad. Judging from comments which I have received since the President’s message was delivered, the impression prevails among some people that if Congress appropriates sufficient funds and earmarks these funds for those countries which request them, the problem will be solved. I do not feel that this is the answer. The Middle East problem cannot be solved by dollars alone, if at all. Nor is it likely to be a short-range proposition. That is, a situation whereby the United States announces that its influence is being extended to the Middle East, and that as a result, the Communist leaders are to stay out. Rather, it will take time, a great deal of personal effort, and careful, diplomatic judgment, and undoubtedly some funds, if properly dispersed, if we are to make any real headway.
While the situation poses an emergency, it cannot be solved overnight. We know enough about the pattern of Communism to realize that its leaders will seek constantly to neutralize and undermine our constructive efforts. Thus, the American people should, I believe, recognize the fact that our new Middle East policy, if approved by the Congress, will further extend our world-wide responsibilities, both military and economic, with all the eventualities that may be forthcoming. I am pleased to have already received a number of written comments from Delawareans on this subject.

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 04:41]