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Mr. Kelly: Senator J. Allen Frear reports again to the people of Delaware on current congressional affairs. Ladies and gentlemen, Senator Frear.

Senator Frear: Thank you, Mr. Kelly. Like millions of other Americans, most members of Congress, during the past week, occupied their attention with the approaching crisis in Berlin, now underlined, and further emphasized, by the illness of Secretary Dulles. Despite past differences over German policy, Democrats and Republicans alike have joined together in prayer with the hope that the Secretary of State will recover sufficiently to lend his knowledge, influence, and direction to the forthcoming major talks on the Berlin problem scheduled some weeks hence. It is tragically unfortunate that Mr. Dulles should be stricken at a time when one of the great post-war challenges confronts the free world. Although differences of opinion have existed over the manner in which Mr. Dulles has conducted foreign policy since becoming Secretary of State six years ago, there is almost unanimous feeling at the present time that his continued and active participation in this latest diplomatic struggle with the Kremlin is all but indispensable. It emphasizes anew that despite separate views on many matters, both foreign and domestic, our nation in times of crises will unite and stand behind individuals who have proven their ability to give leadership. In his recent conversations with our allied governments abroad on the Berlin question, Mr. Dulles voiced a vigor and confidence which the West needs at this hour. The Secretary is admittedly a tough and effective negotiator. The Russians know this and also realize the important role that he would normally expect to occupy in the upcoming Foreign Ministers Conference on the Berlin question. Much is, therefore, expected of the Secretary, and we hope that his health is equal to the summons. This is a time for all of us as good Americans to support and work toward the goal of stabilizing the situation in Germany before it deteriorates any further. Other international news of the past week was more cheerful. The island of Cyprus, torn by strife and dissention over the past years, is about to become independent. The Cyprus issue was one that might well have precipitated widespread conflict in the Mediterranean area. I well remember being in Istanbul at the International Monetary Conference in 1955. At that time, a violent clash between Turkish and Greek elements caused tremendous property damage and many injuries. This incident was said to be an extension of the Greek-Turkish hostility then taking place on Cyprus. Great Britain has also felt the impact
of the long, unsettled status of this Mediterranean island. In addition, many persons in Delaware have had occasion to write and express their feelings to me on the Cyprus question. Peaceful settlement of this long, smoldering dispute is a most fortunate achievement. Here in Washington, the Senate Finance Committee Chairman has announced that hearings will begin on Tuesday, March the third, on HR 4245. This is the legislation known as the Proposed Life Insurance Company Income Tax Act of 1959. It has already passed the House of Representatives and will, when considered, be the first major tax bill to come before the Senate during this new session of Congress.

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

[End 5:03]