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This Week In Congress Radio Address: S. 2184 Continuation of Construction of Highways,

1954 April 7

Speaker: Senator J. Allen Frear Transcribed by: David Cardillo

## [00:00]

Announcer: The Week in Congress, recorded on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 1954, and played on WDOV

on April 7<sup>th</sup>, 1954.

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. This week, the Senate gives major attention to Senate Bill S. 3184. The legislation which would amend and supplement the Federal Aid Road Act to authorize appropriations for continuing the construction of highways. We shall hear and discuss more of this bill later on. The last seven days in the nation's capital have been, perhaps, the most intensive of the whole year. In the legislation field, the Senate approved a bill authorizing statehood for both Alaska and Hawai'i. The House of Representatives had already approved a measure to admit Hawai'i, and now, presumably, will consider the question of including Alaska. A period of protracted debate preceded action on this legislation, and although much attention was focused on the matter, the members of Congress, like most other people in the nation, were reminded of another, and perhaps far more significant development, which occurred last week. That was the release of official information concerning the detonation of the first hydrogen bomb at our Pacific testing grounds. In my statement of last week, I expressed a belief that international control of atomic energy is seemingly imperative if civilization is to survive. After measuring the results of the first hydrogen bomb explosion, and realizing that since 1952, we have completed other tests with far more devastating success, it becomes all the more apparent that we have released the capability of selfdestruction. Now, as has been indicated, it may be possible to turn our attention to greater peacetime use of these tremendous energy sources. At the same time, however, the disturbing situation in Indochina makes us realize that the threat of a spreading conflict in Asia may be growing. And as the Indochinese War goes on, the date of the Geneva Conference grows closer. We wonder and wait to see what its accomplishments will be, for the Far East now appears to be the immediate objective of the Kremlin in an obvious effort to achieve recognition of the Red Chinese government. These moves are, of course, being rejected by the United States, and it is hoped that our allies will not fail to support us in this regard. In spite of

the (unintelligible [03:16]) weight of world problems, which seems to constantly concern Congress, this season of the year brings a degree of light-heartedness to the nation's capital. The Cherry Blossom Festival here, which featured a charming representative from the state of Delaware, launches the spring season. And hundreds of Delawareans, including schoolchildren, are now on their annual visit to see the sites. Many of these people have already favored us with a personal visit, and we trust that in the days ahead, additional visitors from the state will also make their way to the halls of Congress by the Senate Office Building. Our warmest welcome awaits them all. Inclosing, I would like to acknowledge the many requests which have reached me in the past few days for copies of the new map of the United States, which is being printed. A previous report indicated that these maps were now available. Upon inquiry, I find that this announcement was somewhat premature. But as some of the maps are available, requests will be honored as far as quarters allow. This week, I am to have the honor of visiting our United States Naval Academy as a member of the Board of Visitors. This group, made up of many distinguished educators, outstanding business and professional leaders, and a few members of Congress, will examine the curriculum, inspect the facilities, and in general, determine whether or not our Naval Academy is functioning as it should. [05:00] I am looking forward with much anticipation to this assignment.

Mr. Kelly:

Thank you, Senator Frear. From the nation's capital, you have heard United States Senator J. Allen Frear in his weekly report to the people of Delaware on current congressional affairs. Mr. Frear will be heard again next week at this same time.

[End 05:25]