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This Week In Congress Radio Address: Reflections on Achievements of 83rd Congress,
1953 August 5

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

[00:00]

Announcer: The Week in Congress, recorded on July 29th, 1953, and played on WDOV on August 5th, 1953.

Mr. Kelly: This is Bob Kelly in Washington. For the past thirty weeks at this hour, United States Senator J. Allen Frear has brought to the people of Delaware a brief report on various and significant faces of the legislative program which have been under consideration during the first session of the Eighty-Third Congress. This broadcast, transcribed, is the thirty-first and final program in the current series. Ladies and gentlemen, Senator Frear.

Senator Frear: Thank you, Bob. The first session of the Eighty-Third Congress is now a matter of history. Its accomplishments – and failures – will, in due time, be appropriately evaluated by the people of the United States, just as the records of other sessions of the Senate and House of Representatives have in the past. Whatever else the Eighty-Third Congress may be remembered for, it will be recalled as having been in session at one of the most crucial periods in the life of the republic, the time when an armistice halted the Korean War. Indeed, the Eighty-Third Congress, as with the Eighty-First and Eighty-Second, played a large role in the determination of events which helped to guide our policy in Korea and in other areas of the world where communist aggression threatened or actually struck. The debates and arguments, some of them heated and intense, which occupied the attention of congress during the past three years provided the media, whereby the citizens of this nation found expression for their own opinions and thoughts. Korea, not alone for its military significance, but for its political and diplomatic implications as well, became the basis for countless discussions which led into every facet of our national life. If the office of one senator is an example, and I think it is, I can assure you that Korea, and its related actions, produced more comment in written and spoken form to me than any other issue before the congress since I have been a member. Our efforts in Korea, costly, tragic, and heart-rending, add up to the kind of victory which we may appreciate more in the months ahead than in the immediate present. What we won in Korea was a triumph for collective security. A policy developed after World War II in which non-communist nations banded together to resist the advance of the Kremlin's political and military armies. Russian imperialism is in check, at least temporarily, while her nervous leaders ponder ways to deal with

their restless, hungry, and rebellious satellites. The free nations have held the line in Europe, thin as it is, while the valiant American Army took its toll of aggression on the Korean peninsula. And so, as congress goes home to report its stewardship to the people, we do so in the hope that the approaching political conference on Korea will finally produce the unity so long and so courageously sought by the leaders of that little republic. These past seven months in Washington, while largely devoted to foreign affairs, also included work on a number of significant and far-reaching domestic matters. With a new administration and new majority leadership in the Senate and House of Representatives, it was to be expected that a somewhat different approach to our legislative program would be taken. The effectiveness of this program cannot be accurately measured as yet because many of the presidential recommendations, and the congressional decisions, have not been fully implemented. We will know better when these new policies have had time to take effect and be felt by the American people. One thing may be said, and I think, fairly, of most members of the congress, they have worked, they have worked steadily, consistently, and earnestly during the past months. In the Senate, the long hours and days have taken their toll of our membership. [05:00] Some of those who have passed on could ill afford to be lost. They contributed much to the welfare of their country at a time when common sense and calm judgment were abundantly necessary. We shall have some new faces when the gavel sounds again and the members return to resume their deliberations, but we shall miss the old ones who have departed. On this occasion, I would like to express public thanks to the radio stations and the newspapers of Delaware for their interest in making available to the citizens of the state the subject matter of my weekly remarks and other statements. Without their cooperation, little could be accomplished in (unintelligible [05:46]) the people with the work of their representatives in Washington. May I also express appreciation to the many persons who have taken the time and interest to write me and state their opinions on various legislative affairs. These expressions have proved invaluable on many, many occasions. It is my hope to resume these statements when congress next reconvenes. In the meantime, my office facility will continue to be open and available for service to the fullest extent possible.

Mr. Kelly:

Thank you, Senator Frear. From the nation's capital, you have heard United States Senator J. Allen Frear in the thirty-first and final program of this current series devoted to a discussion of congressional affairs. This is Bob Kelly speaking from the Senate Office Building in Washington.

[06:46]