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This Week In Congress Radio Address: Churchill's Meeting with President Eisenhower,
1954 June 30

Speaker: Senator J. Allen Frear

Transcribed by: David Cardillo

[00:00]

Announcer: The Week in Congress, recorded on June 25th, 1954, and played on WDOV on June 30th, 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. It is a pleasant occurrence for the United States that we once more have in our presence one of the most illustrious leaders of modern times. Sir Winston Churchill, who has come here again as he has done so often in past years during times of crises is surely welcomed by Americans, for Mr. Churchill symbolizes all that is strong and brave and tenacious in the sprawling British Empire. It was without question his dogged determination and undisputed leadership which held the British people firm during their terrible ordeal of 1940 when invasion threatened. Mr. Churchill has close ties with the United States. His mother was an American citizen. Therefore, we feel closely akin to him. In this present hour of history, the meeting between Mr. Churchill and President Eisenhower assumes not only an era of tremendous importance, but of possible finality as well. The actions agreed upon at their meetings may be not only significant, but decisive in many respects. The tide of events is moving steadily in Southeast Asia, and without some understanding as to ways and means, of preserving the Allied position there, the future of Democracy may be dark indeed. We know, too, that Mr. Churchill, because of his advancing years, may be with us here in the United States for the last time as his country's Prime Minister. It is no secret that this nation and Britain are rather sharply divided on how to settle the Southeast Asia crisis. It is not difficult to define the areas of disagreement, yet I believe no great service is performed by emphasizing these differences. As a matter of fact, it could be a detriment to the many other matters on which we are firmly united. It would, of course, be extremely helpful to Communist agitators if a wedge could be driven between Great Britain and the United States. Certainly we in this country do not endorse each and every move taken by our British allies. We know that on occasions they do things which on the surface, at least, seem to be in direct opposition to our own desires. It may be said in this regard, however, that Great Britain and the United States have two vastly different outlooks.

Great Britain is an island empire which, to survive, must maintain close ties with its colonies and its dominions across the seas. The United States, on the other hand, which comprises a major part of North America, is far more economically self-sustaining than the British. These two factors alone are sufficient cause for different approaches to world problems by our respective nations. It is important to remember that for a period of many, many years, the United States and Great Britain have been closely allied on fundamental problems. If this country and Britain were to become separated on world-wide policy matters, it would throw the rest of the free world in grave jeopardy. The position of world leadership held by the United States is recognized by the British, who nonetheless wish to continue in their own role as one of the great powers. Let us strongly hope that the historic ties which bind our two great English-speaking nations together will remain strong and firm in the challenge which confronts us both. And let us hope, too, that the divergence on Asian affairs can be satisfactorily reconciled for our mutual welfare and for the preservation of freedom among all other peace-loving peoples of the world.

[05:00]

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 05:22]