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This Week In Congress Radio Address: Korean Conflict Peace Negotiations, 1953 July 15

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

[00:00]

Announcer: The Week in Congress, recorded on July 10th, 1953, and played on

WDOV on July 15th, 1953.

Mr. Kelly: From Washington, DC, transcribed, United States Senator J. Allen Frear

brings to the people of Delaware the twenty-eighth in a series of brief, weekly reports on current congressional affairs. Ladies and gentlemen,

Senator Frear.

Senator Frear: Thank you. Many times in the last three years, I have had occasion to

comment on the conflict in Korea. The reason for discussing the matter again stems from the status of truce negotiations not taking place in the battle area. There appears to be a likelihood of an understanding being reached between the United Nations command and the communist representatives. If negotiations are successfully concluded, a cease-fire could result. But standing between an agreeable conclusion of these meetings and a resultant armistice is the question of the status of South Korea whose spokesman, President Sigmund Ray (phonetic) appears adamant in his demand that no settlement be made which does not guarantee unification of his whole country and removal of the Chinese aggressors. As a related part of this explosive issue, the foreign ministers of Great Britain and France have been meeting during the past few days with Secretary of State Dehli (phonetic [01:39]). Their conversations necessarily will deal with the Korean problem and with a host of other unsettled issues in the foreign policy field. One of these added subjects will undoubtedly be the current unrest in Eastern Germany and other satellite countries. An unrest that has caused the recent downfall of one of the highest representatives of the Soviet Union. A great many conclusions can undoubtedly be drawn from all that is taking place in Korea, in Eastern Germany, and here at the Big Three meeting in the United States. One fact, however, seems to emerge more clearly than others, and that is that the concerted actions by the democratic nations of the world, which had its principal beginnings in the historic Marshall Plan and the Greek-Turkish aide programs, and which has continued throughout our historic though costly decision to intervene in Korea is beginning to have its effect behind the Iron Curtain. The leaders in the Kremlin, unlike those of a democracy, must rely on their own power in order to hold the reins of government, and in fact, to preserve their own lives. They cannot work cooperatively with the people, but instead must dominate them with an

iron hand. As a result it is not difficult to understand why purges occur among communist leaders in their struggle for individual supremacy. The Kremlin realizes that its attempt to successfully overrun all of Korea has failed. Otherwise, it would not be asking for an armistice. I am sure that many believe that instead of agreeing to this armistice, we should continue to battle until the communists are finally and completely defeated. I am not attempting to answer that question in this discussion except to point out that as long as the fighting continues, additional American lives will be lost, and the number of casualties we have already suffered is literally staggering. It seems correct to assume that the inability of the communists to win in Korea is having its repercussions within China, and even North Korea, which had supplied manpower for the communist army. In Eastern Germany, in Poland, and in other areas at war, the satellite countries recognize the vulnerability of the Kremlin's rule and appear to be rising in righteous wrath against their long suppression. And so, the historic decision of the United States to undertake a policy of collective economic and military security with the democratic nations of the world against the spread of communism appears to have been basically successful. In spite of the terrible cost in American and allied lives, in spite of the countless billions of dollars expended in this great campaign so far, we have, up to the moment, closed the gates against the floods of communism. We now hope after this tremendous tide of brutality and oppression will back up and finally engulf and destroy itself. [05:03] A desperate and reckless effort by the Kremlin to obtain a victory in the East-West struggle by starting a third world war could yet occur, but this possibility does not, at the moment, seem likely. For it would indeed be strikingly poor judgment for the communist leaders to launch a war at a time when an inner, internal revolt is seething about them. Let us then stand firm in the knowledge that the strength of our country, together with the conviction that our cause is just, will soon enable us to watch the downfall of a regime which deserves the hard fate that it had attempted to thrust upon the free people of this earth.

Mr. Kelly:

Thank you, Senator Frear. From the nation's capital, you have heard United States Senator J. Allen Frear in the twenty-eighth of a series of brief weekly reports on current congressional affairs. Mr. Frear spoke from the Senate Office Building in Washington, and will be heard again next week at this same time.

[End 06:12]