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This Week In Congress Radio Address: U.S. Refutes Soviet Charges Before U. N.,
1958 April 20

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

[00:00]

Announcer: The Week in Congress, recorded on April 20th, 1958.

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, Mr. Kelly. The United States government, through its official representatives, appeared before the Security Council of the United Nations this week to refute a new, and one of the most vicious propaganda attempts by the Soviet Union, that has been unveiled for some time. It was the charge, voiced by the Kremlin mouthpiece, Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, that American aircraft, armed with nuclear weapons, had made provocative flights across the Arctic region in the direction of Russia. Curiously enough, I understand that the Kremlin based its allegations on a press report filed by one of our own news agencies. In making the charge against the United States, the Communist leaders were obviously guided by two objectives. First, to assert pressure on allied and neutral nations by trying to cast this country in the role of the potential aggressor, and secondly, and perhaps most important by the Russian point of view, to strengthen the position of the Kremlin among its own people by picturing the United States as a threat against the welfare of the Russian homeland. Judging by the support which this country quickly mustered among other nations in the Security Council, it became quickly evident that the Soviet Union was not fooling the leaders of Western Europe or those of most other countries outside the Iron Curtain, for it is common knowledge that only a direct order from the President of the United States could permit the dropping of nuclear weapons, and our Department of Defense, in conjunction with all other agencies of the government, is not likely to make an error in judgement that might precipitate another conflict. The attempt by Mr. Gromyko to fan the propaganda fires against the United States and in support of Russia was brought into the Security Council so that the United Nations could be used as a sounding board by Soviet spokesmen to bring about world-wide dissemination of their ill-conceived and wholly inaccurate charges. The Russian politicians are well aware that their recent endeavors to appear as peacemakers have fallen on deaf ears. This is especially true since the Kremlin ruthlessly crushed the attempt by Hungary to divest itself from Soviet control. Thus the Communists seized on an American press report

as a thin basis for retaliation against this country and as an effort to balance the scales of world opinion now heavily weighed against them. But as the background of the incident developed, it demonstrated even more clearly than before that the Soviets refusal to support world disarmament has, and continues to make urgently necessary a strong and ready defense by the United States. Most Americans, I am sure, and our allies as well, are probably quite pleased that the United States is almost instantaneously ready to retaliate in the event the Kremlin ever foolishly decides to launch an attack, either across the arctic or in any other direction. I think it would be well for those individuals who insist on the necessity of another summit conference as quickly as possible to reconsider what the possible effect of such a meeting may be, for it seems to me that this reckless charge by the Kremlin merely serves to emphasize again that the Communists will probably use such a conference chiefly to create further propaganda for use behind the Iron Curtain to keep its restless satellite nations in line, and secondly, as pressure points on the so-called neutral countries in other sections of the world. As has been stated so often before, the Kremlin seems to understand and respect only the language of strength in matters of foreign policy. As long as the Soviets fear retaliation by the United States of any unprovoked attack on this country or its allies, it will probably do nothing. [05:08] I am pleased that the United States has promptly, vigorously, and effectively refuted the Kremlin's reckless accusation of the past few days, and I trust that our defense preparations will continue to be maintained in the finest possible state of readiness.

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 this same time, speaking from the Senate Office Building in Washington.

[End 05:47]