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This Week In Congress Radio Address: Alertness of U.S. Civil Defense, 1954 June 16

Speaker: Senator J. Allen Frear

Transcribed by: David Cardillo

[00:00]

Announcer: The Week in Congress, recorded on June 14th, 1954, and played on WDOV on June 16th, 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. Two significant events of much interest to the American people have just taken place. One of these is a wide-scale test of the alertness of our civil defense. The other is the traditional observance of Flag Day. At first, there may seem to be no connection between the two. But actually, there is a close relationship. In the test of our atomic defenses, we recognize the existence of a threat against us from a potential aggressor from beyond the seas. The conclusions drawn from this experiment will perhaps give us a significant insight into our ability to withstand a hostile assault in the event it suddenly is forthcoming. The pattern of today's events in Europe and in Asia compel us to think and act decisively in order that we may be prepared for whatever the future brings. The collapse of the French cabinet to be followed apparently by the end of the fruitless Geneva conference are not developments which appease the mind of our diplomatic and military authorities. It now remains to be seen whether or not some new method can be found to prevent the fall of the remaining free areas of Indochina to the advancing Communist forces. As the Red elements continue to consolidate their gains in Indochina, and as threats against our, against other small Asiatic nations grow, the long-range plan of the Russian leaders, as I have attempted to indicate many times, seems now to emerge more clearly. It is one of relentless effort to forge an iron ring around the United States, cutting off, if possible, our sources of needed raw material, opening up trouble spots in our own Western Hemisphere, attempting to bring about disunity between ourselves and our allies, and taking any and all other measures detrimental to our national security and welfare. It is urgent, then, that we look well to our internal defenses and bend every effort to alert our civilian population to the devastating consequences of an atomic attack, which could be the climactic blow of the Kremlin's efforts for world conquest. How fitting, then, is the observance of Flag Day, which affords us the opportunity of displaying our national colors and reaffirming our patriotism in this great land. Unity of purpose and action were never more compellingly

necessary than in these precarious times. It remains to be seen whether or not the immediate future will again find us even more deeply involved than at present in protecting the democratic way of life. But one thing is clearly evident: if the American people will be solidly united in the serious obligations which confront them, we will, I am sure, be able to satisfactorily surmount even the most dangerous obstacles which may come before us. Let us renew our allegiance to the United States on this observance of another Flag Day, for within this great democracy lie the hopes and dreams of millions of free people everywhere.

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 04:40]