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This Week In Congress Radio Address: Indochina War and the Spread of Communism, 1953  
May 3

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

**[00:00]**

Announcer: The Week in Congress, recorded on May 3, 1953, and played on WDOV.

Mr. Kelly: From Washington, DC, transcribed, United States Senator J. Allen Frear brings to the people of Delaware the eighteenth in a series of brief, weekly reports on current congressional affairs. Ladies and gentlemen, Senator Frear.

Senator Frear: Thank you. It had been my intention on this occasion to discuss a legislative matter of purely domestic interest. However, events which have occurred during the past few days in Southeast Asia suggest our urgent attention to that section of the world instead. In the nearly three years that have elapsed since military aggression began in Korea, the free world has watched and wondered when or if the Moscow-inspired red forces would make a major thrust against another small and inadequately-defended country. We now need wonder no longer. The sporadic fighting in Indochina between the communists and the French defenders seems now to be taking us into a measured effort by the communist army against Southeastern Asia, for the red forces are advancing on the capital of Laos in Indochina, and it appears that their aggression there may be successful. If that country falls, the communists will then have a springboard with which to attack Thailand where its border adjoins that of Laos. It has thus become evident that again the communists are using their current peace proposals in Korea as a smoke screen for covering up actual aggression elsewhere. Strange questions are arising as a result of the new reds attack a nation. The United States, already having been committed in Korea, must determine how much assistance can be given to other (unintelligible **[02:23]**) countries in that area of the world who are paired to be the next potential victims on the Kremlin's timetable. A communist minute is like a forest fire: when we check it at one point, it breaks out at another. I have, on a number of occasions in the past, pointed out that international communism is a world-wide problem. Its practices are just as dangerous in Europe as they are in Asia. The great problem before us is, as it has been so often in the past three years, how shall we meet and overcome it? Here in Washington, as congress approaches consideration of the proposed military spending program and our programs of foreign aid, the question arises again as to how we can carry out our ever-increasing world responsibility. At the same time, lessening the burden of expenses on the

American wage earner. We must face reality. Even the (unintelligible [03:31]) in Korea, only to find that other important Asian countries have in the meantime disappeared behind the iron curtain. When the leaders in the Kremlin spoke of a peaceful settlement of differences between East and West a few weeks ago, many Americans earnestly hoped that a truce in this clash between communism and the free world was approaching. At that time, many of us urged that the Russian proposal be viewed with the greatest possible caution. Present events would seem to justify that prudence, for the communists are still on the march, and they are ruthlessly and steadily creeping forward in an apparent effort to envelop all of the great, teeming continent of Asia. The grim reality facing us is that world peace does not appear to be in (unintelligible [04:32]). These views may be pessimistic, but they are the only conclusions that seem logical from the pattern of aggression which is unfolding in the far east. Let us hope that the red march in Asia will soon be halted, but let us stand ready for any further aggression which may suddenly be thrust upon us.

Mr. Kelly:

Thank you, Senator Frear. [05:00] From Washington, you have heard United States Senator J. Allen Frear in the eighteenth report to the people of Delaware on current congressional affairs. Senator Frear spoke from the Senate Office Building in the nation's capital, and will be heard again next week at this same time.

[End 05:24]