

These things exist all along this border, from over in here, all the way around the edge of this country, from over here near the Caspian Sea. All the way over here in this nation there are some of the world's most rugged mountains, and in back of these mountains are some of the great dry, extended deserts of the world. That is true.

But this wouldn't constitute a barrier. A barrier means that you can't go as a human being from one place to the other easily. There are not many people going from one place to the other. If you had roads, railroads, and airlines, then mountains wouldn't constitute barriers. There was a time when our Rocky Mountains constituted a barrier, but not today. You can go through them without even knowing it. As far as motor trucks are concerned, they go across mountain areas in the United States, and they hardly slow down except in some of the major passes.

There are only five railroads that cross the border of the Soviet Union and China. From the corner over here where Afghanistan and China come together with the Soviet Union, all the way across to Vladivostok, there are only five railroad lines that cross that boundary line. One of them, the one over here, that goes from Tashkent through the Perdana depression and on into China isn't built all the way across China. It only goes into China. There are some 2,000 or 2,000 miles of railroad that need to be built to hook this up.

We find a railroad that crosses into Mongolia and goes to Peking. Another railroad crosses into Mongolia and stops. There is another railroad that goes across this part of China--Manchuria--and goes back