
 APPENDIX

 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TEXAS WATER COMMISSION
 FILED WITH SPEAKER

Recommendations of the Texas Water Commission on HB 441 filed with the Speaker on February 11, 1971.

Recommendations of the Texas Water Commission on HB 491 filed with the Speaker on February 11, 1971.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Favorable reports have been filed on bills and a resolution by Committees, as follows:

Engrossed and Enrolled Bills: Correctly engrossed—HCR 36, HB 278.

Higher Education: HB 44.

Judicial Districts: HB 2, HB 207.

State Affairs: HB 102.

 TWENTY-FIRST DAY—FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1971

The House met at 11:00 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

The roll of the House was called and the following Members were present:

Mr. Speaker	Craddick	Head	Moore, A.
Adams	Cruz	Heatly	Murray
Agnich	Davis, D.	Hendricks	Nabers
Allen, John	Davis, H.	Hilliard	Nelms
Allred	Denton	Holmes, T.	Neugent, D.
Angly	Doran	Howard	Newton
Atwell	Doyle	Hubenak	Nichols
Atwood	Dramberger	Hull	Nugent, J.
Beckham	Farenthold	Johnson	Orr
Bigham	Finck	Jones, D.	Parker, C.
Blanton	Finnell	Jones, E.	Parker, W.
Blythe	Finney	Jones, G.	Patterson
Braecklein	Floyd	Jungmichel	Poerner
Bynum	Foreman	Kaster	Presnal
Calhoun	Gammage	Kost	Price
Carrillo	Garcia	Kubiak	Rodriguez
Cates	Grant	Lewis	Rosson
Cavness	Hanna, Joe	Lombardino	Salem
Christian	Harding	Longoria	Sanchez
Clark	Harris	Lovell	Schulle
Clayton	Hawkins	McAlister	Shannon
Cobb	Hawn	McKissack	Sherman
Cole	Haynes	Moncrief	Short

Silber	Stroud	Uher	Williams
Simmons	Swanson	Von Dohlen	Wolff
Slider	Tarbox	Ward	Wyatt
Solomon	Traeger	Wayne	
Spurlock	Truan	Wieting	

Absent

Kilpatrick	Ligarde	Santiesteban	Slack
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Absent-Excused

Allen, Joe	Coats	Lee	Poff
Baker	Daniel	Lemmon	Reed
Bass, B.	Earthman	Mengden	Salter
Bass, T.	Golman	Moore, G.	Semos
Bowers	Graves	Moore, T.	Smith
Boyle	Hale	Moreno	Stewart
Braun	Hannah, John	Niland	Tupper
Burgess	Holmes, Z.	Ogg	Vale
Caldwell	Ingram	Pickens	Williamson

A quorum of the House was announced present.

The Invocation was offered by Chaplain Clinton Kersey.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE GRANTED

The following Members were granted leaves of absence for today on account of important business:

Mr. Hale on motion of Mr. Salem.

Mr. Ogg on motion of Mr. Silber.

Mr. Salter on motion of Mr. Denton.

Mr. Tom Moore on motion of Mr. Grant.

Mr. Niland on motion of Mr. Hilliard.

Mr. John Hannah on motion of Mr. Adams.

Mr. Ingram on motion of Mr. Adams.

Mr. Poff on motion of Mr. Christian.

Mr. Joe Allen on motion of Mr. Gammage.

Mr. Braun on motion of Mr. Harris.

Mr. Graves on motion of Mr. Harris.

Mr. Reed on motion of Mr. Hawn.

Mr. Zan Holmes on motion of Mr. Hawn.

Mr. Boyle on motion of Mr. Wyatt.

Mr. Coats on motion of Mr. Wyatt.

Mr. Tupper on motion of Mr. Bigham.

Mr. Bowers on motion of Mr. Blythe.

Mr. Daniel on motion of Mr. Beckham.

Mr. Bill Bass on motion of Mr. Beckham.

Mr. Stewart on motion of Mr. Hubenak.

Mr. Tom Bass on motion of Mr. Stroud.

Mr. Lemmon on motion of Mr. Stroud.

Mr. Lee on motion of Mr. Angly.

Mr. Earthman on motion of Mr. Angly.

Mr. Mengden on motion of Mr. Angly.

Mr. Griffith Moore on motion of Mr. Braecklein.

Mr. Semos on motion of Mr. Cates.

Mr. Baker on motion of Mr. Hubenak.

The following Members were granted leaves of absence for today on account of illness:

Mr. Williamson on motion of Mr. Lovell.

Mr. Caldwell on motion of Mr. Carl Parker.

Mr. Vale on motion of Mr. Beckham.

Mr. Smith on motion of Mr. Stroud.

The following Members were granted leaves of absence for today on account of illness in the family:

Mr. Burgess on motion of Mr. Jungmichel.

Mr. Golman on motion of Mr. McKissack.

Mr. Pickens on motion of Mr. Jim Nugent.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Austin, Texas, February 12, 1971

Honorable Gus Mutscher, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: I am directed by the Senate to inform the House that the Senate has passed the following:

HCR 35, By Z. Holmes, Graves: Recognizing National Negro History Week.

HCR 36, By Lemmon, et al: Congratulating Astronauts Alan B. Shepard, Jr., Edgar D. Mitchell, and Stuart A. Roosa.

HB 213, By Heatly: Making supplemental allocations and appropriations to the State Department of Public Welfare, and authorizing the transfer of funds; repealing the limitations contained in the appropriations to the Texas Department of Public Safety in House Bill No. 2, 61st Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 1969, of the amount of money in the Motor Vehicle Inspection Fund available for funding and financing the appropriations to the Texas Department of Public Safety and making other provisions relating thereto; . . . etc.; and declaring an emergency.

Respectfully,
CHARLES A. SCHNABEL
Secretary of the Senate

HSR 112—ADOPTED

(Requesting the President to do all in his power to arrange for release or exchange of American prisoners of war)

Speaker Mutscher offered the following resolution:

HSR 112

Whereas, There are 1500 American servicemen who are Prisoners of War who are held by the North Vietnamese or the forces of the National Liberation Front; and

Whereas, Over 400 of these servicemen have been in the hands of the enemy for four years or more; and

Whereas, The forces of North Vietnam and the National Liberation Front have not observed and do not today observe the provisions of the Geneva Convention with regard to the servicemen receiving correspondence, packages from the Red Cross and other services; and

Whereas, Good medical care and ordinary humane treatment are not being accorded these Prisoners of War; and

Whereas, There is every reason to believe that the Prisoners of War have been tortured and otherwise mistreated during their period of incarceration; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the State of Texas request that the President do all in his power to arrange for the exchange or release of the American Prisoners of War while our troops are still fighting for victory in South Vietnam.

The resolution was adopted without objection.

On motion of Mr. Wayne the names of all the Members of the House were added to the resolution as signers thereof.

HSR 113—ADOPTED

(To present H. Ross Perot the Texas House Medal of Honor)

Mr. Johnson offered the following resolution:

HSR 113

Whereas, A distinguished Texan with the stature of one of the state's most illustrious heroes is H. Ross Perot of Dallas, who through his inspired leadership has successfully coordinated efforts of his fellow countrymen in the campaign for the release of our young men imprisoned in North Vietnam; and

Whereas, It is appropriate that the Texas House of Representatives recognize H. Ross Perot and commend him for his notable contributions on behalf of these young servicemen who have sacrificed so much for America; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the 62nd Legislature hereby request the Speaker, at an appropriate ceremony conducted before a Joint Session of the House of Representatives and the Senate on Friday, February 12, 1971, to present to H. Ross Perot the Texas House Medal of Honor in appreciation for his sincere, imaginative, and untiring efforts to obtain the release of American servicemen imprisoned by the government of North Vietnam.

Signed: Johnson and Wolff.

The resolution was adopted without objection.

On motion of Mr. Wayne the names of all the Members of the House were added to the resolution as signers thereof.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION ON FIRST READING

The following Senate Joint Resolution was today laid before the House, read first time and referred to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments:

SJR 12.

SENATE BILLS ON FIRST READING

The following Senate Bills were today laid before the House, read first time and referred to Committees, as follows:

SB 12 to the Committee on Public Education.

SB 21 to the Committee on Higher Education.

SB 40 to the Committee on Counties.

SB 42 to the Committee on Higher Education.

SB 52 to the Committee on Conservation and Reclamation.

SB 73 to the Committee on Counties.

SB 184 to the Committee on Governmental Affairs and Efficiency.

SB 185 to the Committee on Governmental Affairs and Efficiency.

SB 235 to the Committee on Urban Affairs.

SB 245 to the Committee on State Finance.

SB 256 to the Committee on Appropriations.

MASCOT RESOLUTION

The following Mascot Resolution was referred to the Committee on House Administration:

HSR 111, by Dean Neugent: To name Christi Leigh Craddick Mascot of the House.

HOUSE BILLS ON FIRST READING

The following House Bills were today laid before the House, read first time and referred to Committees, as follows:

By Harding:

HB 505, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to and fixing the minimum and maximum salaries of the official shorthand reporters for the 51st and 119th Judicial Districts of Texas; and declaring an emergency.

Referred to Committee on Counties.

By Sanchez and Poerner:

HB 506, A bill to be entitled An Act to provide for standard time in this state and to exempt this state from the provisions of federal law relating to uniform advancement of time; amending Section 1, Chapter 359, Acts of the 50th Legislature, 1947 (Article 23a, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes); and declaring an emergency.

Referred to Committee on State Affairs.

By Carrillo:

HB 507, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to the creation, establishment, administration, and operation of a state equal employment civil service system; providing a penalty; and declaring an emergency.

Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

By Newton:

HB 508, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to the salaries of certain officers in certain counties; amending Chapter 427, Acts of the 54th Legislature, 1955, as amended (Article 3883i, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), by adding a Section 2E; and declaring an emergency.

Referred to Committee on Counties.

By Bynum and Poff:

HB 509, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to providing for additional compensation for the district judges of the 47th, 108th, and 181st Judicial Districts of Texas; amending Chapter 355, Acts of the 58th Legislature, 1963 (Article 6819a-36, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes); and declaring an emergency.

Referred to Committee on Counties.

By Bynum and Poff:

HB 510, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to the issuance and sale of revenue bonds as special obligations of the hospital district of the City of Amarillo for the purpose of providing funds for the acquisition, purchase, construction, repair, renovation, improvement, enlargement or equipping of hospital facilities; amending Section 3, Chapter 136, Acts of the 55th Legislature, Regular Session, 1957, as amended; and declaring an emergency.

Referred to Committee on Counties.

By Bynum and Poff:

HB 511, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to the employment and salaries of the county attorney and assistant county attorneys and investigators, county judges and judges of the county courts at law in certain counties; amending Chapter 484, Acts of the 59th Legislature, Regular Session, 1965, as amended (Article 3886b-1, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes); and declaring an emergency.

Referred to Committee on Counties.

By Bynum and Poff:

HB 512, A bill to be entitled An Act authorizing the commissioners court in certain counties to fix the compensation of all chief deputies, deputies, assistants, clerks, and secretaries of the county officials in such county, except assistant county attorneys, providing a maximum compensation for each such chief deputy, deputy, assistant, clerk or secretary; repealing all laws or parts of laws in conflict herewith; and declaring an emergency.

Referred to Committee on Counties.

By Ogg:

HB 513, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to the stoppage of payment on any check, draft, or written order for the payment of the indebtedness due for repair on any article, implement, utensil, or vehicle, if the carpenter, mechanic, artisan, or other workman relinquished possession due to the receipt of the check, draft, or written order for payment; establishing prima facie evidence of intent to defraud or fraudulently obtain

possession; stipulating the right to immediate repossession and the right to collect necessary costs incurred in repossession and collection of the amount due, including attorney's fees, in addition to the amount due for repairs; amending Article 5503, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas, 1925; and declaring an emergency.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

HB 84 ON SECOND READING

The Speaker laid before the House on its second reading and passage to engrossment,

HB 84, A bill to be entitled An Act amending the following numbered sections and subsections of Chapter 470, Acts of the Regular Session of the 45th Legislature of Texas (establishing and regulating the Teacher Retirement System of Texas), as heretofore amended and recompiled by Chapter 41, Acts of the Regular Session of the 61st Legislature of Texas, viz: amending Section 1.02(a) of said Act; amending Sections 3.01(c), 3.01(d) and 3.01(e) of said Act; amending Section 3.08 of said Act; and amending Section 4.05(b) of said Act; and declaring an emergency.

The bill was read second time.

Representative Slack entered the House and was announced present.

BILL SIGNED BY THE SPEAKER

The Speaker signed in the presence of the House, after giving due notice thereof, the following enrolled bill:

SB 2, Changing the name of Pan American College to Pan American University.

HB 84—(Consideration continued)

Mr. Wieting offered the following amendment to HB 84:

Amendment No. 1

Amend Section 3, Sec. 3.08 (b) of HB 84 by changing the word "June" which is on line 12 of page 4 between "of" and "1971" to "March."

The amendment was adopted without objection.

Mr. Wieting offered the following amendment to HB 84:

Amendment No. 2

Amend Section 3, Sec. 3.08 (c) of HB 84 by changing the word "June" on line 17 of page 4 which is between "of" and "1971" to "March."

The amendment was adopted without objection.

HB 84, as amended, was passed to engrossment.

Mr. Jungmichel moved to reconsider the vote by which HB 84 was passed to engrossment and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

VOTE RECORDED

Mr. Kaster requested to be recorded as voting Yea on passage of HB 84 to engrossment.

HB 207 ON SECOND READING

The Speaker laid before the House on its second reading and passage to engrossment,

HB 207, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to providing that the district clerk and criminal district attorney serving in those offices for the 124th Judicial District shall serve in those offices for the 188th Judicial District; amending Sections 17 and 19, Chapter 23, Acts of the 42nd Legislature, 1st Called Session, 1931, as amended (Subdivision 124, Article 199, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes); and declaring an emergency.

The bill was read second time and was passed to engrossment.

Mr. John Allen moved to reconsider the vote by which HB 207 was passed to engrossment and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

RECESS

Mr. Heatly moved that the House recess until 2:15 p.m. today.

The motion prevailed without objection.

The House accordingly, at 12:05 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. today.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The House met at 2:15 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

HOUSE AT EASE

At 2:18 p.m., the Speaker stated the House would stand at ease.

At 2:28 p.m., the Speaker called the House to order.

HONORING THE WIVES AND RELATIVES OF THE PRISONERS OF WAR IN NORTH VIETNAM

(The House of Representatives and the Senate in Joint Session)

In accordance with the provisions of SCR 13, providing for a Joint Session of the Senate and the House of Representatives at 2:30 p.m. today, for the purpose of honoring the wives and relatives of the prisoners of

war in North Vietnam, the Members of the Senate were announced at the Bar of the House and, being admitted, occupied seats arranged for them.

Lieutenant Governor Ben Barnes occupied a seat on the Speaker's Rostrum.

The invited guests, the wives and relatives of the prisoners of war in North Vietnam, were announced at the Bar of the House and, being admitted, occupied seats arranged for them.

The Honorable Preston Smith, Governor of the State of Texas, together with Brigadier General Daniel (Chappie) James, Jr., Captain Alan Bean, Mrs. Bonnie Singleton, Major Fred Thompson, Major James Nick Rowe and Mr. H. Ross Perot, were announced at the Bar of the House and, being admitted, were escorted to the Speaker's Rostrum by Senators Wilson, Hightower, Patman, Christie and Kennard.

Speaker G. F. (Gus) Mutscher presented Lieutenant Governor Ben Barnes to the Joint Session.

Lieutenant Governor Barnes called the Senate to order.

A quorum of the Senate was announced present.

Speaker Mutscher called the House of Representatives to order.

A quorum of the House was announced present.

The Speaker stated that the two Houses were meeting in Joint Session pursuant to the provisions of SCR 13.

Speaker Mutscher addressed the Joint Session and introduced the following State Officials who were present:

The Honorable Preston Smith, Governor of Texas; the Honorable Martin Dies, Jr., Secretary of State; the Honorable Robert S. Calvert, Comptroller of Public Accounts; the Honorable Bob Armstrong, Commissioner of the General Land Office; the Honorable Robert W. Calvert, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court; and the following Associate Justices of the Supreme Court: the Honorable Ruel C. Walker, the Honorable Jack Pope, Jr., the Honorable Thomas M. Reavley, the Honorable Sears McGee, the Honorable James Denton and the Honorable Zollie Steakley.

Speaker Mutscher then introduced Mrs. Preston Smith, wife of Governor Smith, and Major General Ross Ayers, Adjutant General of Texas.

The Speaker asked that the lights in the House Chamber be turned off and directed attention to the motion picture screen on the Speaker's Rostrum.

A film depicting the life of an American prisoner of war in Southeast Asia was then shown.

Speaker Mutscher then addressed the Joint Session and introduced Mr. H. Ross Perot, speaking as follows:

A little over a year ago a man, known then only to the business world, became the symbol to all Americans of the great concern for servicemen held as prisoners of war in Vietnam. He made personal sacrifices of time,

money and energy to tell the story of the 1,400 American families with husbands and sons in the hands of the enemy. For he knew that world opinion was the most powerful weapon available to gain for these men: humane treatment, adequate food and clothing and, ultimately, freedom.

When the United We Stand movement took on nationwide proportions in late 1969 with plans to deliver Christmas packages to POW's in North Vietnam, H. Ross Perot became a household word. Citizens from throughout Texas—regardless of political party, regardless of religion, regardless of race, regardless of philosophy—were proud to call him a favorite son.

Ross Perot was born in the East Texas town of Texarkana, where he attended public schools and Texarkana Junior College. After junior college he received an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. While at the Academy, he served as Chairman of the Brigade Executive Committee and as Class President.

He served four years of active duty as a naval officer and was discharged from the Navy in 1957 as a Lieutenant.

Mr. Perot joined I.B.M. as a salesman and embarked on one of the most spectacular careers in the history of the computer industry. Today he is President of Electronic Data Systems, one of our state's leading corporations.

Mr. Perot's interest in POW's was fostered in 1969 when a Dallas television station sponsored a trip for wives of POW's to meet with North Vietnamese delegates at the Paris Peace Talks. Through involvement in this project, he met wives who could not find out whether their husbands were alive or dead—and children who had never seen their fathers. As a result of this experience, he formed United We Stand with three purposes in mind: (1) to alert the world to the plight of our captured servicemen, (2) to tell the captors that we did, indeed, care about these forgotten men, and (3) to secure release of the POW's.

It is a great honor to welcome Mr. Ross Perot to this Chamber and a great pleasure to present him to this outstanding assembly.

Mr. Perot then addressed the Joint Session and the Assemblage, speaking as follows:

Governor Smith, Lieutenant Governor Barnes, Mr. Speaker, Members of the House and Senate, Distinguished Guests:

We are all products of our environment. Probably I'm not too inaccurate in saying that the environment of every person in this room is the State of Texas. You're richly blessed if you are born in the United States of America, you're twice blessed if you are a citizen of the State of Texas. And the reason you're blessed particularly if you're a second or a third or a fourth generation Texan, is that the blood of some very brave and courageous people runs in your veins. These were tough people, these were resolute people, these were people that tamed a wilderness and built a great state. Is there any question in any of your minds what your grandfathers or great grandfathers would have done for 1600 men imprisoned a hard day's ride away from Austin, Texas? And that's all it takes now, because the world has shrunken so greatly; just twenty-four hours from

Austin, Texas, to Hanoi, to the jungles of South Vietnam where the Viet Cong hold several hundred prisoners, or to the mountains and the jungles, and the caves of Laos, where the other men are held. Just twenty-four hours away.

It is with particular pride that I, a native Texan, a third generation Texan, have an opportunity to talk to you today about these men because in the history of their country, since Texas became a part of the Union, when the bugle is blown and the call has gone out nobody has made a greater military record for their country than the men and the boys that came out of the farms, the ranches, the small towns and the cities of Texas, and that is true in this war, too.

Last summer I stood on the cliffs overlooking Normandy Beach, and my son and I and entire family mentally relived what Colonel Rudder and his men went through in World War II; a classic example of the bravery of Texans. Our Texas A & M has produced more military officers than the Naval Academy and West Point and the Air Force Academy combined, to serve our country.

Now when you give that much, anytime there is a conflict like this, then you are going to have some men that get caught on the bitter end of it. One percent of the prisoners come from Texas A & M. I don't think any other school has that many men. Texas A & M alone has over fifteen men, fifteen to sixteen men, I believe that I'm correct in saying, that are prisoners of war. Now our challenge is purely and simply to get these men out. I'd like to give you my experiences in dealing with the North Vietnamese, from that, develop a strategy, and then close this down by pointing out what I think the State of Texas can do now that would be most beneficial to these men.

First, the North Vietnamese tell their children, they tell their military troops, and they tell our men who are prisoners of war, every day, "North Vietnam is not at war with the people of the United States; the people of the United States are our friends; North Vietnam is at war with the government of the United States; the government is evil and materialistic". That is bedrock to their thinking, that is bedrock or the keystone to our strategy.

The friendship of the American people is of fundamental importance to the North Vietnamese. Typically, this comes as a shock to the average American. They are counting on our friendship for a number of reasons. One, what they call friendship, I call apathy. They're counting on most of us never to become involved, never to make a sacrifice, never to understand this war. So as they say, "Time runs on their side. We, like the French, will tire". Now let's get to the big reason why they want our friendship and why they're not willing to tamper with it for the fate of 1600 men. They're counting on you, they're counting on millions of us to be willing to send our sons back over there at some future point in time to help North Vietnam attain its independence from China. North Vietnam has a very real historical reason to fear China, no reason at all to fear that the United States wishes to occupy its soil. This may seem ludicrous to you today, but to those of you who were on the troopships coming back from World War II, would it have seemed any more ludicrous if I had tapped you on the shoulder and said, "Someday your son will be defending Germany and Japan?" This is of fundamental importance to the

North Vietnamese. Let's now look at how the North Vietnamese look at us, and it'll help us develop our strategy. The North Vietnamese sacrifices during this war are roughly comparable to the sacrifices of the average citizen of Great Britain in World War II. They've totally committed their nation. They look at us as a soft, weak, ineffective people, because most of us have made no sacrifice at all. Put yourself in their position and I think you'd draw the same conclusion. They consider us, as I said, a very weak and ineffective people. I'd like to give you some direct quotes from some conversations with the North Vietnamese to give you further insight. At one point, I was talking with a North Vietnamese and I said, "Now look, you understand the majority rules in our country." Right away he came back and said, "Oh, no, most of the citizens of your country are not involved at all in the affairs of your government. Small, well organized minorities rule."

At another time they talked at great length about the fact that over a million people participated against our government in a demonstration. When they finished I asked, "Do you know the population in our country?" They said, "200 million people", and then I said, "What do you think the other 99-½ percent of the population was thinking that day?" Again without any hesitation, they shot back, "Most of them weren't thinking anything." And sadly, they were right. It's not the people who have studied the issues and know where they stand that prolong the war, it's the mass of decent constructive Americans who as the North Vietnamese say couldn't even find Vietnam on the map, who don't stand anywhere on this conflict that cause the North Vietnamese to feel that time runs on their side. That we, like the French, will tire, and as long as they feel that way they won't negotiate and as long as they feel that way it is very, very complex for us to get these men back. That's the key; an aroused America.

We were talking about the prisoners, and their basic posture is why do you want these men back: and we didn't really talk for awhile, because I couldn't understand their question. But from their cultural point of view a prisoner of war is a disgraced man, and by allowing himself to be captured instead of dying in battle, he has disgraced his military unit, his family and his country. From their point of view, we shouldn't want these men back. I have assured them repeatedly that we do and that in our culture 200 million Americans will become aroused over just one man being brutally treated, much less 1600 of our great young men. Again, they came right back without any hesitation and said, "Perot, what you say cannot be true, because these same 200 million people have allowed 50,000 men to die in the battlefield. Those men will never return to their families and you mean to tell us that these same people who, after 50,000 casualties, never really studied, became involved, and took some position on the war, are going to become aroused over just 1600 men who'll return to their families someday?" See the logic from their point of view? And yet I assured them, "Wait and see; watch and see". When I returned from the Christmas trip I knew that I could not gain release of the prisoners. I knew the American people held the key to the fate of these men, and I was thrilled to learn that the average American does care very, very, deeply about these men and yet the average American wants to know what can I do to help bring these men back to their families? The North Vietnamese respond to pressure. They do care what you think, and the worst sign of all to them is when you start thinking. Now let me prove my point before I get into the mechanics of what we have been doing and what I would like for the State of Texas to do. I got a lot of advice, most of it bad, about how to deal with the North Vietnamese but one old missionary

who had dealt with them for years told me one thing I've never forgotten and I urge you never to forget it either in your activities to bring these men home. He said, "The North Vietnamese learned a long time ago, when an American has their arm twisted, to say, let's talk; immediately the American releases his arm and we talk, and talk, and talk and nothing happens." This old missionary's advice on the prisoner issue was, "When you get their arm twisted, they'll say, let's talk." But as you talk, continue to twist, continue to keep pressure on because the one thing they respond to is pressure.

We've got another problem here, we are very impatient people; the orientals and the North Vietnamese are patient people. I can't ask Americans to change their nature, I wouldn't want you to change your nature, I wouldn't want you to change or to lose your impatience. But I ask you to go back into your ancestry and get the persistence and the toughness that the people that went before us had, couple that with your impatience, and that's the kind of pressure the North Vietnamese can't stand in gaining the release of these men. I've confirmed in talking to the prisoners held by the South Vietnamese, the 8,000 North Vietnamese prisoners, that they do feel that a prisoner of war is a disgraced man. These men in the south feel they can't return at the end of the war. The North Vietnamese Government wouldn't let them. The true power in their situation is in the hands of the people of the United States. Let's look at what pressure has produced. After that Christmas trip and after the American people got involved. Now that is part of it but let me say that the huge part of it is once the wives and the families felt they could go out and get involved, that made things start to happen. The list I'm about to read, 85%-98% of the (as far as I'm concerned) credit goes to these great young ladies and the mothers and fathers and the children that have gone all over the world in an effort to gain the release of their men. One of the great stories, I heard, was about a young lady in Florida who had tried and tried and tried to get her city to organize and finally the newspaper editor said one day, when she came in, he said, "Well I guess you're still sticking by your guns." She came back and said, "No, I'm sticking by my man." These women have shown us the kind of strength that our grandmothers showed; the kind of strength that we don't have to show anymore. They don't want to have to be that strong forever. And they are looking forward to the time when they don't have to be both the head of the house and the mother in the house. And it's up to us.

But let's look at what pressure produced. Eighty percent of the mail that's come out of those prisoner of war camps has come out in 1970 and now into 1971, after the pressure was turned on. Prior to the time the pressure was turned on, the North Vietnamese allowed one package a year to come in to the prisoners. Now, in February of 1970, they changed it to a package every other month. Most of the valid information, and it's still not of very high quality, that comes out on men held by the North Vietnamese, came out after the pressure was turned on by the American people. We have reliable information that the North Vietnamese took the keys away from the guards in January of 1970, bringing a stop to most of the prison brutality. We have reliable information that they have improved the food and the medicine that the prisoners get. That change took place in 1970. We know they had Christmas in May of 1970 when they reenacted Christmas day with men who had been fed properly for five months; made a film and sent that film into this country last August. This was the first tangible proof that these men were being treated better. Can you imagine what it would mean to you, if your son were a prisoner, to see his face on

television, see him in reasonably good physical condition and know that he's alive and well? The American people produced that for these families. Now that's not what we're after. We are after the men. But looking at this whole thing like plywood; it comes in layers, we're putting in the layers. We've put in the foundation, we're building the superstructure now, and the key is pressure. There's one more factor. Three things keep a prisoner alive; the memory of his family; a deep religious conviction; and the intuitive belief that the country that sent him over there wouldn't leave him to rot. Prior to the pressure building up by the families, the prisoners get the word the hard way. Never forget that if Texas does the things that Texas can do, then the Texas prisoners will know it. They are going to get it the hard way, from the newly captured prisoner. In 1968 and '69 morale was terrible. The men were not hearing from their families even though the families were writing them. The North Vietnamese weren't delivering the mail. They thought their families were forgetting them. A new man would come in and they'd say, "What's our country doing to get us out?" The answer was, "Nothing that I know of," because all the efforts were quiet efforts. Today the morale in the camps is high because these men know that the sweet little girls they left behind not only have not forgotten them, but have gone all over the world in an effort to get them out. They know that millions and millions and millions of Americans have worked in an effort to bring them better treatment with the end result being to gain their release. We've given these men hope, you've given these men hope.

We must continue to give them hope like water dripping on a rock; this effort must continue to build until the men are brought home. The North Vietnamese do respond to it. We proceeded to build a pyramid in 1970, starting with the President of the United States going to the House and Senate and going down to the cities all over the country. Again and again you can time the release of additional information when the pressure is put on by the President, by the House, by the Senate, by a delegation of cities, and by nine high school children from Pensacola, Florida. This is beyond the scope of the North Vietnamese or the Viet Cong or the Pathet Lao's experience. They don't know what public opinion is, but they know it controls destiny in our country. Now these activities go on day after day after day. This city of Austin, right now, is in the midst of one of the most dynamic organizational village campaigns that we've had yet. Memphis, Tennessee, involved a half million people in an effort to gain the release of just one man from Memphis, Tennessee. Now that's the worst possible signal to the North Vietnamese and the others. Is it worth having a half million people learn to hate you over just one man? Answer, No. I urge the State of Texas to put together as an example to every other state in the union, a delegation representing one person from every town and city of any size at all in this state. This will be a delegation made up of several hundred people, led by the elected officials of our state to go to talk to the North Vietnamese; the Viet Cong; the Pathet Lao; to go to where they have to go and do what they have to do. I urge the State of Texas to do what two generations ago would have done on instinct if I had come in and made this call.

I urge this whole state to mobilize a delegate from every single town, a delegation led by our state officials to confront the North Vietnamese, the Viet Cong, and the Pathet Lao, demanding the release of the prisoners from the State of Texas. Now, as you do this, and as other states follow suit, day after day after day, the North Vietnamese sense this much better than we do; they're realizing that a person from every town in the

United States is having the experiences that this fellow Perot's been having for a year. They are dealing directly with the North Vietnamese now, they're learning first-hand about this whole situation.

No longer can they say that most of us don't stand anywhere, and now you've created the unacceptable risk. Number one, you'll get the men back and number two, you'll get those people to the conference table. Because, as we know in Texas, in any trading situation, it takes two people to trade, and one of the persons inevitably feels that time runs on his side. In this case it's the North Vietnamese. I don't care whether it's settling wars or buying or selling cattle, one of the parties feels that time runs on his side. This kind of cumulative effort, city after city after city after city, with every city of any size in this country being involved, with the afterglow of that person going back into his town to tell the people in this town; with the newspapers, the television stations telling his story to the people in that town, is the unacceptable risk.

The North Vietnamese have been to see me through delegations three times. The first: "What does it take to get you to go away?" That was in February of 1970. Second, when they first learned of these cages and cells you see down here in the Rotunda, they were frantic to get those things removed so that the American people couldn't see them. The third, when we announced what we called a village campaign, where people from cities, put together letter-writing campaigns and delegations to demand the release of the men from their city, they came over and said, "We know what you're doing. You're indoctrinating the American people, you're teaching them to hate us over just 1600 men." My reply was, "That's right! But you don't have to take that, because you control the men, you control the issue. These men have no value to you and anytime you get sick of it you can release the prisoners and you've seen the end of me."

I hope that every citizen of Texas will become involved. If you do, I'm confident that what you do will make the cumulative efforts of everyone that's gone before you seem completely insignificant, and most important, we'll get our men back.

They're waiting, they're counting on us, and I'd say if there is one state anywhere in this country that's not going to let them down, it's the State of Texas.

Thank you very much.

At the conclusion of the address by Mr. Perot, Speaker Mutscher presented Mr. Perot with the Texas House Medal of Honor, pursuant to the provisions of HSR 113.

Mr. Perot stated that he would accept the Medal of Honor on behalf of the wives and families of the Texas prisoners of war and expressed appreciation for the presentation.

Speaker Mutscher then presented Lieutenant Governor Barnes to the Joint Session.

Lieutenant Governor Barnes introduced the wives and families of the Texas prisoners of war who were present in the House Chamber.

Lieutenant Governor Barnes introduced Major Fred Thompson who had been a prisoner of war.

Lieutenant Governor Barnes then introduced Major James Nick Rowe to the Joint Session.

Major Rowe addressed the Joint Session and the Assemblage, speaking as follows:

Thank you, Governor Smith, Lieutenant Governor Barnes, Speaker Mutschers, Members of the Legislature, Distinguished Guests, particularly the families of our men who are still in Southeast Asia.

It is a particular honor for me to be able to come to my home state and speak before a session such as this and my message is one of the forgotten men. Mine is one voice, but I'm speaking for those who have no voice. There are 787 men, over half the total number of Prisoners of War, who are not held in North Vietnam. These men are held by the Pathet Lao, Laos, by the Viet Cong in South Vietnam and by the various communist forces in Cambodia. H. Ross Perot has led the Nation; has made a breakthrough; has given hope because the efforts of the American people, the pressure of public opinion, indignation, righteous indignation, at the inhumane treatment of Americans in North Vietnam has forced the North Vietnamese people to make the first concession of this long and tragic war. And yet, we have no indication that these men not in Hanoi have had any relief.

Mr. Perot spoke of a Texan's heritage; well you'll find that in the South, the Texans are holding up and are driving on. Of eleven members of the United States Army who have escaped, three of us are Texans. The ones that are still in are fighting. They are fighting to stay alive, to survive, and to come home. The cage that you see in the Rotunda, the bamboo cage, is something that you look at, just as you look at the cell. Fred Thompson spent long months in that cell, and I spent 62 months in cages like that bamboo cage you see downstairs. I spent 62 months in leg-irons and arm-irons and there are Americans that at this very moment are undergoing the same thing. In the South in the jungle prison camps, in the swamp forests where I was held, it's a life of monotony, pain, anguish, and frustration. It's two meals of rice a day and maybe a little bit of fish, fish heads and some fishtails, or salt, or Nuac Mam. It's disease, it's dysentery, it's beri-beri, it's hepatitis, all of these things in a framework where your captors are manipulating you; you are no longer a human being. They have dehumanized you, because as a prisoner of war, you might as well be a handful of mud that they pick up off the ground. They are trying to force you to succumb, to surrender, to give in to an ideology which is foreign to you. And yet with all the pressures that they can bring to bear, the Americans down there are holding on.

Now the thing is, there is a limit; every man has his limit. And how long the Americans can go is the question. The Viet Cong speak of leniency and humanitarianism just as the North Vietnamese do; I lived with the Viet Cong. I lived as their captive. And in my camp alone, there were eight Americans over a five year period. There were no more than four of us at any one time, because they felt that they could more easily deal with Americans if they had them in small groups. So either we were in isolation or in groups of twos and threes. And out of this eight, three died of starvation and disease; one was executed; three were released, one who

was dying when he was released, and I escaped before I was executed. Those are the lenient and humane Viet Cong. The Pathet Lao and the Communist forces in Cambodia are no different. The only difference is that no attention has been focused on them. They have not been held accountable for their crimes. The only recourse that those Americans have in those camps, because the Viet Cong control everything physical about you; you find that every man has a tight, hard little core inside himself, and it's something we rarely draw on until we really need it. But there are three things, and Mr. Perot mentioned them. And they are true. Faith in God, and this is the one thing that sustains because you have nothing else that you can hold on to. The Viet Cong control everything physical. You have no status, no rank, no money, no position, to identify you as a human being to maintain an identity. Faith in God transports you beyond that dirty little world that they've structured for you.

The second is faith in your country and faith in your government, and belief that ultimately there is good.

The third is faith in your fellow Americans, and believing that your fellow Americans are with you and behind you and helping you. And you know in the prison camps that when an American is ill, and you know that he's starving to death, or he is suffering from disease, when you see one American give up his meager ration of fish in order that the other American will have a little bit more to eat, then you know sacrifice. Because to give when you have much, is not really that much of a sacrifice, that's charity. But to give when you yourself have nothing, that is sacrifice. And that is what the Americans see from other Americans in the prison camps. And I think that one of the things that is most disturbing to me since I've been back, is that I found that in the prison camps, under the conditions of hardship, disease, death, that the Americans there had more faith in God and more faith in their country, and more faith in their fellow Americans than far too many people in the security and the comfort and the peace of the United States. And it's a sad commentary when the families and the loved ones of these men must go out and seek the aid of their fellow Americans to relieve the suffering of these men. And yet now that the Americans are becoming aware of the condition; becoming aware of what does exist, the American people are becoming awakened. Just as after Pearl Harbor, one of the comments of a Japanese Admiral was, "I fear we have awakened a sleeping giant". And this is what's happening in the country today. The American people are becoming aroused and the pressure is being brought to bear. We've seen results in North Vietnam. But I would urge that in all of your efforts that you consider the 787 men in the jungles, in the pits and the caves, in Laos, in Cambodia and South Vietnam.

Madame Binh, the Viet Cong Negotiator in Paris, when Ambassador Bruce brought forth the list containing the names of Americans held or missing in action in South Vietnam commented that it was the height of ridiculousness and asked Mr. Bruce if he came to negotiate or act as a public "Amuser". Madame Binh, who had the audacity to ask this, when Mr. Bruce brought a list that carried the hopes of thousands of families, in almost all the United States. This is because they have maintained an anonymous status so far. Well, it's time for that to end. And let me just convey in closing one message and this comes from the prison camps in the Mekong Delta. Sergeant Leonard Ladios was an American that was captured in 1965, and had tried to escape with me. We were recaptured; it was Lad's second attempt, and Lad died in captivity in 1966, of starvation

and disease. One of the last things that Lad said was, "When you get home (which I took as an omen), tell the people that those of us that are in here, are not going to break faith with the American people, and we just pray that they won't break faith with us." Thank you.

Lieutenant Governor Barnes introduced Brigadier General Chappie James, Deputy Secretary of State for Public Affairs.

General James addressed the Joint Session and the Assemblage, speaking as follows:

Thank you. Thank you, very much. It is a distinct honor and pleasure for me to be here in this august company today. It is always a pleasure to be in the great State of Texas, which I'm very proud to say, I'm an adopted honorary citizen of both Houston and Dallas. And so I feel at home here, too. When Mr. Perot was talking about the gallant fighting men of Texas, he was talking about something I know full well about because I had the honor and privilege to fight side-by-side and wing-tip to wing-tip with some of the toughest guys that I know. And some of the toughest breed of cats came from right here in the hills and the plains of Texas. So I know what he's talking about. I also know that a lot of my friends that are up there right now, and that are down there in the Delta and in Laos and other places in Southeast Asia hailed from this great state. And I would want them to know that I and you will not forget them. They can count on me, and I'm going to be sure after today that they can count on you. You see, the government of the United States of America has by no means given up its responsibility to bargain and to fight and to try to get in and free these men whenever possible. In the face of sure criticism, we launched an attempt, of course it was abortive in its end result for the ultimate aim, but we gained so much because we let the enemy know that we could get in his back yard and look around and look for our men and get out again without his knowing it or without his stopping us when he did find out. But more than that, we taught him that we were willing to try and that we didn't care what he thought about it, or anybody else; that if we are pressed to do it then we're going to take whatever steps we have to, to get our people home.

The Government of the United States of America is very appreciative of the efforts of all of its citizens and we need them. And we are proud, very proud, for the gallant men and women, and the wives and families of our men who are prisoners and missing in action in Southeast Asia. But we do not think that this absolves us of the responsibility as governments and agents thereof that it's our responsibility to bring those men home and I don't want anybody to think that we've given up on that. I'm a fighting man, that's what I am, and I'm an American and I know how to fight better than I know how to bargain. But if my country says that that's the name of the game, then I'm going to bargain while they say so, until they say it's time for me to fight again, and then, by God, I will, anytime she says so.

We have here many people who are pulling with all that they know how, to try to effect the release of all of our people. We have not forgotten anybody, anywhere in Southeast Asia that wore the clothes of the fighting man or represented the press or was there as a citizen. He has America stamped on his back by birth and he's our responsibility and we accept that. And we're not going to turn our back on that and you know what we need more than anything across this great nation of ours is the greatest

weapon we've ever had; and that's not a physical weapon, mind you, its a psychological one and it needs a modification right now in the factory. I hope the factory that can furnish that modification is not out of business. The weapon is the weapon called UNITY. Unity in the principles of democracy, in caring about each other and in caring about this great wonderful country of ours, in the men who didn't think it was asking too much to go out and fight, for they went out. They may not have all believed in the wisdom of the decision that got them there, but they were members of our fighting forces and they didn't think it was too much to ask, and they went willingly, and they gave of themselves, and they're still giving, unfortunately, and they didn't think that was too much to ask. And the factory that has to furnish the modification to that weapon is you, the American people. Stop finding so many ways to hate each other and differ violently because of race, creed, religion, social strata, political party, section of the block, or what have you. Let's get together. The kids in this country are singing a little song today, and I hope they mean it, and I hope we do. They say "its just going to take a little more time to get it together." There's a whole lot of people who've been working to get it together, like you and me who determined that we'll all be free, but it's just going to take a little more time, to get it together, and while we're getting it together, let's make sure that we're all together, no matter what we're separated on or what we differ on. Don't we dare differ on the fate of those men who gave so much. I don't think that's too much to ask. Thank you.

Lieutenant Governor Barnes introduced Captain Alan Bean who also addressed the Joint Session and the Assemblage, speaking as follows:

Thank you. Thank you, Governor Barnes, Governor Smith, Speaker Mutcher, Members of the House and Senate, mothers, fathers, wives and children of fighting men:

You know, as Ross Perot said a minute ago about the brave and resolute fighting men of Texas and the great things they have done over the years, I really don't think that any greater honor though, has ever fallen upon the State of Texas than some of the words that have been said here this afternoon by General James and Major Rowe and Ross Perot. When Apollo 14 returned from the successful mission this week, Captain Al Shepard commented during a press conference that was held several thousand miles out in space as they sped back, "We are reminded as we look at that shimmering crescent tonight, which is the earth, that there is still fighting going on. The three of us all have acquaintances, friends and even relatives in Vietnam. We are reminded that some of these men who have gone to Vietnam have not returned. They are still being held there, or listed as missing in action, or prisoners of war."

Let me refresh your memory for a moment with some of the statistics. As of December the 31st, there were a total of 1097 members of our armed forces missing and 460 captured. Of these being held, 378 are in North Vietnam, 79 in South Vietnam and 3 in Laos. The North Vietnamese in the past year have allowed 339 American prisoners of war that they admit they had been holding, to write home more frequently than ever before, as Ross Perot said, largely because of the efforts of people like yourselves around the nation putting pressure on the North Vietnamese through public opinion. And this certainly is encouraging. I still don't think a censored letter can answer the kind of questions that you, though, as families must be asking. Is he keeping something from me? Is he really

alright? A photograph can help a great deal, but fewer than 50 prisoners of war have been identified in pictures reaching the outside world. Of all those men that we think are alive today, only 50 have we really seen in pictures. As you know, recently a photo journalist, a Japanese, was given a grand tour of a Hanoi Prisoner of War camp. He made a film and it was shown in the United States. The pictures were reassuring. Most of the prisoners were fliers, and seemed to be in fairly good shape. I guess the Pentagon agrees in part because they state, "the nutrition for these men has been adequate for at least some months." They didn't just start feeding them well the day before yesterday. I guess you'd have to ask yourself the question though—did they pick out a few prisoners and do this to them so they could be models for foreign and American photographers?

We think we know something, though, of the condition under which American prisoners of war are being held from the communications that we receive, rare though they are, and also from men like Major Rowe who have come back, who have escaped. Although letters and packages to prisoners of war held in North Vietnam are received on a very restricted basis, only one letter is received from an American prisoner in South Vietnam and none from Laos. But from the infrequent letters and from other sources we know that they are not getting very good treatment, and that is a great understatement. They are suffering inhumane treatment that is in direct opposition to the acceptable standards that govern the process of war. Whatever their precise situation, they are obviously feeling the ache from their long separation from home. A correspondent was present when some men opened their Christmas shipments from home in May, as was mentioned earlier. He said and I quote, "Their eyes filled with tears, their hands trembled when they signed receipts for the packages. On receiving the letters they opened the envelopes on the spot and intently stared at the photographs of their parents, wives or children."

They haven't been quiet themselves, of course, the Vietnamese, the North Vietnamese. They have been charging that their prisoners of war that have been captured by South Vietnam are being mistreated also. And despite the problems of the government down in South Vietnam, I don't think they can be accused of a completely callous disregard for the rights of the prisoners which they hold. The Republic of Vietnam has over the past 5 years released 937 prisoners of war. It has furnished to the Hanoi government official lists of prisoners held and it has permitted regular inspection of prisoners of war camps by the International Red Cross—the same thing we want to do to their camps. South Vietnam released 37 North Vietnamese prisoners of war on January 24. There has been no release of U. S. prisoners in response to this humanitarian act. I guess the real question is, and Ross hit it again as did Chappie James, "What can you and I do whether or not we're relatives of fighting men that are captured there but more, as Americans, to help get more information about these men and help bring about their release?" Of course, we know that the pressure that's been put on North Vietnam has helped a great deal. But we must continue to be concerned and let the communists know that we're concerned, not only about the prisoners in North Vietnam, but those in the camps in South Vietnam, in Laos, also. I think most of all though, we must continue to hope that our efforts will be successful. The President has said that in spite of North Vietnam's record of intransigence, he will continue his efforts to resolve the prisoner of war question on a humane basis, separate from the political and military issues of the conflict. Let me quote Frank Borman for a moment, who, as you know, made a trip around the world last summer in behalf of our country and in behalf of

our prisoners of war, many of which were friends and acquaintances of mine and, of course, many of you in the room. In his address to Congress, he made a most important point. I think the words he said should express our attitude during this difficult and trying period where we don't appear to be gaining progress, or results as significant as we want, as fast as we want, even though we work, hope and pray for them. It's a long, hard road and there's not a thing easy about it. But, as Frank said, I think that it is imperative that each American continue his maximum effort to mobilize world opinion and world awareness of this problem. I strongly beg you not to forsake your countrymen who have given so much to you, and they have, and we won't. Thank you.

Lieutenant Governor Barnes then introduced Mrs. Bonnie Singleton, whose husband is a prisoner of war in North Vietnam.

Mrs. Singleton addressed the Joint Session and the Assemblage, speaking as follows:

Governor Smith, Lieutenant Governor Barnes, Mr. Speaker, Legislators, and Guests. We'd like to thank you so very much for inviting us here today and for inviting us in the manner in which you have. We are very grateful to you for the opportunity of coming here to hear us out. This is a very grave time for us as have so many years before this year been grave times. And of course we're in hopes that this will soon end, that we'll soon see the return of the American prisoners of war.

If there is any one thing that I feel compelled to say to you this afternoon, it's "don't pity us". We're not here expecting expressions of pity or sympathy from you. We feel that the time has come when the American prisoners of war must be returned. And if they're not, the only ones that Americans will have to pity are themselves.

We've come here, very frankly, because we would like to be able to hear from you, what action you are prepared to take, what measures you are prepared to take, to bring relief to and release for the American prisoners of war. Of course, all of us want to know when can we expect to see the American prisoners of war home again? The answer lies in your hands, and in the hands of the other American citizens.

Thank you very much for having us here today. Please help us.

Lieutenant Governor Barnes then addressed the Joint Session expressing appreciation for all who have shown concern for the prisoners of war in Southeast Asia.

SENATE RETIRES

At 3:49 p.m., Lieutenant Governor Barnes stated that the purpose for which this Joint Session had been called had been completed and, pursuant to a motion previously adopted, the Senate would stand adjourned until 11:00 a.m. next Monday.

ADDRESSES ORDERED PRINTED

On motion of Representatives Heatly, Salem and Johnson, the addresses made to the Joint Session on today by Mr. H. Ross Perot, Major James

Nick Rowe, Brigadier General Chappie James, Captain Alan Bean and Mrs. Bonnie Singleton, were ordered printed in the Journal.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CONGRESSMAN OLIN E. TEAGUE
AND UNITED STATES SENATOR LLOYD BENTSEN OF TEXAS

The Speaker directed the Clerk to read the following communications from the Honorable Olin E. Teague and the Honorable Lloyd Bentsen:

Lieutenant Governor Ben Barnes
Speaker Gus Mutscher
Austin, Texas

I deeply regret that I am unable to attend your session honoring the Texans who are prisoners of war and missing in action in Southeast Asia. I feel this is one of the most pressing and important issues before us today. These men are there because they defended us and we should never forget it. I believe Hanoi is slowly but surely getting the message that the American people are concerned and determined that these men be released. We should not let up our barrage of letters, public recognition and formal and informal demands for their release until every man is free.

Signed: Olin E. Teague
6th District of Texas

UNITED STATES SENATE
Washington, D.C. 20510
February 12, 1971

Lt. Governor Ben Barnes
Speaker Gus Mutscher
State Capitol
Austin, Texas

Dear Governor Barnes, Speaker Mutscher:

Please accept my apologies for not being present this afternoon. Only the most urgent Senate business could keep me from joining with you in honoring those gallant Texans and their families who have given, and continue to give, so much to their state and their Nation. These men and their families did not ask for or seek this war, but neither did they run from it. In the very best tradition of Texas and her native sons, they gave of themselves when the Nation needed them. And now, they have nothing left to give. They are imprisoned and detained and their only hope lies with those of us they went to protect.

Now, we, too, must answer the call. No one of us should rest until our fathers, sons, neighbors and friends are returned to be reunited with the loved ones who have gathered here today. I shall do all within my power to hasten that day.

Sincerely,
Lloyd Bentsen

INTRODUCTION OF MRS. MUTSCHER

Speaker Mutscher introduced his wife, Mrs. Gus Mutscher, to the Joint Session.

The Speaker then expressed his appreciation to all who participated in the Joint Session to honor the wives and families of the prisoners of war from Texas.

HOUSE AT EASE

At 3:53 p.m., the Speaker stated that the House would stand at ease pending the departure of the guests.

Speaker Mutscher called the House to order at 3:56 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Atwell moved that the House adjourn until 11:00 a.m. next Monday.

The motion prevailed without objection.

The House accordingly, at 3:56 p.m., adjourned until 11:00 a.m. next Monday.

APPENDIX

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Favorable reports have been filed by Committees on bills and a resolution, as follows:

Engrossed and Enrolled Bills: Correctly engrossed-HCR 39.

Judicial Districts: HB 2.

Urban Affairs: HB 15, HB 37, HB 283.

TWENTY-SECOND DAY—MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1971

The House met at 11:00 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

The roll of the House was called and the following Members were present:

Mr. Speaker	Bigham	Cates	Davis, H.
Adams	Blanton	Cavness	Denton
Agnich	Blythe	Christian	Doran
Allen, Joe	Bowers	Clark	Doyle
Allen, John	Boyle	Clayton	Dramberger
Allred	Braecklein	Coats	Earthman
Angly	Braun	Cobb	Farenthold
Atwell	Burgess	Cole	Finck
Atwood	Bynum	Craddick	Finnell
Baker	Caldwell	Cruz	Finney
Bass, T.	Calhoun	Daniel	Floyd
Beckham	Carrillo	Davis, D.	Foreman