

Looking over them I don't see a beatnik among them. They are good clean Americans who have offered all a person can for his country. Personally I feel that the American people and a grateful nation should see that no veteran who has been disabled in the service of his nation lacks for one thing that he needs.

I also, Mr. Commander, want to take you to task for one little thing. Normally the commander allows one to be a southern gentlemen, whether he is or not, but I just want to call your attention to the fact that as a demonstration of the interest and the regard that we have for this fine organization, we have the best part, I think, certainly the most beautiful part, of your organization from the great State of Florida. She comes from my congressional district.

Mr. Commander, I have been instructed by the very able chairman of this committee, and a man who I think has done more for the veterans of America than any man in history, to hold hearings with a view to altering the situation in regard to our veterans' hospitals. Those hearings will get underway as soon as we can get organized and so forth. I hope, however, this time I will not have to sit for 21 days as I did when we were trying to keep them from closing some hospital facilities and other facilities of the Veterans' Administration. I look forward to those hearings and certainly I want to contribute anything that I possibly can for the benefit of the disabled veterans of America to whom this Nation owes a great deal of gratitude.

Thank you.

Mr. TEAGUE of Texas. Mr. Saylor.

Mr. SAYLOR. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Commander Sheirbon, let me congratulate you for an excellent statement.

I notice you talked about the chairman of the committee being a keynoter. You will have to be careful in the future because you will notice a very unusual situation exists in this committee. Because of parliamentary procedure, the chairman of the committee is named Teague and the ranking minority member is named Teague, so you must be careful which Teague you are talking about.

I am delighted to have your statement, and let me tell you that I reminisced when you recalled that during the last session of Congress we gave those disabled \$100 and gave everybody else 8 percent. I lost that fight because I wanted to give everybody the same percentage. But sometimes you don't win all these battles, just as the DAV does not win all its battles.

Mr. Commander, I have a challenge for your organization. I think your organization is better equipped to cope with it than any other veteran organization in this country. That challenge is to make yourselves available and to have in every center where men are being discharged from the Army under disability a man who has served in other wars to guide and counsel these young men.

The reason I give you this challenge is out of sad experience I have had with some of the young people who come from my congressional district. With due deference to the military—and I have been in it actively on reserve for a good many years—I have come to realize that the military likes to take care of the officers and doesn't care too much about the boys who make all this possible. Some people don't