

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 1969

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS,
Washington, D.C.

The committee met at 10 a.m., pursuant to call, in the Ways and Means Committee room, Longworth House Office Building, Hon. Olin E. Teague (chairman of the committee) presiding.

Mr. TEAGUE of Texas. The committee will come to order.

I am sorry that there is not a room on Capitol Hill big enough to take care of the VFW.

I do believe that maybe if some of you people in the rear would move to your left some of the people that can't get in the door could get in. I think a few more could get in the room. I would also like to tell all of you that this is the Ways and Means Committee room, which we are using today through the courtesy of Congressman Wilbur Mills, of Arkansas, so, you Arkansas people, when you see Wilbur Mills tell him we appreciate the use of his room.

There are about a half dozen meetings of other committees that our members belong to going on today, so we do have a number of members who aren't here. They will probably be coming in, and others who are here may have to leave, but I would like to introduce the members who are here.

The ranking Republican member this year is a man named Teague from California. I don't recommend him too highly. He takes credit for everything that is good, and everything that is bad he says that Teague of Texas did it.

Chuck, would you like to say a word?

Mr. TEAGUE of California. I would like to say this. You can have those two floods I have in my district as well as those two oil wells which I think you brought from Texas spilling oil into my beautiful Pacific Ocean and on my white beaches, so that is your fault.

Well, ladies and gentlemen, I am glad, on behalf of the Republicans, to welcome you to Washington to this meeting today. You have a magnificent organization. This is a new spot for me, being ranking Republican, but I have been on the committee for years. My cousin Olin and I get along very well and I think we will continue to do so.

Again, thank you so much for being here in such very large and impressive numbers.

Mr. TEAGUE of Texas. On my extreme left is Congressman Denney, of Nebraska, a new member of our committee.

Excuse me. Bob is not here yet. Congressman Zwach, of Minnesota. Will you stand up please?

Congressman Hammerschmidt, of Arkansas.