

August 12, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed S. 3589 - Norris Cotton Building. This bill designates the Federal office building in Manchester, New Hampshire, as the "Norris Cotton Building."

The bill will name the new Federal office building at 275 Chestnut Street, Manchester, New Hampshire, as the "Norris Cotton Building", in honor of the former Senator from New Hampshire.

S. 3589 is a tribute to Norris Cotton for his 28 years of dedicated public service, including 4 consecutive terms in the House followed by an unexpired term and three subsequent full terms in the Senate.

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The President has signed H.R. 5360 - Detention payments for civilians interned in Southeast Asia. This bill increases detention payments for American civilians interned in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam war from \$60 to \$150 a month.

The War Claims Act of 1948, as amended, currently authorizes detention payments of \$5.00 a day (\$150 a month) for military personnel held as prisoners of war in Southeast Asia, and \$60 a month for civilian American citizens similarly detained. The purpose of H.R. 5360 is to increase the civilian detention payment to parallel the amount authorized for military prisoners of war. The detention benefit for civilians is authorized for any American citizen held as prisoner, internee, or hostage by a hostile force in Southeast Asia, or who went into hiding to avoid such status, at any time since the start of the Vietnam conflict, defined by law as February 27, 1961.

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