

**The original documents are located in Box 6, folder “2/27/75 - Portrait Unveiling of Congressman Olin Teague” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN *sf.*

PORTRAIT UNVEILING OF CONGRESSMAN OLIN TEAGUE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1975

~~I'M SURE~~ YOU'RE ALL FAMILIAR WITH THE SLOGAN,

PUT A TIGER IN YOUR TANK. WELL, AMERICA CAN BE MIGHTY

GRATEFUL THAT, TWENTY-NINE YEARS AGO, TEXANS PUT THIS TIGER

IN OUR HOUSE!

*Teague*  
~~CONGRESSMAN~~ TEAGUE IS TRULY A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS.

I HAVE KNOWN HIM AS PATRIOT, LEGISLATOR, HUMANITARIAN AND

ATHLETE. NOT TOO MANY PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT <sup>*his*</sup> ~~THE~~ <sup>*skill*</sup> ATHLETE PART --

~~BUT~~ I CAN TELL YOU FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE, THEY DIDN'T CALL HIM

THE MINNESOTA FATS OF THE HOUSE PADDLEBOARD COURT FOR NOTHING!

I HAVE KNOWN, WORKED WITH, ADMIRERD AND RESPECTED

TIGER TEAGUE SINCE I FIRST CAME TO THE CONGRESS IN 1949.

TIGER PRECEDED ME BY OVER A TERM AND I HAVE OFTEN CONSIDERED HIS

ELECTION TO THE HOUSE TO BE ONE OF THE MOST DRAMATIC ON RECORD.

SOMETIMES THE TERM "WAR HERO" IS USED RATHER LOOSELY,  
BUT IN TIGER TEAGUE'S CASE, IT IS ALMOST AN UNDERSTATEMENT.  
AS THE COMMANDER OF A COMBAT INFANTRY BATTALION -- TIGER MORE  
THAN LIVED UP TO HIS NAME. HE WAS WOUNDED IN BATTLE MORE THAN  
ONCE AND WAS DECORATED ELEVEN TIMES BY THE FRENCH AND UNITED STATES  
GOVERNMENTS. AND IT WAS WHILE HE WAS STILL BEING TREATED AT  
AN ARMY HOSPITAL IN 1946 -- RECOVERING FROM THESE COMBAT-INCURRED  
WOUNDS -- THAT HE LEARNED OF HIS HIGHEST HONOR -- THAT OF BEING  
ELECTED TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

TIGER TEAGUE KNOWS AND HAS EXPERIENCED THE ULTIMATE  
MEANING OF THE WORDS "TRUST" AND "HONOR". AS COLONEL AND  
CONGRESSMAN, HE HAS ALWAYS FOUGHT TO DEFEND THE VITAL INTERESTS  
OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. IN TWENTY-NINE YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED  
LEGISLATIVE SERVICE, HIS RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT IS ENVIABLE.

AS CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY, HE HAS WORKED TIRELESSLY TO MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE  
OUR LEADERSHIP IN SPACE. AND AS "MR. VETERAN" HIMSELF --  
HE HAS AUTHORED MORE PUBLIC LAWS FOR OUR FORMER SERVICE  
MEN AND WOMEN THAN ANY OTHER LEGISLATOR IN HISTORY.



HIS SENSITIVITY AND COMPASSION FOR OTHERS HAS  
EXPRESSED ITSELF IN SO MANY LASTING AND TANGIBLE WAYS.  
JUST ONE OF HIS CONCEPTS -- THE WAR ORPHAN SCHOLARSHIP  
PROGRAM -- HAS BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR BRINGING THE EDUCATIONAL  
BENEFITS OF THE G.I. BILL TO MORE THAN A QUARTER MILLION  
DESERVING CHILDREN AND SPOUSES OF THOSE SERVICE MEN AND  
WOMEN WHO MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE FOR OUR NATION.

THOSE OF US WHO HAVE BEEN PRIVILEGED TO WORK WITH HIM,  
KNOW TIGER AS A NO-NONSENSE, HARD-WORKING, GET-TO-THE-POINT  
COLLEAGUE. A MAN OF STRONG CONVICTIONS BUT A MAN WHO WILL  
HEAR OUT YOUR OWN CONVICTIONS AND CONSIDER THEM FULLY AND FAIRLY.  
TONIGHT, LET ME CONGRATULATE THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL SPACE  
CLUB FOR COMMISSIONING THIS PORTRAIT -- AND MR. TERRY RODGERS  
FOR CAPTURING THESE MANY ASPECTS OF TIGER ON CANVAS.

BUT ABOVE ALL, LET ME CONGRATULATE MY GOOD FRIEND  
FOR AN OUTSTANDING LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENT.

IN MY YOUNGER DAYS THERE WAS A VERY POPULAR SONG  
WITH THE WORDS: "HOLD THAT TIGER". LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,  
HERE IS ONE TIGER YOU WILL NEVER HOLD.

END OF TEXT

CLEARANCE FORM FOR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH MATERIAL

TO: THE PRESIDENT  
VIA: ROBERT HARTMANN  
FROM: PAUL A. THEIS  
SUBJECT: Portrait unveiling of Congressman Teague

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TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF PRESIDENTIAL USE: \_\_\_\_\_

7:30 p.m., Thursday, February 27, Rayburn House Ofc. Building

SPEECHWRITER: Orben

EDITED BY: Friedman

BASIC RESEARCH/SPEECH MATERIAL SUPPLIED BY:

Congressman Teague's office

CLEARED BY (Please initial):

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- (X) CONGRESSIONAL/PUBLIC LIAISON (Marsh) JM
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