

APRIL 2, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H.R. 8507 - Per diem allowance for members of the American Battle Monuments Commission. This bill authorizes members of the Commission to receive permium per diem rates while traveling overseas on official business, and eliminates need for further revisions in these rates by action of Congress.

The bill will eliminate the present statutory \$40.00 per diem allowance for the members of the American Battle Monuments Commission while they are traveling overseas, and would authorize the Commissioners to receive the higher-than-standard rates which the Department of Defense (DOD) administers for military personnel in "special status" -- i. e., when traveling with VIPs.

The bill will also make a technical correction with the effect of authorizing the Commissioners to continue receiving the standard civilian per diem rates -- administered by the General Services Administration (GSA) -- for travel within this country.

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