Telegram sent on February 2, 1950 to:    Representative John E. Lyle
                                           Representative Lloyd M. Bentsen
                                           Senator Tom Connally
                                           Senator Lyndon B. Johnson
                                             Washington, D.C.
                                         Governor Allan Shivers;
                                         Austin, Texas

    RECEIVED NOTICE REDUCTION **BEDS** NAVAL BASE HERE MOVE IS UNWISE UNLESS WE GET VETERANS HOSPITAL IN SOUTH TEXAS. APPROXIMATELY 200,000 VETERANS SOUTH OF LINE BIG SPRING TEMPLE HOUSTON HAVE NO VETERANS HOSPITAL FACILITIES EXCEPT T.B. AT LEGION.

    V.A. TEXAS HOSPITALS BESIDES ABOVE ARE AMARILLO MCKINNEY DALLES WACO MARLIN. WHY ARE HOSPITALS BUILT UP NORTH AND NONE IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH TEXAS. POOREST AND SICKEST VETERANS ARE IN SOUTHERN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS. REQUEST IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION OF LACK VETERANS HOSPITAL FACILITIES.

                                      AMERICAN G.I. FORUM
                                      HECTOR P. GARCIA, M.D. CHAIRMAN

Answer received from Representative Lloyd M. Bentsen Jr.:
        Washington, D.C.

    AM VIGOROUSLY PROTESTING REDUCTION IN BEDS TO SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JOHNSON. HAVE CONFERRED WITH CHAIRMAN OF HOUSE VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REGARDING BILL I INTRODUCED TO BUILD VETERANS HOSPITAL FOR SOUTH TEXAS. HE EXPECTS TO GRANT ME A HEARING ON THIS IN NEAR FUTURE REGARDS

                              LLOYD M BENTSEN JR. MC

Answer received from Representative John E. Lyle; Washington, D.C.

    VIGOROUSLY PROTESTING REDUCTION VETERANS BEDS AND INTENSIFYING EFFORTS ON VETERANS HOSPITAL BILL

                              JOHN E LYLE

Answer received from Senator Tom Connally; Washington, D.C.

    AM BRINGING YOUR PROTEST TO ATTENTION OF SECRETARY OF DEFENSE AND AM ASKING FOR REPORT
                              TOM CONNALLY USS

Answer received from Senator Lyndon Johnson; Washington, D.C.

    NO ONE WOULD LIKE TO SEE A VETERANS HOSPITAL IN SOUTH TEXAS MORE THAN I. HAVE PASSED ALONG YOUR VIEWS TO SECRETARY OF DEFENSE AND ADMINISTRATOR OF VETERANS ADMINISTRATION. CONGRESSMAN LYLE HAS INTRODUCED A BILL TO PROVIDE SOUTH TEXAS WITH VA HOSPITAL. NO ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN ON THIS BILL BY PROPER COMMITTEE BUT VA ASSURES ME THAT VETERANS IN SOUTH TEXAS AREA WILL BE SERVED BY HOSPITALS IN HOUSTON AND SAN ANTONIO PENDING FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS. REGARDS

                            LYNDON B JOHNSON USS