

SESSION ON P.O.W.'S HEARS V.F.W. CHIEF

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WASHINGTON, June 29—Herbert R. Rainwater, the commander in chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, told a House Foreign Affairs subcommittee today that a "logical approach" to the problem of American prisoners of war in Indochina "would be to have Hanoi set a date for our withdrawal contingent upon the release of our men."

Mr. Rainwater made his remarks at the first of a series of hearings by the subcommittee on national security policy on the prisoner-of-war issue.

Representative Clement J. Zablocki, Democrat of Wisconsin, who is the subcommittee chairman, reminded Mr. Rainwater that he had been reported as having said last month that President Nixon should stop troop withdrawals immediately until an agreement on American prisoners of war was reached with the enemy.

"That is true—that is our

position," Mr. Rainwater replied. "We will withdraw American troops at our convenience once the P.O.W.'s are released. Otherwise we will keep them there."

Mr. Zablocki paused for a moment, looking quizzical. "I found myself walking down the road with you and suddenly you veered away," he told Mr. Rainwater.