

Nixon Signs Bill to Make P.O.W. Pay Tax-Free

WASHINGTON, April 28 (Reuters) — President Nixon today signed a bill giving United States prisoners of war in Vietnam tax-free status on their pay, the Internal Revenue Service announced.

The bill covers military and civilian personnel, as well as men listed as missing in action and is retroactive to Feb. 28, 1961. The Revenue Service said this was the approximate date American military advisers began accompanying South Vietnamese units. Dependents of prisoners and the missing can file for tax refunds as a result of the new law, it said.

Under current law, the combat-zone pay for non-commissioned officers is not taxed. Officers are taxed after the first \$500 a month.

The majority of Americans known to be captured are pilots, mostly officers, shot down over North Vietnam.