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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2102

June 12, 2001

The Honorable George W. Bush
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

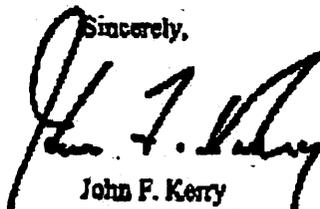
Dear Mr. President:

We would like to bring your attention to the plight of the families who lost loved ones on the Texas Towers on January 15, 1961. We have recently been in contact with these families and are writing to ask you to consider providing Presidential recognition of these brave individuals who died in the line of duty. According to the family members, the Federal Government has not officially recognized the sacrifice of these 28 Americans, many of whom were civilians who are not eligible for existing Cold War service recognition programs.

As you may know, Texas Tower 4, one of the early-warning platforms to detect a bombing or missile attack by the Soviet Union, collapsed during a storm, killing fourteen Air Force and fourteen civilian personnel. Only three of the bodies were recovered. In light of the tragic nature of this accident and the importance of the work being performed by these twenty-eight men, we respectfully request your consideration of an appropriate recognition of this event, in order to express our nation's gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,


John F. Kerry
United States Senator

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