
PROCEEDINGS
of the
National Executive Committee
THE AMERICAN LEGION



National Headquarters
Indianapolis, Indiana

May 6-7, 1987

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PROCEEDINGS
of the
National Executive Committee
THE AMERICAN LEGION

Wednesday, May 6, 1987

... The opening session of the National Executive Committee of The American Legion at National Headquarters, 700 N. Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, convened at 9:00 A.M., May 6, 1987, Mr. James P. Dean, Mississippi, National Commander, presiding.

... National Adjutant Robert W. Spanogle, Michigan, acted as Secretary.

NATIONAL COMMANDER JAMES P. DEAN: Please stand, and we will have the Salute to the Colors followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the Invocation by the Very Reverend Arthur J. Jakobiak, followed by the Preamble to the Constitution.

... The Members of the National Executive Committee saluted the Colors, the Colors already being in place.

... The Members of the National Executive Committee stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States.

INVOCATION

Very Rev. Fr. Arthur J. Jakobiak, New Mexico
National Chaplain

Let us pray, Heavenly Father, we ask your guidance on our Convention this morning.

We ask that the problems, the ideas, those things that we work at will be truly wise and be for the greater honor of Yourself for the good of our country, and for the good of our organization, we ask in Your name, Amen.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: We will now recite the Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion.

PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION
OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

... The Members of the National Executive Committee recited the Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion:

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: I call on the National Adjutant, Robert W. Spanogle, for the Roll Call.

ROLL CALL

... National Adjutant Robert W. Spanogle called the Roll and the following Members were present:

National Officers

James P. Dean, Mississippi, National Commander
 Robert W. Spanogle, Michigan, National Adjutant
 Very Rev. Fr. Arthur J. Jakobiak, New Mexico, National Chaplain

National Vice Commanders

William M. Detweiler, Louisiana	Allen L. Titus, Indiana
Doris R. Gross, Washington	Erin F. Van Dyke, Wisconsin
Donald E. Neil, Delaware	

Past National Commanders

Erlé Cocke, Jr., Georgia	Harry G. Wiles, Kansas
William R. Burke, California	William J. Rogers, Maine
Charles L. Bacon, Missouri	Robert Charles Smith, Louisiana
Judge Daniel F. Foley, Minnesota	John M. "Jack" Carey, Michigan
Donald E. Johnson, Iowa	Michael J. Kogutck, New York
John E. Davis, North Dakota	Jack W. Flynt, Texas
J. Milton Patrick, Oklahoma	Al Keller, Jr., Illinois
John H. Geiger, Illinois	Keith Kreul, Wisconsin
Joe L. Matthews, Texas	Clarence M. Bacon, Maryland
Robert E. L. Eaton, Maryland	Dale L. Renaud, Iowa

Department	Committeeman	Alternate
Alabama	Andrew J. Cooper	
Alaska	Robert G. Blair	
Arizona	Dr. Charles L. Vawter, Jr.	
Arkansas	Lawrence E. Fisher	
California	Lloyd Higginson	
Canada	H. Rena Chaplin	
Colorado	Charles Pat Smith	
Connecticut	Richard W. Anderson	
Delaware	Robert J. Lauer	
D.C.	Robert L. Waters	
Florida	George L. Derrick	
France	William S. Lombardo	
Georgia	W. D. Harrell	
Hawaii	Robert J. Conrad	
Idaho	Lyle Hupfer	
Illinois	Firman E. Henricks	
Indiana	Gilbert E. Sheeks	
Iowa	Mark J. Studer	
Italy	Frank C. Bottigliero	

Kansas	U. S. (Udie) Grant	
Kentucky	Joseph K. Goodness	
Louisiana	Carroll B. Fields	
Maine	(Excused)	Franklin R. Donley, Sr.
Maryland	Talmage C. Carawan	
Massachusetts	John P. Comer	
Mexico	Harry Wright	
Michigan	(Excused)	Andrew A. Templeton
Minnesota	Donald R. Schroedl	
Mississippi	Fred M. Ingellis	
Missouri	Jerome N. Roach	
Montana	W. P. (Bill) Petersen	
Nebraska	Wayne Davis	
Nevada	Charles F. Langel	
New Hampshire	M. Ray Olmstead	
New Jersey	James H. Hall	
New Mexico	Robert W. Durand	
New York	William P. McLaughlin	
North Carolina	Robert A. Tart	
North Dakota	Robert E. Hennessy	
Ohio	Dominic V. Belloni	
Oklahoma	Tom C. Smith	
Oregon	T. Les Galloway	
Panama Canal	(Excused)	John K. Hoyle, Jr.
Pennsylvania	Joseph V. Adams	
Philippines	Ernesto P. Golez	
Puerto Rico	Luis A. Andujar	
Rhode Island	N. Pio Stizza	
South Carolina	E. Roy Stone, Jr.	
South Dakota	Donald Clarke	
Tennessee	James T. Waters	
Texas	Harvey Holcomb	
Utah	William E. Christoffersen	
Vermont	(Excused)	Milton Willis, Jr.
Virginia	Emmett B. Burley	
Washington	Clint Stebing	
West Virginia	Jack T. Gribben	
Wisconsin	Jerry A. Kautzer	
Wyoming	David E. Nauman	

NATIONAL ADJUTANT SPANOGLE: That completes the Roll Call, Mr. Commander.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: There is a quorum present. Any questions?

* * *

OPENING REMARKS

James P. Dean, Mississippi
National Commander

Members of the National Executive Committee, fellow Legionnaires, we welcome you to your 1987 Spring Meetings.

Since the Fall Meetings we have faced significant issues that affect your children and youth, our nation, and certainly millions of the Veterans that we represent, and others throughout our nation. Urgencies arise, and they have shown you these are very busy times ahead for all of you.

To meet our many goals, we must strengthen our ranks. Already this week, I am sure you are very much aware of the fact that we reached an all time high—30-year high in membership.

That means about 2.8 million Legionnaires. Now with one voice, we are striving to make our nation even stronger than it has been in the past.

I don't know of a better way there is to commemorate the Bicentennial, and to celebrate its time, the Bicentennial of our American Constitution than by keeping the ideals that have been set forth by our forefathers ahead of you and I.

What makes our America unique among nations, we have a voice in how our country can and should be run. Our forefathers have laid the groundwork, and now it is up to us to continue that great tradition.

It is the duty of every member of the American Legion to do so. And to do so with moderate growth in membership is no longer enough to meet the challenges that face you and I.

Only we as Legionnaires can convince other fellow Veterans to join us, and to help solve the problems that face America today.

Imagine if you will, the strength of the collective voices in Washington, D.C. and all across our nation, if every single member of the American Legion asked one other fellow friend or Veteran to join in our great association. We call it power in numbers, if you will.

But the bigger the organization, the more we can do to shape the history of our country. As we grow, so does the ability to serve the community.

This year alone, we donated more money than ever before to programs such as child welfare, disaster relief, educational systems, and rehabilitation to our fellow Veterans.

I don't know of a better way that we have to show The American Legion's worth than to serve future generations of our country. As we look to the National Convention in August, I ask you to pass the word to your Department Membership Teams, and ask them now to reach out again, and ask every eligible Veteran to join for the sake of our programs and the sake of their nation.

Speaking of the future, I would like to focus with you, your attention to our neighbors in Central America.

Our friends to the South are fighting to maintain a democracy. The most critical mission we have right now, as far as The American Legion is concerned, is helping the people of the United States to understand the need to support the democratic nations of Central America.

The spread in that area of Communism is a reality. The domino effect is a reality. Communism is presenting the threat to the Latin American countries to sustain themselves. With The American Legion's voice in Washington, we can call for the continued economic assistance needed for democracy to survive in these countries.

We can help these people live the way they want to, free to make their own choice. We must do our part as Legionnaires.

What I would like to discuss with you now, I think is the greatest threat to the security of our country in some forty years.

. . . At this time the screen was lowered and slides were presented and described by National Commander Dean as follows:

I am sure everybody understands that I have been traveling throughout the nation representing you and The American Legion, but one of the crises we have discussed on more than one occasion has been Central America, the crises next door, beginning with one of the issues that you see in front.

I guess the most dramatic thing that affected me by this is the closeness of this area, this area and that is the land that is connected with the United States.

This is a very quick overview, it is just a number of miles from that area that we are talking about today.

Our United States' interests, all are very much self-explanatory, the sea lanes, the Panama Canal area, to encourage democracy, denying the area to the Soviets, and reaffirming U.S. reliability in that area.

I am certain all of us understand the Panama Canal and the importance that it has been to us in the past and the importance it is today. I don't have to talk to you about the percentage of traffic that goes through that area. Very readily you see not only the export and import of this strategic importance for you and I.

What is the Soviet Policy? This is the standard policy discussed which in Central America has any connections whatsoever to do with the Soviet Union.

Economic military region, U.S. and Soviet block, the amount of money spent. And I point out very quickly it is five times the amount of money that America spends in this part of the world, and is being spent by the Soviets yearly.

Mr. Ortega, the statements that he has made very clearly indicate what his position is, and the position of his country. This is number two, the brother to the leader in Nicaragua. These are postage stamps pointing out the position that Nicaragua takes everyday in the postal system to impress upon people that live there. Others you will see on the displays as you come out front.

The policy goals as set out by the democracies and as set out by the Soviets.

Now in Nicaragua, we do not have the problem that we have in that area. This has not been agreed upon by Nicaragua. Those are the policy goals of our Government.

U.S. Programs. No reason for me to go back into and explain them to all of you. All of you in this room are familiar with the Jackson Program, and the program and the position we take on Contra Aid, and why we keep the pressures on Nicaragua today. Fully fund the Jackson Plan. Aid to the Contras.

The area, this is the first trip I made in December showing the countries I visited with the red dots. Shortly thereafter I went back and visited three countries, and I'm going to go back shortly to make another visit.

I am sure you all know this gentleman. He sat and discussed with me that in six seconds in his country, 200,000 people lost their homes in this earthquake. Unbelievable problems this man has, with 20,000 suffering on a day-to-day basis. This is a man trying to keep a democracy together.

Yet next door to him, Nicaragua sends daily troops into his part of the world, people to try to destroy his economy, and certainly to kill his military troops.

This is a briefing at an area called the Fourth Brigade. The briefing is one we were having and the gentleman was one of the rebels who came out of this raid against the Fourth Brigade, where they killed an American only three weeks ago. They're showing me a brief, showing where the rebels generally hide on a daily basis and where the troops have to go and hide out in the country.

The patrol that has been made is a night patrol. The people they have are poorly equipped, poorly maintained, not clean, a bunch of rough fighters. El Salvador has a trained army against which it fights constantly and daily to see that they are prepared to defend not only their people, but defend democracy throughout that part of the world. This is the Fourth Brigade where these rebels broke through and killed someone.

The hospital I visited there was a military hospital, the only hospital still standing in such a condition that it can treat people. These are civilians that were hurt during the earthquake. Many are foreign victims as you will note from the sheets. They are treated, and being treated in the only hospital that was still standing to take care of patients. They do take care of civilians.

Salvadoran Elections. This is a position we need to take. Our friends are worth saving, and we are making progress today.

I am sure you note the equipment furnished by our friends the Russians.

Of all the things that were said by the people in that part of the world and they kept saying,—Commander, we want everybody to understand, you fund us, you help us receive the materials. We will fight our own battles.

The greatest fear that they have is the history reflected by the American Government, many times, when the time gets tough enough, we will walk off and leave our friends.

This is the action plan that we have cited that has to be done now. Material would be furnished for you to go back into your Departments in your June, July and August convention and we ask you to distribute the information concerning Central America, and the positions that we are taking.

CORRESPONDENCE

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: I ask the Adjutant if there is any correspondence.

Indy Today

NATIONAL ADJUTANT SPANOGLA: Yes, Commander, there is correspondence.

Currently, coming over the airwaves in Indianapolis via WIBC an AM radio station, and the gentleman making that announcement would like to join us by radio today, and his name is Fred Heckman, and this segment on today's Indy Today.

It is coming over the airwaves right now.

. . . From the WIBC radio program:

They appear from each state of the Union, they are not here for the races or the Pan American Games, but they are here to conduct business of The American Legion. They are in Indianapolis with the National Commander Jimmy Dean and the Executive Committee and their membership is at an all-time high. The American Legion's membership has hit a 30-year high. Not since 1957 has the Veteran's achieved a 2.8 million membership. It was just after World War II in 1946, that The American Legion was at an all time high of 3.3 million.

Much of the reason for the recent increase in growth has been brought about because of the Vietnam Veteran has seen that they must speak with one voice to keep the benefits that they earned. With Jimmy and the National Adjutant Bob Spanogle riding herd, who knows what the membership figures will be. After all, anybody that can make great sausages as Jimmy Dean can can increase membership in The American Legion.

I'm Fred Heckman, and this is Indy Today.

NATIONAL ADJUTANT SPANOGLA: Mr. Commander, there is another guest from days gone by that with your permission and the Chair's permission, I would like to come into the room, is that all right with you, Commander?

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Go ahead.

A PATRIOT FROM THE PAST

Mr. Commander, we have been kind of busy working on a few things, and I'm glad I had the opportunity to come here today. I hope this is working all right.

I am over 200 years old, so I must put on my glasses so I can do this.

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Proclamation for the National Executive Committee and all members of The American Legion . . . from the People of the United States of America . . . "We the People of the United States salute The American Legion, its members and the programs which help preserve, support and promote the interests and benefits of Veterans and their families, their widows and orphans as well as programs of patriotism and well being which serve the community, state and nation.

"We the people of the United States pay tribute to all Legionnaires for they have supported the formation of a more perfect Union, they have helped establish justice, they have aided in the insurance of domestic tranquility, they have provided for the common defense, they continue to promote the general welfare and they have secured the blessings of liberty for all Americans past and present as well as the future generations and have served and continue to serve this great nation with fervent dedication to God and country.

'On this the bicentennial year of our Constitution, we honor those who have lived for it and by it. We congratulate The American Legion in its 69th year for its membership attainment of a new 30 year-high, almost 2.8 million. May those of you assembled here in Indianapolis, Indiana on this May 6, 1987 take the word back to the local populace and membership that those of us who stood tall just 200 short years ago appreciate their efforts, and ask them to continue their works for God and country to preserve this great nation and its meaning to the rest of the world. Maybe you want to be everlasting.

'The American Legion where pride is the key word and commitment is paramount to achievement. The words of 'We the people' have led this nation for 200 years. The words 'For God and country' . . . the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion have led the American Legion since its inception. We the People of the United States realize these words are synonymous to the men and women of the American Legion."

I only wish that when I was here the first time, that we had an American Legion, that instead of wearing a cap such as this one, my people could have worn a cap such as this one.

May God bless you . . . may God bless America.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: And it is with a great amount of pleasure that I introduce the "Starr" of the American Legion, our National President.

MRS. JAMES (EVELYN) E. STARR, Minnesota
National President
American Legion Auxiliary

National Commander Dean, distinguished guests, Legionnaires, Auxiliary Members and guests, it is most sincerely a genuine honor and privilege for me to be able to stand before you this morning and bring you greetings on behalf of The American Legion Auxiliary.

It has been a thrill throughout the entire year from the time of installation on September 4, in Cincinnati, Ohio to be able to serve as National Commander Dean's National President.

I want you people to realize that even though our visits are never coordinated, and we cross paths very seldom, I totally enjoy appearing on programs with your National Commander and appreciate every word he has to say to those delegations.

It is strange but, we have not at anytime talked about the same program or repeated before those delegations, and no matter when I have heard him speak in any Department or at any function, have I not learned much more than I could have believed possible from what he had to say to those people in attendance.

You have elected not only a very fine gentleman, as I told you before, but a very intelligent, dedicated and serious National Commander.

I want to thank you on behalf of our women of The American Legion Auxiliary for the courtesies that we have been extended, not only by your National Commander, but by your Vice Commanders, the Department Officers, the American Legionnaires as a whole, and the National staff members.

We could not do what we have and accomplished this far what we have this year, if it were not for the appreciation and the advice that we are given by you, The American Legion.

Your programs are our programs, and we are so very proud to be included in your organization. And again, it is a most genuine thrill for me to be that counterpart of your National Commander, Jimmy Dean, in the American Legion Auxiliary.

I would like to present to you now, some very important ladies in The American Legion Auxiliary, and I want them to be able to say, good morning to you.

Introductions

We have with us this morning, the best National Secretary that any Veteran's organization could ever have, Miriam Junge.

Then we have with us, and I know she has heard it many times, that teenager who happens to be our National Treasurer, Peggy Sappenfield.

Our first Vice President, our only Vice President in the organization, Pearl Behrend of Wisconsin.

PRESENTATION

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT MRS. PEARL BEHREND: Thank you Madam President.

Mr. Commander, if I may ask you to step to the podium, please.

Mr. Commander, distinguished Legionnaires, all, it is indeed an honor and a privilege for me to present to you, The American Legion, a check in the amount of \$10,000 for the Child Welfare Foundation. I want you to know that you have been most kind and most generous to us this past year in granting us the grants so that we could have the beautiful book that we did have and that we handed out, and I believe we went—how many, a million?

One and one-half million comic books were given out. That is the grant of the Child Welfare Foundation. Mr. Commander, it is my pleasure.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Thank you so very, very much.

Certainly on behalf of The American Legion, the Child Welfare Foundation, as I said, when my ox gets in the ditch, these are the people I call on. I know who writes the letters, and who does the work for us. Thank you so very, very much.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT STARR: It is now my pleasure to introduce the National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Chairman, Alice Galka of Indiana.

NATIONAL VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Alice Galka, Indiana

Commander Dean and American Legion Members. Commander Dean, it is certainly my great pleasure to present to you this check in the amount of \$20,000 for the continuation of the Veterans Rehabilitation Program.

I know about The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary certainly do wonderful things for our Veterans. And I know that you will continue in this program.

Thank you so much for your courtesy this past year.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Somehow it is obvious who does the work.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT STARR: And then, last but not least, the National Children Youth Chairman, Betty Calder of Utah.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Betty Calder

Commander, I too would like to present a check to you for \$20,000 for the Children and Youth Programs.

It's been a privilege and honor in working with The American Legion Members this year in the Child Welfare programs, and in the Children and Youth Programs, and we have had an outstanding year.

And it is my honor to present this check to you from the Children and Youth.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT STARR: It is a pleasure for us to have been able to present you these checks this morning, as I know it has been an honor for these ladies to have been able to do so.

And even in most simple arithmetic, twenty plus twenty plus ten equals \$50,000.

It is just a part repayment to you for the fact that you are so willing to help us carry out our programs.

And as I have traveled to the various Departments and the Foreign Units, I found again and again how much those people realize what our programs are, and how interested they are in becoming more active in the programs that we are instituting today.

This to me, has made me feel very, very good because I felt, and I have said again and again that The American Legion is not a dying organization, it is a growing organization.

And when I look up at that banner behind me and see that figure of 3 million and realize that we hope to reach 1 million, I know, and since I never will allow myself to be negative, that you will reach that 3 million this year, as we reach 1 million.

I would like to assure you that we will do that again and again, through the Departments this year. I would like to share with you a quote that represents not only these ladies up here, but you people, too:

There is a destiny that makes us brothers, none goes his way alone. All that we put into the lives of others comes back into our own.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Certainly, on behalf of all of our Legionnaires all over this world we owe a great amount of dedicated pride and appreciation for those who do work so hard for us. And this is a great day for America, today.

READING OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Since the Minutes of the National Executive Committee have been circulated and printed in digest form and mailed to you, I will entertain a motion concerning same.

... Motion was made by Mr. Blair, Alaska, duly seconded by Mr. Harrell, Georgia and carried unanimously, that the reading of the Minutes be dispensed with, and that they be adopted as circulized.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Next we will call on E. Roy Stone, Jr. of South Carolina, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Resolutions, Mr. Stone.

REPORT OF RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN E. ROY STONE, JR.: Mr. Commander, and Members of the National Executive Committee, in your folders are copies of the resolutions that have emanated from various Commissions or Committees which will be read and acted upon as each Committee or Commission reports.

My thought is that you look over this material, that you read ahead anytime you have at the resolutions that you may have interest in.

I call attention to the fact that resolutions rejected or held for further study are usually attached to the Committee's or Commission's Report. And if you want to follow a particular resolution that is one place, possibly you should ask, because practically all the resolutions that will be presented to you are resolutions that have been approved by your Commission.

Now, Mr. Commander, if you will, please, prepare the National Executive Committee for the purpose of Memorial Resolutions.

* * *

MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS

... At this time the National Executive Committee stood in silence for the reading of the following resolutions submitted by Subcommittee Chairman Stone:

RESOLUTION

RALPH M. GODWIN (MISSISSIPPI)

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God, the Great Commander to summon to His immortal legions our beloved comrade, Ralph M. Godwin—Department Commander 1950-51; Alternate National Executive Committeeman 1955 and 1956-80; National Vice Commander 1980-81; National Convention Commission Member 1984-87; Special Committee on Membership Eligibility Chairman 1984-85; History Committee Chairman 1986.

WHEREAS, We humbly bow to the will of Divine Providence, while ever cherishing in our hearts the memory of his distinguished service to our country and his outstanding contributions to American Legion comradeship; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the National Executive Committee of The American Legion, in regular meeting assembled on this sixth day of May in the year of our Lord 1987, does mourn the passing of our distinguished Legionnaire, Ralph M. Godwin; that we commend to all men his works and to God his spirit; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That in token of our common grief, a copy of this resolution be presented to his family.

"ON DEATH OF AN AGED FRIEND"

*For us who knew you, dread of age is past!
You took life, tiptoe, to the very last;
It never lost for you its lovely look;
You kept your interest in its thrilling book;
To you, Death came, no conqueror, in the end—
You merely smiled to greet another friend!*

Roselle Mercier Montgomery

Similar Memorial Resolutions were read for: E. Jackson Winslett and Adril L. Wright, Alabama; Richard Countryman, Arizona; Lionel F. Dugas and George White, Connecticut; C. B. Burke, Jr. and Jesse M. McLellan, Georgia; Charles J. Utterback, Hawaii; Harry R. Harn, Idaho; Clarence E. Brooks and John A. Gelish, Illinois; John A. Guirovich, Jr., Louisiana; Ralph J. Brooks, Maine; Leroy G. Metz, Maryland; Scott J. Russum, Mississippi; Marshall D. Hagemann, Missouri; Edward T. Foster, Richard D. Marvel and James C. Smith, Nebraska; G. Alfred Rogers, Nevada; Lawrence Luteran, New Jersey; Dr. D. H. "Tiny" Reed, New Mexico; Angelo J. Molinari, New York; Joseph I. Harshman, Pennsylvania; Claude A. Hamilton, South Dakota; Halbert Harvill, and William E. "Gene" Strong, Tennessee; Maurice G. Marsh, Vermont; Harvey V. Higley, Wisconsin and Norman J. Guster, Wyoming.

EULOGY TO RALPH GODWIN MISSISSIPPI

MR. STONE, South Carolina: Mr. Commander, I would like to deliver a eulogy to Ralph Godwin.

You know the author of the Book of Ecclesiastes tells us there is a right time for everything, a time to be born, a time to die, a time to cry and a time to laugh and a time to grieve.

It is time for this National Executive Committee during its busy schedule to pause to honor the memory of a dedicated Legionnaire, Ralph M. Godwin of the Department of Mississippi.

Throughout the years I have had the duty to read Memorial Resolutions before this body. It has been a grievous task for many of these outstanding Legionnaires who are personal friends, and today is no exception.

Ralph served loyally and represented well his Department for 24 years on this Committee. He was a stabilizing influence in The American Legion. He earned our respect.

Many issues that confront our organization were placed on his shoulders to solve. He tackled his job at hand and wisely did his work. He reached the pinnacle of his success when he stood before the Delegates of our 68th National Convention and nominated our present Commander, Jimmy Dean.

I shall never forget my last contact with Ralph. We all recall that a few days prior to the National Commander's Homecoming, he was stricken by a stroke which left him paralyzed. It affected his speech. When I arrived in Jackson, he requested that I come immediately to his hospital room. I did so. He was sleeping. However, upon hearing my voice, he awoke for a few minutes. I held his hand. No words were spoken. Then he apologized for not being able to personally see to my coming and to be host of the others throughout the Legion who were in attendance.

After seeing the exhaustion caused by his effort to carry on a conversation, I, in a feeble manner, wished him well, bid farewell and sadly left the room, feeling in my heart that this would be our final meeting.

We all remember the anxiety that existed at the Fall Meeting of this Committee. Daily we were given a report of Ralph's condition. The prognosis was not encouraging, and his condition deteriorated, and God in His wisdom called him home.

I returned to Jackson for his funeral, and as I sat at the open grave and watched his casket being lowered, I reflected on our association throughout the years.

What a loss to each one of us was his passing. The American Legion brought us together. He was a true and loyal friend. We had found a common interest as we tried to carry out our programs for God and Country. These programs are not finished. They go on and on. The torch that he carried has now been passed on to us. During our life span we will strive to hold it high. Then another generation will do even better. When a tall tree falls in a forest, it damages and scars the smaller trees that are around it, and those trees carry those scars until they too fall or are cut down. Each one of us has been scarred by his passing.

The Apostle Paul tells us that the good that we do lives after us. That is just the opposite of what Shakespeare said in Julius Caesar when he said that the good is oft interred in their bones.

Ralph, along with other Legionnaires who have passed on looks down on us today. He encourages and urges us to do our duty to the best of our ability.

Yes, a challenge, The American Legion has taken its place with our revered Department Commander. Ralph, we will remember you, and as often as we recall our memories, you will continue to live in our hearts.

So be it.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: For our first Report, we will have the Report of our National Historian, J. Ruffin Apperson, Virginia.

**REPORT OF NATIONAL HISTORIAN
J. Ruffin Apperson (VA)**

In your package you have my report. There is one thing I would like to call your attention to in the Report. The last paragraph I indicated that 1 out of 30 had the opportunity to read the history of The American Legion. As a result, I took the slide show on the road, showing these trays of slides to Legionnaires, that might never, or had never read any of the history of The American Legion. I left some seed with them of appreciation for the background and history of The American Legion, and I think I left them a little bit prouder of being a Legionnaire. Thank you, kindly.

. . . The printed Report of the National Historian is as follows:

**Report of
NATIONAL HISTORIAN
to the
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MAY 6-7, 1987
J. Ruffin Apperson (VA)**

I take this opportunity to thank Commander Dean for my appointment to the office of National Historian. My thanks are also extended to the National Executive Committee for confirming my appointment. In addition, I express my gratitude to those who had confidence in me that led them to suggest my appointment.

The support and assistance of Thomas V. Hull and his staff has been a great help. This support has reduced the task of Historian to the realm of reality and is greatly appreciated.

There follows a list of activities that I have been involved in as National Historian:

Attended the Post National Convention meeting of the National Executive Committee, at which my appointment was confirmed.

In September, I attended The American Legion History Committee meeting. This committee is charged with writing the new history of The American Legion. The committee was considering the selection of an author and the writing of the book.

Attended The American Legion Fall meeting in Indianapolis, at which there was the meeting of the National Association of Department Historians. It was my honor to present the plaque of appreciation to the Past National Historian, Ethel M. Matuschka.

Reported to the Fall, 1986, meeting of the National Executive Committee the results of the National Department/Post History Contests. I am extremely grateful to Past National Historian, Roy R. Mahoney for the supervision and direction of this judging. Please accept my apology for the delay in the engraving that made the plaques very late in getting to recipients.

Attended two of the Fall American Legion Leadership Training Conferences, one in Nashville, and one in Las Vegas.

Met with Thomas V. Hull in January to begin planning for the National Historians' breakfast meeting of historians and founders of The American Legion in San Antonio. On a coffee break during this meeting, I had the opportunity to chat informally with The American Legion history up-date author, Thomas A. Rumer. This meeting kindled my excitement concerning the result of his work.

At the February American Legion Washington Conference, attended the meeting with President Reagan, Secretary of State Shultz, and Congressman Bailey (R-VA). Attended the Bi-Centennial Committee meetings and was much impressed at the accomplishments of The American Legion.

Attended in February one of Virginia's Bi-Centennial public meetings.

Have been asked to serve on the County of Chesterfield's Bi-Centennial Committee.

The Bi-Centennial Oratorical Contest allowed the opportunity in April to attend the 4th Regional Contest in Raleigh, N.C.; the B Sectional (Southern Section) in Little Rock, AR; and the National Finals in Lee's Summit, MO.

The membership activity of The American Legion appears as the history-making event of the year 1986-87. For example, our Department of Virginia is experiencing it's best year since the peak year after WW II.

I have derived a great deal of satisfaction from the slide history of The American Legion. These slides were shown to Post and other Legion groups. At one of these groups, I asked how many had read a history of The American Legion. Out of a group of 30, only 1 had. This slide presentation, of course, could not in 45 minutes cover a detailed history. It may have left out your favorite founder or Legion event. However, it does serve to make the viewer proud of being a Legionnaire or Auxiliary member, and does present the pictures and word pictures that will be remembered even though they may never have read or expect to read about the history of The American Legion.

MR. HARRELL, Georgia: Mr. Commander, I move the Report of the National Historian be received and filed.

. . . The motion seconded by National Vice Commander Donald E. Neil, Delaware, and carried.

* * *

INTRODUCTION

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Before I introduce our next guest, we have a number of distinguished guests that are with us. I would like to introduce them. I know they have quite a number of staff with them, but at least some of those that are with us: Terrence L. Johnson, the Director, Veterans Administration Medical Center, Indianapolis; Roy C. Wetherell, Director, Veterans Administration Regional Office, Indianapolis; and certainly his staff of the VA.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: It is always a pleasure the National Commander having an opportunity of introducing distinguished Americans.

Today, we have a very distinguished American to address us and talk to us about our great country. It is a pleasure for me to introduce to you today, the Deputy Administrator of the Veterans Administration, Affairs of the Veterans Administration, Thomas E. Harvey.

Administrator Harvey has been active in the VA since August of this past year, serving in a number of positions with our Government since being an Infantry Captain in the United States Army for five years, with one and one-half years in Vietnam.

Last year Mr. Harvey became a Legionnaire, representing the great part of our country, Washington, D.C. Today, he will be speaking to us about the Homeless Veteran. And it is with a great amount of personal pleasure that I introduce our friend, Thomas E. Harvey.

HONORABLE THOMAS E. HARVEY Deputy Administrator Veterans Administration

Thank you very much, Commander Dean. It's good to be here with all of you fellow Legionnaires this morning.

It is a very kind introduction that you had. One of the interesting things that I have found as I have had an opportunity to travel around the country and speak at different groups and at different places about different subjects, is that the introduction that you receive sometimes differs from one place to another.

I spoke before the Annual Convention of the World War I Veterans out in Omaha last September. There the National Commander got up, there were several people on the platform to speak, and he said essentially, if any of you are interested in finding out more about these people, you can read about it in next month's magazine. I will just tell you what their name is when they come up—very little formality to that.

Sometimes, the introduction you receive sounds like a paid political announcement, a thing your father would love to hear, and your mother actually would believe.

Probably the all timer is the one that happened to my friend Allen Simpson back when I worked for him when he was Chairman of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. He once was introduced, and the introduction was, "And now ladies and gentlemen, the latest dope from Washington, Senator Allen Simpson."

Actually, it has been a few weeks since Bob Spanogle and Mylio Kraja and their staffs approached the Veterans Administration asking for someone to speak this morning, who would have wit and charm and personality. We have had a real effort trying to fill that bill. I am just here as a stand in, because they weren't able to do that, yet.

What I would like to do this morning, is just to touch very briefly on a topic covered by representatives from the Veterans Administration and that is, Veterans benefits generally, the status of the Veterans Administration.

I will not do that, because I know that you have others on your program who are going to be dealing with those subjects. But I do realize that you are interested in that subject and in the perspective of people within the VA Central Office on that, and especially this group is somewhat interested in the VA and has shown many years of dedication of course to the Veterans Administration, and to issues affecting Veterans in this country.

I know that as I came in this morning, I met Bill Lenker, who I haven't seen for a while, and I know of his many years of work for the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Committee. Roy Stone was up a short while ago. I often have had occasion to speak with him when I was on the staff of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. And Don Johnson, who is over here, was formerly on the hill working, and dealing with that. And Earl Cocke, former National Commander is another man who has been active in this.

I was chatting with Clarence Bacon, who has been my friend since I had an occasion to work with him when I was on the staff of the Committee. I saw Keith Kreul when I came in through the back. I think Al Keller is here. I once had a pleasant dinner sitting with him. He said it was the eleventh in a row of roast beef, mashed potatoes and peas that he had had in his tenure as Commander. Let me just say that the budget for the Veterans Administration as submitted by the President to Congress this year is some \$500 million over what the budget was last year. That is the highest budget ever proposed by an Administration for the Veterans Administration. And historically, Congress has always added more to this budget as it has worked itself through the budget process.

Therefore, since the beginning of the Reagan Administration, when the Veterans Administration Budget was some \$18 billion, it has grown so now that it is about \$28 billion.

Why is that? That is because of the strong support of the President and of the Administration for the Veterans and for programs that are of interest and concern to Veterans. It is because of the strong support of Congress, and Congress certainly is aware of the interest and concern of the Veterans service organizations, such as The American Legion in supporting Veterans' programs. Honestly, it is in large part because of the very fine advocacy for Veterans' programs of Administrator Tom Turnage. He is quiet and effective in getting programs through OMB and getting the support of the Administration.

I am proud of that budget. I am proud of the fact that we have the resources to address the many important issues that are of concern to you today, and of concern to me. And I am proud of the people that I have occasion to meet and to work with within the Veterans Administration for addressing those issues, and they are impressive people. They are those directors and they may be Regional Office Directors, but they're also people.

One fellow is a man named Lamar McCall has the title of Heavy Equipment Operator or something like that in Fort Hudson, in Zachary, Louisiana. Basically, the man is a grave digger. They wanted to give him the Employee Of The Year Award last year, and he was in the Central Office to receive this prize.

And you know, all of us here in the room today have plaques on the wall, and we have been

recognized for things that we have done over the years, but Mac isn't that kind of a guy. He just hadn't had that opportunity. And as we were talking, he is not someone who is comfortable in talking with people. He is not verbal. But the Director of the cemetery said, "Let me tell you the kind of guy that Mac is."

He said, "Mac knew that we were coming to Washington today, because he was being presented this award, but he also knew that we had two internments in the cemetery. So he was out at 2 o'clock in the morning this morning with the headlights on his backhoe digging the graves for these internments. After he did, he went home and took a shower and put on a suit and came up to Washington to get his award." It is that type of dedication that I find tremendously impressive.

There is another fellow, a double amputee named Ike Cook. Ike is a Recreational Therapist at the VA Medical Center in Richmond. Ike was in Washington some time ago to start going by wheelchair from Washington to Richmond to try to generate an awareness among people of what it is, that people with physical handicaps can accomplish.

And he was doing this in part to raise money to support a team that will go from the VA Medical Center in Richmond for primarily spine-injured patients to participate in the wheelchair games in Ann Arbor, Michigan in August.

Just Monday of this week, Dr. Simberkoff at the VA Medical Center in Manhattan, is probably recognized as the leading research, or one of the leading research, certainly one of the clinicians treating patients with AIDS. Handicapped VA Medical Center in Manhattan has some 290 patients that have that dread disease—about half of those have died already.

It is people with that sort of a dedication that I'm proud of, and that you all can be proud of, because they are really working on addressing all of the issues and all of the problems that we all consider so important.

As Commander Dean mentioned this morning, I would like to talk about something, and the reason I suggested talking about this is because of the interest that Commander Dean has expressed in his own testimony before Congress, and the interest that The American Legion has shown on the subject of Homeless Veterans, and I, I think that the effort of an organization such as this, and the leader such as Commander Jimmy Dean focusing attention and drawing attention continuously to this really very, very difficult societal problem is very important, because problems are addressed based upon the amount of attention given to them. And it is a hard one, and it is important that it be an item on the legislative agenda of The American Legion.

It has been a topic of concern to me, since I have been into my position, and I have had an opportunity to visit several of our facilities as I travel around the country. And I visited the Regional Offices and were with people, with representatives of the Regional Offices. I have gone out, and I have visited in homes, wooden shelters and visited with the care providers there, as well as with homeless individuals to talk to them about how have you come to this position? And I would just like to share some observations fairly briefly with you.

One of them is the issue of homelessness in America which is a societal problem. It is a broad problem. Homeless Veterans manifest the same problems that other people that are homeless are manifesting. Largely that has to do with mental illness. Many of the people that are homeless who you see who are behaving erratically on the street have a mental illness, and oftentimes, schizophrenia.

There is nothing particular about one's Veteran's status, if you are struck with a dreadful disease like that. It is something that affects, that affects many, many people, and often it affects them when they are young and stays with them for their lives.

Alcoholism is another very large component of the causes of homelessness; drug abuse is another one.

The three of those, mental illness, alcoholism and drug abuse really are, they leave far in the distance some of the other problems that these individuals have, such as a lack of job skills, unemployment, lack of affordable housing. It is big and it is a societal problem, and to do something meaningful about that, we have to address each of those elements of that problem.

Another observation about that is that the numbers of people who are affected with homelessness and their status is really very unclear.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development a few years ago did a study. Harvard

did a study not long before. They both came up with about the same results that about two hundred fifty to 350,000 people are homeless. That was their range.

A homeless advocate, most notably a fellow named, Mitch Snyder in Washington—who is a master at getting attention for himself largely—but also for this problem, he says, no, no, that is off by millions. There are a couple of million homeless people out there.

I am not sure what the answer is. Nobody is sure what the answer is.

The answer has to do with how you define homelessness. There are many people who are living in accommodations that certainly we would consider wholly unacceptable for ourselves and our family. But they have become permanent accommodations for those people.

For example, the Salvation Army in the Bowery, they have a place which charges \$550 a month for three meals a day and a private room. The rooms are dingy, and they are dreadful. It would be a horrible way to spend your time. But they are shelter for them, and they have a home. Many of them have suffered from other problems, drug abuse, alcoholism and mental illness.

How many of that group are Veterans? There was a study done in Baltimore of only about 51 and they said half the people. A study of about 6,000 people done by the Human Resources Administration in the City of New York in 1982, they said 28% are veterans. I am not entirely sure what the number is.

It is an interesting number. But one of the things that I am very interested about doing is attempting to find out with precision and investing the type of money and the type of resources in finding out those numbers with precision. What is really important, is that we get about doing something about the problems that are reflected by this group.

There is a Bill currently pending in Congress that is Act 47, that has some provisions for homeless Veterans. One of the requirements is to do quite a comprehensive and detailed analysis of the numbers of people who are and who are not veterans. We have had estimates costing five to \$7 million to do that. And it will be quite a while before we can do anything about it.

I would really much prefer to use most of that money in trying to develop programs that can respond to this problem, rather than spending time either arguing about what the numbers are, or trying to refine those numbers, because I just think, as you do, that you have been missing an opportunity to provide care.

There is no single homeless population. As you visit the different homeless shelters as you go around the country, you see that the people who are homeless tend to gravitate to one position or another, one location or another, because they know that other people there are people who have conditions that are similar to their own.

Bellevue Hospital in New York, for example, primarily shelters men who are over forty. Many of them are permanent residents there. There is a shelter in New York that primarily houses people that have been rehabilitated and are now ready to return to the job market. And so, it is the last stop before they go out into that job market. If you were to visit the homeless group on Venice Beach near Los Angeles, it looks like a big beach party, a bunch of people that are holding a party, they are just going around passing a bottle around, waiting for the steak truck to arrive. Each of those populations are different, and has characteristics that are different. And to say that we are going to have programs that are going to take care of all of them is frankly not going to be effective.

Because of that, the integration of programs for Veterans, funded by the Veterans Administration with other programs that are provided in the community and with different community affairs are addressing the problems of homelessness, and they manifest themselves in different locations, and I think that this is very important.

Just recently, we have initiated 43 pilot programs which will provide services to chronically mentally ill homeless veterans, in conjunction with other care givers in the community.

What it will attempt to do, is assess their physical needs, their mental illness needs and will attempt to find sort of a halfway house type of accommodations for them, to bring them out of that homeless category and help them reintegrate to the extent they can, with society.

One of the things that people have occasionally expressed concern about is whether or not we are doing an adequate outreach job to try to get out to this homeless population.

I can tell you that from the facilities that I have visited, the answer to that question is yes. We are not only doing adequate outreach job but we are doing the appropriate type of

outreach. The appropriate type of outreach I believe is to have the shelter care providers aware of the fact that we are here, we have health care available. We have monetary benefits of various types available. So that if someone comes in who is homeless, who claims to be a veteran and claims entitlement to some of these programs, the care providers can contact the Veterans Administration, benefits counselors who are then able to run that individual's name, and identify them through a computer and say yes or no, this man is or is not a Veteran and eligible for our programs.

Indeed, what sometimes they find is a veteran who is not only eligible for our programs, but is already a beneficiary of some of those programs.

I visited the Veterans Center in Watts out in Los Angeles recently, and it was on the 3rd of April. There are two veterans who are there who would by most definitions fit into that homeless category.

Each was rated 100% service connected disabled for various neuro psychiatric disorders. Each was drawing some \$1400 a month. Each was without a single penny to his name, because they had spent their money for drugs and their friends, and what they had not spent while they were under the influence of drugs was gone. And they know about the Veterans Administration. They are there, they are seeking assistance in finding a place to stay until the first of next month, when they get their next check.

What do you do with people like that? I mean, that is what I'm saying, that we have to reach out to this person. We have to provide him with more money. We are already doing that. That is not always the answer. I don't agree with that.

Another gentleman well into his sixties and in a homeless shelter in Washington, was getting \$750 a month from the Veterans Administration. This fellow was, I mean, he was just lucid. He said, "I have a shelter. I eat at a soup kitchen. I put that money in the bank, because I want to have something to leave to my children when I die." Now you know, that is irrational. It is not what I would do, and it is not what you would do.

But to say to this fellow, well, I won't give you the money, because you are not spending it on yourself, or to say to them, I will give you more money because you are saving it, that is sort of a problem you were dealing with. It is just a very, very difficult one.

One of the things that our Regional Office staffs are doing, in many locations, is conducting training programs for the shelter, for homeless shelter management, so that they will know what it is we can do for eligible Veterans.

Something else they are doing is participating actively in places like New York and in San Francisco, and in Committees to set up within the community these committees to deal with the issue.

There is a special problem that you run across when you deal with this homeless population. One of them is the problem of multi-disadvantaged, the fellow that was an alcoholic, may also have been suffering from a mental illness. He may be suffering from an organic brain disorder, caused by the alcoholism, or he may be suffering from Alzheimer's. The alcoholic may be a drug addict. Invariably, they are out of work; invariably their job skills are low.

The population isn't as mobile as you would think. Some in New York, for example, where we have beds available in the domiciliary in Bath, New York, which is about 250 miles north of the city, the homeless population that lives on the Bowery don't want to go there. They will refuse to leave the area, for reasons that I will never comprehend. They feel comfortable. So in some ways, they are stuck in the area.

Another section of that population are "snowbirds." They will winter in Phoenix and Tuscon in Arizona and Los Angeles in the wintertime, and then go back up north in the summer tapping into whatever resources are in the different locales as they go. One of the things that is very hard in dealing with this constituency is the followup. The people who are sick need followup. Yet, it is hard to deal with that, because it is so difficult to work with the homeless shelters to deal with the issues that are presented there that those facilities have tremendously high burnout rates, and tremendously high staff turnover. So we are constantly going to have to renew our contacts with the shelter's providers, counseling trying to follow up with them.

Many of the individuals who are homeless, simply are undefineable. You can't anticipate that they will call in for a mental health outpatient visit, if that is what it is determined that

they need. It is hard to be optimistic about dealing with a problem like homelessness. And in fact, after you have heard me say these things, you probably are feeling a little grim about it, as I do.

There are aspects of the problem where I think optimism really is warranted, and that is where I think we can probably anticipate, and I think that we will find we can make the most, the most significant impact at diverting people away from a life that is homeless.

I am optimistic that we can get to people where they have had a recent job loss, or where they have had a crisis in their family that may have caused them for a brief period of time to be unable to afford the housing that they need, or to be able to have that, and I think we can do something, do something there.

I think that some of the programs that—there is a program that I remember, The American Legion Auxiliary started a few years ago for displaced homemakers. I remember the Auxiliary President, Romaine Roethel, telling me about this, it must be 5 or 6 years ago—where you have an abused spouse, who can no longer remain in the home where she has been, who has to go somewhere else that doesn't have the marketable job skills, the Legion Auxiliary had that program that would help her acquire these skills and she would go to this shelter, so that she wouldn't have to return to the battered type situation.

The problem is societal. It is not a problem that any one aspect of society has a corner on the market. And I think that the fact that the organization of the stature of The American Legion would tackle the problem like that is something that is very impressive.

There is a line by Ralph Waldo Emerson that goes something like—the greatness of society is determined not by the size of the cities nor its crops nor by its senses, but by the kinds of people who make up that society.

I think the men and women who make up The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary know intuitively the truth of that statement.

You prove your willingness to take on the issues, and by taking on the issues, such as the homeless issue and the other big issues that The American Legion attacks, America may be a better place for us, for our children, and for our grandchildren.

I would like to thank you for all you do. It is good to be here with you this morning.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: I certainly thank you on behalf of The American Legion and certainly to you and all of those in the Veterans Administration for all the tireless work that you do for us.

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**FINAL REPORT OF 1986
NATIONAL CONVENTION
Edward Yorukoff, President
The American Legion Convention Corp. of Ohio**

Mr. Commander, National Officers, National Executive Committee, Legionnaires and guests, first I want to, on behalf of the Ohio American Legion National Convention Corporation thank everyone, once again for attendance, the support and everything we had at the Convention. It was fantastic, and it was only through your efforts that made it so.

We had one major problem which was our decanter, and we had a problem with its manufacturing and the distribution and the sales of it, which makes it impossible for me to give a Final Report at this time, because I'm still trying to get the books closed. They owe us money, and we owe them money.

Presentation

To kind of smooth over this thing, Mr. Commander, I would like to make a presentation. PRESIDENT YORUKOFF: On behalf of The American Legion National Convention Corporation, I would like to present to you this check for \$12,500.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Thank you so very much, Ed, and certainly our appreciation for a Convention well done, thank you.

PRESIDENT YORUKOFF: Thank you.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Do I have a motion to receive and file?
 . . . Motion so made by Mr. Belloni, Ohio, to be seconded by Mr. Louer, Delaware and carried.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: I now call on next Wendell G. Williams, Chairman from Wisconsin of the National Convention Commission.

**Report of
 NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMISSION
 Wendell G. Williams (WI), Chairman**

Commander Dean, National Officers, National Past Commanders, Members of this National Executive Committee, guests and friends, good morning.

The National Convention Committee met, and was called to order by Chairman Wendell Williams at 9:00 A.M. on May 4, 1987.

The death of Past National Vice Commander and Member of the Convention Commission, Ralph M. Godwin was recognized by Chairman Williams and his presence will be truly missed.

Greetings were extended to the Commission Members by National Commander James Dean.

Edward Yorukoff, President of the Convention Corporation of Ohio reported on the 1986 Convention. He has presented a check to The American Legion in the amount of \$12,500, with a possibility of additional income after the final audit in approximately 30 days.

After considerable discussion, it was felt by the Commission Members that shuttle service, when necessary, and Convention Center rent should be a primary consideration in awarding bids for future Conventions.

The Department of Pennsylvania made a proposal to the Commission of its intent to submit a firm bid for the 1993 National Convention in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

The delegates from the Departments of Minnesota, Illinois, Louisiana and Colorado, along with representatives of Minneapolis, Chicago, New Orleans and Denver, gave presentations for hosting the 1992 National Convention.

Progress reports on the 1989, 1990 and 1991 Conventions to be held tentatively in Baltimore, MD; Indianapolis, IN and Phoenix, AZ were made by the respective Departments.

Other cities that indicated their interest in hosting future National Conventions were: Salt Lake City, UT; Detroit, MI; and Portland, OR.

Les Brown, President of the Kentucky Convention Corporation which will host the 1988 Convention in Louisville, KY, gave an update on Convention activities in Louisville. He said they are working with Churchill Downs for a Festival program which, if details can be worked out, should provide a great day for everyone. They have commitments from the Police Department, Mayor's Office and already have a large group of volunteers.

The recommendation was made by the Commission that National Commander Dean sign the contract with the Convention Corporation of Kentucky and the City of Louisville.

Hugh Dagley, Director of Public Relations gave a report on the progress of the 1987 Festival which will be held in the area of San Antonio known as La Villita. The Festival plans are moving along rapidly and all indications are for a fun-filled and interesting afternoon for the Legionnaires.

An update of the 1987 Convention to be held in San Antonio was given by Harvey Holcomb, President of the Texas Convention Corporation. He stated that everything that needs to be done at this point has been accomplished. The Corporation office has been selected and will be open on June 15, 1987.

Chairman Williams indicated that the commemorative bottle designs for future Conventions may be given to Emblem Sales for bids and the distribution of the commemorative bottle must be handled by Emblem Sales.

The Commission voted unanimously to recommend that a tentative award for the 1992 Convention be given to Minneapolis, MN for the dates of September 4-10, 1992.

Dates for future Conventions are:

San Antonio	Aug. 21-27, 1987
Louisville	Sept. 2-8, 1988
Baltimore	Sept. 1-7, 1989 (Tentative)
Indianapolis	Aug. 24-30, 1990 (Tentative)
Phoenix	Aug. 30-Sept. 5, 1991 (Tentative)

Mr. Commander, that completes my report.

MR. HARRELL, Georgia: I move that the Report be received, with the exception of the last paragraph on page 2 which Mr. Stone will make another motion regarding.

... The motion was seconded by Mr. Cooper of Alabama and carried.

MR. STONE, South Carolina: Mr. Commander, the paragraph referred to in the Report, recommendation was made that the National Commander Dean sign a contract with the Convention Corporation of Kentucky and the City of Louisville which entails contact, which under the Rules of 8A of this body should come to us in the form of a Resolution under the usual four-hour reading.

We have discussed this with the Chairman and he will prepare a resolution which will come before us at a later time during this Committee meeting.

My reason for making this statement, is because we are supposed to have those resolutions after the Report.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: You want the time noted now?

MR. STONE: No.

... The motion was seconded by National Vice Commander Donald Neil, Delaware and carried.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: I will now call upon Bill Lenker, Chairman of the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission for a Report at this time.

**Report of
NATIONAL VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION COMMISSION
W. F. LENKER (SD), Chairman**

Thank you, Mr. Commander. Members of the National Executive Committee, a subcommittee of the Executive Section of your Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission met on May 6 and 7, 1987 at National Headquarters.

In attendance were two of your members, Chuck Langel of Nevada and Emmett B. Burley of Virginia. We thank them for their loyalty and sincerity. They were with us for the complete days.

Your Commission considered fourteen resolutions, which two are here for your approval; 6 were disposed of administratively; 1 was held for further study; 2 are received unrecorded, and 3 were rejected.

Our complete report is on your desk. With your permission, I will not read it, but I would like to make a few comments.

With your permission I shall proceed.

We are in the process of losing another benefit, that of beneficiary travel. It is another in a series of actions affected by both Congress and the Administration since 1981, to reduce the cost of Government at the expense of the Nation's Veterans.

The cost of our Veteran's program was reduced, have been reduced from a high of more than 5% in 1975 to less than 2.5% currently, as a percentage of the total cost of Government.

A new regulation as of April 13, this year, provides transportation for our Veterans to our hospitals:

1. Emergency cases where the doctor in the VA must say bring him in.
2. Schedule of Veteran exams for comp and pension.
3. Where the Veteran has been discharged and must return for more treatment.
4. Movement between two VA hospitals for treatment and

5. Special modes of transportation such as ambulance or airplane, and the VA has authorized same.

Beyond that, the Vet will be reimbursed if over 100 miles traveled.

For example, total mileage was 140 miles, the VA would deduct first 100 miles and pay 11¢ a mile for that 40 miles.

One hundred and five million dollars was spent last year in beneficiary travel. In the 1987 budget, there was no amount allowed.

The VA scurried and found \$10 million in another part of their funds which were transferred over to emergencies travel.

Congress has allowed another \$50 million. It means that we will have a total of \$60 million, versus the \$105 million that we had in 1986.

The Veterans Administration, used to consider this an entitlement. OMB entered into the picture and challenged that idea.

The Justice Department agreed with OMB, and called it a discretionary program, and hence no funds were requested by the VA in 1987.

We know who will suffer, it will be the oldest, the poorest, the sickest. That old Veteran who will not come in to get a prescription renewed. He can't afford it. And eventually he will end up as a patient in the hospital, and it won't cost much more in the long run. It is a self-defeating decision on saving money.

We have protested this vehemently. We have protested vehemently with the VA and Congress.

Under the means test, we are still the only Veterans organization that maintains that Congress is way off base in passing this law.

We now have the VA's own statistics for the first month of the fiscal year running through March 31st. \$1,471,000 patients reported for care. 93.69% were in category A. 2.78% were in category B, and 2.44% were in category C.—our Veterans who have to make a co-payment. The figures are consistent. Never had category C reached 2.5%. This is where Congress was going to save so much money. We The American Legion have consistently argued that the major number (94-96%) of our VA patients are old and are sick and poor.

So far the VA has collected \$1.7 million in that Category C as co-payments. They told us they were going to save \$200-and-some million in a year, and that's why Congress passed the law.

Under the third party reimbursement, where the insurance company will reimburse the VA, there is very little activity. Some insurance companies have been billed. They seem very slow in paying. The argument between the General Counsel of the VA and Chairman Montgomery continues.

Sonny says the law says, "They shall." And the General Counsel claims it is a "may" when resources are available.

The American Legion wants to challenge it in Court, and we are searching for cases of patients in Category A who have been refused entry into the VA hospitals. We are finding some, and we are filing complaints.

We are most concerned with the VA announcement of closing some four open-heart surgery programs out of 34 in the VA system. They were in Brooklyn, Long Beach, East Orange, New Jersey and Washington, D.C. We demand the best medical care for our Veterans. We have been told that a hospital should do at least 150 procedures or surgeries a year on the heart. One of these hospitals did only 40, and a good share of those are pediatric or on children.

The program was not accredited.

We will continue to monitor and study this important program.

In conclusion, we are happy to announce that the Third Department Service Officer School will be held this summer, presumably July 22-24, depending upon the VA staff being available.

Funding is being secured, and we thank those responsible for their generosity. Some 34 Departments of the 35 responded were in attendance, and we will have room for other accredited service officers up to 100.

Remember, these schools are being conducted for the purpose of improving the proficiency of The American Legion Service Officers in counseling and representing Veterans, their

dependents and survivors in applications for Veteran's benefits and to enable them in turn, to go back and provide training to other Service Officers in their respective Departments.

This particular summer session will be held in Indianapolis.

Mr. Commander, we respectfully present our Report.

. . . The printed Advance Report of the National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission is as follows:

**Advance Report of
NATIONAL VETERANS AFFAIRS AND
REHABILITATION COMMISSION
to
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 6-7, 1987 at Indianapolis, IN
W. F. Lenker (SD), Chairman**

The following report covers the activities of the National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission from October 9, 1986 to April 1, 1987.

**I. MEETING OF THE NATIONAL VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION
COMMISSION**

The National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission has met only once since the National Executive Committee last met in October 1986. This meeting was held in the Sheraton Washington Hotel in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, February 11, 1987, in connection with the 64th Annual Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Conference. Matters considered during this meeting, together with an outline of the reports received by the Commission are as follows:

a. Resolutions referred to the Commission

The following resolutions were presented to the Commission for their consideration and action. A brief digest and the action recommended is shown after each resolution.

(1) Resolutions referred by the 1986 National Convention

Res. 31 (PI)—Requests The American Legion to appeal to President Aquino of the Philippines, as part of the negotiation of the U.S. Bases in the Philippines, to reconvene the Republic of Philippines-United States Joint Panel on Veterans Affairs, for the purpose of settlement of unpaid and unresolved claims. **Recommended for Rejection.**

Res. 277 (PA)—Seeks to amend regulations so as to authorize burial of members of Air and Army National Guard in national cemeteries. **Recommended to be Disposed of Administratively.**

Res. 405 (ID)—Urges The American Legion to support establishment of a national cemetery in Northwest Idaho. **Recommended to be Disposed of Administratively.**

Res. 460 (NY)—Seeks establishment of a national cemetery in New York State. **Recommended to be Disposed of Administratively.**

(2) Register Resolutions referred

Reg. Res. 2155 (PR)—Urges The American Legion to request the Congress and the Veterans Administration to stop the reevaluation of 2,500 cases of veterans having 100% service-connected compensation due to psychiatric evaluation. **Recommended to be Disposed of Administratively.**

Reg. Res. 2156 (MO)—Urges The American Legion to support the continued maintenance and improvement of the Cardiac Surgery Program at the VAMC in Columbia, Missouri. **Recommended to be Disposed of Administratively.**

Reg. Res. 2162 (OH)—Urges The American Legion to support issuance of a government headstone or grave marker to those gravesites of veterans with privately paid for headstones already in place. **Recommended for Rejection.**

b. Miscellaneous Reports Received by the Commission

(1) Staff introduced a resolution for disposition, the origin of which was the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Philippines. The resolution, recommended for rejection, requests that The American Legion seek legislation to allow widows of Philippine WW II veterans and recognized guerrillas, the opportunity to become American citizens as a result of the veteran's death.

(2) Staff updated the Commission members regarding the most recent information involving the Columbia University and American Legion study.

Staff is currently editing and preparing comments on the next report of findings dealing with the perceptions and satisfaction of the study population, regarding veterans benefits and services, including medical care.

(3) Staff briefed the Commission on the VA's proposal to close VA Outpatient Clinic in New Bedford, Massachusetts. The Commission received an extensive update regarding this situation, and was informed that The American Legion has a current mandate (Res. 190 (MA)) opposing closure of said clinic.

(4) Staff reported on the completion of the second Department Service Officers School, conducted in Washington, D.C., during February 4-7, 1987. This 3½ day school provided fundamental training in advocacy in veterans programs for those veterans who are now being brought into the service of American Legion Departments, and who will carry the burden of the Legion's Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Program in the years to come.

Syllabus for the school study course was again developed by the VA&R staff in Washington, in consultation with the Compensation and Pension Service of the VA Department of Veterans Benefits. The Compensation and Pension Service provided the instructors for the school. Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation staff members also contributed to the provision of several instruction classes throughout the session.

(5) Staff updated the Commission on the most recent proposals pertaining to the VA Beneficiary Travel Program.

(6) Staff reported to the Commission on the January 1987 meeting of the Veterans Planning and Coordinating Committee.

(7) Staff briefed the Commission on the most recent developments concerning the Means Test and Third Party Reimbursement. The Commission was provided with current VA statistics pertaining to the various categories of veterans receiving VA health care as well as other pertinent information.

(8) Staff briefed the Commission on the Coalition of Veterans Organizations on presentation of an alternative VA-DM&S Budget.

(9) The Commission was informed of all aspects of the recently revised aging veteran booklets, including distribution.

c. Report of the Committee on Certificate of Appreciation

Your Committee on Certificates of Appreciation met on February 9, 1987, in the Sheraton Washington Hotel, Washington, D.C., and considered 5 nominations for the award. The following nominations were recommended to receive the Certificate:

IOWA—David C. Tuttle, Ph.D., Supervisor, Counseling Psychologist, VARO, Des Moines

MISSOURI—Walton H. Bonner, Director, VAMC, Poplar Bluff

NEW YORK—Martin J. Schlund, Veterans Services Officer (Chief), VARO, Buffalo

TEXAS—Herbert D. Houston, Chief, Medical Administration Service, VAMC, Waco

Irvin D. "Bud" Noll, Medical District #20 Director and Director, VAMC, Waco

There were no awards made during the period between the 1986 National Convention and the 1987 Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Conference.

d. Report of the National Cemetery Committee

Three members of the National Cemetery Committee met at VA Central Office at 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., on February 10, 1987, in conjunction with the Annual National

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Conference. Present were: Roger Smith (OH), Vice Chairman; and members Roberto Gonzalez (PR); and Vernon K. Carstensen (MN). Also present was Past National Commander Joe Matthews (TX). Staff liaison to the Committee was Rod Kirk.

The Committee received an extensive briefing by the Department of Memorial Affairs. Present at this briefing were Arthur S. Hamerschlag, Acting Chief Memorial Affairs Director; and Dean W. Holt, Executive Assistant to the Chief Memorial Affairs Director.

Mr. Hamerschlag and Mr. Holt briefed the Committee on matters relative to the Cemetery System including future expansions, recent policy changes, and the Fiscal Year 1988 Budget.

Initial discussion focused on concerns generated by American Legion officials from the State of Washington, concerning the possibility of establishing a new national cemetery. Officials from the Department of Washington met with Department of Memorial Affairs personnel to determine the status of the proposal wherein land has been identified to be donated to the VA for construction of a national cemetery in Kings County. It was determined that the initial actions in this regard would be for VA to fund an environmental impact statement. The Committee was informed by DMA officials that the funding needed for such a study would amount to \$200,000. Mr. Hamerschlag reported that the necessary funding has not been included in the Fiscal Year 1988 Budget. Consequently, the threat of VA losing this parcel of land to be donated is of real concern. Department of Memorial Affairs officials informed the Committee that they will continue to pursue this matter and stressed that establishment of such a cemetery would serve 75% of the veteran population in the State of Washington.

Of particular concern to the Committee was the impact on the National Cemetery System resulting from the implementation of Public Law 99-576. Included within this law is the requirement that VA revert completely back to utilizing upright grave markers. Two exemptions prevail in this regard:

1. If the cemetery is scheduled to close by September 30, 1991, and has been using flat markers, authorization exists whereby flat markers can continue to be utilized; and
2. If a certain section of a cemetery has been established utilizing flat markers, the VA can continue using flat markers in that section. New sections that open however, within that same cemetery must utilize the upright markers.

Mr. Hamerschlag reported to Committee members that Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur of Ohio, has been selected as the new Chairperson for the Subcommittee on Housing and Memorial Affairs.

Committee members questioned Mr. Hamerschlag regarding the proposal included within the FY 1988 Budget pertaining to burial plot allowances. Under the proposed Fiscal Year 1988 Budget, plot allowances will be restricted the same as the current policy pertaining to burial allowance starting in Fiscal Year 1988. That is to say, plot allowances will only be authorized for those veterans receiving compensation or pension, or those veterans who are eligible for compensation or pension at the time of their death. Reportedly, this will save over \$30 million a year. The Committee expressed concern as to the overall impact of such a restriction, and specifically the threat this presents to the State Veterans Cemetery program. VA officials informed the Committee that in some States, the plot allowance stipend accounts for over 70% of State Cemeteries' operating expenses.

Other aspects of the FY 1988 Budget were discussed with Hamerschlag and Holt. The Department of Memorial Affairs has been identified to lose 2 full time employee equivalent. Although on the surface this appears not to be a problem, new activations will require additional personnel, which must be procured from existing sites and resources.

New cemetery activations scheduled are as follows:

1. Pruntytown, W. Virginia—scheduled to be opened in July of this year. (This opening incidentally will coincide with the 125th Anniversary of the National Cemetery System).
2. Ft. Mitchell, Alabama—dedication ceremonies scheduled for May 25, 1987.

In addition, construction has started for establishment of a new cemetery in the State of Florida, located 50 miles north of Tampa. This cemetery is scheduled to open sometime during Calendar Year 1988.

The last item discussed with DMA officials pertained to their present and proposed work load. Last year, there were 52,220 interments within the system. During FY 1988, estimates

forecasted predict over 56,000 interments. By the year 2000, because of our aging veteran population, it is estimated that over 66,000 interments will be required. The Committee therefore urges all concerned citizens to express to this nation's policymakers that this is certainly no time to reduce resources of the Department of Memorial Affairs, but to substantially increase these resources to allow the Department to continue providing adequate services and benefits to America's veterans.

e. Report of the 1987 Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Conference Committee on Recommendations

The members of the Recommendations Committee met on February 9, 1987 to study and consider 3 recommendations submitted from the 1986 Region 6 Conference. After careful deliberation, we recommend the following action be taken.

Recommendation for Approval

Recommendation No. 1 from the 1986 Region 6 Conference:

"It is recommended that the current format for the VA&R Program at the Regional Conferences be continued."

Under the current format, there is a morning joint session of the VA&R Legion and Auxiliary members with speakers from the Legion National and Department staffs and from the Veterans Administration. The Legion VA&R members meet separately for an afternoon session to discuss issues relating to VA claims and policies. This format was developed in coordination with the Auxiliary to meet their special interests and needs.

The Committee recommends approval of this recommendation.

Recommendation No. 3 from the 1986 Region 6 Conference:

"It is recommended that a short stretch break be provided in both the morning and afternoon sessions at the Conferences."

Although there has been no formal "break" time included in the schedule for either the morning or afternoon sessions of the Conferences, stretch breaks are generally taken. There is, however, no reason why these could not be so indicated in the program for these sessions.

The Committee recommends approval of this recommendation.

**Recommendation Referred to the
National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission**

Recommendation No. 2 from the 1986 Region 6 Conference:

"It is recommended that a dynamic speaker be procured to speak at the afternoon Legion VA&R session of the Conferences on a subject pertaining to current VA&R problems and promoted as a drawing card for the afternoon session."

The current program for the afternoon Legion VA&R session include a representative from the local VA Regional Office for a discussion of an issue or topic of current interest to Post and Department Service Officers. The remainder of the program is devoted to a discussion of VA claims and related problems.

It may be possible to arrange for other speakers to participate in the afternoon sessions and who might represent more of a "drawing card" and whose appearance might stimulate attendance at these sessions.

The Committee recommends this recommendation be referred for further study.

II. CONFERENCES

On February 9 and 10, 1987, the National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Conference was held for the 64th consecutive year. All sessions were held in the Sheraton Washington Hotel, Washington, D.C., with over 450 persons in attendance, representing every State in the Nation. Participants included members of the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission, Department Service Officers and Rehabilitation Directors, County and Post Service

Officers, members of the American Legion Auxiliary, and other National, Department and Post officials.

During the two day session the Commission's Chairman, W. F. Lenker (SD), and Vice Chairman, Chester F. Stellar (OH), presided. Participating in the various panel discussions were officials of the Veterans Administration. The Conferees heard addresses by the National Commander, the President of the American Legion Auxiliary, the Administrator of Veterans Affairs, and the Chief Medical Director of the Veterans Administration. Others addressing the Conference were the Chairman of the Board of Veterans Appeals, the Director of Voluntary Service, Veterans Administration, the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans Employment and Training, the Chief Benefits Director for the Veterans Administration, the Acting Chief Memorial Affairs Director, and the Director, U.S. Army and Joint Services Environmental Support Group.

During the year 1986, eight Regional Leadership Workshops were conducted, and at each meeting the name of a Vice Chairman for each Region was submitted for 1986-1987. These were as follows:

REGION 1—Raymond E. Allen (NH)	REGION 5—Russell Boston (MO)
REGION 2—A. Leo Anderson (DC)	REGION 6—Valore Likens, Jr. (IA)
REGION 3—Ross A. Fine (TN)	REGION 7—Buddy J. Phelps (NM)
REGION 4—Lee O. Walker (OK)	REGION 8—James A. Riske (AK)

... The printed Report of the National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission is as follows:

**Report of
NATIONAL VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION COMMISSION
to the
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 6-7, 1987
W. F. Lenker (SD), Chairman**

A Subcommittee of the Executive Section of the National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission met on May 6-7, 1987, at the National Headquarters for the purpose of considering those matters that had previously been referred for study, and to discuss a broad range of other matters of a current nature. Present at the meeting were:

W. F. Lenker (SD), Chairman	Jack M. Howell (NV)
Chester F. Stellar (OH), Vice Chrmn.	Larry Bartlett (IN)
William J. Pomfret (CT)	Robert Ruhl (MT)
David M. Schmidt (ND)	Michael C. D'Arco (NM)
W. Allen Kelley (FL)	Percy A. Lemoine (LA)
Patrick G. Breen (IL)	

Also in attendance were: Charles F. Langel (NV), Chairman, and Emmett B. Burley (VA), Member of the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Liaison Committee of the National Executive Committee.

Also present during the Subcommittee sessions were: Dominic Belloni (OH), National Executive Committeeman; David Kuter (WI), Department Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Chairman; Earl Wright (MD), Department Service Officer; Donald W. Schrum (IA), Department Commander; John Cryan (IL), Department Rehabilitation Director; and Richard Anderson (CT), National Executive Committeeman.

Staff members present were Robert E. Lyngh (CO), Director; and John F. Sommer, Jr. (OH), Deputy Director.

National Commander Jimmy Dean visited with the Subcommittee and encouraged those present to continue their efforts on behalf of the nation's veterans.

Past National Commander Jack Carey (MI), paid a visit during the meeting to thank the Commission and staff for testimony that has been presented relative to the State Veterans Homes.

Past National Commander Clarence Bacon (MD), briefly commented on the work that is being done by the Commission, and expressed his concerns about the wide-spread nursing shortage and other issues.

I. RESOLUTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Resolution No. 4—Support legislation to exempt chapter 34 educational assistance benefits from reductions under P.L. 99-177 (Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act). (ORIGIN: Register Res. No. 2158 [AZ] 1986 Fall DEC).

Resolution No. 5—Support legislation to amend 38, USC, section 312(a) to extend the presumptive period from one year to seven years from the date of separation from active service for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis. (ORIGIN: Resolution No. 216 [DC] 1986 National Convention).

II. MATTERS RECEIVED, CONSIDERED AND ACTED UPON BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE

Your Subcommittee considered five (5) resolutions referred to the Standing Commission by the 1986 National Convention. Two (2) additional resolutions were referred by the National Adjutant for consideration. Two (2) resolutions were referred to the National Executive Committee for recommended approval.

(A) Discussion of VA Beneficiary Travel

Staff briefed the Subcommittee on the recently revised VA regulations on the Beneficiary Travel Program. VA will continue to provide for emergency cases, scheduled compensation and pension examinations, interfacility transfers, pre-authorized special modes of transportation, and travel to VA facilities when the mileage, one way, is in excess of 100 miles. A lengthy discussion ensued.

(B) Discussion of DAV Transportation Network

The Subcommittee was updated on the volunteer transportation network that the Disabled American Veterans developed in response to drastic reductions in the Beneficiary Travel Program.

(C) Report on Means Test Activities

Staff provided the Subcommittee with the latest statistics on the Means Test in the VA medical care system. For the period October 1, 1986 through March 31, 1987, 93.69 percent of veterans applying for care were category A, 2.78 percent were category B, and 2.44 percent were category C. The Subcommittee was advised that VA&R Field Representatives are developing a data base from the information gathered from VA medical center officials during site visits.

(D) Status of NARS vs. Turnage

The Subcommittee was updated on the demands by the plaintiffs placed upon The American Legion as a non-party witness in the litigation, subject of which is the \$10 attorney fee limitation relative to VA claims.

(E) Smoking Policy in VA Medical Centers

Staff explained the controversial subject of smoking in VA health care facilities, and the sale of tobacco products in the VAMC Canteens. For the most part, DM&S has permitted each facility to establish its policy on patient smoking. Most VA facilities have designated smoking areas. In some VAMCs, the medical staff has demanded a complete smoking ban on the premises. There is also under consideration within VA, the issuance of an order removing smoking materials from all VA canteens. The Subcommittee set forth two recommendations relating to this issue. The first, that The American Legion support the continuation of smoking in designated areas in VA medical centers, and oppose a total ban on smoking. The second recommendation is that The American Legion oppose the total elimination of tobacco products from VAMC canteens.

(F) Proposed VA Regulations on the Use of Mailing Lists; and the Accreditation of Service Officers

The Subcommittee was briefed on proposed regulations that recently appeared in the Federal Register relating to the use of VA mailing lists, and the recognition of service organizations and accreditation of representatives, attorneys and agents representing claimants for veterans benefits.

(G) Third Department Service Officer's School

The Subcommittee received a briefing on the preparatory planning for a third DSO School, tentatively scheduled for July or August, 1987, in Indianapolis.

(H) Homeless Veterans

Staff provided information on homeless veterans in general, and specifically on a Veterans Administration pilot program that will be carried out in 43 communities across the country for the evaluation and treatment of homeless veterans who are chronically or mentally ill.

(I) Recruitment and Retention of VA Medical Personnel

The Subcommittee was informed of shortages of nurses, pharmacists, physical therapists and occupational therapists that exist in the VA medical care system. Staff also discussed the reasons for the shortages and what is being done in an attempt to improve VA's ability to recruit and retain individuals in those occupations.

(J) Decentralized Hospital Computer Program

Staff reported on a controversy presently affecting VA efforts to computerize the operations of the Department of Medicine and Surgery. Controversy involves competing vendors of computer hardware and software. The American Legion plans to advise both VA and Congressional Committees that while it does not favor one vendor over another, it is concerned that the controversy is impeding progress in the project which will directly affect patient care.

(K) Project to Record all U.S. Gravestones

Staff informed the Subcommittee about a proposal received from representative seeking American Legion participation in a project to make a permanent record of all gravestones in the U.S. Subcommittee members concluded the project is beyond the capability of The American Legion in view of the wide range of its present programs.

(L) NOD Proposal for American Legion Awards

The Subcommittee considered a proposal by the National Organization on Disability (NOD) that The American Legion establish a competition within the organization, at a specified level of Legion activity; the competition to concern Legion efforts to improve the lives of disabled persons. The winner of the competition to receive a prize of \$1,000 from NOD prize money to be furnished by the J. C. Penney Foundation. The Subcommittee instructed staff to develop a plan in conjunction with NOD and to prepare a resolution for presentation to the National Executive Committee in October, 1987.

(M) Staff Operations

The Subcommittee was briefed on the recent reorganization of the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Division, and on the current status of the staff.

Recommended Action—Disposed of Administratively

Res. No. 57 (1986 Natl. Conv. (AZ))—Urge medical centers to contract with the United States Public Health Services to perform examinations for Veterans Administration rating purposes.

Res. No. 277 (1986 Natl. Conv. (PA))—Seeks to amend regulations so as to authorize burial of members of Air and Army National Guard in national cemeteries.

Res. No. 405 (1986 Natl. Conv. (ID))—Urges The American Legion to support establishment of a national cemetery in Northwest Idaho.

Res. No. 460 (1986 Natl. Conv. (NY))—Seeks establishment of a national cemetery in New York state.

Res. No. Reg. 2155 (DEC (PR))—Urges The American Legion to request the Congress and the Veterans Administration to stop the revaluation of 2,500 cases of veterans having 100% service-connected compensation due to psychiatric evaluation.

Res. No. Reg. 2162 (DEC (MO))—Urges The American Legion to support the continued maintenance and improvement of the Cardiac Surgery Program at the VAMC in Columbia, Missouri.

Recommended Action—Received and Recorded

Res. No. 457 (1986 Natl. Conv. (NY))—Urges the Veterans Administration to accept a report from a board of certified psychologists or psychiatrists for rating purposes.

Recommended Action—Hold for Study

Res. No. Reg. 2170 (DEC (CA))—Seeks continuation of the Open-Heart Surgery Program at VAMC at Long Beach, California.

Recommended Action—Rejected

Res. No. 31 (1986 Nat. Conv. (PI))—Requests The American Legion to appeal to President Aquino of the Philippines, as part of the negotiation of the U.S. Bases in the Philippines, to reconvene the Republic of Philippines-United States Joint Panel on Veterans Affairs, for the purpose of settlement of unpaid and unresolved claims.

Res. No. 399 (1986 Natl. Conv. (TX))—Requests the Veterans Administration to recognize medical studies by the University of Texas Health Science Center in Dallas, Texas.

Res. No. Reg. 2161 (DEC (OH))—Urges The American Legion to support issuance of a government headstone or grave marker to those gravesites of veterans with privately paid for headstones already in place.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The Chair will entertain a motion to receive and file with the exception of the disposition of any resolutions.

. . . The motion was made by Mr. Henricks, Illinois and duly seconded by Mr. Wright, Mexico and carried.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Mr. Stone?

MR. STONE, South Carolina: Mr. Commander, I wanted to ask the Chairman some questions before we put that motion. But I will ask them anyway at this time.

Number 1, what about the VA USER'S Report, what about the progress report on that? Do you have any figures on that as yet?

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LENKER: That isn't available for release. This is the National Commander's special project and he will release the results.

MR. STONE: That is what we want to know. It is not ready yet?

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LENKER: No.

MR. STONE: All right, tell us it is not ready.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The report on The VA USER'S study is not ready. Not ready presently. Statistics were just received here by the Office.

MR. STONE: The second thing I would like to ask: I'm utterly surprised that the VA should try to enter into a contract with a Service Organization, and you allude to transportation figures in your report relative to the fact that the DAV is going to take over all the transportation to the hospitals of these Veterans that are unable to pay their transportation.

Do you have any remarks you would like to make on this, Bill?

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Mr. Stone has posed the question that recently a Veterans Service Organization is contracting with the VA to take over transportation of those who seek assistance to go to the VA facilities.

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LENKER: We know that our priority in The American Legion has always been in the service-connected, number 1.

But we are finding some difficulties in what is proceeding and going on with one of our sister Veteran organizations, nationwide.

You heard me talking about beneficiary travel. Congress is practically eliminating the benefit. Nationally, the DAV is playing right into the hands of the Veterans Administration and OMB in cutting that program out.

The DAV have come forth with a \$2 million allotment. There are rumors that they are in trouble with the Internal Revenue, and donations will have to be made. They have signed a contract with the Veterans Administration on a national level to take over the providing of

vans, drivers and transporting our Veterans, and in the various towns to the various VA hospitals, since VA will not be able to pay them any beneficiary travel.

We think it is a very, very dangerous thing. Many of us who come from rural states find that the DAV are few in numbers compared to The American Legion, and the VFW. They are getting a vast amount of publicity from the VA signing an agreement that they will handle it nationwide. The VA is assuming the responsibility for the liability for those vans and their drivers. We are finding out from our various Department Service Officers, that the DAV are having meetings in our states, and then asking The Legion and the VFW to come forth with volunteers to help keep this program going.

The Service Officer in our Posts have done this for years, taking those Veterans to the VA hospitals. Now we have a Veterans organization going out with excess money, providing it with the Government taking over the liability of the contract. The DAV has the authority to put a person into each VA hospital, who will be responsible.

We naturally are opposed to it.

We are just getting reports from our DSO's. We are monitoring it and watching it. How we react—that decision will have to be made on higher levels than our Commission.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER JOHN GEIGER, Illinois: Do I understand you right, that the DAV is assuming the liability, the insurance liability of the program, those plans?

I heard that the VA had waived that and the VA was going to cover them on liability.

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LENKER: That is right.

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER GEIGER: How come we can't get that when The American Legion operates a van or bus to go, and we have been doing it for years, and now we are being punished on liability insurance rates.

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LENKER: I do not know.

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER GEIGER: An interesting point.

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LENKER: Thank you.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Any other questions of the Chairman?

Mr. Stone?

MR. STONE, South Carolina: That is all.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Motion has been made now to receive and file with the exception of the disposition of the resolutions. Motion was made and seconded. All those in favor signify by saying aye, those opposed no. Motion is carried.

Mr. Stone?

**REPORT OF RESOLUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
FOLLOWING REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL VETERANS AFFAIRS
AND REHABILITATION COMMISSION**

. . . Resolution Subcommittee Chairman Stone submitted the following resolutions:

Support Legislation to Amend 38, USC, Section 312(a) to Extend the Presumptive Period from One Year to Seven Years from the Date of Separation from Active Service for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Cases

Res. No. 4 (Submitted by: National Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission)

WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) begins insidiously involving degeneration of the nerve cells in either the brain, the brain stem, or spinal cord, and is characterized in later stages by atrophy and almost always fibrillation of the muscular system; and

WHEREAS, ALS in its primary stage is difficult if not impossible to diagnose due to the sporadic or gradual nature of the onset of the disease process and the variety of signs and symptoms; and

WHEREAS, The veteran may not seek medical treatment for such symptoms, or if so, the disease may not be recognized initially because such symptoms are similar to those produced by a number of other conditions; and

WHEREAS, Once a diagnosis of ALS has been established the prognosis is almost always dismal leading inexorably to death within four to five years after the onset of symptoms; and

WHEREAS, A presumptive period of one year from the date of separation from active military service is currently provided under 38 USC, Section 301 for chronic diseases including ALS; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion believes because of the insidious nature of ALS and the difficulty of early diagnosis similar to that of multiple sclerosis, there is good reason medically to grant service connection for this disease if developing a ten percent degree of disability or more within seven years of separation from military service; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, that The American Legion support legislation to amend title 38 USC, Section 312(a) to extend the presumptive period from one to seven years from the date of separation from active military service for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval, and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by Ms. Chaplain, Canada and carried.

Support Legislation to Exempt Chapter 34 Educational Assistance Benefits from Reductions under P.L. 99-177 (Gramm, Rudman, Hollings Act)

Res. No. 5 (Submitted By: National Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission)

WHEREAS, P.L. 99-177, The Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Gramm, Rudman, Hollings Act) exempted certain veterans' benefits from future reductions which might be required under this law; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 99-576, The Veterans Benefits Improvement and Health-Care Authorization Act of 1986, has been enacted exempting certain additional veterans' benefits from future reductions which may be required under P.L. 99-177; and

WHEREAS, Educational assistance benefits for Vietnam Era veterans, under Chapter 34, Title 38, United States Code, have not been among those benefits exempted from future reductions required by P.L. 99-177; and

WHEREAS, Veterans pursuing a program of education or training under Chapter 34 may, in the event future reductions are ordered in accordance with the law, be forced to substantially alter or discontinue their program due to the reduced level of benefits; and

WHEREAS, All educational assistance benefits under Chapter 34 will terminate on December 31, 1989; and

WHEREAS, Eligible veterans have earned their educational benefits by virtue of their military service during a war-time period; and

WHEREAS, Veterans seeking to utilize their remaining eligibility before the expiration of the program should not be penalized by having their educational benefits reduced; and

WHEREAS, Vietnam Era veterans currently pursuing their education or training under Chapter 34, are, for the most part, those who have undergone readjustment problems subsequent to their military service, or who have been faced with severe economic problems because of unemployment or other factors; and

WHEREAS, Any future reduction in funding of education benefits in this program would adversely impact the ability of these veterans to pursue the career development needed to enter or re-enter the employment field in competition with those individuals who did not serve in the Armed Forces; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, that The American Legion support legislation to exempt Chapter 34 educational assistance benefits from future reductions under P.L. 99-177 (Gramm, Rudman, Hollings Act).

. . . RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval, and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Sheeks, Indiana and Mr. Anderson, Connecticut, and carried.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Attached to the National Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission's Report are an addenda relative to the recommended action on the disposition of various resolutions.

I move that the recommendation become the action of the National Executive Committee. . . . The motion was seconded by National Vice Commander William Detweiler, Louisiana.

MR. GOLEZ: Mr. Chairman, what I would like to ask, was the reason for rejecting of Resolution 31 from the Philippines.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Which resolution by number?

MR. GOLEZ: 31.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: 31. Mr. Chairman?

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LENKER: The resolution from the Department of Philippines was presented. It came from the Convention, and referred to the National Security Commission.

The National Security Commission, their group voted to reject it. It was brought back on this floor last Fall, and the motion was made on the floor to refer it to the Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission, and so it was referred to us.

The big part of that resolution refers again to the opening up of claims and benefits and rights for the Philippine Veterans of World War II.

Now those who are members of the regular establishment of, or attached to the American Services, the Army and so forth, Armed Forces, during the war in the Philippines are entitled to and do receive exactly the same benefits payable to all U.S. Veterans, and it is paid in American dollars.

Those who were members of the Commonwealth Army, that is the Army of the Philippines itself, recognized guerilla units receive limited benefits from the United States Government. They are paid fifty pesos to the dollar. The United States still provides \$500,000 per year to the Veterans Memorial Hospital in Manila.

And, of course, the controversy comes over whether we recognize the guerilla units that fought during that war in the Philippines.

Back in the 1960's, the Defense Department arbitrarily stopped certifying Philipinos as recognized guerillas when the United States was confronted with a massive case of fraud on this Government, and in spite of all the pleas, including the Legion, the Defense Department chose no inclination or intention to re-open that guerilla role.

Now, we are fully aware that the Philippines hold the position that a Philippino who served in the U.S. in any capacity at all during World War II should get full benefits, just as our U.S. Veterans do.

The argument is that we all served the same cause, and should all be treated the same.

At that time, remember, that the Philippines was a Commonwealth of the United States. And, of course, we responded to that plea of all benefits by, this is true, the Philipinos were also fighting for their own country with American assistance. In proof of that being, as soon as the War ended, the Philipinos, of course, were given their independence.

We have been confronted with this resolution for some 20 years, almost every year, and it is the feeling of the Commission and the feeling of your Delegates at every Convention, that we have done everything we can for the Philippines who served with us in our Armies. And we have done a lot and have done very much for those who served in the guerilla lines, in the back lines, but, or in the Commonwealth Army of the Philippines itself.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Any other questions?

You have read the motion and the second. Any other questions? All those in favor say, Aye; those opposed, Nay. It is carried.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The next report will be the Report of the Foreign Relations Commission, Melvin (Doc) Simon, Chairman from Vermont.

REPORT OF
FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMISSION
Melvin (Doc) Simon (VT)

Thank you, Mr. Commander, Members of the National Executive Committee. You have before you the written report of the Foreign Relations Commission and I do not plan to discuss it in detail.

Public attention is now focusing on a nuclear arms control agreement and a third Reagan-Gorbachev summit. Let us hope that the Administration prepares better for the next summit than it did for the Iceland Meeting. On that occasion, major changes were made in U.S. Policy without due consideration or coordination. The results could have been disastrous for the United States if President Reagan had not pulled back to regroup at the last minute.

As to the likely nuclear arms control agreement covering medium-range and short-range weapons, any proposal must be given the closest scrutiny to assure:

- 1st. That it does not undermine NATO by decoupling the U.S. nuclear umbrella from Western Europe.
- 2nd. That it does not leave Western Europe vulnerable to remaining Soviet medium-range missiles.
- 3rd. That it does not lessen deterrence of war in Western Europe.
- 4th. That reliable verification procedures are established.

There is a real and present danger that the West will be stampeded into an agreement lessening Western security and lacking sound measures for verification.

In Central America, the Contras have been substantially rejuvenated by resumed U.S. Military aid. They are now carrying the war to the Sandinista oppressors more professionally and over a wider area. However, this fall we can look forward to a bruising battle when Congress considers the Administration's request for \$105 million in aid for the Contras during fiscal year 1988.

This summer, the Iran-Contra Congressional investigation will be in full swing. Certainly, any past malfeasance must be corrected in accordance with our Constitutional procedures. But, it is vital that Congress does not throw out the baby with the bath water by terminating aid to the Contras because of perceived irregularities within the U.S. Government. Contra aid is in our national interest. It should be increased, not ended!

Concurrently, Congress should provide full funding for the Jackson Plan to support democracy, development, and defense for our Central American allies. They have made substantial progress in recent years. For the first time in history, all four of them—Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras—have freely elected governments and are struggling valiantly against great odds to bring a better life to their people. The United States must match and support that inspiring commitment.

In closing, we should recall that 40 years ago two very significant bipartisan foreign policy initiatives were enacted. On May 15, 1947, Congress endorsed the Truman Doctrine by approving emergency aid to prevent Communist victories in Greece and Turkey. In a radical break with two centuries of isolationism, President Truman resolutely stated the U.S. policy would be to "Support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures." The Truman Doctrine ushered in the era of the United States as a superpower, willing to combat and contain Communist expansionism and imperialism.

On June 5, 1947, Secretary of State Marshall made the famous speech at Harvard University which launched the Marshall Plan. That generous and far-reaching initiative saved Western Europe from Communism and permitted Western Europe to enter its most peaceful and productive period in history.

Sadly, today the bipartisan consensus which sustained the Truman Doctrine and Marshall Plan is no longer in existence. Our resolution recognizes that fact and urges all Americans to lay aside differences of opinion and recreate an effective, firm bipartisan consensus to protect U.S. interests in our complex and dangerous modern world.

To the gullible, who have forgotten history, Gorbachev's policy of *Glasnost* requires the free world to lower its defenses and reinstate the failed policy of detente. The looming battle for public opinion in Western Europe and the United States may well be the crucial struggle in the defense of freedom here and abroad. The American Legion, in accordance with its

mandates, could play a key role in providing correct information to Americans so they can preserve the blessings of liberty.

National Commander Dean and Members of the National Executive Committee, your Foreign Relations Commission wants to thank you for your strong leadership and support in promoting a sound foreign policy for the Nation.

Mr. Commander, that completes the Report of the Foreign Relations Commission.

... The printed Advance Report of the Foreign Relations Commission is as follows:

ADVANCE REPORT
of the
FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMISSION
to the
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 6-7, 1987

The Foreign Relations Commission met in general session during the Washington Conference on Monday, February 9 and Wednesday, February 11, 1987. Subjects covered during each session follow:

Morning Session, February 9

The Foreign Relations Commission and National Security Commission met in joint session. Mr. James Webb, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, pointed out that virtually all of the combat service support troops for the armed forces are contained in the reserves. These reserve forces include transportation units, medical units, navy construction battalions, a Marine Division and its air wing, and ten of the thirty two Army Divisions. The reserves comprise two-thirds of the support structure for the armed forces. Mr. Webb stated that the current administration has been following a "first to fight-first to be equipped" policy with early deploying reserve and National Guard units receiving modernized or new equipment before those deploying later. In connection with the new equipment, the number of early deploying reserve and National Guard units participating in field exercises and overseas training will increase from 117 units in 1980 to 1869 units in FY 1987.

Ambassador Vernon Walters, Permanent U.S. Representative to the United Nations, pointed out that, upon assuming his current responsibilities two years ago, President Reagan charged him with the mission of reforming the United Nations so that it would operate in a more economical manner and in greater agreement with U.S. policies. Ambassador Walters reported that much progress has been achieved in streamlining the overly bureaucratic and inefficient structure which had been developed in the United Nations over the past four decades. In regard to Central America, Ambassador Walters stated that the situation there is a major test of U.S. credibility and reliability as an ally. He stated that the United States must make a firm, long-term commitment to support democracy and security in Central America. As he put it, if the United States cannot solve a problem 1,000 miles from Houston, then how can it be expected to exercise influence in more remote corners of the world? He portrayed the Central American crisis as the greatest foreign policy challenge confronting the United States.

Mr. Richard R. Wyrrough, Coordinator for Panama Affairs, Department of State, presented a very thorough discussion of the Panama Canal. He reported that the canal is experiencing record usage and revenues. The U.S. taxpayer does not subsidize the canal; it is totally self-supporting. Under the Panama Canal treaties, Panama will assume control of the canal in 2000. He stated that the transition to Panamanian control is proceeding fairly smoothly. Panama, however, objects to (1) Public Law 96-70, the implementing legislation for the treaties, which provides for Congressional oversight over the transition period, (2) the lack of Panamanian citizens being employed at the managerial level, and (3) failure to receive all revenues due under the treaty. Mr. Wyrrough stated that the United States does not agree with any of those allegations. He stated that Panama needs democracy to provide a sound governmental structure for efficient operation of the canal after it becomes the operator and the United States reverts to being one of the many users. Mr. Wyrrough also emphasized that the

treaties preserve the right of the United States to take any action necessary, even after 2000, to maintain access to the canal.

Afternoon Session, February 9

The joint session concluded by hearing **Mr. Edward L. Derwinski**, Counselor of the State Department, speak on the dire situation of the U.S. foreign aid program. He stated that foreign aid is an important instrument of U.S. foreign policy. It helps allies and friendly nations to resist communism, achieve greater economic growth, and become more democratic. It also obtains important base rights for U.S. forces and relieves human suffering. Less than 2% of the federal budget is devoted to foreign aid, which in recent years has dropped by over 16%. Last year, for example, Congress reduced the foreign aid request by 17%, by cutting \$5.5 billion. As a result, the U.S. could not keep several long-term commitments. This further eroded confidence in the U.S. as a reliable ally.

Colonel Larry Tracy, U.S. Army (Ret.) addressed the group on Central America. He is a long-time expert on the region. He focused on the likelihood of the United States continuing to support the contras. He discussed signs of declining public and congressional support for the contras. He identified several causes for this trend: lack of contra success in battle; negative media coverage; internal divisions among various contra groups; possible diversion of funds to the contras; lack of direct support for the contras by the Central American governments; and accusations that contra leaders are anti-democratic, corrupt, and drug traffickers. Colonel Tracy emphasized that unless U.S. support for the contras continues, the Sandinistas will consolidate their communist totalitarian regime in Nicaragua. Their subsequent destabilizing actions would so challenge U.S. security interests that U.S. troops would have to be used in Central America. Therefore, he pointed out the United States must support the contras and try to improve their performance if Americans want to avoid sending U.S. armed forces into Central America.

Morning Session, February 11

Ambassador Kenneth Adelman, Director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, (ACDA), who had just returned from the Geneva negotiations with the Soviet Union, spoke on nuclear arms control. He reported that, through patience and determination over the past few years, the United States is now on the verge of getting terms that will make nuclear arms control meaningful for the first time, by requiring actual deep reductions in existing weapons. (SALT II Treaty, for example, merely endorsed planned Soviet nuclear buildups.) He stated that the Soviets realize that there is very limited time remaining if they wish to conclude an agreement with the Reagan Administration. Additionally, the Soviets fear the Strategic Defense Initiative may become a reality unless an agreement is reached rather quickly. The Soviet's technology cannot keep pace with the west and their major nuclear investment is in land-based missiles which SDI would offset to some degree. He also pointed out that the broad interpretation of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty is perfectly legitimate (it would permit meaningful SDI tests).

Mr. Michael Mobbs, ACDA's Assistant Director for Strategic Programs, described the responsibilities of his office in formulating and executing U.S. policy on control of strategic and intermediate range nuclear arms, space arms, and strategic defense systems.

Dr. Fred Eimer, ACDA's Assistant Director for Verification and Intelligence, stated that verification procedures are absolutely essential to ensure compliance with arms control treaties, the United States has failed to spend adequate funds to upgrade its verification capabilities, and the United States must respond severely to significant Soviet violations of agreements, but lacks a clear policy on how to do so. Dr. Eimer stated that verification has the objectives of deterring violations, providing warning of Soviet violations, and engendering mutual trust for further agreements. Of the two types of verification—national technical means and cooperative measures—he clearly favored the former since it is strictly under U.S. control. He believes on-site inspections will never be effective because the Soviets will simply not permit meaningful inspections on demand.

The Foreign Relations Commission conducted a business meeting. The agenda included consideration of one resolution (discussed later), report by the Special POW/MIA Committee, report by the Western Hemisphere Task Force, and report on Advocacy Program activities.

The Foreign Relations Commission and the American Legion Auxiliary conducted a joint POW/MIA Update and Commemorative Candlelight Ceremony. Mr. Richard Childress, National Security Council Staff, and Mrs. Ann Mills Griffiths, Executive Director, National League of Families, reported on current efforts to accelerate Hanoi's cooperation. The ceremony was a very moving and inspirational event which inspired the audience to redouble their efforts on the POW/MIA issue.

Other Business Conducted

The Special POW/MIA Committee met on February 10 to review activities for 1986 and plan for 1987. The Public Awareness Program for 1987 will include emphasis on the "write Hanoi" campaign, participation in POW/MIA commemorations on designated holidays, participation in National POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremonies in September, support for issuance of a POW/MIA stamp by the U.S. Postal Service, and publication of articles on the POW/MIA issue.

Resolutions Considered

The Foreign Relations Commission considered one resolution which it originated. The commission decided to recommend the following action by the National Executive Committee:

Resolution (Committee)—"Representatives of Foreign Governments—Approve
The printed Report of the Foreign Relations Commission is as follows:

**Report of
FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMISSION
to the
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 6-7, 1987
Melvin (Doc) Simon (VT), Chairman**

Sixteen (16) members of the Foreign Relations Commission and Council and guests met in the Indiana Department Building and the NEC Room on May 4-5, 1987, to consider seven (7) resolutions properly before them and to discuss current foreign relations issues.

At the Monday meeting, seven (7) resolutions were considered. As action on them, the Commission recommended approval of one (1), consolidation of one (1), rejection of one (1), and received and recorded for four (4). During the Washington Conference, the Commission had recommended approval of one resolution.

PNC Hamilton Fish discussed his proposed resolution calling for the total abolition of nuclear weapons. The Commission took his resolution under advisement; however, the Commission did not recommend any further action on it. PNC Eaton briefed the Commission on four priority issues in foreign relations: Philippines, South Africa, Central America, and nuclear arms control.

The Monday meeting concluded with discussions of Central America progress and problems, status and plans for the Panama Canal Study pursuant to Resolution 39, prospects for and analysis of a likely nuclear arms control agreement, and plans for the National Convention.

On Tuesday, the Commission met in joint session with the National Security Commission to view three new video tapes. The first one, produced by the National Security-Foreign Relations and Public Relations Divisions, explained how U.S. foreign policy is planned and

coordinated and emphasized the vital need for adequate funding of international operations. The final tape, produced by the Department of Defense, depicted the increasing threat posed by Soviet military power.

Your Foreign Relations Commission and Council deeply appreciate the strong leadership of the National Commander and National Executive Committee in their continuing effort to achieve a strong U.S. foreign policy to promote democracy and prevent communist expansionism.

Recommended Action—Received and Recorded

- Res. No. 312 (1986 Natl. Conv. (IN))—South Africa.
 Res. No. 414 (1986 Natl. Conv. (MD))—South Africa.
 Res. No. 415 (1986 Natl. Conv. (MD))—U.S. Relations with South Africa.
 Res. No. 416 (1986 Natl. Conv. (MD))—South Africa.

Recommended Action—Rejected

- Res. No. 264 (1986 Natl. Conv. (PA))—South Africa.

CENTRAL AMERICA

Issues:

1. Type and amount of aid to allies
2. Aid to contras
3. Diplomatic negotiations to stabilize area

Background: Emerging from four centuries of authoritarian rule, Central American nations are choosing between democracy and communism as a way to improve life. Deep seated economic and social problems, coupled with recent economic recession, made area ripe for communist revolution. In 1979, Sandinistas ousted dictator Somoza in Nicaragua and promised to bring democracy. Instead, established communist totalitarian regime, developed huge military with Soviet bloc support, and attempted to export revolution. With U.S. help, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras all now have democratic regimes for first time. U.S. has also given minimal aid to Contras, who seek to overthrow Sandinistas and bring democracy to Nicaragua. U.S. has received little help from other Latin America nations, who officially favor a negotiated settlement with Nicaragua under the Contadora Principles or other formula.

U.S. National Interests:

- Maintain access to Caribbean sea lanes and Panama Canal
- Promote regional stability through democracy, development, and defense
- Deny area to Soviet-Cuban imperialism
- Reaffirm U.S. prestige and reliability as an ally

U.S. Government Position: Caribbean Basin Initiative (1983) provides duty free entry for most exports to U.S. Jackson Plan (1985) provides economic and military aid to allies. Various laws provide sporadic, minimal aid to Contras. Economic Boycott of Nicaragua (1985). Military exercises and infrastructure development in Honduras. Limited, cautious support for various diplomatic negotiations. Congress generally favors negotiations, minimal aid to Contras, and various conditions on U.S. aid.

Current Status: For FY 88, Administration seeking \$733 million economic aid and \$212 million military aid under Jackson Plan and \$105 million aid for contras.

Issue Pro-and-Con

	Pro	Con
Jackson Plan	Comprehensive, long-term U.S. commitment to	Amounts must be decreased for budget austerity.

	democracy, development defense.	Guatemala does not deserve military aid.
Contra Aid	Contras can overthrow Sandinistas, bring them to negotiating table, or divert them from exporting revolution.	Contras cannot win; are corrupt, brutal drug traffickers; lack internal support; and want to restore right-wing dictator- ship.
Negotiations	Only feasible alternative to contain Sandi- nistas since U.S. force is ruled out.	No Communist govern- ment will ever truly agree to limit its power. Any agreement would be unverifiable.

Legion Position:

- Res. 51—supports Jackson Plan
- Res. 409, 537-540—support aid for specific countries
- Res. 53—supports Contra aid
- Res. 451—opposes Cuban export of revolution

Legion Actions: Visits to area by 5 National Commanders, two major studies, Central American Support Program (1986), several magazine articles, much legislative activity, testimony to National Bipartisan Commission (1983), participation in Atlantic Council study (1983-84)

CONTRA AID

Issue: Continued aid to contras.

Background: Emerging from four centuries of authoritarian rule, Central American nations are choosing between democracy and communism as a way to improve life. Deep seated economic and social problems, coupled with recent economic recession, made the area ripe for communist revolution. In 1979, Sandinistas, assisted by all kinds of Nicaraguans, ousted dictator Somoza in Nicaragua and promised to bring democracy. Instead, they established communist totalitarian regime, developed huge military with Soviet bloc support, and attempted to export revolution. With U.S. help, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras all now have democratic regimes for the first time. U.S. has also given minimal aid to contras, who seek to overthrow Sandinistas and bring democracy to Nicaragua. U.S. has received little help from other Latin America nations, who officially favor a negotiated settlement with Nicaragua under the Contadora Principles or other formula.

U.S. National Interests in Central America:

- Maintain access to Caribbean sea lanes and Panama Canal.
- Promote regional stability through democracy, development, and defense.
- Deny area to Soviet-Cuban imperialism.
- Reaffirm U.S. prestige and reliability as an ally.

U.S. Government Position: Since 1982, Congress has been inconsistent in regard to contra aid, both passing and defeating it. From 1984-86, Congress cut off military aid. Last year, Congress approved \$100 million in contra aid, with the proviso that the final \$40 million could only be released after February 15, 1987, following certification of its necessity by President Reagan. Despite major opposition in Congress, the release was achieved. Some members of Congress favor a plan to terminate contra aid and seek to "contain" Nicaragua through diplomatic negotiations and increased aid to democratic countries in Central Amer-

ica. The Administration seeks four changes in Nicaragua: democracy (promised by the Sandinistas in 1979), ending of huge military buildup, termination of military relationship with USSR and Cuba, and ending export of revolution to other countries.

Current Status: For Fiscal Year 1988, Administration seeking \$105 million aid for contras (probably to be debated by Congress in September).

Soviet Bloc Actions: Since 1981, Soviet aid to Cuba and Nicaragua has exceeded U.S. aid to Central America by a ratio of 5-1 (about \$20 million vs. \$4 billion). Soviet bloc has provided thousands of advisers to Nicaragua while U.S. has only 55 trainers in El Salvador. The Soviets have provided modern equipment and training, giving the Sandinistas an effective air-ground force. Soviet bloc military aid to Nicaragua increased by 65% in 1986.

Issue Pro-and-Con

PRO

*Contras can overthrow Sandinistas, bring them to negotiating table, or divert them from exporting revolution.

*Recent U.S. aid and training has revitalized contras, who will have 15,000 fighters in Nicaragua by summer.

*No communist government has ever allowed its power to be curtailed by international agreement.

*Any agreement would be virtually impossible to verify.

CON

*Contras cannot win; are corrupt, brutal, drug traffickers; lack internal support; and want to restore right-wing dictatorship.

*Further U.S. aid will merely prolong unnecessary bloodshed.

*Nicaragua can be "contained" through diplomatic negotiations.

*Verification could be negotiated.

Legion Position:

Res. 53—supports contra aid.

Res. 451—opposes Cuban export of revolution.

Legion Actions: Visits to area by 5 National Commanders, two major studies, Advocacy Program (1983-87), Central American Support Program (1986), several magazine articles, much legislative activity, testimony to National Bipartisan Commission on Central America (1983), participation in Atlantic Council Study (1983-84).

MR. HARRELL, Georgia: Move the Report be received and filed with the exception of this position of the Resolutions.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Cooper, Alabama and carried.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Mr. Stone?

MR. FIELDS, Louisiana: According to the Report I got here, I couldn't find any words that the Chairman has said in his Report.

There is something wrong here.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Doc, you want to verify that?

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN SIMON: In response, this is the action that we have taken in the past. We don't go over the prepared statement. We feel that you have it in front of you and that you can read it at your leisure.

The Report of the Foreign Relations Commission, that is right, we ad lib, as far as what our current concerns are, and what is taking place in the past, you already have it in front of you. That is a required statement.

MR. FIELDS: You haven't said anything at all that is on this page.

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN SIMON: I realize that.

We are instructed to give you other information, other than what is typed on the Report.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Any other questions?

Mr. Stone?

MR. FIELDS: That is the information we need to take back with us.

MR. STONE, South Carolina: Mr. Commander—

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Mr. Stone, before you go on, the Chairman will prepare a copy of his remarks if you would like to have it, and we will have them available for you.

MR. STONE: That is what I was going to ask.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Go ahead, Mr. Stone. I didn't mean to pre-empt you.

MR. STONE: You just did.

**REPORT OF RESOLUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
FOLLOWING REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMISSION**

Subcommittee Chairman Stone submitted the following Resolutions:

South Africa

Res. No. 17 (Submitted by: National Foreign Relations Commission)

WHEREAS, We recognize that South Africa is going through great unrest, which is challenging its political and economic stability; and

WHEREAS, It is not U.S. policy to interfere in the internal affairs of any country; and
WHEREAS, Sanctions as imposed by the Congress are traditionally ineffective and usually bring about the opposite effect than that desired; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion is concerned that a nation with a long record of friendship for the United States, and which is strategically located, is having to experience such turmoil; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, That we urge the U.S. Government to adopt a policy toward South Africa of supporting moderates who seek equality and representative democracy; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the United States should respect the sovereignty of the Government of South Africa by recognizing that the problem of South Africa in dismantling apartheid is primarily one that must be solved by the South Africans themselves.

SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith, Colorado and carried.

Representatives of Foreign Governments

Res. No. 18 (Submitted by: National Foreign Relations Commission)

WHEREAS, The Foreign Relations Commission has completed a detailed study of foreign representation to the Congress of the United States. The study revealed that in Washington there are about 8,000 registered lobbyists representing businesses, associations, foreign entities and foreign governments. Of these, more than 900 are currently active in making the views of foreign entities and foreign governments known to Congress and they are assisted by up to 7,600 support personnel; and

WHEREAS, In July 1986, the United States General Accounting Office completed a study entitled, "Foreign Representation: Former Higher Level Federal Officials Representing Foreign Interests." The study revealed that, during Fiscal Years 1980-85, a total of 44 former senior Federal Government officials and 32 former members of Congress and congressional staffs had become lobbyists for foreign governments or other foreign entities. (The former

members of Congress have the privilege of the floor in the Senate or House as a result of their former service); and

WHEREAS, As a result of its study, the Foreign Relations commission is of the opinion that such individuals exercise undue influence on U.S. foreign and domestic policies to the benefit of foreign nations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, That we express our concern about the major role of former senior government officials or former Members of Congress serving as foreign representatives; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That we oppose such undue influence and urge appropriate action to control such practices, including post-employment restrictions, prohibitions on use of non-public information concerning U.S. Government negotiating positions, restrictions on floor privileges, and stronger reporting requirements.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: The Resolution emanates from a study that was requested by the National Executive Committee.

That study was distributed to each Member of the National Executive Committee at the October meeting. The enabling Resolution is now prepared, and I have just read the Resolution in full.

The Committee recommends approval and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Fisher, Arkansas, and carried.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Attached to the Foreign Relations Commission Report is their recommended action on various resolutions. I move that the recommended action by the Foreign Relations Commission be approved by the National Executive Committee.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith, Colorado and carried.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The next Report will be the National Security Report by Roger A. Munson from Ohio.

**REPORT OF
NATIONAL SECURITY COMMISSION
Roger A. Munson (OH), Chairman**

Thank you, Mr. Commander, the Report of the National Security Commission has been distributed.

Also distributed is the 1987 version of Soviet Military Power. This book represents the military threat facing the United States.

To meet this threat, the Armed Forces of the United States, over the past six years, have seen a modernization effort unprecedented since the mobilization prior to our entry into World War II. We would do well to remind ourselves, however, that the modernization is far from complete, and much remains to be done. For example, only one-third of our armour units have the new M-1 Abrams tank. Only one-fourth of our mechanized infantry battalions have the new Bradley Fighting Vehicle. One-third of the Air Force has not yet received the new F-16 and F-15 Aircraft. Over one-half of the attack aircraft carriers do not yet have the new F-18 fighter attack jet. Only one-third of the submarine force is made up of the latest attack subs.

This modernization effort must continue if our troops are to have the best available in basic tools for combat. They can fight and win on the battlefield if they are properly equipped.

Many say that a clear need exists to retrench, to spend less on defense and more on social program. However, the United States can ill afford to revert to the fortress American attitude which existed after World War II. Implementation of such beliefs would result in a weak foreign policy, an erosion of world trade, a serious contraction of this nation's economy, and worsening of the world economic situation.

An inward looking America would no longer have the concern or the ability to protect its foreign interests. Freedom and democracy would suffer as unfriendly socialist dictatorships inherited the natural resources on which the free world economy depends. U.S. Foreign Policy and the defense establishment needed to back it up would weaken and the Armed Forces would decline in size and ability. This must not happen. The United States, like it or not, is the leader of the free world. We must compete with a belligerent, totalitarian military power that governs by force of arms, and that will continue to threaten our national interests and way of life. To continue to compete without resorting to armed conflict, we must as a nation remain militarily strong. Peace and prosperity will only come if we are prepared to defend them.

Thank you, Mr. Commander. Your National Security Commission appreciates the support given by you and the National Executive Committee. We look forward to your continued assistance in the future.

... The printed Advance Report of the National Security Commission is as follows:

ADVANCE REPORT
of the
NATIONAL SECURITY COMMISSION
to the
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 6-7, 1987

The National Security Commission met in general session during the Washington Conference on Monday, February 9 and Wednesday, February 11, 1987. Subjects covered during each session follow:

Morning Session, February 9

The National Security Commission and Foreign Relations Commission met in joint session. Mr. James Webb, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, pointed out that virtually all of the combat service support troops for the armed forces are contained in the reserves. These reserve forces include transportation units, medical units, navy construction battalions, a Marine Division and its air wing, and ten of the thirty two Army Divisions. The reserves comprise two-thirds of the support structure for the armed forces. Mr. Webb stated that the current administration has been following a "first to fight-first to be equipped" policy with early deploying reserve and National Guard units receiving modernized or new equipment before those deploying later. In connection with the new equipment, the number of early deploying reserve and National Guard units participating in field exercises and overseas training will increase from 117 units in 1980 to 1869 units in FY 1987.

Ambassador Vernon Walters, Permanent U.S. Representative to the United Nations, pointed out that, upon assuming his current responsibilities two years ago, President Reagan charged him with the mission of reforming the United Nations so that it would operate in a more economical manner and in greater agreement with U.S. policies. Ambassador Walters reported that much progress has been achieved in streamlining the overly bureaucratic and inefficient structure which had been developed in the United Nations over the past four decades. In regard to Central America, Ambassador Walters stated that the situation there is a major test of U.S. credibility and reliability as an ally. He stated that the United States must make a firm, long-term commitment to support democracy and security in Central America. As he put it, if the United States cannot solve a problem 1,000 miles from Houston, then how can it be expected to exercise influence in more remote corners of the world? He portrayed the Central American crisis as the greatest foreign policy challenge confronting the United States.

Mr. Richard R. Wyrrough, Coordinator for Panama Affairs, Department of State, presented a very thorough discussion of the Panama Canal. He reported the canal is experiencing record usage and revenues. The U.S. taxpayer does not subsidize the canal; it is totally self-supporting. Under the Panama Canal treaties, Panama will assume control of the canal in 2000. He stated that the transition to Panamanian control is proceeding fairly smoothly.

Panama, however, objects to (1) Public Law 96-70, the implementing legislation for the treaties, which provides for Congressional oversight over the transition period, (2) the lack of Panamanian citizens being employed at the managerial level, and (3) failure to receive all revenues due under the treaty. Mr. Wyrrough stated that the United States does not agree with any of those allegations. He stated that Panama needs democracy to provide a sound governmental structure for efficient operation of the canal after it becomes the operator and the United States reverts to being one of many users. Mr. Wyrrough also emphasized that the treaties preserve the right of the United States to take any action necessary, even after 2000, to maintain access to the canal.

Afternoon Session, February 9

The joint session concluded by hearing **Mr. Edward L. Derwinski**, Counselor of the State Department, speak on the dire situation of the U.S. foreign aid program. He stated that foreign aid is an important instrument of U.S. foreign policy. It helps allies and friendly nations to resist communism, achieve greater economic growth, and become more democratic. It also obtains important base rights for U.S. forces and relieves human suffering. Less than 2% of the federal budget is devoted to foreign aid, which in recent years has dropped by over 16%. Last year, for example, Congress reduced the foreign aid request by 17%, by cutting \$5.5 billion. As a result, the U.S. could not keep several long-term commitments. This further eroded confidence in the U.S. as a reliable ally.

Business Session

Following the speakers program, the National Security Commission held a business session. National Security staff briefed the Commission on the plans for the National Security trip to be held in conjunction with the 69th National Convention in San Antonio. The trip will be held over two days and cover much of the basic training for enlisted men and women, and some basic flight training for flight officers in the United States Air Force. A visit to the United States Army installation at Ft. Sam Houston will also take place.

The staff of the National Security-Foreign Relations Division and the staff of the National Public Relations Division have cooperated to produce a slide briefing outlining some basic beliefs and basic truths about the defense of the United States. This new briefing was shown to the Commission.

The Commission considered three resolutions. The two resolutions concerning the power of the Governors of the various States to prescribe training for the state National Guard Units were both recommended to be Received and Recorded. The third resolution was recommended for approval.

Morning Session, February 11

Ambassador Kenneth Adelman, Director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA), who had just returned from the Geneva negotiations with the Soviet Union, spoke on nuclear arms control. He reported that, through patience and determination over the past few years, the United States is now on the verge of getting terms that will make nuclear arms control meaningful for the first time, by requiring actual deep reductions in existing weapons. (SALT II Treaty, for example, merely endorsed planned Soviet nuclear buildups.) He stated that the Soviets realize that there is very limited time remaining if they wish to conclude an agreement with the Reagan Administration. Additionally, the Soviets fear the Strategic Defense Initiative may become a reality unless an agreement is reached rather quickly. The Soviet's technology cannot keep pace with the west and their major nuclear investment is in land-based missiles which SDI would offset to some degree. He also pointed out that the broad interpretation of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty is perfectly legitimate (it would permit meaningful SDI tests).

Mr. Michael Mobbs, ACDA's Assistant Director for Strategic Programs, described the responsibilities of his office in formulating and executing U.S. policy on control of strategic

and intermediate range nuclear arms, space arms, and strategic defense systems.

Dr. Fred Eimer, ACDA's Assistant Director for Verification and Intelligence, stated that verification procedures are absolutely essential to ensure compliance with arms control treaties, the United States has failed to spend adequate funds to upgrade its verification capabilities, and the United States must respond severely to significant Soviet violations of agreements, but lacks a clear policy on how to do so. Dr. Eimer stated that verification has the objectives of deterring violations, providing warning of Soviet violations, and engendering mutual trust for further agreements. Of the two types of verification—national technical means and cooperative measures—he clearly favored the former since it is strictly under U.S. control. He believes on-site inspections will never be effective because the Soviets will simply not permit meaningful inspections on demand.

The Commission adjourned at 10:00 a.m. on February 11 so the members could attend the POW/MIA program conducted by the Foreign Relations Commission and The American Legion Auxiliary.

. . . The printed Report of the National Security Commission is as follows:

**Report of the
NATIONAL SECURITY COMMISSION
to the
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 6-7, 1987
Roger A. Munson (OH), Chairman**

An executive section of the National Security Commission met in Room 216 of the Indiana Department Headquarters on May 3-4, 1987 to consider resolutions properly before it and to conduct other business. The following members and guests were present:

Roger A. Munson (OH), Chairman	Henry Jacoby (NE)
Charles H. Schroeder (MD)	Frank Kossa (IN)
George E. Harvey (MI)	James E. Starr (MN)
Russell Wools (AR)	William A. Linsay (MT)
Al Werner (IN)	Robert C. Gabrielson (SD)
Gayle Gordon (MS)	W. Dudley Robbins (NC)
Norbert G. Harmeyer (IA)	Robert C. Ayers (IN)
Leo F. Malloy (MA)	John J. Wrenn (MA)
Walter Miete (ME)	Thomas D. Hetherington (CA)
Earl C. Nuttal (MD)	Johnnie D. Gore (MS)
Howard V. Erickson (ND)	Joseph F. Ward (NJ)
George Szenina (NY)	Earnest A. Stark (WI)
Milton Hall (UT)	James B. Hubbard (MI), Deputy Director
Frank J. D'Amico (NY)	Norbert H. Gadlage (KY)
G. Michael Schlee (MD), Director	

Three resolutions were considered during this meeting. Two are recommended for approval. One of these, places The American Legion in favor of full funding for research, development and eventual deployment of an anti-satellite system, a position never before taken by The American Legion. The second resolution recommended for approval is of a housekeeping nature. It rescinds, outdated and obsolete resolutions from past years. As contained in the Advance Report, one additional resolution was recommended for approval by the National Security Commission at its meeting during the Washington Conference.

The publication entitled SOVIET MILITARY POWER, made available to the National Executive Committee represents the assessment of the military threat facing the United States.

To meet this threat, the armed forces of the United States, over the past six years, have seen a modernization effort unprecedented since the mobilization prior to our entry into World War II. We would do well to remind ourselves, however, that the modernization is far from complete, and much remains to be done. For example, only one-third of our armour units

have the new M-1 Abrams tank. Only one-fourth of our mechanized infantry battalions have the new Bradley Fighting Vehicle. One-third of the Air Force has not yet received the new F-16 and F-15 aircraft. Over one-half of the attack aircraft carriers do not yet have the new F-18 fighter attack jet. Only one-third of the submarine force is made up of the latest attack subs. This modernization effort must continue if our troops are to have the best available basic tools for combat. They can fight and win on the battlefield if they are properly equipped.

Many say that a clear need exists to retrench, to spend less on defense and more on social programs. However, the United States can ill afford to revert to the fortress America attitude which existed after World War II. Implementation of such beliefs would result in a weak foreign policy, an erosion of world trade, a serious contraction of this nation's economy, and worsening of the world economic situation. An inward looking America would no longer have the concern or the ability to protect its foreign interests. Freedom and democracy would suffer as unfriendly socialist dictatorships inherited the natural resources on which the free world economy depends. U.S. foreign policy and the defense establishment needed to back it up would weaken and the armed forces would decline in size and ability. This must not happen. The United States, like it or not, is the leader of the free world. We must compete with a belligerent, totalitarian military power that governs by force of arms, and that will continue to threaten our national interests and way of life. To continue to compete without resorting to armed conflict, we must as a nation remain militarily strong. Peace and prosperity will only come if we are prepared to defend them.

Recommended Action—Received and Recorded

Res. No. 426 (1986 Natl. Conv. (MD))—Training of National Guard Units.

Res. No. 48 (1986 Natl. Conv. (MS))—National Guard.

Res. No. Reg. 2168 (Dept. of Tennessee)—Enact Legislation which would Authorize the Death Penalty for Spies.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The Chair will entertain a Motion to receive and file with the exception of the disposition of the resolutions.

... Motion so made by Mr. Sheeks of Indiana, duly seconded by Mr. Anderson, Connecticut and carried.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Mr. Stone?

REPORT OF RESOLUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE FOLLOWING REPORT OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY COMMISSION REPORT

... Resolution Subcommittee Chairman Stone submitted the following Resolutions.

Malcolm Grow Medical Center, Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland

Res. No. 2 (Submitted by: National Security Commission)

WHEREAS, The United States Army and the United States Navy have magnificent hospital installations at Walter Reed Hospital for the Army and Bethesda Naval Hospital for the Navy; and

WHEREAS, The Air Force has an old installation at Andrew AFB greatly in need of modernization; and

WHEREAS, The personnel who administer to the patients at Andrews AFB are excellent, but they are greatly hindered in the performance of their duties by the overcrowding and inadequacy of that installation by modern standards;

WHEREAS, Military personnel and their dependents and the many retired personnel, most of whom are veterans, and other personnel legally entitled to medical service at Andrews AFB merit care comparable to that administered at Bethesda Naval Hospital and Walter Reed Hospital; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular

meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, that we call upon the Department of Defense and the United States Congress to update the hospital installation at Andrews AFB to a state comparable to that of the Navy installation at Bethesda and the Army installation at Walter Reed.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Blair, Alaska, and carried.

Anti-Satellite Weapons

Res. No. 6 (Submitted by: National Security Commission)

WHEREAS, The Soviet Union has perfected its spy satellites to the extent that they can track U.S. warships protecting shipping in the Persian Gulf; and

WHEREAS, The Soviets have demonstrated the ability to send satellite data directly to warships at sea, rather than passing it through a central processing facility; and

WHEREAS, The Soviets have tested and placed in an operational status a "killer satellite" capable of disabling or destroying other intelligence gathering satellites; and

WHEREAS, The United States has only conducted one test of an anti-satellite rocket against an actual satellite; and

WHEREAS, The United States Air Force has been denied funding for additional tests of the U.S. anti-satellite weapon; and

WHEREAS, These additional tests are absolutely necessary to insure the reliability of this system; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, That The American Legion does urge the Congress of the United States to fund research, development, testing and eventual deployment of a capable anti-satellite weapon by the Armed Forces of the United States.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval, and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Sheeks, Indiana, and National Vice Commander Donald Neil, Delaware and carried.

Rescinding Obsolete Resolutions Dealing With National Security

Res. No. 7 (Submitted by: National Security Commission)

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 111 adopted by the 18th National Convention specifies that policy resolutions shall remain in effect indefinitely unless "changed by subsequent convention action or by action of the National Executive Committee"; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 759 adopted by the 30th National Convention specifies that legislative resolutions expire at the end of each Congress, except those adopted "at the National Convention or National Executive Committee Meeting immediately preceding the convening of a new Congress" are effective until it adjourns; and

WHEREAS, Each legislative resolution recommended for rescission has been effectively superseded by a subsequently adopted legislative resolution, reflecting updated information; and

WHEREAS, The National Security Commission has completed a review of all national security resolutions in order to keep them current and accurate; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, that the following national security resolutions are rescinded by reason of: (1) being obsolete, (2) accomplishment of purpose, (3) being superseded by later resolutions, (4) being in conflict with later resolutions, (5) being duplicated by later resolutions, (6) having no value because of later changes in program, and (7) for other reasons:

58th National Convention

- Res. 467—Future Military Policy of the United States
- Res. 313—Post Graduate Education in Armed Forces
- Res. 471—Crisis Relocation from United States Risk Areas
- Res. 474—Ocean Marine Insurance
- Res. 427—Selective Service System

59th National Convention

- Res. 14—Civil Air Patrol Program
- Res. 269—Defense Warning System
- Res. 508—American Legion Participation in the Observance of United States Space Period
- Res. 511—Ocean Marine Insurance

60th National Convention

- Res. 115—Commending the Coalition of Peace Through Strength for its Efforts to Educate the American people of the Need for a Strong Defense
- Res. 307—Crime Resistance Program
- Res. 217—Service of Women in the U.S. Armed Forces
- Res. 464—Oppose any Effort to Abolish Characterization of Discharges for U.S. Armed Forces Personnel

61st National Convention

- Res. 530—Commending the Coalition of Peace Through Strength for the Efforts to Educate the American people of the Need for a Strong Defense
- Res. 374—Support of the National Blood Donor Program in the United States
- Res. 415—Fire-arms Legislation
- Res. 151—Great Lakes Fleet
- Res. 552—Ocean Marine Insurance World-Wide Discrimination

62nd National Convention

- Res. 101—Continued Support of the Coalition for Peace Through Strength Program to Educate the American People of the needs for a Strong Defense
- Res. 765—Recognition of Law persons
- Res. 93—Support for a strong U.S. Merchant Marine
- Res. 100—Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery of Tests
- Res. 298—Modification of DD Form 214 Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty
- Res. 396—Requesting the Department of the Army to issue discharge certificates to Philippine Commonwealth Army and recognized Guerilla veterans

63rd National Convention

- Res. 381—Promotion of U.S. Armed Forces Bands, Combos and Choral Groups
- Res. 427—Continued Support of the Coalition for Peace Through Strength Program
- Res. 428—Strategic Nuclear Policy
- Res. 421—National Defense
- Res. 307—Beam Weapons
- Res. 384—Support for a Strong Merchant Marine
- Res. 434—Defense-Weapons Systems for U.S. Merchant Marine
- Res. 362—DD 214 Report of Separation Form
- Res. 380—Rapid Deployment Forces

- Res. 436—Uniformity of Convoy Defense Systems
- Res. 439—U.S. Navy Rotary-Wing Elements

64th National Convention

- Res. 205—Crime
- Res. 360—Support for a Strong Merchant Marine

65th National Convention

- Res. 115—ROTC Curriculum

66th National Convention

- Res. 62—Reserve Officers Training Corps Curriculum
- Res. 393—ARAPAHO Project (Merchant Marine)
- Res. 394—ARAPAHO Project (Naval Reserve)

67th National Convention

- Res. 77—Commending the Department of Defense in Curbing Waste, Fraud and Abuse
- Res. 59—Urging National American Legion to Establish a National Junior Law Cadet "Law & Order" Program
- Res. 275—Modernize the U.S. Merchants Marine Fleet

Spring NEC, May 1976

- Res. 11—Bicentennial Operation Alert

Fall NEC, October 1976

- Res. 22—Army Arsenal System
- Res. 23—Reserve Forces Recruiting
- Res. 25—Enact Legislation Making the Death Penalty Mandatory for Anyone Convicted of Assassination, or Attempted Assassination of the President or Vice President of the United States

Fall NEC, October 1978

- Res. 2—Shortage of Chaplains in Armed Forces

Spring NEC, May 1979

- Res. 3—Opposition to Redrafting of Veterans
- Res. 4—Retention of U.S. Navy on Island of Vieques, P.R.

Fall NEC, October 1979

- Res. 2—Graduate Medical Education in the Armed Forces

Spring NEC, May 1980

- Res. 22—Oppose Any Attempt to Eliminate the Chaplain Corps from any Branch of our Armed Forces

Spring NEC, May 1981

Res. 14—Prayers at the Tomb of the Unknowns

Spring NEC, May 1982

Res. 7—Nuclear Freeze

Fall NEC, October 1982

Res. 8—Supports of the Exclusion of Certain Department of Defense Regulations from Review by the Federal Labor Relations Authority

Spring NEC, May 1983

Res. 5—Oppose Any Attempt to Eliminate the Chaplain Corps from any Branch of Our Armed Forces

Res. 7—Agreement of Understanding

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval and I so move.

. . . The Motion was seconded by Mr. Fields, Louisiana, and Mr. Derrick, Florida, and carried.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Attached to the National Security Commission's Report is a recommended action on three resolutions. I move that the recommendations of this Commission be approved by the National Executive Committee.

. . . The motion was seconded by National Vice Commander Neil, Delaware and carried.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: I will now call on Gary W. Sammons, Chairman of the Legislative Commission for his report.

**REPORT OF
NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION
Gary Sammons (MI), Chairman**

Mr. Commander, and Members of the National Executive Committee, once again it is a pleasure and a privilege to present the Legislative Commission's Report on recent Congressional activities affecting programs of interest to The American Legion.

Copies of our written report have been distributed to each of you. You will see that no resolutions were considered by the Commission; however, a list of resolutions is attached to the Report for your consideration. Those resolutions, if approved by this Committee tomorrow, will be officially added to The American Legion's Legislative portfolio and will remain in force through the 100th Congress.

You will also see that most of the Report is devoted to a summary of Congressional developments over the past five weeks. We recommend that you closely review the summary at your convenience when you return home. The summary essentially sets the stage for an expected flurry of budget and appropriations activity during the next two months. If our predictions are accurate, we anticipate calling upon you for assistance during that period on several major issues.

Congress continues to struggle with establishing budget limits that meet the mandates of the Gramm/Rudman budget law while maintaining adequate levels of funding for domestic and defense needs. The house-passed budget resolution, by using rosy economic growth assumptions, would leave a deficit of \$107.6 billion, just below the \$108 billion mark required by law. In the Senate, the budget plan given the greatest chance of passing makes no effort to mask its inability to comply with Gramm/Rudman and assures a deficit of \$133 billion.

The requirements for continued reductions contained in Gramm/Rudman insures that sustained pressure will be applied as Congress searches to find ways to reduce spending.

The reality of Gramm/Rudman increases the pressure brought to bear on budget items of priority concern to The Legion. While the fight to obtain adequate VA funding levels is in progress, we must constantly be on guard to ward off misguided proposals such as an increase in the home loan user fee and burial benefit modifications.

In the area of defense, the struggle to reduce spending must be matched with appropriate amounts of domestic spending cuts. The budget plans of both chambers call for considerably less than the Administration's request of \$312 billion. A compromise must be reached which will insure that America's defense interests are not threatened in any way, but that also recognizes the critical need to achieve budget deficit reductions.

Much of what happens over the next three months will be contingent upon the relationship between Congress and the White House. The repercussions over the "Iranscam" investigations, the President's resistance to tax increases and the likelihood that the requirements of Gramm/Rudman will not be met significantly, increase the potential for serious conflict between the White House and members of Congress.

It is likely that the President will threaten to further exercise his veto powers if some sort of understanding is not arrived at on crucial issues that divide the White House and Congress.

The combination of political developments during the next few months and decisions on remaining legislative business items will present The American Legion with a variety of challenges and opportunities. How we respond to these challenges or take advantage of these opportunities will depend upon our ability to communicate Legion concerns in Washington and in local communities across the Nation.

Our Commission is confident that Legionnaires, with guidance and reassurance from the organization's leadership, will do an effective job in communicating The Legion's message. We've seen our members rise to the occasion before, and we fully expect them to do so again.

Mr. Commander, may I close by expressing the Commission's pride in having served you during your eight months in office. You are an outstanding advocate of The American Legion's principles and policy. May I also express our continued appreciation for the leadership that the National Executive Committee has demonstrated in support of our legislative efforts. We have grown accustomed to that leadership, and we will be relying upon it again as we prepare for the challenging months ahead.

Mr. Commander, that concludes my report.

... The printed Advance Report of the National Legislative Commission is as follows:

ADVANCE REPORT
of
THE NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION
to
THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 6-7, 1987

Gary W. Sammons (MI), Chairman

Since the National Legislative Commission last reported to you in October 1986 there has been one meeting of the Commission. An executive section of the Commission met on February 11, 1987 at the Sheraton Washington Hotel in Washington, D.C. An analysis of current congressional activities was presented by the staff and further reports and remarks were presented by Chairman Sammons, National Legislative Council Chairman Wilbur Walker, National Legislative News Bulletin Chairman Charles Pessio and Auxiliary Legislative Committee Chairman Ruby Paul. There were 13 members of the Legislative Commission in attendance at the February 11 meeting.

Recent Congressional Developments

The 100th Congress convened in January of this year with Democrats in control of both chambers for the first time since 1980. While the November 1986 election results led to a reversal of majority control of the Senate, the retirement of Tip O'Neil as Speaker of the

House meant that a new leadership team would also be brought on board in the House of Representatives. With new people "at the helm" on both sides of Capitol Hill, a period of adjustment at the beginning of the 100th Congress was inevitable.

This adjustment period was further encumbered by developments in the White House, most of which derived from the Iran-"contra" arms deal issue. Much of Congress' early attention in 1987 was devoted to investigation of the arms deal, and those investigations are expected to continue for some time.

These events have significantly contributed to an atmosphere on Capitol Hill in which congressional members seem to be more polarized than in recent years, with fundamental disagreements being quite evident on issues ranging from the federal budget to foreign policy. Faced by a Gramm-Rudman deficit target of \$108 billion in Fiscal Year 1988, congressional leaders in both parties are disagreeing sharply over defense cuts, domestic cuts, and whether taxes should be increased.

As an organization which strongly supports adequate funds for defense and a variety of domestic programs, The American Legion will find itself deeply involved in budget debate on Capitol Hill during the next few months. The remainder of this report will discuss various facets of that overall debate, as well as legislative developments on other nonbudgetary items in the organization's legislative portfolio.

Americanism/Children & Youth

The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) has published proposed regulations governing implementation of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986. Focusing on the legalization provisions, the INS intends to open 107 offices around the country to receive an expected 2-4 million applications for adjustment to temporary legal status. Aliens who entered the U.S. illegally prior to January 1, 1982 and who have resided here continuously since that time, except for brief absences, may be eligible for legal status.

Because of the expected high volume of correspondence offering comments on proposed regulations, the INS had previously invited public response to preliminary draft regulations published in January of this year. The American Legion, for its part, has expressed both support and reservation in its analysis of INS regulations advanced thus far. In mid March, the INS announced that a \$185 per capita legalization fee would be charged per applicant parent and \$50 for each minor child living with parents, with an overall family cap of \$420. This contrasts with a straight \$185 per applicant for legal immigration with no break allowed for children or families. The Legion certainly objects to any proposal which would give illegal aliens "family discounts" on top of the extraordinarily generous provisions of the new law.

Some organizations representing aliens are objecting vehemently to the proposed fees, calling them "unconscionable." However, it should be again stressed that existing federal immigration laws prohibit the admittance of any aliens "likely to become a public charge." If illegals cannot pay a moderate fee to enjoy the many benefits of legal residence, their applications for adjustment of status should be promptly rejected.

Responding to the increased responsibilities placed upon the INS to administer the new immigration law, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, the Judiciary and Related Agencies approved a \$148 million Fiscal Year 1987 supplemental request in early March. The full House Appropriations Committee is expected to also approve the INS request before the end of March. These funds, in addition to expected revenue generated by legalization fees, will provide for the hiring, training and equipping of personnel needed for employer sanctions, increased border enforcement and other enhanced control measures.

In preparing for the expected June 1, 1987 enforcement of employer sanctions, the INS has met with numerous employer groups to explain the law and solicit voluntary employer cooperation with INS officials. The law does provide for strong employer sanctions in which employers hiring illegals can be fined \$100-\$2,000 per illegal hired on the first offense.

Efforts to revise existing education policies which mandate a single teaching method in federal bilingual education programs have received a boost, with indications that some members of Congress may be rethinking their positions on this issue. Bills have been introduced in both chambers which would allow local school districts flexibility in choosing

alternative techniques most likely to achieve success in teaching English.

The Legion has received an encouraging response to its communications with Senator Clairborne Pell (RI), Chairman of the Senate subcommittee with jurisdiction on bilingual education authorizations. Clearly, a growing sentiment is surfacing in the Senate to seriously consider adjusting current federal policies which bar use of all but 4 percent of the Department of Education's grants for alternative teaching techniques in bilingual education instruction.

Resistance in the House toward bilingual education reform continues. However, after ethnically-varied California voters overwhelmingly endorsed an initiative last November (Proposition 63) declaring English as its official language, liberal congressmen have begun to reevaluate their positions on the English language and the importance of English proficiency in competitive U.S. society. The Legion will continue to press for public policies which emphasize both the English language and the importance of revising bilingual education funding formulas to facilitate student's acquisition of English proficiency in as little time as possible.

A major focus of The American Legion's legislative efforts to promote the health and welfare of our nation's children has been aimed at stopping the source of illegal drugs. These endeavors have included strong support for the anti-drug activities of the U.S. Customs Service and the U.S. Coast Guard. The Legion continues to urge Congress to adequately fund these agencies so that they can carry out their drug interdiction programs.

However, during a recent congressional hearing of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, these agencies found themselves in sharp disagreement over who would have the lead roll and thus greater authority in the war on drugs. The commandment of the Coast Guard maintained that his service should command the drug interdiction effort in all areas "on and under the sea," and that the jurisdiction of the Customs Service should begin at our land borders. The Commissioner of the U.S. Customs Service disputed the Coast Guard's view, explaining that "... since the authority of the Customs Service extended seaward to three miles of U.S. shoreline it should, therefore, remain the lead agency in sea and air interdiction."

The Legion has not, of course, taken sides. Both the Coast Guard and the Customs Service are important elements in this nation's war on illegal drug activity. What is important, in the Legion's opinion, is that these agencies settle their differences as quickly as possible so that their attention and resources can be concentrated on drug interdiction. This is not to say that the Coast Guard and Customs are in total disagreement. Indeed, a major jurisdictional question was recently settled when both agencies agreed to a two-year command cycle for a Command, Control, Communication and Intelligence (C³I) center in south Florida, a facility set up by the Customs Service.

Economics

Several issues of importance to the Legion's Economic Commission have arisen early in the 100th Congress. These include extending the Veterans Job Training Act (VJTA), legislation that threatens to eliminate veterans preference by dissolving the federal job service, legislation to assist homeless veterans by providing housing and job assistance and proposals to make adjustments in the VA home loan program.

In the Senate, S. 553 would extend the VJTA for two years and fund the program at a level of \$60 million in each added year. The House Veterans Affairs Committee plans to mark up its version, H.R. 1504, on April 23. While this action is encouraging, the program's extension can only be actually achieved if the Budget Committees authorize sufficient funding levels and the Appropriations Committees commit the money. In that regard, both Budget Committees, as of the date of this report, are still attempting to hammer together a budget blueprint for Fiscal Year 1988 that can be sent to the respective House and Senate chambers for floor action. The Appropriations Committees will develop their funding measures much later in the year.

Funding to allow VJTA to continue operating in the current fiscal year became necessary in February when money ran out. As a result, the Legion sought successfully to have the House Appropriations Committee add \$30 million to a supplemental appropriation bill for Fiscal

Year 1987. On March 25 the funding was added.

The issue of dismantling the federal job service arose last autumn when the Department of Labor (DoL) undertook a series of hearings around the country to ascertain the views of interested groups on what type of labor exchange system would be needed in the 1990's and beyond. The DoL proceeded from questions of whether the current labor exchange is the proper one for the future and whether the current system is worth keeping. While the DoL was asking appropriate questions, the answers had already been determined by agency officials even before the hearings were held. Those answers were that the job service is inappropriate to meet future needs and that the job service should be dismantled. These answers had to have been predetermined since most of those who testified at the field hearings felt the job service should be modified and retained.

Subsequent to the hearings, legislation was introduced in the Senate on behalf of the administration to dissolve the job service by turning the labor exchange responsibilities over to the states. From the veterans perspective, this is an ominous proposal. Veterans preference in federal job training programs is inseparably tied to federal control over job programs targeted to veterans. Without a federally controlled mechanism to assure program compliance for veterans, veterans preference would be irrelevant.

The Legion plans to undertake a major effort to turn aside this proposal in the months ahead. The House Veterans Affairs Committee has tentatively scheduled a hearing on this subject in late April.

In an unrelated matter, the plight of the nation's homeless has caught the attention of Congress this year. The issue has caught the attention of the Legion because between 30 and 50 percent of all homeless individuals are veterans. In that respect, the Legion has presented testimony on homeless veterans at three separate hearings since last October and has been identified by proponents of assistance for homeless individuals as a leading advocate.

The reason for veterans making up such a large proportion of the homeless population are imprecise. Generally speaking, however, homeless veterans are typically Vietnam era veterans. What has applied to this generation of veterans in the past when the nation has experienced changes or downturns in the economy appears to apply in this instance as well. As the economy has been transformed from a heavy industry and manufacturing economy to a service industry economy, many veterans last hired are again first to be fired or laid off. As these heavy industrial jobs have been completely lost to the American economy, the affected veterans have had to seek other employment that often pays poorly. The predictable result is underemployment, unemployment and displacement. In the Legion's view these constitute a significant share of homeless veterans.

Other components of the overall population of homeless are chronically mentally ill, alcohol and drug abusers, chronically unemployed and poor single head of household families. There are most assuredly veterans among these components as well. With regard to the mentally ill, however, the Legion has charged the VA with contributing to the problem by prematurely discharging chronically mentally ill veterans from VA facilities as a result of cost containment strategies.

Legislation to address these problems has been introduced. Two of these measures have been specifically tailored to homeless veterans. On February 4 and February 12 respectively, House Joint Resolution 102 was cleared by Congress and enacted by the President to transfer funding from one account in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to another account designed to provide emergency food and shelter assistance for the homeless. Before being cleared by the Senate an amendment was added to allocate 10 percent of the funds to VA for the purpose of contracting for mental health care of homeless veterans. Part of the same amendment established new authority for VA to develop programs for chronically mentally ill veterans.

Another bill, S. 477, was introduced in the Senate and would require VA to take several steps to address the growing problem of homeless veterans. That measure was marked up by the Veterans Affairs Committee on February 26. In the House, hearings on this issue have been scheduled by the Housing and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee for April 9 and 22.

Finally, the VA home loan program has been the subject of repeated administration proposals to increase the user fee from 1 percent to 2.5 percent and require veterans to negotiate interest rates with mortgage bankers. The Legion has opposed these proposals in the past and

will continue to do so.

The user fee increase, as far as the Legion is concerned, should be allowed to expire on schedule on September 30. The prospect of negotiated interest rates is objectionable because veterans are generally ill equipped to bargain with professional bankers. In other words, negotiated interest rates will mean higher interest rates.

Foreign Relations

Efforts to block the remaining \$40 million in Fiscal Year 1987 funds for the Nicaraguan contras have enjoyed only mixed success. The House of Representatives on March 11 voted 230 to 196 to cut off further aid to the contras until a full accounting has been made of money spent on their behalf thus far, including any funds diverted from arms sales to Iran. The vote has been interpreted largely as a symbolic display of House resistance to future aid reauthorizations. To actually stop the remaining \$40 million appropriated for the contras last year, the House and Senate would have to muster a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote to override the President's certain veto.

The question of whether the House could mount a successful veto override, a dim prospect in itself, was made academic by Senate action on March 18. That chamber, dominated by Democrats, surprisingly thwarted efforts to block current contra aid by a 52 to 48 margin. Despite eight members of the President's party voting against the administration's position, fourteen Democrats joined 38 Republicans to disapprove the aid cut-off.

The importance of the House vote to end aid to the Nicaraguan resistance cannot be underestimated. While leaders of the House majority opposing contra aid admit that their forces would not be able to override a veto, the House has publicly gone on record as against further U.S. assistance. Besides the apparent lack of clear evidence of military successes by the contras, the raging controversy and congressional preoccupation with the "Iran scam" scandal had diminished the credibility of the contras. Members of Congress increasingly are demanding accountability of funds previously appropriated for the contras. This heightened sensitivity regarding funds accountability follows questions about possible diversion of funds to the contras of proceeds from U.S. arms sales to Iran.

While the immediate contra aid funding crisis has been averted, prospects for an aid reauthorization in Fiscal Year 1988 is simply not good. With a mere majority vote in either chamber, a renewal of the contra aid authorization could be squashed. Given the ebbing support on Capitol Hill for the Nicaraguan resistance, prospects for continued aid may hinge upon a series of military successes against the Sandinista regime. Given the fact that the Soviet-backed Sandinista army has overwhelming superiority in both troop strength and armaments, the resistance forces undoubtedly face a difficult task.

When one considers the dismal history of Soviet-allied treaty violations, along with the Sandinistas' broken promises regarding a pluralistic Nicaraguan society, realistic hopes for conflict resolution cannot possibly rest upon an unenforceable peace agreement. The Legion stresses to foreign policy makers in Congress the critical need for continued support of the local Nicaraguan resistance, so that future direct U.S. intervention will not be necessary.

Regional subcommittees of the House Foreign Affairs Committee have, with few exceptions, frozen foreign aid programs at the current Fiscal Year 1987 levels. This action deals a blow to Reagan Administration plans for major increases in foreign aid programs. In the Senate, similar plans for level funding of foreign aid programs have been advanced. In both chambers, full Foreign Affairs Committee markup action is expected to be completed by early April.

As in the past, countries hosting strategic U.S. military installations or positions will be favored. In the Philippines, military and economic assistance will be boosted to help ward off the communist insurgency. Pakistan got its first endorsement of President Reagan's six-year, \$4 billion aid plan, despite objections to that nation's reported development of nuclear weapons. Rebels battling the Soviet occupation of neighboring Afghanistan are slated to receive \$30 million. This aid is in addition to several million dollars in covert military aid given to the Afghan rebels annually by the CIA.

In Central America, the largest aid recipient will be El Salvador, authorized to receive \$363 million for military, economic and development aid. Other totals include \$173.4 million for

Honduras, \$96.4 million for Guatemala, and \$82 million for the Caribbean region. The largest recipients of foreign aid are Israel and Egypt, approved for \$3 billion and \$2.3 billion respectively. Strategically important Turkey, Greece, Portugal and Spain are thus far slated for aid cuts.

It is important to note that foreign assistance levels authorized by regional subcommittees will not likely be increased significantly at full Foreign Affairs Committee future markup sessions. Larger hurdles must be overcome later when specific appropriations are considered in both chambers for Fiscal Year 1988 foreign assistance accounts.

Internal Affairs

Three items of interest involved congressional activity in recent months—the Korean War Memorial bill, Revenue Foregone postal subsidy and a series of hearings looking at the lobbying and political activity of nonprofit tax exempt organizations.

On October 9 of last year, more than 33 years after the signing of the armistice at Panmunjom, Congress cleared legislation (H.R. 2205) authorizing the construction of a memorial in honor of the members of the armed forces who served during the Korean War. Signed by the President on October 28, the new law (P.L. 99-572) permits the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) to build the Memorial and accept private donations for its construction. However, the new law also directs that twelve Korean War veterans, to be appointed by the President, will advise the ABMC on the Memorial's design and placement. While the role of the veterans panel will be primarily advisory, the panel will also be tasked with encouraging private donations from individuals and corporations. In order to insure that the ABMC has sufficient funds to begin operation, Congress provided a seed grant of \$1 million to be divided equally between design, development, site selection, preparation and construction. However, funds earmarked for the construction phase may not be expanded until the ABMC has received sufficient private donations to cover the total cost of building the Memorial.

On October 30, 1986, President Reagan signed the omnibus continuing appropriations package for Fiscal Year 1987, P.L. 99-591. One of the many provisions of the new law was to provide an appropriation of \$650 million for the Revenue Foregone postal subsidy, an amount sufficient to provide nonprofit mailers with relief from additional increases through the end of the current fiscal year. To pave the way for stabilization, Congress deleted the special postage rate for limited, out of county circulation newspapers. While the President signed the legislation into law, he specifically cited the postal subsidy appropriation as an example of an unnecessary government expenditure.

Therefore, it came as no surprise when, on January 5, the administration submitted its Fiscal Year 1988 budget proposal to Congress and requested no funding for the postal subsidy. In response, the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee submitted a request to the House Budget Committee calling for a freeze on the current level of expenditures at \$650 million—\$100 million more than needed by the Postal Service to preserve rate stability. Meanwhile, Postmaster General Preston R. Tisch told the Senate Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Civil Service, Post Office and General Services that he would like to have a general rate increase in place by the spring of 1988. Like its House counterpart, the Senate generally favors stabilized rates for nonprofit organizations, and was less than receptive to this recommendation. Continued stabilization will also be the theme of the Legion's testimony on April 2 before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service and General Government. During the hearing the Legion will cite its strong commitment to community based volunteer activities and the role that nonprofit mail plays in promoting participation in these vital programs.

Lastly, just what constitutes appropriate lobbying and political activities by nonprofit organizations was the subject of a series of hearings conducted by the Subcommittee on Oversight of the House Ways and Means Committee. On March 12, the second day of hearings, the Legion presented testimony which outlined the special nature of veterans organizations and their role in the legislative process. Citing the 1983 Supreme Court decision upholding Congress' right to permit veterans organizations to lobby while remaining tax-exempt, the Legion representative explained how our built-in safeguards are designed to

prevent abuses of the lobbying privilege.

National Security

The military reform movement of the 99th Congress has fostered consideration in the 100th Congress of how to make the reforms work. One of the efforts has been to amend the Manual for Courts Martial so that the commander of a unified of specified command can convene courts-martial over members of any of the armed forces assigned to the command. The new military laws also clarify the conditions under which a member of a reserve component may be tried by courts martial and the duty status necessary to confine a reservist in case of conviction.

The reforms have also made their way into congressional consideration of the President's Fiscal Year 1988 budget request. That budget, released on January 5, seeks \$312 billion for the upcoming fiscal year, a 3 percent real increase over current defense appropriations. Despite the increased request, several major weapons systems have had their budgets pared back and procurement schedules extended in order to achieve near-term savings. While neither the House or Senate Committees on Armed Services have completed action on their respective versions of the budget, both panels are said to favor figures close to the administration's proposal. However, both the House and Senate Budget Committees are faced with stringent Gramm-Rudman deficit restrictions and, therefore, cuts in defense ranging from \$9 billion to \$25 billion have been proposed.

The problem is aggravated by members on the Armed Services panels who do not feel that the defense establishment has been entirely forthright in dealing with Congress. Load capacity, avionics and other difficulties associated with the B-1B bomber are making some members have second thoughts regarding their continued support for the aircraft. Likewise, problems with the Bradley Fighting Vehicle and questions regarding its survivability on the battlefield are generating mixed reviews of the military's performance. If these criticisms were coming from traditional opponents of military spending they could be dealt with in a more routine manner. However, increasingly sharp criticism of Department of Defense program management has been coming from staunch supporters of a strong national defense.

One of the most important programs advanced by the administration, the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), has also come under increasing attack from pro-defense members of Congress. Indeed, during the week of March 11, Chairman Sam Nunn of the Senate Armed Services Committee took issue with the administration's interpretation of the 1972 ABM Treaty. Senator Nunn, regarded as one of Congress' primary defense experts and a staunch supporter of the SDI, is crucial to the continued development and eventual deployment of any SDI element.

While the SDI has come under constant attack from arms control activists during the early stages of development, arguments that alleged one or another potential ABM Treaty violations were largely speculative. Indeed, no one could predict with any certainty how long it would take to develop an anti-nuclear umbrella or its component parts.

Now, however, the situation has reversed itself. Research and development into strategic defense has progressed at such a pace that component testing is a near-term reality. Accordingly, the administration advanced a broad interpretation of the 1972 ABM Treaty which would allow such tests to take place. Senator Nunn's opposition to the administration's view of the ABM Treaty comes from his understanding that the pact allowed development of beam weaponry and other high-tech anti-missile systems known as "exotics," but only if they were land-based and mounted in fixed positions. The administration is still holding to its position and is reviewing the arguments presented by Senator Nunn. Meanwhile, arms control activists are attempting to use the issue to block a substantial portion of the \$5.8 billion requested by the administration for SDI programs in the Fiscal Year 1988 budget.

On March 17 the House passed H.R. 1085, the GI Bill Continuation Act of 1987, by a vote of 401 to 2. The bill would remove the expiration date for educational assistance eligibility for members of the All-Volunteer Force and Selected Reserve. A companion bill in the Senate (S. 12) introduced by Senator Alan Cranston (CA) has not yet been brought to the Senate floor for consideration. During hearings held in the Senate on February 4 and the House on February 19, Legion representatives told the Committees on Veterans Affairs, "... that we are

convinced that the new GI Bill is crucial to meeting the manpower needs of the armed services, and that removing the expiration date . . . is an essential first step in insuring that the military services will have access to high quality recruits, now and in the future."

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

On February 25 and 27 respectively, the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees presented the House and Senate Budget Committees with their recommendations for VA spending in Fiscal Year 1988. The recommendations of each Veterans Affairs Committee were well in excess of the administration's proposal for veterans programs. Overall the House Veterans Affairs Committee recommended a budget authority level of \$28.1 billion, an increase of \$524 million over the administration's proposal. In health care, where the lion's share of the increase is proposed, the recommended level is \$10.338 billion or \$371 million over the administration's budget.

The Senate Veterans Affairs Committee made similar recommendations. Overall, that Committee's proposed budget authority of \$28.2 billion was \$611 million more than the administration's proposal. Medical care was recommended for a level of \$406 million higher than the administration's budget. Whether the Budget Committees will accept these recommendations is unclear at this writing. Both committees are attempting to formulate a budget that complies with Gramm-Rudman requirements of a deficit no larger than \$108 billion.

On the brighter side of things, VA Administrator Thomas Turnage reversed an earlier proposal by VA to close an outpatient clinic in New Bedford, Massachusetts. The Legion in both Massachusetts and in Washington, DC had strongly objected to the proposed closing, because veterans in the New Bedford area would have been forced to travel to Providence, Rhode Island for care.

A variety of legislative measures have been introduced by members of both Veterans Affairs Committees, and 16-18 hearings on these measures will have been held by the end of April. Pending bills involve nursing pay incentives, VA medical supply procurement, compensation for radiation victims and cabinet level status for VA.

. . . The printed Report of the National Legislative Commission is as follows:

REPORT
of the
NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION
to the
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 6-7, 1987
Gary Sammons (MI), Chairman

An executive section of the National Legislative Commission met in the National Headquarters here in Indianapolis on May 4-5, 1987. The following members were in attendance:

Gary Sammons, Chairman (MI)	P. O. Gibson (MS)
Claude Carpenter (AR)	Joseph Caouette (NH)
Richard Wright (IN)	Warren Davies (NJ)
John Swift (MA)	Stephen Mikosky (PA)
Robert Neal (MD)	
NEC Liaison:	
Gilbert Sheeks (IN)	Donald Clarke (SD)
Robert Hennessy (ND)	
National Legislative Council:	
Wilbur Walker (VA)	

After opening remarks by Chairman Sammons, the Commission received a report by Legislative Council Chairman Wilbur Walker and several briefings by staff members on key issues now pending in Congress. Past National Commander Jack Carey (MI) briefly attended

the meeting in order to commend the Commission for its active support of legislation authorizing increased per diem rates to defray the cost of care in state veterans homes.

The Commission concluded its meeting after discussing expectations of legislative activities over the next three months. The remainder of this report provides an accounting of congressional actions during the past five weeks on issues of principal interest to the organization.

Recent Federal Budgetary Developments

Early in April, the House adopted its version (House Concurrent Resolution 93) of a budget for Fiscal Year 1988. The measure passed on April 9 amid contentious partisan charges and countercharges of foul play by both supporters and opponents. When originally developed, House budget Committee Chairman William Gray had sought to use the current budget as a starting point for discussion of how best to trim defense and domestic spending as well as increasing taxes in order to meet this year's Gramm-Rudman deficit target of \$108 billion. The entire Republican side of the budget panel balked at this because in assembling a budget in this fashion they would be forced to participate in the Democrats' plan to raise substantial new taxes.

When the measure was finally brought to the full House, the committee controversy spilled onto the House floor where the resolution was ultimately approved along party lines. In budget authority, the House-passed budget totals \$1.142 trillion and, using rosy assumptions about economic growth, would leave a deficit of \$107.6 billion. More realistic estimates of the economic conditions next year would add an additional \$35 billion to the deficit.

Apart from the budget totals, the House Budget would reduce spending below this year's level by approximately \$8.75 billion each in both defense and domestic spending. Revenues would be raised by \$21.85 billion. Compared to the administration's request of \$312 billion for defense, the resolution approved by the House authorizes only \$288.7 billion.

In Veterans Administration funding \$27.90 billion is authorized, \$250 million more than proposed by the administration. The budget resolution's figures only address broad spending categories leaving specific program allocations to the authorizing and appropriations committees. However, the budget for veterans does assume inflation adjusted increases for hospital construction and medical care. Also, full cost-of-living adjustments in disability compensation are anticipated. Proposals to increase the home loan user fee, to sell \$300 million VA housing loans and to modify the burial benefit are rejected. Finally, the new GI bill is assumed to become a permanent program.

In the Senate, disagreement over the shape of next year's budget was different from the House, but just as contentious. The Senate Budget Committee, after weeks of effort to forge a consensus on a single budget plan finally produced a resolution, Senate Concurrent Resolution 48, authored by committee Chairman Lawton Chiles as well as three other plans. The others include one modeled after the President's request, one to essentially freeze spending at current levels and one to make across-the-board cuts in all programs to bring the deficit in line with this year's \$108 billion Gramm-Rudman target.

The Chiles plan is given the greatest chance of being approved, but disagreement in both parties over much of its contents makes it a near certainty that it will be significantly amended prior to approval, if approved at all. Since Senate rules require amendments adding funds for particular programs to be offset by equal amounts in either program reductions or added revenues, the Senate budget debate will necessarily be heated.

As currently configured, the Chiles plan totals \$1.158 trillion and assumes a deficit of \$133.7 billion. Unlike the House resolution, this plan makes no effort to mask its failure to comply with this year's Gramm-Rudman target of \$108 billion. Domestic and defense spending is reduced in the plan by \$13.8 billion and \$6.9 billion respectively below current levels. Revenues would be raised by \$18.5 billion.

For Veterans Administration spending, the Senate plan authorizes \$27.5 billion, \$400 million less than the House approved plan and \$150 million less than the amount proposed by the administration. In this area, full cost-of-living adjustments for disability compensation and the permanency of the new GI Bill are assumed. Funding for a current services medical care budget are also assumed with the expectation that conversions of acute care beds to long term care use will be accelerated. Sales of VA property are anticipated and the proposals to

increase the home loan user fee and modify burial benefits are rejected.

Americanism/Children & Youth

Responding to rules proposed by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) governing the implementation of the legalization provided under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, the Legion communicated its concerns on specific proposals advanced thus far. Of particular interest to the Legion are adjustments which would limit the number of days that illegals could be absent from the U.S. in qualifying for amnesty and retention of a legalization fee of \$185 per capita. Also of considerable concern is the inclusion of language that would clearly define those persons who are likely to become public charges because of reliance upon public assistance, which in itself is evidence of fraud and grounds for rejection. Because of the reluctance of the Public Health Service to take a definitive position regarding AIDS testing, the Legion urged the INS to require AIDS testing for all illegals applying for adjustment of status.

Vitally important to immigration reform is sufficient funding for enforcement activities, both on the border and in employer sanctions and fraud investigations efforts. In testimony before the house Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and State, Legion spokesmen urged Congress to adequately fund all facets of INS operations in the Fiscal Year 1988 budget.

Of immediate concern is the outcome of INS supplemental funds for the current year. Wrapped in catch-all supplemental appropriations bill (H.R. 1827) were \$137 million in funds for INS operations. Because of amendments, 21 percent of this amount was slashed so that INS will now have only \$107 million of the \$422 million authorized in last year's immigration bill. The danger is that this great lack of funding will simply result in a truncated immigration reform effort.

The House Education and Labor Committee in mid-April approved a compromise adjustment to a greater education bill (H.R. 5) which would allow some relaxation of current funding formulas for federal bilingual education monies. On the surface it would appear that the House compromise allowing 25 percent of bilingual education funds for alternative teaching techniques is a positive development. While any indication of flexibility for bilingual reform in the doggedly-resistant House Education and Labor Committee should be viewed as encouraging, it should also be noted that increases in funding formulas for alternative programs will occur only if additional funds are appropriated.

In the Senate, a measure (S. 857) advanced by Senators Pell (RI) and Quayle (IN) is scheduled for a full Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee markup in early May. In addition to allowing a straight 25 percent of current bilingual education funds for alternative teaching methods, S. 857 would require all students to complete federal bilingual programs within three years, thus ensuring a concentration on proficiency in English.

Economics

As discussed earlier in this report the budget plan passed by the House and the one pending in the Senate both assume that no increase in the home loan program user fee will be approved. In a related matter the House passed a measure on April 27, House Concurrent Resolution 79, expressing the sense of Congress that the 1 percent fee should not be increased. The Legion is heartened by this action, but has urged that the user fee be allowed to expire on schedule on September 30.

Employment issues have also been the subject of congressional action during the month of April. On April 24, the House passed a measure (HR 1827) to provide additional supplemental appropriations for various federal programs during the current fiscal year. Among those programs, \$30 million was to be allocated to the Veterans Job Training Act (VJTA). Prior to final passage, however, an amendment was adopted to cut 21 percent from all discretionary programs funded in the bill. This means that over \$6 million has been cut from the \$30 million originally intended.

Other legislation to modify the VJTA, S. 999, was introduced by Senate Veterans Affairs

Committee Chairman Alan Cranston. That measure also makes several technical corrections in the Local Veterans Employment Representative (LVER) and Disabled Veterans Outreach (DVOP) programs. The Cranston measure was the subject of a hearing on April 30 and the Legion generally supported most of its provisions.

The issue of worker readjustment assistance legislation has gained significant congressional attention. As a result, legislation in both chambers has moved forward. From the Legion's standpoint, it has been desirable to secure some form of targeting mechanism in this legislation for veterans. This is because 26 percent of the dislocated worker population the measures are intended to assist are veterans.

In that connection, the Legion is attempting to secure amendments to the Senate bill, S. 538, that will be acceptable to the House when the two bodies establish a conference committee to iron out differences in respectively passed bills. Whether or not this effort will be successful remained unclear as the month of April drew to a close.

The issue of homeless veterans has also been the subject of congressional action during April. As discussed in the Commission's advance report, S. 477 had been introduced to specifically address the needs of homeless veterans. That bill was passed by the Senate on March 31 and passed again by the Senate on April 9 when the contents of S. 477 were added to an omnibus homeless bill, H.R. 558, that had previously passed the House. Differences in the two versions of this measure are now being ironed out in a conference committee.

In a related action, just prior to passing a supplemental appropriation bill for Fiscal Year 1988 in the House, H.R. 1827, an amendment was added to transfer \$20 million of funding allocated for homeless programs in Fiscal Year 1987 to the VA for the purpose of adding 600 to 700 domiciliary beds to house homeless veterans. The Legion supports this amendment and will attempt to persuade the Senate to accept it when that chamber begins work on its own version of the supplemental appropriation.

Foreign Relations

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee in late April approved an \$11.1 billion foreign aid authorization which included amendments imposing new restrictions on weapons sales to Central America. In the Senate proposal, four Central American democracies—Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras—would receive a combined \$400 million in economic assistance. Of this amount a maximum of \$150 million is available for military aid, \$61 million less than the administration had requested.

Largely following party lines, a proposal was passed prohibiting the sale of "sophisticated jet tactical fighter aircraft" to Central American nations. This provision is aimed at preventing the administration from selling F-5E jets to Honduras. An important amendment to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee bill requires countries receiving U.S. cash economic aid to use an equivalent amount to purchase American goods and ship them on U.S. vessels.

On the House side, the Foreign Affairs Committee approved a measure (H.R. 1630) which largely resembles the Senate plan in funding levels and amendments. One key difference between the two foreign aid measures is the one year authorization in the Senate plan, while the House proposal would extend foreign aid authorizations for the next two years.

Efforts to block the remaining \$40 million in Fiscal Year 1987 funds for the Nicaraguan contras were stymied when the Senate voted 52 to 48 to reject the proposal. Even though existing funds are not in danger, the real battle will rage later this summer when contra aid supporters rally their forces against a growing tide of congressional sentiment opposing renewed aid.

Exacerbating current doubts in Congress concerning the effectiveness of the contras are reports of infighting among various contra groups and the resignation of two top rebel leaders within the last month. It is imperative that the Nicaraguan resistance forces reestablish an effective leadership and resume concentrated military actions against the Sandinista regime inside Nicaragua. The congressional perception of the military effectiveness of the contras' activities during the next few months may well determine the fate of additional funding in Fiscal Year 1988.

Internal Affairs

As in years past, congressional activity involving the Revenue Foregone postal subsidy continues to be a major concern. Of particular interest was an announcement in early April by the USPS that it will require an appropriation of \$650 million to preserve rate stability for nonprofit mailers. Recognizing this, the Legion on April 12 presented its views relative to the Revenue Foregone postal subsidy in testimony before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service and General Government. A week later, during a hearing before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service and General Government, the Legion was again able to present its views on this important program.

During both hearings the Legion emphasized that increases in nonprofit postage rates affect the ability of nonprofit organizations to communicate with people who need services as well as those willing to give their time and or money in support of worthwhile projects. During the Legion's testimony it was revealed that the most recent figures available from the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) indicate that a 9.2 percent reduction in the volume of bulk rate nonprofit mail handled during the first quarter of Fiscal Year 1987 compared to the first quarter of FY 1986 had occurred. The Legion pointed out that rate increases which lead to a reduction in the volume of nonprofit mail may very well have tragic consequences for those in need. The Budget Committees of both Congressional bodies agree and have included language which would maintain nonprofit rates at their current levels through the end of the upcoming fiscal year. Indeed, on April 9 the House passed its version of the budget which provides sufficient resources to preserve nonprofit rate stability for an additional year.

National Security

During the month of April several significant legislative events have occurred involving national security interests. On April 8, the House Committee on Armed Services reported its version of the Fiscal Year 1988 Department of Defense Authorization to the floor for consideration. That bill (H.R. 1748) sought a defense authorization level for the upcoming fiscal year exceeding \$305.7 billion. Unfortunately, on April 9, the House passed its budget resolution (House Concurrent Resolution 93) by a vote of 230-192, reducing the funds available to the authorizing committee by \$17 billion.

Similarly, the Senate Budget Committee reduced the administration's \$312 billion budget request for FY 1988 by more than \$23 billion. According to Committee Chairman Lawton Chiles, the cuts can be accommodated by tapping into the reserves of unobligated and unexpected funds maintained by the Department of Defense. Currently, the administration estimates that these reserves will total more than \$50.5 billion by the end of the current fiscal year. What this means is that some defense procurement now being authorized will be funded with money appropriated, but not yet spent on previously authorized systems. The chairman of the House Committee on Armed Services, Representative Les Aspin (WI), agrees and in reworking H.R. 1748 to conform to the budget resolution the committee changed dollar figures while affecting few changes in the legislative language or number of items authorized. Indeed, the House Committee on Armed Services has sought increases larger than those recommended by the administration for such items as the Bradley Fighting Vehicle, 656 vehicles instead of 616; the Abrams M-1 tank, 720 instead of 600; and Apache helicopters, 85 instead of 61. While work on the Senate's version of the authorization package for defense programs (S. 864) is not yet complete the panel's subcommittees finalized their individual markups during the week of April 20, clearing the way for full committee action during the last week of April.

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

Since the Commission's Advance Report was submitted at the end of March, less congressional activity on issues affecting veterans benefits and services has occurred than was originally anticipated. Despite this slower pace, several measures have been moving forward in recent weeks.

On April 7, the Senate passed a measure, House Concurrent Resolution 27, expressing the sense of Congress that no further cuts in veterans programs should be made. The House had passed this measure on March 3. While the legislation lacks the weight of law, it serves notice on those in and out of the Administration who would further cut VA programs that Congress is unlikely to go along.

Legislation (H.R. 1659) to increase per diem rates for payments by the VA to States for hospital care, domiciliary care and nursing home care provided to veterans in State homes was reported out of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs on April 23. The Legion has supported this legislation and looks forward to prompt approval by the full House early in May.

On the same date, a construction resolution was also reported out of the House Veterans Affairs Committee. This resolution, required each year, sets out the major and minor construction projects that may proceed in Fiscal Year 1988. Importantly, this year's resolution rejects the administration's plan to discontinue any future building of VA nursing homes. The resolution has approved four such homes; a 120 bed home in Mountain Home, Tennessee; a 240 bed home in Palm Beach, Florida; a 120 bed home in Tampa, Florida; and a 60 bed home in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. The Senate Committee must also go along if these particular nursing homes are to get underway, and that committee is scheduled to mark up its resolution on May 14.

A late-breaking development in the Senate concerning added amendments to the Fiscal Year 1988 budget for veterans arose at the close of April. One of these amendments, offered by Senators Lautenberg, Cranston, Murkowski, DeConcini and Matsunaga would add \$360 million for veterans over four years by increasing federal fines and penalties consistent with inflation. The added funding, \$90 million in each of the next four years, would be earmarked for health care, job training and disability payments to veterans exposed to radiation.

A second amendment offered by Senators Heinz and Murkowski would add funding for VA and Community Development grant programs by reducing budget authority for NASA. Most of this would go to Community Development grants, but \$183 million would go to VA over four years. In Fiscal Years 1988 and 1989 \$17 million would be authorized and in Fiscal Years 1990 and 1991, \$10 million would be authorized for disability payments to veterans exposed to radiation. For treatment of AIDS patients in VA facilities, \$50 million would be authorized for Fiscal Year 1988. Bonuses for recruitment and retention of health care personnel would be provided with an additional \$52 million in FY 1988 and additional staffing in VA's Department of Veterans Benefits would be provided by adding 11 million in Fiscal Year 1988.

The precise timetable for Senate consideration of either or both of these amendments is unclear at present. However, it is expected that debate on the budget resolution will be completed by the end of the first full week in May.

**ADDENDUM
To The Report
of the
NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION
May 6-7, 1987**

In compliance with Rule 8-b of the National Executive Committee, the below listed resolutions with legislative intent are submitted for approval of the Committee:

Foreign Relations

Res. No. 17 Policy regarding South Africa

Res. No. 18 Support stricter regulation of former senior government officials who become foreign government representatives

National Security

Res. No. 2 Modernize medical center at Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland

Res. No. 6 Support funding for anti-satellite weapons

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

Res. No. 4 Establish seven year presumption for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis

Res. No. 5 Exempt Chapter 34 educational benefits from "sequestration" under PL 99-177 (Gramm-Rudman budget act)

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Mr. Stone, I understand there are no resolutions, so I will accept a motion to receive and file.

MR. STONE, South Carolina: Mr. Commander, prior to moving that the remarks be received and filed, I call attention to the fact that the remarks have not been distributed. These remarks have not been distributed to Members of the NEC. I would request that there be copies made, and that they be distributed to each individual Member of the NEC.

I am going to ask him some questions, but I will first move to receive and file the report and under discussion I will ask the questions.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: It is noted by Mr. Stone that you do not have copies of the remarks of the Chairman, and they will be made available to the members of the NEC or others who request them, at the end of the day.

Motion to receive and file has been made by Mr. Stone. Is there a second?

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Sheeks, Indiana, and carried.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Mr. Stone, for questions.

MR. STONE: Yes, I wanted to ask a question, and the resolution has already passed, but if it is all right I will ask him anyway.

Probably one of the greatest jobs that we have to do in The American Legion is in the legislative field.

We have given you the Legislative Council as an adjunct or auxiliary to help with your programs.

The first thing I want to know is how effective the Legislative Council is in dealing with these gentlemen and that you have to when you need support in Congress.

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION CHAIRMAN SAMMONS: The Legislative Council is an integral part of our lobbying activities.

We have an outstanding staff in Washington, D.C. who do a fine job in representing us, and I do not want to diminish that whatsoever. However, we can't do anything without the troops in this room going back home making those contacts with the Home Offices.

What is crucial with the Legislative Council, and what they have been highly effective with is at a given crucial period of time, when key legislators need to be contacted instantaneously overnight, they have done an outstanding job of getting the message back home to that home office, and making contact with that Congressman and Senator expressing American Legion views.

We need it and it has been highly effective.

One of your recommendations that we took to heart was asking that the Vice-Chairman go back to their home states and reinform all the Members of the Council what their roles and duties are, and we are going to do that on an annual basis.

MR. STONE: Would it be effective that the National Commander will call these groups together as he visits various Departments?

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION CHAIRMAN SAMMONS: Absolutely.

The direct expression of the National Commander in any given setting adds impetus to that meeting.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: So noted by the Commander.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: The other matter I want to bring up is the fact that pursuant to Rule 8 B, which is the Legislative Program of The American Legion, that is dependent upon all resolutions passed by this NEC. We are in the midst of a report reporting now. Therefore, we don't know exactly what resolutions are going to be completed by this Committee.

I, therefore, place the National Executive Committee on notice that in our Final Report, we will read the Legislative Program pursuant to Rule 8 B of this body. Thank you.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The next report will be the Americanism Report by Mr. Robert S. Turner, Chairman, from Georgia.

**REPORT OF
THE NATIONAL AMERICANISM COMMISSION
Robert S. Turner (GA), Chairman**

Thank you, Mr. Commander. Members of the National Americanism Commission met here in Headquarter City on May 4th and 5th, with 47 members in attendance. A total of 11 resolutions were considered, and the Americanism Commission recommendations have been submitted to the NEC Committee on Subcommittee on Resolutions.

During the course of two days, the Americanism Commission made a report and were made aware of the formation of the Policy Coordination and Action Group, and the objectives of this Committee.

Several members of our Commission expressed their appreciation to our National Commander, who has seen fit to establish this Committee.

Members of the Americanism Commission were reminded of the dates that will be established and in place for the annual Chaplains' Conference, to be held here at our National Headquarters August 11 and 12th, 1987, and we request that as many Department Chaplains as possible be in attendance at that meeting.

Counter-subversive activities—the 1986 *Firing Line* publication, the campaign resulted in an overall increase of 16% this Fall. We will again target certain Departments in an effort to increase its subscription.

Those individual Departments that will be targeted are included in your report.

The National Committee on Education met in our Headquarter City on May 2nd and 3rd. The National Committee on Education recommended its continued support of Project Literacy U.S. or (PLUS) project that we ask the staff to seek authorization for the one time use of the protected post mailing list by American Broadcasting Companies in distributing materials relating to the "Read America/Win America" Campaign.

The Committee also recommended that no changes be made in the current format for our *Need a Lift* publication. The publication continues to receive individual approval and interest and we think it certainly is accomplishing the job.

On American Legion Baseball, Regional Tournaments, invitations were received from 16 cities for the 1988 Regional Tournaments. Those awards are included in your report.

Invitations for the 1989 World Series were received from Las Vegas, Nevada; Corvallis, Oregon; St. Louis, Missouri; Millington, Tennessee; Boyertown, Pennsylvania; and Rochester, New York.

The Americanism Commission recommends that the tournament be awarded to Rochester, New York.

Other matters considered by the Commission and recommended for your approval are that a three-year contract with Gatorade be approved. This is the same contract that was approved last year for one year.

It is the same contract just requesting a three-year approval.

That a cap of \$55,000 maximum payment at National Headquarters as requested by Stevens Point World Series, Inc., be approved, pending the acceptance of the contract and conditions listed therein be met by the host city.

That no beer or alcoholic beverages be permitted in the confines of the stadium at tournament time under the supervision of the National Americanism Commission.

Future contracts for Regional World Series Tournaments be mailed by July 15 from Headquarters, and that the host city shall sign and return these contracts 30 days prior to the Fall Commission meetings.

That the Baseball and Recreation Subcommittee be authorized a special meeting for the purpose of rewriting and clarifying the 1988 rules prior to the September Baseball Conference. The Commission also recommends that the staff be directed to finalize new National Tournament Guidelines which will be mailed to Commission Members by June 1 for their review and comment before our National Convention where they will be considered.

In Youth Activities, we would like to commend the Department of Missouri, Lee's Summit

High School and the city of Lee's Summit, Missouri for hosting a successful 50th Annual National High School Oratorical Finals with first place going to Maryagnes Barbieri, Milton, Massachusetts with \$16,000 scholarship. Second place to Barbara J. Poepsel, Iowa City, Iowa, \$14,000. Third place to David M. Dromsky, Augusta, Georgia, \$10,000, and Fourth Place Scholarship went to Cherie Harder, Los Alamos, New Mexico, an \$8,000 scholarship.

In addition, the Department winners have competed in the contest at the Regional level each received \$1,000 scholarships.

Previously the approval for the 1988 Contest dates of April 11-13 and 15 were approved. The 1988 National Finals Contest will be held on April 15, 1988 in Denton, Texas.

The following dates have also been approved for the 1989 Contests:

The Regional Contests, April 10, 1989.

The Sectional Contests, April 12, 1989.

The National Finals, April 14, 1989.

You have in your report the recommendations for the sites of the 1990, National Regional and Sectional Contests.

The Finals location is as last year, and the Commission voted to accept the National Finals location two years in advance. The recommendation will not come until our next meeting.

Another recommendation is that no Finals Contest shall be held in the same site where the State Finals have been conducted; that the Department Oratorical Contest Chairman's Conference in 1988 be held on April 30, May 1, 1988; that National Headquarters develop a poster to entice participation in the Oratorical Contests that can be used by individual Posts in their individual communities.

That a Committee of five people be selected from the Youth Activities Subcommittee to continue studying ways to increase participation and improve the Oratorical program.

That a change in the "Scout Of The Year" scholarship awards be made, and we recommend that we reduce the first place award from \$8,000 to \$6,000, and then have three runner-ups that would each be awarded \$2,000 each. This would require an increase of scholarship funds awarded in the program annually from \$8,000 to \$12,000.

1986-87 Scout Of The Year scholarship to be awarded to Clifford W. Bishop of Arkansas.

And that the proposed National Law Cadet Youth Program be approved in principal, and that the Committee recommends that it be referred back to the staff for additional research study and sources of financing.

Boy's State/Boy's Nation, the 1987 Boy's State Directors Conference will be held in Indianapolis on October 9, 10 and 11.

The 1987 Boy's Nation program will be held in Washington, D.C. on July 17 through July 25th and we will once again this year be using Marymount University in Arlington.

Mr. Commander, that completes the presentation of the National Americanism Commission's report.

We wish to express our appreciation to our National Commander Jimmy Dean, to *The American Legion Magazine*, and to our P.R. Division for their continued support of our programs.

We also express our appreciation to the National Executive Committee for their continued support and cooperation.

... The printed Report of the National Americanism Commission is as follows:

Report of the
NATIONAL AMERICANISM COMMISSION
to the
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Indianapolis, Indiana
May 6-7, 1987
Robert S. Turner (GA), Chairman

The National Americanism Commission met at the Indiana Department Headquarters, Indianapolis, Indiana on May 4-5, 1987. There were 47 members present, including members

of the Americanism Council, Dr. W. F. Haynie, (Texas), Chairman, National Committee on Education and F. Rodney Loper, (Pennsylvania), Chairman of the Counter-Subversive Activities Committee.

We were also privileged to have with us Mrs. Helen Holcomb (Texas), Chairman, National Americanism Committee, American Legion Auxiliary and the Chairman of the National Executive Committee Liaison to the National Americanism Commission, Fred M. Ingellis, (Mississippi).

A total of eleven resolutions were considered and the Americanism Commission recommendations have been submitted to the National Executive Committee Subcommittee on Resolutions.

The Americanism Commission was made aware of the formation of the Policy Coordination and Action Group, and the objectives of this Committee were explained to the group. Several members of the Commission expressed their appreciation that our National Commander has seen fit to establish this Committee.

Members of the Americanism Commission were reminded that dates for the annual Chaplains' Conference, to be held here at National Headquarters, are August 11 and 12, 1987.

Counter-Subversive Activities Report

The Deputy Secretary of Defense has ordered a thorough investigation of the training and deployment of Marine Corps security personnel following allegations that two guards allowed Soviet spies inside the U.S. Embassy in Moscow.

Elsewhere, the Army is setting up a program with a toll-free Hot Line that is intended to help catch spies, discover possible security risks and train soldiers to identify both. The program, 'CALLSPY' will be staffed by agents trained to recognize genuine signs of espionage and then prepare reports that will be reviewed by superiors before any investigation is begun.

The idea for the Hot Line came up in October of 1985 in the wake of the Walker Family Spy ring. It was tested at four Army posts from March through November 1986 and the tests revealed that the program could be operated with existing personnel.

So far, none of the tips phoned in have led to an investigation; however, the toll-free number has turned up more cases than expected of questionable behavior that might make a soldier susceptible to an approach by a spy.

Tips taken on the Hot Line pertaining to other military services would be turned over to that service. Civilian tips can also be taken and would be turned over to the FBI. The Hot Line number is: 1-800-CALL SPY.

The 1986 Fall *Firing Line* subscription campaign resulted in an overall increase of sixteen percent (16%) within the Departments of: Arkansas, Maryland, Montana, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

This Fall, we will again target certain Departments in an effort to increase *Firing Line* subscriptions. Targeted Departments for 1987 are: Alaska, D.C., Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada and Utah. If you are a member of one of these Departments, please help us by giving an extra "push" for our promotion campaign this Fall.

At the Counter-Subversive Activities Committee meeting on Monday, May 4, 1987 at National Headquarters, Chairman Loper called attention to the recent "bugging" of the American Embassy in Moscow and also mentioned that Russian trawlers traveling up and down the east coast are equipped for eavesdropping on conversations taking place within the United States. He also reported on the Soviet listening complex in Lourdes, Cuba, just outside Havana, that is reportedly the largest such installation outside its natural territory and is manned by 2,100 Soviet technicians.

Several members pointed out some of the problems with the news coverage by the major networks and the Committee agreed that people need to be educated to not only read, listen and watch what is going on, but also to learn to think for themselves by drawing their own conclusions about what they do read and watch.

National Committee on Education Report

The National Committee on Education met at 8:30 a.m., Saturday, May 2 in the Magazine Library/Conference Room on the second floor of the National Headquarters building. Their deliberations were completed by 12:30 p.m., Sunday, May 3, 1987.

During the two days, the Committee, chaired by Dr. W. F. Haynie (TX), developed the following recommendations for review and appropriate action by the Americanism Commission.

1. The National Committee on Education recommends that Departments be urged to work with their State Departments of Education in getting American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary programs on their approved Calendars of Activities for each school year.
2. The National Committee on Education recommends that information regarding the Flag of Learning be distributed through our available publications to our posts.
3. The National Committee on Education recommends that we commend Turner Dairies of Covington, Tennessee for their advertising of American Education Week.
4. The National Committee on Education recommends that the resolution for the extension of the contract related to *NEED A LIFT?* supplementary program, CASHE, be adopted.
5. The National Committee on Education recommends that the Commission, in continued support of Project Literacy U.S. (PLUS), direct the staff to seek authorization for the one time use of the protected post mailing list by American Broadcasting Companies (ABC) in distributing materials related to the "Read America/Win America" Campaign.
6. The National Committee on Education strongly recommends that The American Legion continue to be present as an exhibitor at the National Conventions of the American Association for Counseling and Development, National Association of Secondary School Principals, the National School Boards Association and the American Association of School Administrators.
7. The National Committee on Education recommends that continued authorization be sought and travel expense allowed for a member of the National Committee on Education to attend and represent the National Committee at the National Conventions of the American Association for Counseling and Development, National Association of Secondary School Principals, National School Boards Association and the American Association of School Administrators.
8. The National Committee on Education recommends that staff be instructed to send the appropriate certificates and/or plaques to those individuals involved in educational work in both the Legion and Auxiliary.
9. The National Committee on Education recommends that the staff continue to develop an American Education Week Award Program on the basis of the approved material with a full report to the Committee at their annual Fall Meeting.
10. The National Committee on Education recommends that no change be made in the current format of our *NEED A LIFT?* publication on the basis that a change in format would jeopardize the attractiveness, durability and recognition by long-term users of the publication.
11. The National Committee on Education recommends that the resolution entitled, "Veterans Day" be adopted as amended and attached to this report.

Other subjects discussed:

- a. Review of revised and newly printed publications
- b. *NEED A LIFT?* school mailing and related CASHE micro-fiche program
- c. National Leadership Workshop sites and agenda items
- d. The observance of the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution
- e. Programs and materials of the National Association of College Admissions counselors
- f. Staff involvement with Department of Education school visitations and conferences.

Bicentennial Committee Report

The report of the Committee on the Bicentennial was made on that Committee's meeting

of February 9, 1987 and the activities and projects conducted since then.

American Legion Baseball Report

Regional Tournament invitations were received from 16 cities for the 1988 tournaments. Your Commission recommends the following sites be awarded 1988 Regional Tournaments: Region 1—Bristol, CT; Region 2—Lyndhurst, NJ; Region 3—Gainesville, GA; Region 4—Memphis, TN; Region 5—South Bend, IN; Region 6—New Ulm, MN; Region 7—Las Vegas, NV; and Region 8—Yakima, WA.

Invitations to host the 1989 World Series were received from Las Vegas, NV; Corvallis, OR; St. Louis, MO; Millington, TN; Boyertown, PA; and Rochester, NY. Your Americanism Commission recommends the tournament be awarded to Rochester, NY.

Other matters considered by the Commission and recommended for your approval:

1. That a three (3) year contract with Gatorade be approved.
2. That a cap of \$55,000 maximum payment at National Headquarters, as requested by Stevens Point World Series, Inc., be approved.
3. That no beer or alcoholic beverages be permitted in the confines of the stadium tournaments under the supervision of the National Americanism Commission.
4. That future contracts for Regional and World Series Tournaments be mailed by July 15, and the Hosts sign and return these contracts 30 days prior to the Fall Commission meetings.
5. That your Baseball and Recreation Subcommittee be authorized a special meeting for the purpose of rewriting and clarifying the 1988 rules prior to the September Baseball Conference and the Fall Commission Meetings.
6. Your Commission finally, recommends the staff be directed to finalize new National Tournament guidelines and mail to all Commission members by June 1 for their review and comment.

Your Americanism Commission wishes to inform you that a new American Legion Baseball video production is being produced by the Public Relations Division and this 15-minute videotape is to be completed by September 1, 1987.

Oratorical

The Youth Activities Subcommittee met Monday, May 4, 1987, in the National Executive Committee Room at National Headquarters with seven members present.

We would like to commend the Department of Missouri, Lee's Summit High School and the city of Lee's Summit, Missouri for hosting a successful 50th Annual National High School Oratorical Contest Finals. The four National Finalists were outstanding representatives of today's youth. They were among 53 Department Winners who entered National Competition on April 6, 1987.

The 1987 winners were:

First Place:	Maryagnes Barbieri, Milton, Massachusetts	\$16,000
Second Place:	Barbara J. Poepsel, Iowa City, Iowa	\$14,000
Third Place:	David M. Dromsky, Augusta, Georgia	\$10,000
Fourth Place:	Cherie Harder, Los Alamos, New Mexico	\$8,000

In addition, each Department Winner who competed in the National High School Oratorical Contest at the Regional level received a \$1,000 scholarship to pursue education beyond high school, and each Sectional participant who did not advance to the National Finals received an additional \$1,000 scholarship.

Previously, the National Americanism Commission approved the 1988 contest dates of April 11, 13 and 15, 1988, for the Regionals, Sectionals and National Finals. The 1988 National Finals Contest will be held in Denton, Texas. The deadline for certification of Department winners is March 11, 1988.

Contest sites for 1988 are as follows:

Regional Contests—April 11, 1988

Regional No. 1	Maine	Regional No. 7	Kentucky
Regional No. 2	New Jersey	Regional No. 8	Oklahoma
Regional No. 3	Pennsylvania	Regional No. 9	Wisconsin
Regional No. 4	West Virginia	Regional No. 10	New Mexico
Regional No. 5	Alabama	Regional No. 11	Montana
Regional No. 6	Mississippi	Regional No. 12	Arizona

Sectional Contests—April 13, 1988

Sectional "A"	Maryland	Sectional "C"	North Dakota
Sectional "B"	Florida	Sectional "D"	Washington

National Finals—April 15, 1988

Denton, Texas

The following dates were also previously approved by the National Americanism Commission for the 1989 contests:

Regional Contests—April 10, 1989

Sectional Contests—April 12, 1989

National Finals—April 14, 1989

The deadline for certification of Department Winners for the 1989 contest is March 10, 1989.

Boys State/Boys Nation Report

The age requirements for Boys State have been removed following action by the Americanism Commission at its 1986 Fall Meeting. As a matter of clarification, all other requirements for Boys State are to remain unchanged. The 1987 Boys State Director's Conference will be held in Indianapolis on October 9, 10 and 11, with headquarters at the Hilton Hotel.

The site of the Boys Nation Program was moved in 1986 to Marymount University. The program has been enhanced through the improved facility and the outstanding cooperation of the Marymount staff. This year's Boys Nation program will be held July 17-25.

Boy Scout Report

Twenty applications for The American Legion Scout of the Year were considered by the Subcommittee. The Scout of the Year will receive an \$8,000 scholarship payable in increments of \$2,000 each year from monies provided by The American Legion Life Insurance Trust Fund.

Our recommendation as to the recipient of this award will be included in the Subcommittee's recommendations which follow.

Youth Activities Subcommittee Recommendations

Your National Americanism Commission recommends the following:

1) That the sites of the 1990 National Regional and Sectional Contests are as follows:

Regional No. 1	Massachusetts	Regional No. 7	Michigan
Regional No. 2	Rhode Island	Regional No. 8	Kansas
Regional No. 3	Mayland	Regional No. 9	Minnesota
Regional No. 4	North Carolina	Regional No. 10	New Mexico
Regional No. 5	Florida	Regional No. 11	Oregon

Regional No. 6	Texas	Regional No. 12	Nevada
Sectional "A"	Maine	Sectional "C"	Oklahoma
Sectional "B"	Louisiana	Sectional "D"	Wyoming

2) That departments hosting Regional and Sectional Contest Sites should be required to select a contest site within a reasonable distance from the airport and that no national contest be held at the same site where state finals were conducted so as to preserve the anonymity of the contestants department affiliation.

3) That those departments hosting national contests inform National Headquarters of the name and address of the local contest representative by September 1 and the city in which the contest will be held by November 1.

4) That the Department Oratorical Contest Chairman's Conference in 1988 be held April 30-May 1, 1988, and the Oratorical Workshop for Contest Representatives be held February 13-14, 1988.

5) That attendance of the Oratorical Workshop should be mandatory for all National Oratorical Contest Representatives.

6) That National Headquarters devise a uniform, effective form for the collection by department of the number of contestants involved annually in their contests.

7) That National Headquarters develop a poster to entice participation in the Oratorical Contest. It is suggested that it be a full color poster to either be distributed directly to high schools or to the local posts, with space provided on the bottom where local contests for the contest can be inserted.

8) That the National Commander be invited to attend the National Finals Contest and if it is impossible for him to attend, that the National Headquarters authorize and schedule one of the five National Vice Commanders to attend and represent the National Commander in his absence.

9) That a Committee of five people be selected from the Youth Activities Subcommittee to study ways to increase participation and improve the Oratorical program.

10) That the 1986-87 Scout of the Year Scholarship of \$8,000 be awarded to Clifford W. Bishop of Arkansas.

11) That a change in the "Scout of the Year" scholarship awards should be made. Reduce the 1st place scholarship from \$8,000 to \$6,000 and then have three runner-ups who would each be awarded \$2,000 each. This would require an increase of scholarship funds awarded in the program annually from \$8,000 to \$12,000.

12) That the staff be authorized to study a workable plan for an interviewing system in the selection process of the "Scout of the Year" and report back to the National Americanism Commission at National Convention.

13) That the proposed National Law Cadet Youth Program be approved in principal, and the committee recommends that it be referred back to the staff for additional research, study and sources of financing.

The National Americanism Commission wishes to express its appreciation to National Commander James P. Dean, *The American Legion Magazine*, and the Public Relations Division for their continued support of our programs. We also wish to thank the National Executive Committee for their continued support and cooperation.

Recommended Action—Received and Recorded

Res. No. 2165 (DEC WA)—Declare English language as the Official Language of the United States.

Res. No. 2171 (DEC OH)—Constitution Day.

Recommended Action—Handled Administratively

Res. No. 128 (1986 Natl. Conv. (IL))—Handicapped Children's Program and Scholarship.

Recommended Action—Referred to Fall 1987

Res. No. 281 (1986 Natl. Conv. (NE))—Junior Law Cadet "Law & Order" Program.

Res. No. 165 (1986 Natl. Conv. (OH))—Removal of the American Flag in the Sanctuary of Churches.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The Chair will entertain a motion to receive and file.

MR. HARRELL, Georgia: He has two recommendations there, Mr. Commander, that should be approved, instead of received and filed, I believe, and I so move.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Motion made by Mr. Harrell of Georgia that we approve the recommendations and resolutions as made by the Commission.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Studer, Iowa and carried.

MR. HARRELL, Georgia: I move now that we approve all the recommendations.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Higginson, California and carried.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Mr. Stone.

**REPORT OF RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE
FOLLOWING REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL AMERICANISM COMMISSION REPORT**

Subcommittee Chairman Stone submitted the following resolutions:

1989 American Legion Baseball World Series Site and Dates

Res. No. 19 (Submitted by: National Americanism Commission)

WHEREAS, The National Americanism Commission recommends that the 1989 American Legion Baseball World Series be held August 30-September 4, 1989; and

WHEREAS, The National Americanism Commission recommends that the 1989 American Legion Baseball World Series be awarded to:

Rochester, New York

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it resolved by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 6-7, 1987, That the aforementioned dates and site for the 1989 World Series of American Legion Baseball be approved.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, New York and carried.

1988 Regional Tournament Sites and Dates

Res. No. 20 (Submitted by: National Americanism Commission)

WHEREAS, The National Americanism Commission recommends that the 1988 American Legion Baseball Regional Tournaments be played August 24-27, 1988;

WHEREAS, The National Americanism Commission recommends that the Regional Tournaments leading up to the 1988 World Series of American Legion Baseball be awarded to:

REGION I	Bristol, Connecticut
REGION II	Lyndhurst, New Jersey
REGION III	Gainesville, Georgia
REGION IV	Memphis, Tennessee
REGION V	South Bend, Indiana
REGION VI	New Ulm, Minnesota

REGION VII
REGION VIII

Yakima, Washington
Las Vegas, Nevada

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it resolved by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 6-7, 1987 that the aforementioned dates, locations and procedure relative to the 1988 Regional Tournaments of American Legion Baseball be approved.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by National Vice Commander William Detweiler, Louisiana and carried.

Veterans Day

Res. No. 27 (Submitted by: National Americanism Commission)

WHEREAS, The American Legion is an organization of war veterans who have dedicated themselves to the service of the community, state and nation; and

WHEREAS, Veterans Day, November 11 has been made a National Holiday by an Act of Congress; and

WHEREAS, Many of the schools of our nation do not observe Veterans Day; and

WHEREAS, The Veterans have served this country in time of war and peace with many programs to make our country better; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 6-7, 1987, That The American Legion urges each Department to sponsor and support State Legislation to mandate schools to hold Veterans Day observances providing programs in honor of veterans of all wars.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Cooper, Alabama, and carried.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Resolution No. 28 is being read pursuant to Rule 8 A at 11:25 on the 6th day of May, 1987.

Contract for "NEED A LIFT?" CASHE Program

Res. No. 28 (Submitted by: National Americanism Commission)

WHEREAS, The American Legion has promoted the distribution of college scholarship and financial aid information for 36 years through the NEED A LIFT? Program; and

WHEREAS, The current number of scholarships, available from a myriad of sources, is far greater than the realistic capacity of NEED A LIFT?; and

WHEREAS, There exists a microfiche program entitled CASHE which lists over 180,000 scholarships from over 20,000 sponsors and is used as the current date source for NEED A LIFT?; and

WHEREAS, College Student Financial Aid Services, Inc., the creator of CASHE, will, at no cost to The American Legion, agree to continue to develop a microfiche delivery system for use by The American Legion for a period of three years beginning June 1, 1987; and

WHEREAS, This service will be further offered to each American Legion Post willing to participate for a fee of no more than \$250 per annum as a supplement to NEED A LIFT? now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 6-7, 1987, That the National Americanism Commission, the National Adjutant and the National Judge Advocate be and are hereby authorized to negotiate the terms and conditions of said three (3) year contract; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That they do hereby give approval and when and if the aforesaid three (3) year contract has been drafted and finalized, that the National Commander be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute said three (3) year contract and the National Adjutant be and is hereby authorized and directed to attest same.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: We will have a second reading later on.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Resolution No. 29 is being read pursuant to Rule 8A, and may the record show that it is being read at 11:28 on May the 6th, 1987.

Contract for 1987 Boys Nation

Res. No. 29 (Submitted by: National Americanism Commission.)

WHEREAS, The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 3-4, 1978, approved Resolution No. 32 authorizing The American Legion to enter into a contractual agreement with American University, Washington, D.C. for the purpose of conducting Boys Nation; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion must enter into a contractual agreement with Marymount University for the purpose of conducting the 1987 Boys Nation program; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of the American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 6-7, 1987, That the National Americanism Commission, the National Adjutant and the National Judge Advocate be and are hereby authorized to negotiate the terms and conditions of said 1987 contract; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That they do hereby give approval and when and if the aforesaid 1987 contract has been drafted and finalized, that the National Commander be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute said 1987 contract and the National Adjutant be and is hereby authorized and directed to attest same.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: We will read this Resolution after a delay of four hours later in our meeting.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Resolution No. 26 revised will take the place of Resolution No. 26, and I will read this resolution pursuant to Rule 8 A of this body at 11:30, May 6th, 1987.

Gatorade Scholarship Program

Res. No. 26 (Submitted by: National Americanism Commission)

WHEREAS, Stokely-VanCamp, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Quaker Oats Company, wishes to support American Legion Baseball by providing \$10,000 in scholarship funds per year for three consecutive years beginning with the 1987 season, in return for the privilege of placing Gatorade in dugouts, advertising signage in the various tournament programs; and

WHEREAS, The project has been reviewed by the Baseball and Recreation Subcommittee of the National Americanism Commission and recommended by the said Subcommittee to the National Americanism Commission; and

WHEREAS, The project has been reviewed by the National Americanism Commission and recommended to the National Executive Committee for favorable action; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 6-7, 1987, That The American Legion enter into an agreement with Stokely-VanCamp, Inc., to provide that the latter organization shall furnish \$10,000 in scholarship funds per year, for three consecutive years beginning with the 1987 season, and annually thereafter, provide Gatorade for contending team dugouts, suitable signage for tournament ball parks and advertising for tournament programs; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the National Americanism Commission appoint selection committees at each site to award a \$1,000.00 scholarship to the Most Valuable Player at each of the eight (8) Regional Tournaments and a \$2,000.00 Scholarship to the Most Valuable Player at the World Series Tournament; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That after review and approval by the National Judge Advocate of said agreement, the National Commander be and he is hereby authorized and directed to execute said agreement and that the National Adjutant be and is hereby authorized and directed to attest to the same.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: After a lapse of four hours, this Resolution will be read.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: This is being read pursuant to Rule 8 A, at 11:32, May 6, 1987 for the first reading.

1987 American Legion Baseball World Series Contract

Res. No. 30 (Submitted by: National Americanism Commission)

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 38, adopted May 8, 1985, awarding the 1987 American Legion Baseball World Series to Stevens Point, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion must enter into a contractual agreement with Stevens Point World Series, Inc.; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 6-7, 1987, That the National Americanism Commission, the National Adjutant and the National Judge Advocate be and are hereby authorized to negotiate the terms and conditions of said 1987 contract; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That they do give approval and when and if the aforesaid 1987 contract has been drafted and finalized, that the National Commander be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute said 1987 contract and the National Adjutant be and is hereby authorized and directed to attest same.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: After a period of four hours, this Resolution will be read again.

Attached to the Americanism Report there is an Addendum relative to the disposition of various resolutions.

I move that the recommended action of the National Americanism Commission be approved by the National Executive Committee.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Wright, Mexico, and carried.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The next is the National Committee on Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, Robert S. Turner, Chairman, Georgia.

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION Robert Turner, Chairman, Georgia

Thank you, Mr. Commander. My Report on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, activities is just an update for you. The National Committee on the Bicentennial met on Monday, February 9th in Washington, D.C.

The one-act drama, *The Constitution: Little Short of Miracle*, was written by a Virginia Legionnaire Dr. George Blume and has been mailed to approximately 25,000 high schools throughout the country. Since that time an additional 2,000 copies have been mailed to individuals and groups that requested the play.

We have had excellent feedback on those areas that have done the play.

The *Guide to Celebrating the Bicentennial* that was developed by your Committee was mailed to your Departments and Posts for distribution, and approximately 40,000 copies of that guide have been distributed.

One of the most successful projects within the Committee's Program has been the development of an 8-page color book on the Bicentennial and the Constitution. It is a coloring book that is geared to kindergarten through second or third grade level students and it has already exceeded our expectations.

To date, Emblem Sales reports more than 150,000 copies of the coloring book have been distributed, and a second run has already taken place on production of the coloring book.

One very special activity that is taking place involves *The American Legion Magazine*.

They are well underway with preparations for the September Edition that will commemorate the Bicentennial. Arrangements have been made with the Magazine Division that will allow for 100 extra copies for the Departments to distribute to select groups, schools or agencies within their State, in any way that they see fit.

In addition, should a Department want to make a distribution on a grand scale, additional copies beyond the 100 free copies can be purchased if the order is placed by June 1 of 1987.

The Committee discussed and work is underway on the possibility of an awards program to recognize those Posts and/or Departments that have done an incredible job with the Bicentennial Project.

With the increased awareness of the Bicentennial, as we get closer to the September 17th date for our celebration, and the publicity that The American Legion has received from other groups that were signed to the Bicentennial, we realize the tremendous demand for our materials and information.

We would note the efforts of the Committee are in getting the information into the hands of the public, and the public awareness has increased.

One exciting piece of information that I can report to you is that as of May 5, 1987, we received notification that the entire project of The American Legion Bicentennial Commission has received the endorsement of the Federal Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution. This endorsement will allow the use of the Federal Commission's logo, but more importantly, The American Legion and its programs will benefit from the initial promotion and public exposure that the Federal Commission will give us.

We urge you gentlemen of the NEC to promote the Bicentennial and the materials that are available in your Departments, and encourage your Departments to take a look at National Emblem Sales Catalog that has a whole page of Bicentennial items that are available.

Once again, our Committee wishes to express its appreciation to our National Commander, and to *The American Legion Magazine*, and to National Emblem Sales, and the National P.R. Commission for their cooperation, for without their work, this Committee could not progress.

... The printed Report of the National Committee on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution is as follows:

**Report of the
NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON THE BICENTENNIAL
OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION
to the
National Executive Committee
May 4-7, 1987—Indianapolis, Indiana
Robert S. Turner, Chairman**

The National Committee on the Bicentennial met on Monday, February 9, 1987 in the Congressional Room, Wardman Tower, of the Sheraton Washington Hotel. Seven members of the committee were present. Additionally, we were privileged with the attendance of many other Legionnaires—representing about ten Departments—who had interest in the committee's work.

The staff report, of activities and committee projects carried on since last meeting, was offered and included the following.

The one-act drama, *The Constitution: Little Short of Miracle*, written by Virginia Legionnaire Dr. George Blume was mailed to 24,600 high schools in the nation. Since, then, more than 2,000 additional copies have been mailed to individuals and groups upon request.

The *Bibliography on the Constitution*, developed by Committee Consultants Drs. Ryker and Blume was distributed along with the play. Additionally, posts and units received copies and, to date, more than 60,000 copies have been distributed.

The *Guide to Celebrating the Bicentennial* was shipped to Departments for post and unit distribution. More than 40,000 have gone out.

The pocket-book edition of the *Declaration of Independence and the Constitution* was included in the high school mailing. The familiar small booklet has been revised to one a bit larger and more information about the history of the document has been included.

With the assistance of the National Public Relations Division, a billboard that depicts the Legion's support for Bicentennial activities has been developed and is being sold through National Emblem Sales.

One of the most successful projects within the committee's program has been the development of an 8-page coloring book on the Bicentennial and the Constitution. To date, in 1987, National Emblem Sales has sold more than 150,000, most of which have been purchased by posts for distribution in their local elementary schools. The committee has enjoyed and appreciated the great assistance from both National Emblem Sales and the National Public Relations Division in promotion and distribution of Bicentennial information and materials.

The American Legion Magazine is well underway in preparations for the September edition that will commemorate the Bicentennial. Arrangements have been made with the Magazine Division that would allow 100 extra free copies for Departments to distribute to select groups, schools and agencies in their states. In addition, should a Department wish to make distribution on a grand scale, additional copies, beyond the 100 can be purchased if ordered by June 1, 1987.

Members of the Bicentennial Committee have had difficulty in securing a group that is both capable and willing to stage the Legion's Bicentennial play. They are still moving toward the possibility of videotaped production that could be distributed as a learning tool in this Bicentennial year and later.

The committee discussed the need for an awards program to recognize those posts that have, in 1987, done credible work with a Bicentennial project. The committee is developing the guidelines now, anticipating announcement in the fall. Actual reporting would be done in 1988 and, most likely, in connection with the Consolidated Post Report closing period that ends in June. Awards would then be made in the fall of 1988.

Discussion was given by the committee to developing a Constitution study course that could be used both now and in the future. Such a course is seen by the committee as a possible aid to High School Oratorical Contestants, and for use in general distribution by posts to schools in their area.

With the increased awareness of the Bicentennial and the publicity *The American Legion* has received from other groups with an interest in the Bicentennial, we have realized a great demand for materials and information, both from within and outside our Organization. So far, and we expect to continue, we have been able to meet the demand.

As of May 5, 1987, we received notification that the entire American Legion Bicentennial program has received the endorsement of the Federal Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution. This endorsement will allow use of the federal logo, but more importantly, *The American Legion* and its program will benefit from additional promotion and public exposure.

The National Committee on the Bicentennial extends its appreciation to National Commander James Dean, *The American Legion Magazine*, National Emblem Sales and the National Public Relations Commission for their splendid cooperation without which the work of this committee could not progress.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The Chair will entertain a motion to receive and file.

. . . The motion was so made by Mr. Harrell, Georgia, and duly seconded by Mr. Smith, Colorado and carried.

NATIONAL VICE COMMANDER DONALD NEIL, Delaware: What is the cost of the additional magazines?

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Mr. Chairman, do you know the cost of additional magazines?

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TURNER: 25¢ per copy.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The Chair will now call on the Chairman of the Children & Youth Commission, Eugene V. Lindquist of Minnesota.

**REPORT OF THE
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Eugene V. Lindquist, Chairman, Minnesota**

Mr. Commander, Members of the National Executive Committee, I have been telling you in the past through our Reports that we have made to you, that our programs are going real great. They are going better than I thought they would, and I would like to talk to you a little bit this morning about that.

You have our Report on your desk. I will not read that, but there are a few remarks that I would like to make regarding our program.

Our Commission met on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, and after due consideration of our program, we decided again to use the three programs that we have been having in the past three years. Those programs are, Teenage Suicide, Missing Children, and Drug Abuse, and I think those of you in our communities have found out the publicity that we have been getting on these programs, because before The American Legion started these programs, very few people had heard about them, or talked about them, and the news media didn't say much about them.

I am sure that in using these programs right in your communities in your states, in your Departments, the younger people and the younger veterans know one thing, that if he is growing a family in this country that the conditions are not good for all of them. And by listening to our programs, you want to join the American Legion even if it is only for the protection of your kids.

Let me say this to you, to tell you what is really happening, and these are some of the latest statistics.

One out of four children become problem drinkers in high school. Thirty-four percent of high school seniors regularly abuse drugs. One-fourth of the children drop out of high school; four out of ten girls become pregnant before they leave their teens. In America, a teenager commits suicide every ninety minutes.

I am telling you this, because we are not even on some of those programs like pregnancy. We still have to work with and help in those programs. And I will tell you this, I know you people are doing work in your Department on these programs, because if you weren't we wouldn't be getting the reception that we are from the members of The American Legion. Our staff has also started to change the format of reporting material to the Posts.

For example, many years ago, we were reporting to adults it seems like, in getting material that they read to their kids. It seems that the format we changed were pictures so that kids can read, and they can go through the brochure, and kind of figure out what is going on. So we hope that this will help us.

I have another report to make today. It seems like it falls on this Commission to report on the Child Welfare Foundation.

I suppose that some of you fellows sitting here wonder what are we doing, giving these grants.

Let me tell you what is happening in our country with some of these grants. I followed two of them very closely. You remember about five years ago, we had a problem with Reyes Syndrome in this country, and a lot of young kids were dying. We had people in the State of Michigan come to us, and say—hey, we got a solution, but we don't have any money. Would you help us. We did help them. You will hear that they got another grant this year, but after giving them about four grants, that is just about taking care of Reyes Syndrome in this country today.

So that is one reason why these grants are important.

You heard the National President stand up here this morning and tell you, that they asked last year for \$72,500 for something that the National organization Auxiliary wanted to print. We gave them this money. We were called back twice, which was a precedent of the Foundation, asking for more money, 1,500,000 of those comic books have been printed. They have gone through all the schools in the United States, and we are told by the students and educational people, that it is one of the greatest pieces of material that they have ever received.

So what is happening to your money that—well, I can't say your money, because The

Legion, nothing from Legion Membership goes to the Child Welfare Foundation. It is all given in donations.

Let me say to you, that on Monday of this week, we received from the several states of Commission members that came in here, \$12,000.

Monday night, we were given a check for \$10,000, anonymously, that we were not to give any name on that.

And today, you heard that The American Legion Auxiliary gave to The American Legion \$10,000.

Gentlemen, it is our hope and our wish that in the next several years, we can start a foundation for The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, to put in trust, money that will only be used for kids, with the trust, use the interest but not the principal, so we can help the kids for the rest of their lives, not using any of the trust.

So keep that in mind. If you hear anything about this, you find anybody in your area that might have some money to give, remember the foundation.

We had our Foundation meeting on Sunday, all day Sunday. "Udie" Grant of McPherson, Kansas was elected President. L. Redman of Oklahoma was elected Vice President. I was elected Secretary, and W. D. Harrell was elected Treasurer. Administrative personnel reappointed by the Board of Directors were Paul R. Frinthal, and Webber LaGrange.

I am going to read just the names of the grant and the amount given, and I would like to tell you people that remember, if you talk to any of these people say hey, I represent the Legion and The American Legion gave me this grant. What are you going to do with it? How is it working? And I think you will be pleased, and you will show them the interest that you have from your Department in the grant that they got.

We give The Aberdeen American Legion Post #59 of Aberdeen, Idaho, was awarded a grant of \$14,000 for their project entitled, "It's Not Your Fault."

The Aplastic Anemia Foundation of America, located in Baltimore, Maryland received a grant for \$22,500 for their project entitled, "Aplastic Anemia: What Is It?"

The Boy Scouts of America, and I think this is a good one, because Legion Posts sponsor Boy Scout Troops all over this country. The Boy Scouts of America—National Office in Irving, Texas, was awarded a grant of \$60,000 for their project entitled "Scouting For The Handicapped Training Modules."

The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Arlington, Virginia was awarded a grant of \$8,500 for their project entitled "Mental Illness in Children: Questions Parents Ask."

The National Reye's Syndrome Foundation of Bryan, Ohio, was awarded \$17,000. They asked for this \$17,000 to get some young mothers to tell their kids that aspirin is not good for young kids who get sick and it could kill them. Now that has been tested, and we are told that it is no longer a problem, and I would like to get that to all the young mothers of America.

New York State Police—Child Abuse & Exploitation Unit of Albany, New York was awarded a grant for \$15,000 for their project entitled "Child Abuse Prevention and Education (CAPE)."

You see, these grants are all given for kids, they are all given to people who are organized to use these grants. They are all non-profit organization. None of this money can be used for administrative purposes or for equipment. It has got to be used absolutely for the brochures and the experiments and the things that they need to further this help in these programs.

I would like to ask you again, those of you who have grants in your state, will you please contact these people and talk to them.

Mr. Commander, we would like to thank you for your help this year in bringing your programs to the many Departments of The American Legion, and certainly to the National Executive Committeemen sitting in this room today.

I thank you because you can make it possible, you are the people that can bring this word out and tell our Posts about these programs.

Mr. Commander, that completes my report.

... The printed Report of the National Commission on Children & Youth is as follows:

**Report of the
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON CHILDREN & YOUTH
to the
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 6, 1987
Eugene V. Linquist (MN), Chairman**

The Executive Section of your National Commission on Children & Youth met at the Department of Indiana Headquarters, 777 North Meridian Street, in Indianapolis, on Monday and Tuesday, May 4 and 5, 1987. Again this year, we were pleased to have with us the National Children & Youth Chairman of the American Legion Auxiliary and her Committee. Also in attendance were the National Chapeau of the Eight and Forty and her National Children & Youth Chairman. Our national effort would be meaningless without the continued support of these ladies and their fine organizations.

Program

During our meetings, we discussed all phases of the Children & Youth National Program. As we reviewed the past program year, it became clear that "success and growth" best describe the 1986-87 experience.

Our volunteers have reached new levels of enthusiasm for the programs designed for youth by this Commission. More and more, we see evidence of Legion involvement at the community level. Cooperative efforts with other youth serving organizations has helped our local Posts establish themselves as a true advocate for children. The increase in local activity can be measured by the increased demand for all the brochures and support material we offer. Each week, we receive letters from school administrators, teachers, scout leaders and other concerned adults praising the Legion for its involvement in truly critical issues that affect our nation's youth. Beyond these special areas, which we will discuss in detail in just a few moments, other basic programs continue from year to year such as: Special Olympics; Halloween Safety; Temporary Financial Assistance; April Is Children & Youth Month, which by the way will celebrate it's 50th Anniversary next year; and many others.

Beyond the basic programs stressed by the Commission, we assist our Posts with any project that is designed to help children. It makes no difference if this program is not currently one of our major areas of concern. If a Post needs help, all they need to do is call or drop us a line. We have national contacts with agencies and organizations that address nearly any problem affecting our children. When our volunteers contact us, we in turn help them with films, speakers, speeches, literature and other material they may need to promote their local effort. We encourage you to relate this information to your Department as we strive together to build a strong national effort for children and youth in the name of The American Legion.

A major portion of our annual Spring meeting is a thorough evaluation of our major objectives from the previous year. For the program year 1986-87, the report reads straight A's. Our Commission is convinced that the current areas of concern: Teenage Suicide, Drug Abuse and Missing Children are the issues most parents and teachers want to talk about and attempt to do something positive for their children. We sincerely believe that our impact in these areas is only beginning to be felt around the nation. Since we have chosen these areas, our expertise, national contacts, materials and ability to help our volunteers has greatly improved.

For the first time in our history, your Commission voted to incorporate Teenage Suicide, Drug Abuse and Missing Children into a five-year program. This unanimous choice will lock these three areas in for special emphasis and promotion. Through our annual goal setting procedure, we will develop a five-year plan that will thrust the Legion into the forefront of these major issues. Our ultimate goal is to become a known leader and national resource for these three key areas. Therefore, we submit for your review our major areas of concern for the 1987-88 Program Year.

Teenage Suicide Prevention:—Can you pick up the paper today without reading an article concerning this subject? How many drug overdoses and car crashes were not counted as

suicide attempts, but in reality were? What is wrong with our youth? Today our young people are facing pressures that, as youth, you and I never faced. Society today is moving at such a pace that even well-established adults feel pressures that never existed yesterday. The role of The American Legion is to be of service to our youth. In response to that challenge, we have developed a brochure entitled *Warning Signs* that clearly details many of the warning signs often exhibited by a suicidal person. This pamphlet, in concert with our *Teenage Suicide Media Kit*, will help our volunteers promote a sound and viable program in their community.

Missing Children:—The fascination with missing and abducted children that seemed to be the popular thing to talk about last year is beginning to lose the spotlight: Not so with this Commission. Our program has taken a new twist as we have developed a new brochure, the first of its kind for the Legion, specifically designed for children. This brochure, *Children Beware*, can be easily understood by an elementary age student. It is our hope that Legion and Auxiliary volunteers will see that this material is put into the hands of as many children as possible. The safety tips are designed in such a way that the child will remember what they see as much as what they read. This material, added to the *Missing Children Media Kit*, can make the Legion's approach to this problem a most affective local project.

Drug Abuse Prevention:—What problem in America today is more important? It affects our children, their peers, parents and everyone and everything that is touched by the user and abuser. We know, as an organization, that drug trafficking cannot be stopped completely. What we do know is that the demand can. Your National Commander has chosen this area as his major emphasis during the past year. Commander Dean's accomplishments have been dramatic. In meeting with the President of the United States, he was able to gain the cooperation of the White House in our National Program. The material developed in our "Don't Get Stoned Campaign" will touch the lives of thousands. Spot announcements for television using our national youth champions and the Secretary of Education, telegrams from President Reagan to Department officers encouraging their support, and other prevention activities has helped our national effort become one of the leading forces in America in the fight against drug abuse. Our new brochures, *Don't Get Stoned; Marijuana; Children and Youth On The Rocks and Cocaine*, add even more punch to the effort. In addition, we also made available "Don't Get Stoned" lapel buttons, "Just Say No!" bumper stickers and *Drug Abuse Media Kits*. In the past year, under the leadership of Commander Dean, we have not only joined the fight, but we are leading the charge.

American Legion Child Welfare Foundation

On Sunday, May 3, 1987, the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation awarded grants to six nonprofit organizations and agencies. These grants will fund programs designed to help the children and youth of this nation. The sum total of all awards granted this year is \$137,500. Before I briefly highlight each one, I would like to take this opportunity to tell this Committee how proud we are of the response of our volunteers to the financial needs of this Foundation. This Foundation was created by this Committee and supported solely through contributions from the members of your Departments. We cannot fund grants of the caliber I am about to read without your support. The following grants were made by your Foundation and we thank you for your continued support.

The Aberdeen American Legion Post #59 of Aberdeen, Idaho, was awarded a grant of \$14,000 for their project entitled, "It's Not Your Fault." They will write, print and distribute a booklet for sexually abused children to help them recover with the least amount of emotional stress as possible. This material will be channeled through several social agencies and crisis centers in a five state, northwest location.

The Aplastic Anemia Foundation of America, Inc., located in Baltimore, Maryland, received a grant for \$22,500 for their project entitled, "Aplastic Anemia: What Is It? Phase III." The AAFA will develop printed material and produce audiovisual materials on this little-known disease to increase public awareness about the need for research into the causes and prevention of this problem.

The Boy Scouts of America—National Office of Irving, Texas, was awarded a grant of \$60,000 for their project entitled, "Scouting for the Handicapped Training Modules." The BSA will develop an In-School Scouting program for youth with various handicapping

conditions. This national program will help to train classroom teachers and other leaders with the necessary fundamentals for conducting an effective local program.

The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Arlington, Virginia, was awarded a grant of \$8,500 for their project entitled, "Mental Illness in Children: Questions Parents Ask." Material to be distributed nationally will include information on possible signs of mental illness and methods of locating professional help. Information on peer support groups will also be included.

The National Reye's Syndrome Foundation of Bryan, Ohio, was awarded \$17,000 for their project entitled "Television Reye's Syndrome/Aspirin Public Service Announcements." Two public service announcements will be taped, duplicated and distributed, along with press kits, to alert parents and teenagers about the dangerous use of aspirin and development of Reye's Syndrome.

The New York State Police—Child Abuse & Exploitation Unit of Albany, New York, was awarded a grant of \$15,500 for their project entitled "Child Abuse Prevention and Education (CAPE)." This cooperative effort between the New York State Police and The American Legion will provide parents and children with basic information necessary to recognize and reduce the incidence of physical and sexual child abuse.

During the meeting, the following officers were elected: U. S. "Udie" Grant of McPherson, Kansas (President); W. H. Redman of Goltry, Oklahoma (Vice President); Eugene V. Lindquist of Clarissa, Minnesota (Secretary); and W. D. Harrell of Bainbridge, Georgia (Treasurer). Administrative personnel reappointed by the Board of Directors were Paul R. Frinthal (Executive Secretary) and Webber LaGrange (Assistant Treasurer).

As National Chairman of this Commission, I take great pride in giving you this report. These actions and results are the mark of a growing and futuristic Commission. With the continued support of this Committee, we will not fail. As one of the Four Major Pillars upon which this organization stands, we must succeed.

Mr. Commander and members of this Committee, we thank you for your cooperation and support. Together we can make great things happen within the Children & Youth program for the tens of thousands of children we serve annually.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. HARRELL, Georgia: I move the report be received and filed.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Blair, Alaska.

MR. WATERS, District of Columbia: Mr. Chairman, will the statistics that you made at the outset of your report be available to the rest of us at a later time, will we get those?

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN LINDQUIST: These statistics about the children concerning their trouble that were given, I believe was given to you and it is a fact that should have been sent to every one of you. If you don't have it, I am sure you can get it from any Division at National Headquarters. They will see that you get a copy. Or ask anybody, they will give it to you.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Any other questions or discussion?

NATIONAL VICE COMMANDER DONALD NEIL, Delaware: I would like to state, on behalf of the small State of Delaware, we have undertaken a project for the Foundation. We have started a "5,000 Club." Our goal is give \$5,000 for the next year or year and one-half, and our Alternate NEC Don Orth has the cards with him. If anybody wants to make a sizeable contribution, we will accept it.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Any other plugs or announcements?

All those in favor say Aye; those opposed Nay; motion adopted.

* * *

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: We have some announcements to be made if you would.

I know that we sort of pushed along. We have been trying to stay on schedule today.

Any additional information, or if you need copies of any remarks of any of the Chairman, they will be available for you upon request.

I am sure all of you are aware that The American Legion has reached a milestone on May 1, 1987 in establishing the 30-year all time high. My congratulations and certainly the congratulations of National to you on this outstanding achievement.

The Legion will continue to grow and prosper through your efforts and the efforts of all Legionnaires.

Our goal now is to reach 36-year all time high by the National Convention. And I know that with your help that we will do that. In recognition of the outstanding achievement if you will bring your business card by the Emblem Sales Room and drop it off there, the National Organization will laminate for your use of a luggage tag this card which is being given to you as my personal recognition. And thank you for a great year.

Information is available as you have already been given on Central America. If you have any questions or any additional information you need, call upon the two Divisions that are involved, Foreign Relations and National Security, or the National Commander's Office itself.

NATIONAL COMMANDER'S DINNER

NATIONAL ADJUTANT SPANOGL: Mr. Commander, as stated, the remarks of the Foreign Relations Chairman and the Legislative Chairman will be on your desk when you return from lunch.

The National Commander's Dinner honoring the National Executive Committee will be held this evening May 6th at the Indianapolis Hilton Hotel.

The reception will be held in the Circle Suite, that is in the bottom lower level, and that will begin at 6:00 P.M.

The dinner will be served in the Meridian Ballroom, on the lower level at 7 o'clock.

The National Executive Committeemen who have not reported the number of banquet tickets required by their Department should do so before going to lunch in Bill Jackson's Office before lunch. Please wait, however, until after 1 o'clock to pick up your banquet tickets in his office.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Any other announcements?

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER ERLE COCKE, Georgia: Mr. Commander, I came in a shade late, and the one thing I cannot find is the Judge Advocate's Report.

I happen to be a citizen of Georgia, and expect to be sued and you had an elaborate program at the 1986 Convention in Cincinnati, and I would like to know just your thoughts as to are we going to be sued?

Since Ralph Gregg's time, that is back some 40-years ago in my memory, the Judge Advocate has always been the first speaker, even ahead of the Commander, and I am surprised that you have lost such stature to where you don't even have a speaker on the program.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The National Judge Advocate elected to make his report at the Fall Meeting, but he will make his report at this time.

* * *

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL JUDGE ADVOCATE

NATIONAL JUDGE ADVOCATE PHILIP ONDERDONK: Mr. Commander, normally we make our full report at the Fall Meeting, but I am happy to address the National Executive Committee at this time, sir.

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER COCKE: No predecessor would have given up that right.

NATIONAL JUDGE ADVOCATE ONDERDONK: I appreciate your comments, sir. Thank you for your request.

As you all know, there was this \$100 million counterclaim filed against The American Legion, a lawsuit in Georgia.

I am happy to announce that that counterclaim has been dismissed based on all the grounds we alleged, and there is no counterclaim anymore.

In addition there was a *Better Times* litigation, and we were able to recover approximately 60% of the subscriber's money. The first checks went out just last week. And if you know of anyone who paid to *Better Times*, have them write to us and send a copy of their cancelled check and even if they don't have that, send us the necessary information, and we will start the proceedings.

Basically, we ask them to sign an affidavit so that we can be able to swear to the Court that we ran a reasonable refund program. We refunded the money. We found the money, because the *Better Times* organization had not spent all of it, and we were able to recover some of it, and we ask for the Judge for a Court Order to allow us if we found it to return it to the subscribers, and that was granted.

Additionally, the third point I might add, sir, we have an order against the individual who filed that \$100 million claim stating that no one has to answer the Interrogatories that he sent out. They have been quashed by the Court.

We have a Court Order that says that he must answer our Interrogatories.

And finally, he has been ordered to pay our attorney fees for obtaining these orders.

So, the case will be continued, but the suit against us on the \$100 million counterclaim, sir, has been thrown out.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The Chair will note that we are now in recess and we will be back promptly at 2 o'clock after our recess for lunch.

Please join me in a hand salute to the Flag.

... The National Executive Committee stood and saluted the Colors, following which, the National Executive Committee recessed at 11:55 A.M. for lunch, to reconvene at 2 P.M.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

May 6, 1987

Following recess the National Executive Committee was called to order by National Commander James Dean at 2 P.M.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: We will salute the Colors of our country.

... The National Executive Committee stood and saluted the Colors.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Returning to the Report of Commission, the first Commission will be the Finance Commission, George W. Boucek, Illinois, Chairman.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMISSION George W. Boucek, Chairman, Illinois

Mr. Commander Dean and Members of the National Executive Committee, you have the written report of the Finance Commission on your desk, so I will not burden you with its reading. I will merely touch on some of the highlights, excluding from my remarks the relatively routine items covered in that report.

Since your last meeting, S. A. Van Dyk, our insurance agent, was successful in obtaining Directors and Officers Liability Insurance for a \$5 million coverage. In addition thereto, we have recommended, for adoption by the National Executive Committee, an Indemnity Resolution to protect you and our officers, and those of us who have to make decisions on behalf of the organization without fear that such decisions might adversely affect our private lives and means.

Our Certified Public Accountants have given our organization a clean bill of financial health, showing an operating surplus.

The important part of the audit is that they did not have to make any adjustments in the net figure, which reflects great credit on the Finance Division.

We are contemplating the sponsorship of a credit card program, and the early implementation of same has been delegated to a subcommittee of the Finance Commission.

Probably the most important matter currently before our Commission, certainly one involving the probable expenditure of a sizeable sum of money, involves our Washington property and its preservation in terms both physical as well as our financial investment therein.

I would like to thank all Commissions and Committees and staff people and others who have appeared before our Commission and helped us in our deliberations and decisions and in making our recommendations to you.

The Resolutions we recommend to you for adoption will, of course, be handled by the inimitable Mr. Stone.

That concludes our remarks.

... The printed report of the National Finance Commission is as follows:

**Report of
NATIONAL FINANCE COMMISSION
to the
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 6-7, 1987
George W. Boucek (IL), Chairman**

The National Finance Commission held its meeting on Monday, May 4, 1987 and Tuesday, May 5, 1987, with all members present. Also present were: Robert W. Spanogle, National Adjutant; Webber LaGrange, National Treasurer; William D. Jackson, Indianapolis Executive Director; Mylio S. Kraja, Washington Executive Director; Paul M. Allen, Finance Director; U. S. (Udie) Grant (Kansas), Chairman; John P. Comer (Massachusetts); E. Roy Stone, Jr. (South Carolina), members—Finance Commission Liaison Committee. Robert Charles Smith, Past National Commander of Louisiana was also present.

Reports were received from the National Adjutant; National Judge Advocate; National Treasurer; Americanism Commission; Emblem Committee; American Legion Life Insurance and Trust Committee; Internal Affairs Commission/Membership and Post Activities Committee; The American Legion Magazine Commission; Indiana National Bank, Trustee, The American Legion Retirement Trust; S. A. Van Dyk Insurance Company, and the Executive Directors of the Indianapolis and Washington Offices.

The Commission authorized annual internal adjustments for uncashed stale checks from June 30, 1986 or older be made to the outstanding checking balances of banks. In addition, 434 accounts amounting to \$7,300.31 were approved for charge off as uncollectible.

As of February 17, 1987, Directors and Officers Liability insurance coverage was secured through Seaboard Surety Insurance Company for The American Legion National Headquarters in a one-year policy which expires in February 1988. The limits of the policy will be \$5,000,000 with a \$100,000 deductible and a 5% participation in the event of a loss. Covered are National Officers, National Executive Committee (including Past National Commanders), Alternate National Executive Committee, National Finance Commission, Life Insurance and Trust Committee, Chairmen of all Standing Commissions, Chairman of the Membership Committee, Indianapolis and Washington Directors.

In addition thereto, the Commission authorized and recommends the adoption of a resolution providing for indemnity to protect National Executive Committeemen, Officers, Directors, Commission Chairmen, members of the National Finance Commission and Life Insurance and Trust Committee, when performing duties on behalf of The American Legion.

A representative of Geo. S. Olive & Co., Certified Public Accountants, reviewed their 1986 Audit with the Commission. The Audit was approved by the Commission. The same reflects that we closed our books with an operating surplus of \$1,993,589 for 1986 with no adjustments in our accounts as maintained by our Finance Division.

An expenditure of \$20,000 was authorized for travel by members of the Policy Coordination and Action Group, including staff, to Central America for on-site visitations in that troubled area.

A Subcommittee was appointed to study and make recommendations on a proposed

Affinity Charge Card Program for members of The American Legion. The Subcommittee is comprised of: Churchill T. Williams, Chairman; George W. Boucek, W. H. Redman; and consultants to the Subcommittee: the National Adjutant and National Treasurer.

The Commission authorized the addition of four staff positions in the Membership Processing department, Internal Affairs Division, and one additional position in the Finance Division—Indianapolis Headquarters.

Three staff positions were eliminated in the Washington Office: one in Administration— one in Legislative and one in Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation. This makes total authorized positions for Indianapolis Office—194; Washington Office—86 authorized positions.

All insurance coverages were reviewed with Margaret Van Dyk, President of S. A. Van Dyk Insurance Company; and the organization appears to be adequately protected insurance wise.

Authorization was given to expend an amount of \$35,800 for necessary equipment for the Indianapolis Headquarters.

Authorization was given to the Americanism Commission to expend an amount not to exceed \$4,000 for the 1987 National Conference of Department Chaplains; and thereafter to include such an appropriation as a line item in their budget each year.

The Commission approved the acceptance of a bequest to The American Legion from the Estate of Ruth M. VanTassel, in the amount of \$692.01, for use by the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission in assisting disabled veterans.

The Commission approved the appointment of an Investment Subcommittee to make definite decisions between the meetings of the Finance Commission on the investment of funds as the necessity for any such urgent decisions requires. The Subcommittee is comprised of: George W. Boucek, Chairman; W. Calvitt Bradwell and Anthony J. Minei, in consultation with the National Adjutant and the National Treasurer.

The Commission reviewed the 1987 Budget, and it is felt that we are operating within the guidelines of the approved budget.

The 1987 Proposed Budget of the Administrator of The American Legion Life Insurance Plan was approved, amounting to \$51,300.

A monetary contribution of \$500 was approved with the objective in mind of financially assisting students at the State University of New York at Stony Brook to travel to Washington, D.C. to visit the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Representatives of Indiana National Bank reviewed our investment portfolio in connection with The American Legion Retirement Plan; and it appears that our plan is adequately funded and beneficially invested.

The Finance Commission Chairman was authorized to appoint a Special Committee of three to four qualified people to make a study on the renovation of the Washington Office Building and report its recommendations to the Finance Commission during the October meetings.

The following Resolutions were recommended for approval and adoption by the National Executive Committee:

RESOLUTION NO. 8—"COMPUTER HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE"

RESOLUTION NO. 9—"PURCHASE OF PHOTOGRAPHIC AND DARKROOM EQUIPMENT"

RESOLUTION NO. 10—"INDEMNIFICATION OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMEN, OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND OTHERS"

RESOLUTION NO. 11—"SPECIFICATIONS, BIDS AND CONTRACTS FOR EMBLEM MERCHANDISE"

RESOLUTION NO. 12—"RESCINDING OF EMBLEM COMMITTEE NON-LEGISLATIVE POLICY RESOLUTIONS"

RESOLUTION NO. 13—"BEQUEST TO THE AMERICAN LEGION"

RESOLUTION NO. 14—"AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE ADVERTISING CONTRACT WITH FOX ASSOCIATES, INC. OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS"

RESOLUTION NO. 15—"APPROVAL TO REIMBURSE THE AMERICAN LEGION FOR LIFE INSURANCE EXPENSES"

RESOLUTION NO. 16—"USE OF AMERICAN LEGION LIFE INSURANCE FUNDS FOR THE DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICERS SCHOOL"

. . . The Report of the National Emblem Committee through the National Finance Commission is as follows:

**Report of the
NATIONAL EMBLEM COMMITTEE
to the
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 6-7, 1987**

Thru: National Finance Commission
Mr. Commander and Gentlemen of the Executive Committee
Your National Emblem Committee met at 9:00 a.m., in a regularly called session in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 4-5, 1987. The following members were present:

- Frank Johnston (IL), Chairman
- Renardo A. Matteucci (PA), Vice Chairman
- Edward J. Norcott (MA), Consultant
- Frank M. Shaffer (WY), Consultant
- Clayton C. Schlick (IA)
- Keith H. Gwilliam (UT)
- John J. Mesale (MA)
- James W. Johnson (VA)
- William E. Teter (CO)
- Alfred F. Caccamo (NY)
- Alfred L. Lankenau (IN), General Manager

Gross Sales for 1986 amounted \$5,251,737. Net profit after distribution was \$775,116. The entire financial picture was reviewed in connection with the March 31, 1987 Responsibility Report and found favorable under present economic conditions.

The inventory as of March 31, 1987 was \$1,402,985, compared with \$1,376,652 of March 31, 1986.

The National Finance Commission's attention and action are requested on the accompanying resolutions entitled "Rescinding of Emblem Committee Non-Legislative Policy" and "Specifications, Bids and Contracts for Emblem Merchandise."

The Committee reviewed operation of the division under the new computer system and were most pleased.

. . . The printed Report of The American Legion Life Insurance Life and Trust Company submitted to the National Finance Commission, is as follows:

**Report
THE AMERICAN LEGION LIFE INSURANCE AND TRUST COMMITTEE
to
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 4-5, 1987**

**Jerone P. Dobel, Jr., Chairman
(Submitted through National Finance Commission)**

The American Legion Life Insurance and Trust Committee met in Room 303 at National Headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 4 and 5, 1987.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as published. Also, with the minutes from the previous meeting the Committee was sent a copy of the audit report prepared by George S. Olive & Company, Certified Public Accountants, auditors for The American Legion. The audit reviewed internal accounting controls and records of Rollins Burdick Hunter Co., the Administrator and promoter of The American Legion Group Life Insurance Program, as they pertain to the group program for the years 1983, 1984, and 1985. The only error noted was an overpayment in 1983 in the amount of \$440.88 which was due to a clerical error. A check in the amount of \$440.88 was transmitted to the National

Treasurer on September 26, 1986 by Rollins Burdick Hunter Co. for the overpayment. The Committee approved the audit report as presented.

The Committee heard reports from the Representatives of the Administrator of the original American Legion Life Insurance Plan, Rollins Burdick Hunter Co. in Chicago, Illinois; Transamerica Occidental Life Insurance Company; The United States Life Insurance Company; and the Staff Liaison of The American Legion Life Insurance Plan. The Program continues to do quite well in number of units held by insured Legionnaires. In fact, the number of units in force, increases each year.

Transamerica Occidental Life Insurance Company experience rating refund for Group Policy No. 5700L was \$389,947, and the excess amount on Reserve in their Deposit Premium Fund was \$154,622. This made a total of \$544,569. The two checks, in that sum, were mailed to The American Legion National Headquarters on April 24, 1987.

The United States Life Insurance Company reported that there was no experience rating refund for Group Policy No. GA944L.

The American Legion Life Insurance Plan commenced its 29th year of service to The American Legion and its members, and reports that the total premium received for 1986 was \$6,770,130. The total annual premium received has increased each year since the inception of the Insurance Plan in 1958.

It was reported by the Administrator of The American Legion Life Insurance Plan that 76,427 first renewal notices were mailed for 1987. The greatest number of lives insured under the Plan during 1986 was 77,632 Legionnaires. During Calendar Year 1986, it was reported that 730 insured members chose to increase the number of units they had in force. Further, there were 2,412 new lives added to the Plan in 1986.

The Administrator also reported that in 1987, the annual round trip mailer which is an informational/application piece will be mailed to 1,919,743 Legionnaires in two parts for a total of 4,500,000 pieces mailed. This includes the mailing to approximately 350,000 new members. The first drop commenced on February 14, 1987. This year, for the first time, members with 2-35 continuous years will be mailed. Previously, only members with 2-20 continuous years were mailed.

Since January 1, 1987, the Administrator's Claim Staff has averaged paying out \$73,869 per week in claims. Should this weekly average continue, \$3,841,188 would be paid out in 1987. In 1986, a total of \$4,125,003 was paid in claims to 1,831 beneficiaries. Since the inception of the Plan, a total of \$60,102,461 has been paid to beneficiaries. The Administrator's representatives outlined the expenditures for advertising in The American Legion Magazine for the Fiscal Year 1987 which will amount to \$371,000. This was approved by the Insurance Trust Committee at the National Convention held in Cincinnati, Ohio, on August 30, 1986.

The Administrator of the Legion Life Insurance Plan also called to the attention of the Committee that the National Treasurer's Report reflects that the Insurance Trust Fund has on deposit \$859,415.00 for the 1987 Legion Programs.

Mr. Charles McDaniel, Account Executive, Group Special Case Sales, representing Transamerica Occidental Life Insurance Company, made his report to the Committee. Mr. McDaniel informed the Committee that effective May 1, 1987, the Group Insurance business of Transamerica Occidental Insurance Company was purchased by the Provident Life And Accident Insurance Company of Chattanooga, Tennessee. Mr. McDaniel stated that no major changes are expected in the foreseeable future. However, Mr. McDaniel will keep the Committee apprised of emerging events, through Rollins Burdick Hunter Co., for any necessary action that may be required as a result of such changes. The Committee requested that Mr. Ben Carleton bring a report on Provident to the August meeting.

In the absence of Mrs. Hans Hover, Senior Vice President, The United States Life Insurance Company, Ben Carleton made a report on The United States Life Insurance Company to the Committee. Mr. Hover was called away to an urgent commitment.

Mr. Paul Dunn, Staff Liaison to the Insurance Trust, made his report to the Committee, reflecting his activities since the National Convention in August.

Mr. Thomas J. (Tom) Radwell, Jr., representing Union Fidelity Life Insurance Co., was introduced to provide an update on the two (2) new life insurance plans ALL VET (American Legion Life Very Exceptional Term) and ALL GI (American Legion Life Guaranteed Issue).

Mr. Radwell stated that his staff is finalizing all remaining items which will be used in the direct mail campaign scheduled to begin in September. The staff at Union Fidelity is working closely with G. Paul Dunn, Staff Liaison, to ensure that timely approvals are obtained to keep the marketing plan on schedule. Mr. Dunn is charged with reviewing the materials for marketing effectiveness, forwarding of materials to the National Judge Advocate for legal review, and obtaining final approval from the National Adjutant.

An editorial announcing the new plans will appear in the August issue of *The American Legion Magazine*. The article will be highlighted by a photograph of the National Commander and Jerry Dobel as the first and second enrollees in the new plans respectively.

The scheduled mail dates for the two new plans are as follows.:

September 1	All Legion Members
January 1	New Legion Members
May 1	New Legion Members

A revised update on the new insurance plans will be included in our report to your Commission at the National Convention.

All of the above-mentioned reports were approved and accepted by The American Legion Life Insurance and Trust Committee.

The Committee adjourned to the National Headquarters Library to observe an assembled professional exhibit booth. Purchase of the 8' x 10' booth was considered for use at National Meetings and other Legion functions to serve as an attractive professional backdrop in the promotion of our *three* life insurance plans. The exhibit can be transported and assembled by one person and uses computer lettering, photographs, spotlights and other graphic materials for high visual impact. Larry Reitz and Associates, a local distributor for Skyline Displays Inc., made the presentation.

The cost of the exhibit with all accessories is approximately \$3,500.00. An additional \$1500.00 is allocated to purchase complimentary brochures on such topics as home safety, health, retirement planning and estate planning.

Funding for the exhibit and materials will be added to the retention under Group Policy No. 5700L and G4944 which was approved by the Committee.

The Committee approved the Semi-Annual Resolution authorizing the Trust to reimburse The American Legion for the expenses incurred in connection with The American Legion Life Insurance Plan from October 1, 1986, through March 31, 1987, in the sum of \$10,587.79.

The Committee discussed the National Treasurer report pertaining to The Trust Fund and a brief discussion ensued about certain items in the report.

A Special Resolution titled—"Use of American Legion Life Insurance Funds for the Department Service Officers School" was considered by the Committee.

It was explained that one of the primary responsibilities of the VA&R program is to train Department Service Officers. Department Service Officers then in turn become trainers for District and Post Service Officers within their Departments. We have had the cooperation of the Veterans Administration for this training and utilization of professionals for our Department Service Officers Schools. Adjudication of veterans claims has become more complex. Cases such as Agent Orange, asbestos exposure, nuclear radiation exposure have increasingly put a burden on the National VA&R staff just by their complexity. The National VA&R staff, at the Board of Veterans Appeals maintains not only a para-legal staff, but also a professional staff, which includes 2 physicians and 1 legal consultant—all experts in Title 38 and adjudication claims. Those veterans claims, developed at the Department level, must be adequately researched to expedite the veterans' claims at the Board of Veterans Appeals on the National level.

The training of Department Service Officers enables us to develop these claims and make those presentations in a timely manner. This becomes increasingly important not only from the service aspect to the veteran, but it is equally important from the legal and liability standards that all organizations must meet.

Therefore, the training of Department Service Officers in the 80's and 90's, considering all of the above, is an increasingly important component of the National Organization.

After a brief discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the necessary funds for the Department Service Officers School in the amount of \$32,000 on a one time basis only. The Committee voted to approve the resolution.

The Committee expresses their thanks to G. Paul Dunn, Staff Liaison to The American Legion Life Insurance and Trust Committee, for his job considered well done. The Committee also expressed its appreciation for the fine cooperation of the National Adjutant, the Executive Director, the National Treasurer, the National Judge Advocate, and other National Officers and Staff.

MR. HARRELL, Georgia: Move the Report be approved.

. . . The motion was seconded by National Vice Commander Doris R. Gross, Washington and carried.

REPORT OF RESOLUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE FOLLOWING REPORT OF THE NATIONAL FINANCE COMMISSION

. . . Resolution Subcommittee Chairman Stone submitted the following Resolution.

Computer Hardware and Software

Res. No. 8 (Submitted by: National Finance Commission)

WHEREAS, The American Legion needs to increase the capacity of the NCR Tower system to accommodate database expansion of the Financial Network System and

WHEREAS, This will include implementation of the Finance Division functions of Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable, Inventory Reporting and Trusts; and

WHEREAS, Additional NCR Corporation equipment is necessary to perform these functions; and

WHEREAS, It will necessitate modifications of our current ABS software payables package by Sigma Micro; and

WHEREAS, The National Finance Commission has reviewed the proposals and recommend The American Legion enter into contracts with the NCR Corporation and Sigma/Micro Corporation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 6-7, 1987, that The American Legion enter into a contract with the NCR Corporation to purchase computer hardware including 2MB RAM (Working Memory) 8 Slot I/O Expansion, 140 MB Disc Drive (Storage Memory), (3) Terminals Model 4970), System Printer -400CPS (Model 6444) and Printer Adapter Board and Cable for the Tower system and the Finance Division at a cost not to exceed \$18,500, which includes maintenance agreements, freight and installation charges; and be it further

RESOLVED, That The American Legion enter into a contract with the Sigma/Micro Corporation to modify our current ABS software payables package at a cost not to exceed \$2,000.00; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That after review and approval of the purchase and maintenance agreement by the National Judge Advocate, the National Commander be and he is hereby authorized and directed to sign the aforesaid contracts, and the National Adjutant be and he is hereby authorized and directed to attest the same.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval and I so move.

. . . The motion seconded by Mr. Fisher, Arkansas and carried.

Purchase of Photographic and Darkroom Equipment

Res. No. 9 (Submitted by: National Finance Commission)

WHEREAS, The American Legion recognizes the need to increase public awareness of its policies, programs and activities; and

WHEREAS, American society is visually oriented and substantive photojournalism can have a direct impact in conveying a message; and

WHEREAS, There is a need to reach prospective members through all available media, including photography; and

WHEREAS, The versatility and immediacy of photojournalism will enhance publicity efforts that can affect the rapidly growing Legion membership and has unlimited potential to help attract members through a variety of media; and

WHEREAS, The net expenditure for contract photography services and associated lab work, for the Indianapolis and Washington offices, totaled \$22,188 in 1986; and

WHEREAS, Expenditures for photography in the first four months of 1987 was \$5,910, and projections indicate higher costs because of increased contract photographer's fees and lab service charges; and

WHEREAS, Use of outside lab services limits timeliness of delivery and creative control of the finished product; and

WHEREAS, Our present capabilities are inadequate to meet the demands of diverse deadlines and quality control; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion National Public Relations Division employs a professionally trained photojournalist who possesses the experience and knowledge to fully utilize professional equipment to the full advantage of the organization and its members; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion could use greater in-house photographic and darkroom capabilities to take full advantage of photo opportunities, allow creative control, and ensure a consistent high quality product in a cost effective manner to tell the Legion story; and

WHEREAS, The National Finance Commission has reviewed, and recommended approval of, the expenditures herein set forth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, that The American Legion, purchase the following equipment at the best available competitive bid received at a cost not to exceed \$10,000:

- One electronic darkroom dust eliminator
- Two quantum 1 battery packs w/module cords
- Two 35mm Nikon camera bodies
- One DSA-Senrac film dryer
- One Arkay print dryer
- One Beseler 23C11 XL enlarger w/lens, timer, easels, focuser
- One air-no-lite exhaust fan
- One Bowens monolite flash lighting kit
- One Minolta flashmeter IV
- One Nikon wide angle lens & Accessories
- One Nikon flat field macro lens & accessories
- One Nikon portrait lens & accessories
- One Nikon telephoto lens & accessories
- One water chiller
- One film/print processing hardware
- One stainless steel plumbed darkroom sink w/stand
- One tripod
- One Thomas safelight

Miscellaneous minor accessories for cameras and darkroom and, be it further

RESOLVED, That authorization is hereby given for the purchase of supplies and maintenance services necessary to maintain photographic and darkroom equipment.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Christofferson, Utah and carried.

Indemnification of National Committeemen, Officers, Directors and Others

Res. No. 10 (Submitted by: National Finance Commission)

WHEREAS, This world we live in is such that decisions often must be made on imperfect or incomplete information; and

WHEREAS, A great deal of litigation is filed throughout the country against a number of corporation seeking to assess punitive and excessive monetary damages for actions properly taken on behalf of the organization and, indeed, the volume of such litigation is increasing, which litigation unjustly and unfairly charges those individuals with the responsibility of sometimes difficult decisions which must be made based upon information believed to be correct and complete which turns out to be incorrect and/or incomplete with responsibility for acts of the corporation; and

WHEREAS, National Executive Committeemen, Officers, Directors, Commission Chairmen, Members of the National Finance Commission and Members of the Life Insurance and Trust Committee are faced, from time to time, with the obligation and duty to make decisions and/or taking action on behalf of The American Legion, which decision or action might be the basis for litigation or claim(s) against the individual; and

WHEREAS, Directors and Officers liability insurance coverage is limited, may be transitory, and often provides for greater coverage where a resolution of indemnity has been adopted by the organization; and

WHEREAS, Even when litigation against an individual is defended successfully, the cost in attorney's fees, which often cannot be recovered, can place a most severe financial burden on those who serve The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, The National Finance Commission has considered the above referenced situation and continues to seek to protect The American Legion and those individuals who are most exposed to such improper litigation; and

WHEREAS, The National Finance Commission has reviewed this resolution and recommends its adoption by the National Executive Committee, not as a cure-all, but as additional protection to those most exposed to unjustified legal action and/or claims; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana on May 6-7, 1987, That The American Legion hereby pledges to indemnify and hold harmless National Executive Committeemen, Officers, Directors, Commission Chairmen, Members of the National Finance Commission and Members of the National Life Insurance and Trust Committee from and against all costs, expenses, (including reasonable attorney's fees) and any damage awards, judgments, settlements, payments, and/or costs to end any litigation brought against individuals who fit in one or more of the above named categories, provided that the actions or decisions for which indemnity is pledged were or are undertaken within the scope of the individual's duties and responsibilities on behalf of The American Legion and it is further provided that such action and/or decisions were undertaken or made in good faith to protect The American Legion and/or further the operation of The American Legion and the attainment of its legal goals; and be it further

RESOLVED, As a further condition for said indemnity, any of the individuals in the categories named in the first resolved clause hereinabove, upon the service and summons of notice of litigation or receipt of notice by any means whatsoever of a lawsuit or claim which might become the subject of litigation, shall immediately notify the National Judge Advocate and provide any and all information, known or suspected about said litigation or claim; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That any application for indemnity under the indemnity granted in the first resolved clause of this resolution, if same has not been granted by the National Commander after reviewing all pertinent information, shall be reviewed by a special subcommittee of not less than three members of the National Executive Committee who, to the extent that is possible, are not involved in the litigation and/or claim; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That the decisions of the special subcommittee mentioned in the immediate preceding resolved clause on the question of whether or not the indemnity granted in the first resolved clause of this resolution applies to the claim or litigation which is the subject of an application for indemnity shall be final and conclusive on the subject of indemnity under this resolution.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by Ms. Chaplain, Canada.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Is there any discussion?

NATIONAL VICE COMMANDER WILLIAM DETWEILER, Louisiana: Mr. Commander, what would be the effective date—Mr. Judge Advocate, of the Resolution?

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The day it is adopted.

Any other questions? If not, all those in favor, Aye; those opposed, Nay. The resolution is approved.

Specifications, Bids and Contracts for Emblem Merchandise

Res. No. 11 (Submitted by: National Emblem Committee)

RESOLVED, by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion, in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 6-7, 1987, that approval is hereby given to twelve (12) specifications relating to the following merchandise bearing thereon the emblems of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, and Sons of The American Legion, each specification bearing the date May 18, 1987, and bearing thereon an identifying number, namely:

- Specification No. 1—American Legion cap
- Specification No. 2—American Legion colors
- Specification No. 3—American Legion Auxiliary colors
- Specification No. 4—Sons of The American Legion colors
- Specification No. 5—American Legion embroidered insignia
- Specification No. 6—American Legion Auxiliary embroidered insignia
- Specification No. 7—Sons of The American Legion embroidered insignia
- Specification No. 10—American Legion gravemarkers
- Specification No. 11—American Legion Auxiliary gravemarkers
- Specification No. 12—American Legion buttons, pins, badges, rings and miscellaneous insignia
- Specification No. 13—American Legion Auxiliary pins, badges, rings and miscellaneous insignia
- Specification No. 18—American Legion school award medallions, medals, brooch and plaques

and the above numbered specifications are attached hereto, and made a part of this resolution for filing among the official records under the custodianship of the National Adjutant, and be it further

RESOLVED, that National Emblem Sales and the National Emblem Committee within their determination, are hereby authorized to transmit the foregoing specifications to such concerns which manufacture, fabricate, process or produce, any of the above described merchandise, for the submission of proposals and bids to the National Emblem Committee, for supplying of merchandise for the period of one year from January 1, 1988, through December 31, 1988 such bids to be received no later than twelve o'clock noon, local Indianapolis time, Monday, August 10, 1987, at National Emblem Sales, The American Legion National Headquarters, 700 North Pennsylvania Street (P.O. Box 1055), Indianapolis, Indiana 46204, to be opened before the National Emblem Committee at the next meeting to be held at the National Headquarters, The American Legion, 69th Annual National Convention of The American Legion, at San Antonio, Texas, said bids to be opened at ten o'clock in the morning, local San Antonio, Texas time, Saturday, August 22, 1987, and be it further

RESOLVED, that upon the determination of the lowest, responsible bidders for each type of merchandise as shown in the above numbered specifications, or any or all sections of any of such said specifications, that a report, as provided by the rules, be made by the Emblem Committee; and be it further

RESOLVED, that upon the approval and awarding of contracts to the successful bidders by action of the Emblem Committee as aforesaid, such contracts be approved as to form by the National Judge Advocate, and authority is hereby granted for their execution by the National Commander and National Adjutant.

RESOLUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Resolution No. 11 is a house-keeping resolution from the Emblem Committee which reports directly through the National

Finance Commission.

It is regarding various specifications for bids and so forth and so on, and it is necessary that we carry this resolution through the NEC.

In view of the fact that you have copies on your desk, we will not read the resolution.

I move that the resolution be approved.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Harrell, Georgia and carried.

Rescinding of Emblem Committee Non-Legislative Policy Resolutions

Res. No. 12 (Submitted by: National Emblem Committee)

WHEREAS, in accordance with resolutions of the 1959 and 1960 National Conventions, the National Executive Committee, through its Program Study Committee, has caused to be made a review of all non-legislative policy resolutions, and such action has been taken in further conformance with the action of the 1936 National Convention which established policy on the life of such resolutions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, that the following resolutions be and they are hereby rescinded by reason of (1) being obsolete, (2) accomplishment of purpose, (3) being superceded by later resolutions, (4) being in conflict with later resolutions, (5) being duplicated in later resolutions, (6) have no value because of later changes in programs, (7) and for other reasons, hereinafter indicated:

Date	Reference	Resolution or Other Identification	Rescinded By Reason
1985 May 8-9	NEC Meeting Digest of Minutes Page 63	Resolution No. 31 Specifications, Bids and Contracts for Emblem Division Merchandise for 1986	2
1985 Aug. 25	NEC Meeting Digest of Minutes Pre-Convention Page 16	Resolution No. 1 Awarding of Emblem Contracts for Year 1986	2

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: I move that the Resolution be approved by this Committee.

. . . The motion was seconded by National Vice Commander Allen Titus, Indiana, and carried.

Approval to Reimburse the American Legion for Life Insurance Expenses

Res. No. 15 (Submitted by: The American Legion Life Insurance & Trust Committee)

WHEREAS, The American Legion has incurred expenses in connection with its insurance plan from October 1, 1986, through March 31, 1987, namely committee and related expenses as certified by the National Treasurer, and these expenses were paid out of the general funds but never reimbursed The American Legion and

WHEREAS, The Administrator for the program has solicited each insured member in the Group States and a majority of the certificate holders have not indicated they disapprove reimbursing The American Legion from out of the Life Insurance Trust Fund for its expenses; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, That in compliance with Section 3.2 Provision (e) of the Trust Agreement as Amended, that the Trustor, The American Legion, instruct the Trustee within 30 days of approval date of this resolution to reimburse The American Legion \$10,587.79.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval and I so move.

... The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith, Colorado and carried.

**Use of American Legion Life Insurance Funds
for the Department Service Officers School**

Res. No. 16 (Submitted by: The American Legion Life Insurance & Trust Committee)

WHEREAS, Commending in 1986 the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission is authorized to conduct a training program Department Service Officers of The American Legion, designated as the Department Service Officers School; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of the Department Service Officers School is to provide current technical information on a wide variety of issues relative to the proper development and presentation of claims to the Veterans Administration; and

WHEREAS, The goal of this school of formal training is to improve the proficiency of American Legion Service Officers in counseling and representing veterans; their dependents and survivors in application for veterans benefits; and

WHEREAS, A further goal of the school is to enable the trained Department Service Officers to in turn provide training to other Service Officers within their respective Departments; and

WHEREAS, The National Organization shares the financial responsibility with the respective Departments of The American Legion by providing round trip airfares at the Supersaver rate and per diem reimbursement for the 3½ days of the school; and

WHEREAS, In order to successfully continue this important training program it is the recommendation of The American Legion Life Insurance and Trust Committee and the National Finance Commission that there is a need to support a portion of the program for the year 1987 to be financed out of those funds representing an excess over the basic minimum reserve fund accumulated and retained in The American Legion Life Insurance Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS, It is the considered opinion of The American Legion Life Insurance Trust Committee and the National Finance Commission that the sum of \$32,000 is needed for the purpose noted herein; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, that The American Legion does hereby authorize The American Legion Life Insurance Trust Fund to provide the sum of \$32,000 for the year 1987 to National Headquarters for the program of The American Legion Department Service Officers School; the funding of such amount shall be secured from those funds representing the excess over the basic minimum reserve fund accumulated and retained in The American Legion Life Insurance Trust Fund.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: This has the approval of the National Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission and The American Legion Life Insurance & Trust Committee, and the National Finance Commission. Your Committee recommends approval and I so move.

... The motion was seconded by Mr. Sheeks, Indiana, and carried.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Mr. Commander, that is all.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The next presentation will be a presentation of the All Vet/All GI Insurance Plans, Mr. Jerome P. Gobel, Jr., Chairman, Missouri, American Legion Life Insurance & Trust Company.

**REPORT OF
AMERICAN LEGION LIFE INSURANCE
AND TRUST COMPANY**

Jerome P. Gobel, Jr., Committee Chairman, Missouri

Commander, National Officers of The American Legion, distinguished Members of The National Executive Committee, ladies and gentlemen. It is with a great deal of pleasure that I come before you this afternoon to introduce two new life insurance plans of The American Legion.

As you know, the National Organization last Fall at your National Executive Committee Meeting gave us permission to bring these two products forward.

The names of these products are as follows: All Vet Payback Life and All GI's Total Life Guaranteed Acceptance, Age 80.

These two plans, along with your current plan will put us in shape to work with all the Veterans, and to help your membership achieve its goal 3,000,000 plus members this year.

I might point out this year, our current plan which is in effect, has today paid out \$59 million in claims to the dependents of The American Legion.

These plans will go on the market in September of this year.

The All Vet will be an open enrollment for the entire year, which is a term policy, with our term premium after six years, if you so desire to drop the insurance.

The All GI's Whole Life enrollment will open September 1, and will be open until October 15, and will then close for the year.

Next Fall we will do the same thing again. It is guaranteed acceptance under this, and I have with me today, a gentleman from the insurance company that will give you a good explanation in connection with this.

The reason I am here today is to ask you to get back to your Departments, to help sell this program.

All of your Adjutants were well-briefed over the weekend, and they had a very fine relationship, and all of them seem very well pleased with what we are offering. We are positive it will have a positive step for you and help your membership.

Mr. Tom Radwell is Vice President of the National Accounts Marketing Division at Union Fidelity Life Insurance Company and has a direct responsibility for all of the companies of the combined international group, which includes Union Fidelity Combined Insurance, O'Brien Insurance, and Life of Virginia.

Tom is a lead person at Union Fidelity and is responsible for the development and implementation of the new Legion Plan. Tom has been in the association group business for 23 years, and is a Legionnaire and a native of Philadelphia and lives with his wife, Mary and three children in Huntingville, Pennsylvania.

With your permission, at this time, I'm going to turn the program over to Tom to explain to you what it is all about. Thank you, sir.

**THOMAS J. RADWELL, JR.
Vice-President National Accounts
Marketing Division
Union Fidelity Life Insurance**

National Commander, thank you very much.

Today, we are here to talk about these two new developments, which we have this year, and which were approved last year by this Committee.

I would like to show a short video, which is about 17-minutes long, and then to discuss briefly the marketing plan. So if we may turn the video on.

... At this time a video presentation was shown to the Delegates.

MR. RADWELL: Because of a very tight schedule, I understand there won't be time for any questions and answers, but basically from a marketing standpoint, the first offering of the plans will be done on September 1, 1987 through the mail, and members should start receiving them in the mail on or about September 10. There will be dates mentioned to accommodate you. All Vet, will be sent out and administered before October 21. However,

under that plan, applications will be accepted year round.

Under the whole guaranteed issued local GI Plan, however, there will be a hard deadline.

Legionnaires or spouses not enrolling in that plan by October 21, won't be eligible to re-enroll or to enroll until 1988.

New members will be given two enrollment periods to sign up. The first, besides the September enrollment, there will be one in January of 1988, a second one in May of 1988.

We are still working with the staff formulating some marketing plans for Post and other distribution and as they develop, we will be in touch with you on those plans.

Thank you very much for your attention and the opportunity to work with you.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Does anyone have any questions? Any comments, any discussion?

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DOBEL: Mr. Commander, that concludes our part of the program, and again, thanks to you, the entire staff for the cooperation we have received.

I think we have a good program for all of you.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: We will move now to the Public Relations Report, Douglas W. Henley, Chairman, Maryland, Doug.

**REPORT OF
PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMISSION
Douglas W. Henley, Chairman, Maryland**

Thank you very much Mr. Commander, and Members of the National Executive Committee, National Officers, Ladies and Gentlemen. The most recent meeting of the National Public Relations Commission was held February 9, 1987 during the Washington Conference. Highlights of that meeting and a summary of the significant activities of the Commission and Staff since the 1986 Fall Meetings are included in a report distributed earlier this month, and I encourage you to read it at your convenience.

Although the Commission did not meet formally during these Spring Meetings, those of us who represent the Commission met informally with the staff Tuesday, May 5, 1987, to be briefed on the status of staff responsibilities and to receive the results of the judging for the 1987 Fourth Estate Award. This report covers the subjects of that meeting, and a copy of this report has been distributed to you.

Also, participating in our discussions were:

Frank Kelly, PR Commission member from the Department of Georgia

Mike Williams, Commander's Representative from the Department of Michigan, and

George Derrick, NEC Liaison from the Department of Florida.

I appreciate their participation in the discussions, and I commend them to you for their interest in the work of our Commission.

Of primary concern to the Commission during the Spring of every year is the selection of a Fourth Estate Award winner for recommendation to the National Commander. This year, for the second year in a row, a panel of professional judges met to review the entries and to recommend to us those they considered to be the best of the group, from the journalistic perspective.

We considered their recommendations in light of the mandates and concerns of The American Legion, and are prepared to recommend a winner to the National Commander. As soon as his decision is made, we will announce the selection to the membership by way of our national publications.

The Public Relations staff has undergone some changes in the past few months, all of which are aimed at improving the ability of the staff to communicate the accomplishments of our organization. Foremost among these changes is the hiring of an experienced photo-journalist to create and coordinate a comprehensive photography support program for the national organization, which includes the creation of a complete photo laboratory at National Headquarters.

As in 1986, the National Public Relations Staff, working with the National Convention Director, is responsible for planning and conducting the National Convention Festival, which I am sure most of you remember from last year. The plans for San Antonio call for an even bigger and better festival than last year—a Mexican fiesta-style celebration in San Antonio's "La Villita." The tentative schedule is for the festival to begin in the mid- to late-afternoon and run through dusk on Monday, August 24, with a variety of food, drink, entertainment and special events scheduled.

Details are still being worked out, so I encourage you to watch The American Legion News Service and The American Legion Magazine for details. You want to spread the word, and be sure to keep that date open on your calendars.

Last year, the commission approved, and the staff has completed plans for, an aggressive outreach program to major media centers around the country. The staff will begin implementation of the program with a series of visits to major east coast cities by members of the Washington-based P.R. staff. The purpose of the program is to educate and inform the national news media, in face-to-face meetings, of the Legion's accomplishments and our aims and purposes. The program is timed to coincide with the continuing attainment of significant membership milestones. Our commission and our staff is committed to providing maximum support and assistance as the organization drives toward the 3,000,000-member mark. We believe media outreach is an important part of that process.

Mr. Commander, distinguished national officers, members of the NEC, in closing I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you for the consistent support provided to our Commission and staff. Without it, none of our achievements would have been possible.

... The printed Report of the National Public Relations Commission is as follows:

**REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMISSION
to the
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 7, 1987
Douglas W. Henley (MD), Chairman**

The National Public Relations Commission met Monday, February 9, 1987, in the Warren Room of the Sheraton Washington Hotel during the 1987 Washington Conference.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Douglas W. Henley, who called for the Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation. The chairman then delivered brief remarks to the assembled commission members, describing the meeting as his first as chairman and himself as looking forward to his responsibilities. He described in general his views on the role of the commission and his goals as chairman.

The chairman then called for the roll call of members present. They were:

Douglas W. Henley (MD), Chairman	Frank A. Kelly (GA)
Thomas C. Kouyeas (DC), V. Chairman	Carl R. Hansen (IL)
Dr. Rudolph Zern (MO)	Charles Sclafani (NY)
Edward H. Schunk (NY)	Wesley L. Osborne (OH)
William Mannix (PA)	Paul T. DiFulco (LA)
Lawrence E. Fisher (AR)	George L. Derrick (FL)
Donald R. Schroedl (MN)	

Members of The National Public Relations Division staff present for the meeting were introduced. They were:

Hubert R. Dagley, II (IN), Director
Lee P. Harris (CA), Deputy Director (Indianapolis)
John T. Hanson (AL), Deputy Director (Washington)
John Minnick (MD), PR Representative

The chairman then asked that guests of the commission be introduced or to introduce

themselves. There were seven guests present for the commission meeting.

Following the introduction of guests, the chairman previewed the agenda for the day's meeting, and the schedule of events and responsibilities of the commission and staff for the three days of the Washington Conference. He described for the members the advance publicity program that was initiated for the 1987 Conference and which was expected to result in additional coverage by local and nation-wide news media. The advance publicity program was patterned after that used to advance National Conventions and required one visit to Washington, D.C., by a member of the Indianapolis staff to assist with media visitations.

The chairman then turned the meeting over to the division director for staff reports.

The Deputy Director for Indianapolis, summarized the activities of the Indianapolis staff since the October 1986 commission meeting. He announced that there had been two staff resignations and that the division expected to have replacement personnel in position by March 15, 1987. He deferred detailed program discussion to the director, in order to depart and staff concurrent conference activities.

The Deputy Director for Washington, similarly described Washington activities in general, and discussed in greater detail the advance publicity effort for the Conference. He introduced to the commission the newly assigned staff representative, John Minnick, who transferred into the division from the National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Division. Mr. Hanson additionally described an ambitious "media outreach" program planned for 1987 in which he and other members of the staff will personally call on newsrooms around the nation to educate and inform news professionals on the achievements and objectives of The American Legion.

Mr. Dagley then described in some detail major activities of the division, some of which had been completed, some of which were in process, and some of which were in the development stages. Included were:

The revised Aging Veteran publication.

The American Legion VA Hospital User Survey

1987 National Convention Festival

Celebration of the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution

National Convention Publicity Advance

1987 Fourth Estate Award

Details of each follow:

The *Aging Veteran* publication was revised and re-issued upon the recommendation of the Veterans Planning and Coordinating Committee. Ninety thousand copies were printed, of which 30,000 were bound into the journalism trade publication *Editor & Publisher* and distributed to the magazine's subscription list. The balance of the booklets were distributed to state and federal lawmakers, government officials, Legion Departments and other interested organizations and individuals.

The director reported on the role of the division in implementing National Commander Dean's VA Hospital User Survey. In cooperation with the National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Division, the P.R. staff created and coordinated all aspects of the program short of analysis of the data returned, which was exclusively the responsibility of the VA&R division. The survey elicited approximately 10,000 responses from about 1,200 Legion volunteers who responded to the Commander's call for the program.

The chairman and the director, after reporting to the National Finance Commission, described plans for the 1987 National Convention Festival, for which the P.R. staff will once again have direct responsibility. The festival will be Monday, August 24, 1987, at San Antonio's La Villita, site of the original village which was to become San Antonio. The staff will engage the services of a professional production company, as in 1986, to produce the event.

Public Relations' support of the Bicentennial of the Constitution of the United States includes preparation and distribution of a special billboard commemorating the event. Miniature versions of the board were prepared and used in promoting the availability of the full size boards. Arrangements for sale and delivery of the boards to users were made through National Emblem Sales and use procedures already in place for other billboard programs. The P.R. staff also prepared and distributed radio and television PSAs around the country to support the observances.

The director announced there would be no significant changes in procedures used to

publicize the **National Convention** from the past few years. He announced that with the addition of a staff person with photography skills, certain cost containment measures were possible. The staff will conduct a minimum of three advance trips into the convention city to prepare the media marketing plan and to ascertain the needs and interests of the San Antonio media. The first advanced trip is scheduled for March, with subsequent trips in May and July.

Mr. Dagley reviewed for the commission the **1987 Fourth Estate** entries, after which the commission agreed that the staff should empanel professional judges to recommend finalists for the award, which will be reviewed and decided upon at the commission meeting in Indianapolis in May 1987. The commission recommended that summaries of all entries be sent to all commission members to review, and that each should submit from among the entries any recommendations they might have for special consideration by the judging panel.

Following the lunch break, Mr. Harris detailed the division's 1987 audio/visual program for the commission. He described the demand for A/V support as having far exceeded the budget and time capabilities of the staff, resulting in scheduling of production work for approximately one-fourth of the demand, which nevertheless indicates a continued growth in the use and capabilities of the A/V program.

Mr. Harris also screened the just-completed Foreign Relations slide briefing and the VA&R program on procedures to follow in the event of the death of a veteran. Both were enthusiastically received, and the commission recommended the widest possible distribution and use of both.

The chairman concluded the commission's deliberations with a period of general discussion and question and answer on plans, programs and technical aspects of Public Relations activities. Mr. Henley commended the commission for its successful stewardship of its responsibilities. He reminded the members of the diverse responsibilities of the staff and commission during the Washington Conference, and called on the members to assist with a variety of duties during the Legislative Rally and the National Commander's Luncheon. Many responded.

The chairman adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:00 p.m. after hearing of no further business to come before the meeting.

. . . Upon motion of Mr. Stone, South Carolina, duly seconded by Mr. Cooper, Alabama, and carried, the Report was received and filed.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: No resolutions.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The next commission is The American Legion Magazine Commission, Milford A. Forrester, Chairman of South Carolina.

REPORT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE COMMISSION Milford A. Forrester (SC), Chairman

Mr. Commander, National Officers, National Executive Committeeman, distinguished visitors and guests, the report of The American Legion Magazine Commission has been distributed to you, so I will not read it.

However, I would appreciate the opportunity to call your attention to several important points outlined in the report.

First, we did secure your favorable consideration on two resolutions:

One is a housekeeping resolution requesting your permission to rescind several obsolete resolutions, which have either been inactive in intent or are no longer feasible.

The second had a resolution asking permission to enter into another advertising content with Fox Associates, Incorporated, our current advertising representatives.

They are doing an outstanding job of retaining old advertisers, and bringing in new advertisers. In fact, we are optimistic that 1987 will be the best advertising revenue, and by far that The American Legion Magazine has ever had.

You see these little buttons around in the advertising department. That is, \$5 million in

1987. I can assure you that we're going to attain that. We are over \$2 million now, just today, we received by express mail from Fox Associates, our representatives, who have seven major offices across the country, American Legion Magazine's 1987 renewal goal. It is a cocktail glass with olives in it, and each one of these olives is \$250,000.

You can see, we are already at \$2 million in there. Even though your budget and goal is five, we have got \$8 million worth of olives there. So we hope to have them all.

We like this 3 million up here, we are going to get it. Both of them.

Another thing that I would like to bring to your attention is that we are working with the Americanism Commission with reference to the September Constitutional Issue. There has been a little bit of misconception in regards to the amount that it is going to cost and what we are going to do.

Now each of your Departments has received a letter dealing with what we are going to do. In brief, let me bring you up to date on what that says.

The magazine will supply up to 100 free copies to any Department requesting them by July 1. The requests should be made directly to the Americanism Division care of Marty Justis.

Departments which do not request the 100 copies will not receive them.

Number two, extra copies will be available by request for 30¢ each. Now let me stop right there. We are losing 3¢ a copy on them. It is costing us 33¢, but we are going to put them out at 30, plus the additional mailing charge and shipping charge, so your Department will have to pay for the mailing charge and the shipping charge.

All of the above, the 100, we give you free.

Let me say this: This is a special edition. It is not extra. Every Legionnaire gets a copy of this. That is going to be the regular September issue.

So this is not a new book. It is just a bigger book, approximately 80 pages, not to exceed 88.

All right, now the question comes up. Foreign Departments will have to pay for the actual cost of shipping, which will be billed then. I mention the Foreign Departments, because shipping overseas is considerably higher. Let me tell you this, we spend approximately \$10,000 a month for the postage to the Foreign Departments for the monthly magazine.

Requests for extra copies by the Foreign Department should be made to Marty Justus in the Americanism Commission by July 1, and we would like for the Foreign Departments to pick them up in the magazine office at Convention Headquarters in San Antonio.

Now some people have already agreed to do this. Now I know Mexico, they are driving a car up, and they can get them back and as you well know, the mailing schedule to foreign Departments is slower than the pony express.

Please take care of this matter, and let me explain to you why we want you to take care of this matter as soon as possible—so we can tell the printer down in Danville, Kentucky which is Donnelley & Sons how many extra copies we're going to have. Because there are three things involved, print, paper and postage, and we don't want to print up too many extra copies and take the loss on it. We are already going to take a 3¢ loss on the manufacture, to begin with.

Please, please take care of this. I know all the National Executive Committeeman are here. Some of the Adjutants are here, and some of the Commanders. Please take care of this matter.

I am sorry there has been some misconceptions as to the cost involved in it. I think we first started out, and we thought it would be 25¢, and the book is going to be thicker, which takes more paper, and the cost of printing will exceed that. As I say, we figure it is going to cost 33, and we are going to let you have them for 30, and we lose 3¢.

Other than that, any questions at this point on that? Have I confused you?

NATIONAL VICE COMMANDER DONALD NEIL, Delaware: First you say it was 33, how much is it going to cost?

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN FORRESTER: 30¢.

NATIONAL VICE COMMANDER NEIL: Downstairs you told me 35 and then 33, and now you are going to 30, what is it going to cost?

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN FORRESTER: Sir, your Department has a copy of the letter which say 30¢ to begin with.

We are sticking to that, sir.

MR. HARRELL, Georgia: You said the deadline for mailing earlier today was June 1st.

Now you say it is July the 1st.

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN FORRESTER: That is correct. We are correcting that.

MR. HARRELL, Georgia: July instead of June?

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN FORRESTER: Is Marty here? Marty, would you explain to us why June 1st is there?

MR. MARTY JUSTIS: July 1 was the date that was given to the Department Adjutants in March of this year for them to respond. June 1 date was misinformation.

MR. HARRELL, Georgia: And the 25¢, that was misinformation.

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN FORRESTER: That is correct. I stand on my report, Mr. Harrell.

MR. INGELLIS, Mississippi: Mr. Chairman, what about the individual Posts that want an extra copy?

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN FORRESTER: They will have to order from the Americanism Commission, that is Mr. Justis, pay the 30¢ per copy, and pay the postage.

You get the 100 free.

If your Adjutant requests them—now we are not going to ship them to you unless you request them. 100 free.

Go through your Department. 100 copies.

MR. INGELLIS: Say I want to buy 100.

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN FORRESTER: You are responsible for the postage through Americanism, but you've got to let us know by July 1.

. . . The printed Advance report of The American Legion Magazine Commission is as follows:

Advance Report
THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE COMMISSION
to
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MAY 6-7, 1987
Milford A. Forrester (SC), Chairman

The American Legion Magazine Commission was convened by Vice Chairman James V. Kissner (IL) at 1:30 p.m., February 10, 1987, in the Marshall Room of the Sheraton Washington Hotel in Washington, D.C. The Publisher called the roll, and the following persons were in attendance: George F. Ballard (IL); Adolph F. Bremer (MN); J. Leslie Brown, Jr. (KY); Donald Conn (IN); James W. Conway (MA); Lincoln Cox (WV); Frank J. Holschuh (OH); Halbert G. Horton (KS); Russell H. Laird (IA); Nathaniel J. McKee (NJ); J. Fred Mitchell (AL); J. H. Morris (LA); Dr. James D. Shafer (PA); George G. Sinopoli (CA); Ralph L. Smith (OK); Dewey C. Spencer (AR); Benjamin B. Truskoski (CT); James R. Kelley (PA), National Commander's Representative; Neal L. Thomas, Jr. (CO), Consultant; Tom C. Smith (OK), Chairman, Magazine Commission Liaison Committee; and Andrew J. Cooper (AL), Lloyd Higginson (CA) and Jerry A. Kautzer (WI), of the Magazine Commission Liaison Committee. Also present were Daniel S. Wheeler, Publisher/Editor-in-Chief; Michael D. LaBonne, Editor; Donald B. Thompson, Advertising Manager; Marlys Fox and Sandy Barba of Fox Associates (Publisher's Representative); Andrew H. Allen, Sales Representative for R. R. Donnelly & Sons Company; Thomas H. Mayer, Vice President of Clayton International, Inc.; and Craig Nagel, Sales Manager, Nationwide Papers Inc.

Vice Chairman Kissner informed Commission members that Chairman Milford A. Forrester (SC), was accompanying 174 other Legionnaires on a personal visit to the White House to meet with the President of the United States, and he would be present later in the meeting. (Chairman Forrester arrived at 2:30 and assumed the Chair.)

The Chair called on Editor LaBonne to read into the minutes the memorial resolution honoring Liaison Committee member Lionel F. Dugas (CT), who passed away January 18, 1987. By voice vote, the Commission unanimously approved the resolution and directed that it be presented to the family of Legionnaire Dugas.

The Chairman introduced new members of the Magazine Commission and Magazine

Commission Liaison Committee: J. Leslie Brown, Jr. (KY); Neal L. Thomas (CO); Richard W. Anderson (CT); Lloyd Higginson (CA); and Jerry A. Kautzer (WI).

Publisher Daniel S. Wheeler was recognized by the Chair for the purpose of a report, the substance of which follows:

PERSONNEL—With the addition of Don Thomson, the Advertising Manager, the Magazine staff is at full strength. We have a highly motivated staff of professionals who share that rare chemistry of compatibility that fosters teamwork and mutual emphasis on producing the highest-quality magazine possible.

The administrative workload continues to run heavy, but our growing efficiency as a result of the recently installed computer system is beginning to alleviate that workload. As we gain additional knowledge of the capabilities of the system, our administration burden should continue to decrease concomitantly.

PAPER—Thomas H. Mayer, Vice President of Clayton International, working with the Commission and staff, has resolved the defective paper problem we discussed at our meeting in Danville, Ky., during the National Convention. Mayer secured the full \$606,000 refund for the standard stock, and was responsible for negotiating two price reductions so far in 1987. The markets for both cover and body paper continue to be soft; consequently, we are experiencing no difficulty in obtaining sufficient quantities of the grades of paper required.

POSTAGE—The House Post Office and Civil Service Committee will begin hearings soon concerning the level of funding of postal subsidies for nonprofit organizations. Those hearings also will consider whether or not some profit-making groups, such as small newspapers, should be allowed to join the ranks of non-profits, which would result in an increase for all non-profits. In the meantime, postal costs are stable, and we do not expect an increase during 1987.

PRINTING—We continue to be extremely pleased with the high quality of service from R. R. Donnelley & Sons. They have provided assistance in many areas outside the direct printing of the Magazine, such as with label production. With their assistance, we've reached an agreement with Intellitek in Louisville to print the labels for the Magazine in 1987 at a cost savings to the Legion.

BUDGET—In 1986, The American Legion Magazine finished the year under budget by \$73,500. We expect an equally good year in 1987.

ADVERTISING—Advertising efforts continue to produce record revenues, resulting in \$3,709,000 in ad sales in 1986. Our advertising goal for 1987 is \$4.3 million.

* * *

The Chairman recognized Craig Nagel, Manager of Nationwide Papers Inc., the supplier of the Magazine's cover stock, who assured the Commission that Nationwide will continue to offer favorable pricing on all its stocks of paper and will continue to provide the Magazine with a substantial back-up in the paper market should our primary source of supply be interrupted.

The Chair recognized Don Thomson, Advertising Manager, for the purpose of a report, and he reported the following:

"We've realized several significant achievements this year, thanks mainly to the excellent performance of Fox Associates. They're out there working for us, and you can see the results.

"While we are moving gradually toward increased general advertising, the facts and figures of direct marketing advertising present a strong argument for maintaining that kind of advertising. For example, many direct marketing experts estimate that the 1986 sales volume generated by direct mail has exceeded \$100 billion—with one-fifth of all goods sold in the United States being sold by direct marketing. This area offers continued strong potential, as The American Legion Magazine counts a number of those industries as leaders among its regular advertisers, such as Franklin Mint with \$400 million in sales, Ambassador with \$90 million, and Hanover House with \$250 million annually.

"Although 95 percent of our present advertising sales comes from direct marketers, we are only scratching the surface of this industry, since experts say that there are more than 150,000 companies now engaged in selling their products by mail. We've adopted a sales plan to promote and develop general advertising accounts while maintaining and increasing the

direct marketing advertising available from the better mail order accounts.

"The Publisher, Editor and I constitute an advertising review board that closely monitors, approves and disapproves every advertisement. Every advertiser is asked to submit his material before it is placed in the book, and those items or copy that do not meet the established standards are rejected. All ads are monitored with notation of any complaints, and those that create a problem are deleted from future issues.

"Our advertising goals this year are to gain greater recognition; to gain greater acceptance; and to gain greater prestige. When we achieve these goals, we also will have achieved greater advertising sales and revenues."

The Chair recognized Marlys Fox, President and Sandy Barba, Vice President, of Fox Associates, Inc., who reported as follows:

"Much has happened in the past several months. In August we received the final results of our SMRB Subscriber Study. It has become an invaluable sales tool. From this study, we developed numerous fact sheets concerning the demographics and lifestyles of our readers. These became an integral part of our media kit. And they went into one of the best-looking media kits we've ever seen. Those kits were newly developed by your advertising and production departments in Indianapolis. We have received many compliments about the kits, which visually present the Magazine as one that has to be considered by advertising professionals.

"We went on-line so that all major advertising agencies and their customers would have ready access to all pertinent data about The American Legion Magazine. This was a major step as it positioned us with all of America's major publications. Our company went on-line at the same time, which is a first for a publisher's representative firm. There is no other independent sales organization in America that has this capability.

"We have 16 dedicated professionals in six offices across the country selling advertising space for the Magazine. For the first six issues for which Fox Associates had sales responsibilities, we produced 75,618 lines, which is a 21.9 percent increase in linage. Translated to advertising revenue, this represents a 38 percent increase.

"For the first time in Magazine history, revenue will exceed \$1 million in the first quarter of 1987. This means we are on track with our Fiscal Year 1987 revenue goal of \$4.3 million."

The Chairman then presented a special plaque to Commission member and former Magazine Commission Chairman, Benjamin B. Truskoski, for 30 consecutive years' service to The American Legion Magazine Commission.

Following a brief address by Truskoski to the Commission, the Chair recognized Tom Mayer, Vice President, Clayton International, for the purpose of a report, which included the following:

"As your Publisher mentioned earlier, we currently are experiencing no difficulties in keeping you supplied with sufficient quantities of paper. We do not expect any kind of increase soon. We have, however, managed to produce two price reductions. The first is to a net price of \$36.75 cwt, and the second to \$35.60 cwt. These reductions are effective March 31st and both figures reflect net-after discounts."

The Chair recognized Andrew H. Allen, Sales Representative for R. R. Donnelley & Sons Company, who reported the following:

"I continue to be amazed at the superlative working relationship between The American Legion Magazine and R. R. Donnelley. I never worry about getting material late . . . most often it's early. Bill Poff and Dan Wheeler are two of those rare professionals who know both the printing and the production ends of the business, which makes my job considerably easier and certainly more enjoyable. We have a high-quality relationship—yours is one of the finest magazines of its kind being published in one of the finest printing companies in the world, and I hope we can maintain that relationship."

Chairman Forrester recognized Executive Section Chairman J. H. Morris for the purpose of a report concerning Executive Section actions.

Morris reported that the Executive Section recommended approval of a resolution to renegotiate the existing contract with Fox Associates, Inc., for the purposes of coinciding that contract term with the fiscal year of The American Legion Magazine, and to institute appropriate incentives for outstanding performance. Said resolution, authorizing the Publisher and Magazine Commission Chairman, with advice and counsel of the National Judge Advocate, to renegotiate a contract incorporating the above provisions with Fox Associates,

Inc. for execution by the National Commander, is to be prepared prior to the May NEC meetings for presentation to the National Finance Commission and the National Executive Committee.

Ralph L. Smith (OK) moved that the Commission recommend approval of the resolution, and James Conway (MA) and Donald Conn (IN) seconded the motion, which was carried.

The Executive Section also recommended approval of a resolution to rescind obsolete resolutions concerning The American Legion Magazine. Said resolution is to be prepared and presented to the National Executive Committee at the May meetings.

George G. Sinopoli (CA) so moved, and James R. Kelley (PA) and Dr. James D. Shafer (PA) seconded, and the motion was carried.

Finally, the Executive Section recommended that the Commission approve an extension of both the Clayton International, Inc. and Nationwide Papers Inc. contracts for one year. The motion was made by George G. Sinopoli (CA), seconded by Donald Conn (IN), and carried.

Chairman Forrester recognized Editor Mike LaBonne for the purpose of a report, a copy of which is attached.

The Publisher distributed a copy of the Magazine's proposed MBO goals for 1987, and the Commission approved the plan.

The business of the day having been completed, and having no further business, The American Legion Magazine Commission adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Summary of Actions Taken

- Recommended approval of a resolution to renegotiate the existing contract with Fox Associates, Inc. for the purposes of coinciding that contract term with the fiscal year of The American Legion Magazine, and to institute appropriate incentives for outstanding performance. Said resolution authorizing the Publisher and Magazine Commission Chairman, with advice and counsel of the National Judge Advocate, to renegotiate said contract to be prepared prior to the May meetings for presentation to the National Finance Commission and the National Executive Committee.
- Recommended approval of a resolution to rescind obsolete resolutions concerning The American Legion Magazine. Said resolution to be prepared and presented to the National Executive Committee at the May meetings.
- Endorsed American Legion Magazine MBO plan for 1987-91, subject to alterations considered necessary by the administration of The American Legion.
- Recommended that the current contract with Clayton International, for the purpose of supplying body paper to The American Legion Magazine, be extended for one year, as per existing conditions already outlined in present contract.
- Recommended that the current contract with Nationwide Inc., for the purpose of supplying cover paper to The American Legion Magazine, be extended for one year, as per existing conditions already outlined in the present contract.
- Commended Thomas H. Mayer of Clayton International for his efforts in securing a \$606,000 refund for defective paper, and for negotiating two price reductions in March 1987—the first to a net price of \$36.75 cwt, and the second (effective March 30) to \$36.50 cwt (both figures being net after discounts).

Report of Michael D. LaBonne, Editor

Good morning, gentlemen. On behalf of the editorial staff I thank you for your continued support; for standing behind us; for being so available to lend a hand; and for providing the guidance that is helping us publish one of the best general-interest, and certainly the finest veterans' magazine, in the nation.

We're extremely proud of the Magazine and, as you can see by the February issue, our product is steadily improving. We work hard to ensure continued improvement. To produce a magazine like ours takes considerable individual and group effort and coordination, with special emphasis on the group, the team.

We have a highly motivated team and we practice what we preach concerning coordinated efforts. For example, as Dan said, the editorial staff meets every morning at 8:15, and the entire magazine staff meets every Wednesday in the publisher's office. In addition to these regularly scheduled meetings, we eat lunch together every day, and we make it a point every day to know what's going on in each other's department. This contributes to a steady infusion of story, art, layout and design ideas that helps keep problems to a minimum and helps us improve the product.

Another avenue through which we gather ideas to improve the Magazine is my visits to the Legion's Washington office about every six weeks, where I meet with the directors of VA&R, Legislative, NS/FR, and Economics. This exchange of ideas keep us abreast of significant legislation on Capitol Hill that could effect our readers.

Questionnaires to a randomly selected group of 500 Legionnaires twice a year also help us re-examine, redefine and refine our editorial product . . . we're about ready to mail the next batch of questionnaires, and we hope to have the results of that survey for you when we meet in San Antonio.

Another useful gauge to help maintain the high standards we impose on ourselves and to meet the information needs of our readers is letters to the editor. Many of our readers are as sharply attuned as we are to the kinds of articles we should be publishing. When their ideas show promise, we research them ourselves. Often their ideas lead to an article. We also get letters from our readers that tell us we're doing a good job.

We think we're doing a good job for our readers, and we try to enhance their interest by frequently incorporating new features such as *What's Right With America* and *Know Your America*. We'll add another new feature this fall that should garner high readership: Medal of Honor winners and a brief narrative of the combat actions that lead to their awards.

While we enjoy hearing we're doing a good job, we love it even more when the Magazine is tapped for national recognition. We learned just before coming to Washington that *The American Legion Magazine* was rated fourth in the top 100 markets for free-lance non-fiction writing by *Writers Yearbook 87*, a publication of *Writer's Digest*. The Digest surveyed hundreds of editors across the nation on 20 key issues, such as pay rates for authors, revision methods, how well we treat our authors, what rights we buy, and author's rights in the editing process. The significance of placing fourth out of 100 means that some of the best writers in the country will be sending us their work. Part of the success of editorial is having the best writers possible. While we currently have a very solid stable of top-notch writers, as a result of our high placement in *Writer's Yearbook*, we expect to see even more good writers come our way.

One upcoming attraction I think you'll find interesting—something we've been working on since the middle of last year—is our special Constitution issue set for September. It's an issue devoted exclusively to the most significant document ever forged by the minds of men. Among the dignitaries participating in this issue are President Reagan, who has agreed to write a 400-word intro; former chief justice Warren Burger; Supreme Court Justice William Brennan; syndicated columnist James J. Kilpatrick; and nationally and internationally known historians/educators/writers and journalists such as Michael Novak, Clarence B. Carson, Walter Berns, Vernon Pizer and many more. In that keepsake issue we'll show through narrative and period art the times in which the Constitution was created, and we'll run news clippings from 1787 that capture the social and political thoughts about this great document and the men who built it. Even our readers have a part in the special issue. Last October and November we asked our readers to tell us what they consider to be their most precious freedoms. Nearly 300 readers responded, from which we'll select perhaps two dozen for publication in the September issue. I think it will be a truly beautiful issue that will please our readers and give them something they can save and pass on to their grandchildren.

Although my area of concentration is editorial, I realize that editorial content alone does not guarantee success. I believe that the most difficult job any publication has is that of turning a looker into a reader. Dynamic, enticing, provocative typography turns lookers into readers. Typography is the single most important element inside a magazine . . . it's what gives a magazine its character and individuality. A magazine put together so well that the looker stops, picks it up and starts thumbing through it is a successful magazine. And the man on our staff who is primarily responsible for creating the typographical magic that makes our

magazine what it is our art editor . . . Simon Smith. Most of you have not met him, but I think it's important that you know about him . . . he's mostly responsible for the "new look" of The American Legion Magazine.

And his job is not an easy one. During one of our planning sessions, he explained to me that The American Legion Magazine is a difficult magazine to design because it's a news magazine, a general-interest magazine and a magazine for Legionnaires. It's three magazines in one and each has its own feelings. Also in that breakdown are Legionnaires representing four different wars . . . both men and women, young and old, rich and poor, educated and barely functional, ad infinitum . . . and Simon has to take these disparate elements, combine them with editorial, advertising and graphics and build a compatible magazine relevant to all, welcomed by all and read by all.

When Simon builds an issue, he has to develop variation in the book, along with a sense of consistency, so he incorporates repetitive grids, bars, light rules around features, initial caps, and heads, decks and callouts that carry their own weight against color and photos.

For this magazine to survive in a highly competitive race for readers' attention, Simon said we must look contemporary, we must look like we're addressing the 80s, and we must look like a magazine of an organization that is addressing national issues. Through the use of bold typography, Simon has infused emotion and energy into The American Legion Magazine, along with consistency, cleanliness and variation . . . all elements that must be present in a successful magazine of the 80s.

To help him maintain this look, Simon deals with every major photo agency in New York, Chicago and California, plus many regional agencies. He has only one week to find and order all the art for one issue of the Magazine, which makes it extremely important that he know these markets. He has to know what's out there and what's available. Beginning this year, we're sending him to New York and other graphics centers to conduct first-hand research on what material is available, and to meet in person the people he's been doing business with during the past couple of years. The contacts he makes, and the money he saves through research and the knowledge of what's available will ultimately pay for his visits.

We coordinate with Simon to ensure we're all on the same train traveling in the same direction, and to inform him of any political considerations or legal ramifications surrounding articles and graphics. Outside of those areas, he has a free hand to design The American Legion Magazine, and I think he does a great job.

That completes my presentation. I'll be happy to answer any questions. Thank you.

. . . The printed Report of The American Legion Magazine Commission is as follows:

**Report of
THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE COMMISSION
to the
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 6, 1987
Milford A. Forrester (SC), Chairman**

The American Legion Magazine Commission expects The American Legion Magazine to enjoy an excellent year in 1987 as we move toward attainment of our revenue and editorial goals. Several significant developments have transpired since our previous report, which we shall address as follows.

We continue to enjoy an excellent rapport with R. R. Donnelley & Sons, our printer in Danville, Ky. We believe the quality of printing is as good or better than it has been in many years, and Donnelley's people are working closely with us to maintain quality printing while containing costs as much as possible. One area in which steps have been taken to curtail expenses has been in the use of two-color accent pages. This was achieved by accepting a slightly different blue than previously used, and by selecting a more purplish dark red. This was effected by using two inks, instead of the previous three, which will result in a savings of more than \$25,000. While we preferred the marooner red and the richer blue, we didn't prefer them \$25,000 worth, which frees money for more noticeable improvements.

The paper market, both body and cover, continues to be "soft." Although the body market is much softer than the cover market, we have experienced decreased expenses in both, which

have offset to a great extent the cost of increased paper usage to accommodate publication of an increase in advertising pages.

The paper we are receiving from Bowater (body) and Nationwide (cover) has been of consistently high quality, and we have experienced no manufacturing problems which would be considered unusual. Both sheets run well and contribute to publication of a magazine that compares favorably from an aesthetics viewpoint with most currently on the market.

The American Legion's professional relationship with Clayton International and with Nationwide Papers, Inc. is excellent, and all shipments of paper are on time and delivered in the quantities ordered. We continue to carry a two-month inventory in both stocks, which we consider to be prudent management even in a period of ample quantity.

Postal rates are stable and we do not expect an increase during 1987; however, USPS is pushing for a substantial rate increase in early 1988. Initial indications are that the increase, if approved, would amount to at least 15% and, perhaps, as much as 20%. We shall continue to monitor this situation and keep you informed as conditions unfold.

The NBI system, which was installed in the Magazine last year, has proven to be a most welcome addition. A great many administrative functions have now been computerized, resulting in greater efficiency, effectiveness and a freeing-up of time for more productive pursuits. We are currently computerizing routine advertising functions, which for decades have been handled on 3 x 5 cards and file folders.

A welcome discovery was that we have the equipment to network with all six of our Publisher's Representatives offices, and we are in the process of doing that. The cost: about \$50 set-up charges and telephone expenses for each hour of usage. We believe the computer time on the phone will be greatly offset by a reduction in regular long-distance telephoning.

We are also researching electronic publishing. The proper system for the Magazine would permit transmission of editorial material directly to our typesetter, thereby saving the cost of typesetter proofreading and keystroking, as well as the expense of most of our authors' alterations. Our initial research indicates that there are systems available that could pay for themselves within three years in typesetting savings alone.

Once we have completed our research, we will recommend a system to the Management Review Board for its consideration and forwarding to the National Finance Commission and National Executive Committee. Current estimates lead us to believe that we could install electronic publishing for about \$50,000 plus the monthly maintenance fees of about \$500.

We expect to have our research complete in time to present a proposal during the October meetings.

The American Legion Magazine's number 4 ranking by *Writer's Digest* in its recent survey has received attention in the trade media. A copy of a recent *FOLIO Magazine* article regarding this is attached for your information.

Also of interest is that the May 1987 issue of the *Reader's Digest* features a reprint on its cover of a recent American Legion Magazine article by Gary Bauer, Undersecretary of Education. This kind of publicity helps position the Legion Magazine as it needs to be to continually increase its share of the advertising market.

At this point, advertising revenue exceeds \$2,000,000—up from \$1,150,000 in 1986—with seven issues yet to be produced in 1987. We expect to well exceed our budget figure of \$4,000,000 in total revenue and, in fact, to surpass 1986's advertising revenue by \$1,000,000. Results thus far show marked improvements on the previous five years, and we expect—and are working toward—even more dramatic improvements for the remainder of this year.

To effect this, we have become extremely goal oriented throughout our office staff and the entire sales force. We are constantly improving our sales tools and our relationships with advertisers. Every other month we send helpful information to current advertisers, such as the Cahner's Report, a copy of which is attached.

This particular Cahner's Report addresses the "summer slump" widely recognized and believed in the advertising world. It says it just ain't so in the Legion Magazine, or many others. We don't know what direct effect that mailing may have had on any of our advertisers, but we do know that after mailing that information in February, our June 1987 issue closed with revenues exceeding \$400,000—up from \$250,000 last year—making it the highest month of summer revenue, by far, we have ever experienced.

Fox Associates continues to call on major Defense Contractors, and every one has been

receptive to the Legion's story. Although their budgets are allocated for this year, several—such as Lockheed and Boeing—have expressed definite interest in trying to find a fit for 1988 in the Legion Magazine.

Our relationship with Fox Associates is excellent, and we are recommending that a new contract for 1987 be approved for a one year duration. A copy of the Resolution to effect this has been submitted, and we urge your approval.

Another Resolution, which would rescind four obsolete resolutions concerning policies and procedures of The American Legion Magazine, is being submitted for your approval.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the National Executive Committee for your continued support and guidance. Your confidence in our ability to make The American Legion Magazine into one of the finest publications available from any organization has been instrumental to our success thus far, and we eagerly look forward to even higher levels of accomplishment.

MR. HARRELL, Georgia: Move the Report be received and filed.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Sheeks, Indiana.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Any discussion?

MR. WATERS, District of Columbia: Would this publication lend itself to use in our libraries?

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN FORRESTER: Yes, sir, but it will be that each member is going to get a copy, without any additional copies.

MR. WATERS: Distribution to Public Libraries?

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN FORRESTER: Yes, sir.

I didn't intend to take all your time, but since we got involved in that, I would like for the publisher to come up and tell us what we are going to have with this.

PUBLISHER DANIEL WHEELER: You are talking about the contents, the contents of the issue. Why didn't you tell me you wanted me to do this?

We have been working on this issue with The Americanism Division for about the past year. We have tried to cover articles which will explain from the inception of the idea of a Constitution all the way through the debate about the Constitution, and on through the Bill of Rights.

We have the articles by some of the most prominent historians in the country, and other scholars, as well as some free lance journalists who have been researching this subject.

We are hoping, and we have been promised by the President, that we will have a letter to his fellow Legionnaires on the opening page of this issue.

We have an introduction by the Chairman of the Americanism Commission. This issue will have a gatefold cover on it, which is a cover that like you so often see with automobile advertisements that opens up.

We have a specialized design piece of art being done for this issue of the magazine, and we are still working on trying to sell the advertising part, but we know we will have the editorial part.

The issue at this time looks like it will run anywhere from 80 to 92 pages, depending on the amount of advertising that actually ends up in the issue, and we think it is going to be one of the best issues that The American Legion has ever put out.

It is the only theme issue that we have ever put out, and we have a number of specially commissioned pieces of and by a photographer, and will be a lot of color, but it will be something that you will be proud to show to a member when you are talking about The American Legion, to put in schools and libraries and institutions about the State.

Just to make sure, if I may, on these free copies: Any Department that requests copies, we are happy to send them up to 100 copies at no charge whatsoever—no shipping. This includes the Foreign Departments as well.

If a Foreign Department, for the sake of getting these copies as expeditiously as possible, would like to be able to just pick them up at the National Convention, we would be happy to have them shipped there by the National Convention Commission, and any Foreign Department could come by and pick up whatever number they wanted so they could have them when they went back to their home country, their home Department.

If you want more than 100 copies, the charge is 30¢ a copy, and you pay the shipping, and you will be billed for that additional shipping.

Any Post that wants extra copies should ideally coordinate it through the Department. We will not supply gratis copies to Posts, although we are supplying them to the Departments.

If a Post wished to order copies directly, we have no problem whatsoever with him sending in a request into Americanism Division, saying how many copies they want and sending a check for 30¢ per copy.

MR. WATERS: Washington?

Is that over and above?

MR. WHEELER: It is not a supplement, it is just the September issue which has been designated a special Constitution commemorative issue. Every member will get one, and you will get all your regular standing orders. If you want extras, you should ask for them.

MR. GRIBBEN, West Virginia: The reason Mr. Forrester was making this clarification was that there was a letter to the Adjutant stating that there was a July 1 deadline and the price was 30¢. This morning it was announced that it was June 1, and it was a quarter.

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN FORRESTER: We spoke with the NEC-man from Delaware and we worked out the cost, and we were not aware of what that letter said, and that is why we told you 35, and rather than send out a clarification letter, we left it at 30.

And then we take the 3¢ loss.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Any other questions?

Motion has been made to receive and file with the exception of the disposition of the resolutions and it has been seconded. Now, are there any other remarks? Any other discussion? If not, all those in favor signify by saying Aye; those opposed Nay.

The report is adopted.

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN FORRESTER: Mr. Commander, I would like to conclude by thanking you, our Finance Commission, our National Officers, and all the various American Legion Divisions for your continued assistance and support.

The headway we have made would not have been possible without such a great team on our side.

Let me say this, the publisher and the magazine has a great team. They have a meeting of the staff every morning. Everybody has input. We are full up on staff. We are making money. That is news. Keep on working with us, and I will guarantee you we will make some money. Thank you.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank the staff for working on this project. Thank you very much.

**REPORT OF THE
RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE
FOLLOWING THE REPORT
OF THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE COMMISSION**

... Resolution Subcommittee Chairman Stone submitted the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Resolution No. 1 is a house-keeping resolution rescinding the American Legion Magazine Commission's Non-Legislative Policy Resolutions.

**Rescinding of American Legion Magazine Commission
Non-Legislative Policy Resolutions**

Res. No. 1 (Submitted by: The American Legion Magazine Commission)

WHEREAS, In accordance with resolutions of the 1959 and 1960 National Convention, the National Executive Committee, through its Program Study Committee, has caused to be made a review of all non-legislative policy resolutions, and such action has been taken in further conference with the action of the 1936 National Convention which established policy on the life of such resolution; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion Magazine Commission has concluded an extensive review of National Executive Committee and National Convention resolutions relating to The American Legion Magazine from the 1919 through 1986; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana on May 6-7, 1987, That the following resolutions be and they are hereby rescinded by reason of one or more of the following: (1) being obsolete, (2) accomplishment of purpose, (3) being superseded by later resolutions, (4) being in conflict with later resolutions, (5) being duplicated by later resolutions, (6) having no value because of later changes in programs, (7) being not cost effective, and (8) impossible to accomplish under current law:

Resolution appeared in NEC Digest, page 5, January 13, 1928, which interalia establishes the size of The American Legion Magazine at no less than 80 pages per month.

Resolution appeared in NEC Digest, Page 2, November 20, 1933, which provides for publication of financial statement of The American Legion in each monthly issue.

Resolution No. 125, NEC, May 1947, which mandates publication of entire Legislative Bulletin in each issue of The American Legion Magazine.

Resolution No. 56, NEC, November 1949, which provides that Posts may be allowed to solicit and sell American Legion Magazine subscriptions and share in resulting revenue.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: I move the Resolution be approved.

... The motion was seconded by National Vice Commander Donald Neil, Delaware, and carried.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Resolution 14 is being read under Rule 8 A of this body.

May the record show that it is being read on May 6, 1987 at 2:59 P.M.

**American Legion Magazine Advertising Contract with
Fox Associates, Inc. of Chicago, Illinois**

Res. No. 14 (Submitted by: American Legion Magazine Commission)

WHEREAS, The current contract with The American Legion's Publisher's Representative for advertising sales, Fox Associates, Inc. of Chicago, Illinois, will expire on May 14, 1987; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion Magazine Commission, meeting in regular session on February 10-11, 1987, in Washington, D.C. expressed its desire that Fox Associates, Inc. should continue to serve as The American Legion's Publisher's Representative for advertising sales; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion Magazine Commission did authorize the Publisher/Editor-in-Chief and The American Legion Magazine Commission Chairman, with advice and counsel of the National Judge Advocate, to negotiate a new contract with Fox Associates, Inc. for the period May 15, 1987 through November 30, 1987, with appropriate provisions for subsequent one-year renewals, such contract to contain appropriate commission incentives for outstanding performance; and

WHEREAS, The National Finance Commission has reviewed and recommended approval of the recommendations of The American Legion Magazine Commission; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, That it does hereby grant approval for entering into a contract, containing appropriate commission incentives for outstanding performance, with Fox Associates, Inc. of Chicago, Illinois, for the purpose of soliciting advertising throughout the United States for The American Legion Magazine on a non-exclusive basis for the period of May 15, 1987 through November 30, 1987, with appropriate provision for one-year renewals; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the National Commander be and he is hereby authorized to execute the said contract when approved as to terms and conditions by the National Judge Advocate, and the National Adjutant be and is hereby authorized and directed to attest the same.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: We will read this resolution tomorrow morning.

COMMANDER'S GIFT

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Before calling the next Chairman to the podium, the National Commander would like to announce there is a gift to all the Members of the National Executive Committee and Alternates who are present, if they will stop by the Commander's Office at your convenience.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The next Chairman is the Chairman of the Internal Affairs Commission, Herman G. Harrington of New York.

**REPORT OF
INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
Herman G. Harrington, Chairman, New York**

Thank you, Mr. Commander, Members of the NEC and friends.

The Internal Affairs Commission met the last couple of days to discuss the responsibilities assigned to that Commission by The American Legion. I do not plan to read the report to you, but will touch on only a few of the highlights.

The Internal Affairs Commission does appreciate the interest, assistance and attendance at the Commission meetings of the NEC Liaison Committee members assigned to that Commission. Those members are:

Robert A. Tart (NC), Chairman
Talmage C. Carawan (MD)
Ernesto P. Golez (Philippines)

Charles Pat Smith (CO)
W. P. (Bill) Petersen (MT)

The M&PA Committee reports separately to this body and membership resolutions recommended for approval by the Internal Affairs Commission will be presented at the end of this report.

**Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Committee
Sons of The American Legion**

The reports presented by the Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Committee and the Sons of The American Legion are attached to your report and can be read at your convenience. An addendum regarding the disposition of SAL resolutions is also attached to your report.

Paid Up For Life

The Ad Hoc Committee, appointed by National Commander James P. Dean, to study the PUFL Program, met twice during the year and the final report of that study is attached to your report as an addendum for your consideration.

National Leadership Workshops

The Subcommittee discussed the following topics:

1. 1987 Calendar of meetings
2. 1988 Calendar of Meetings
3. Format
4. Program Sessions
5. Theme for 1987
6. Distribution of Promotional materials
7. Roosevelt Center for American Policy Studies

The 1987 National Leadership Workshops' format will be basically the same as it has been

in recent years and the sites and dates for the 1987 and 1988 meetings are included in your report.

The last two years, Public Relations ran a training session, but their Commission has recommended that this be suspended, beginning with the 1987 series of meetings. In place of a separate session, Public Relations will be provided a segment of time on each of the participating programs for a presentation.

Family Benefits Plan

We continue to seek new corporate sponsors for the Family Benefits Plan and currently we have agreements with the following companies: Allstate Motor Club, American Red Ball, Atlas Van Lines, Avis Rent-A-Car, Days Inn, LaQuinta Motor Inns, Marriott, National Car Rental, Ramada Inns, Sea World, Rodeway Inns, Thrifty Rent-A-Car and United Van Lines.

The dates of the National Membership Workshop are listed in your report on page 4 and are tentative at this time, and will be finalized at a later date.

In response to suggestions by the workshop attendees, we will be testing the feasibility of utilizing facilities outside the National Headquarters building. The first Workshop will be held at the Hilton At-The-Circle.

The second Workshop will be held at the National Headquarters building as was the case previously. At the end of each Workshop, staff will conduct an evaluation and report the results back to the National Membership and Post Activities Committee and the Internal Affairs Commission.

As was done last year, the various Departments will negotiate their 1988 membership goals with the National Commander during the Membership Workshops in July.

Direct Marketing Report DMS

The DMS Program continues to be successful and a most vital instrument in membership acquisition. To date, the DMS Program has acquired more than 172,000 1987 members and we expect this figure to reach at least 190,000. The expected 190,000 new 1987 members, when added to the number of new members acquired the past two years, gives us a three year total of 433,000 Legion members acquired through the DMS Program. Plans for the 1988 DMS Program include testing a direct response TV commercial, direct response magazine ads, a credit card insert package and various copy and package tests.

Revenue Enhancement

A 1987 American Legion calendar was the only product tested during the 1987 year. This test was conducted in ten (10) Departments and consisted of four phases. Phase I (The Product Offer); Phase II (First Follow-up); Phase III (Second Follow-up); have been completed. Phase IV (Third Follow-up) is scheduled to drop May 15, 1987.

The program is again proving successful and will be expanded to include another ten (10) Departments for 1988. The 1988 Revenue Enhancement Program will also include new product offerings. They are: Christmas Cards, All-occasion cards, return address labels, calendars, and a combination of cards and labels in one package.

Direct Renewal

The 1988 Direct Renewal schedule has been adjusted to allow three months between mailings since the two months between renewal notices used for 1987 did not allow sufficient time for members' dues to reach National Headquarters.

Resolutions

The Commission considered 15 resolutions: 6 have been recommended for approval; two

recommended for "Hold for further study;" three recommended for referral to National Security; one recommended for "receive and record" and three recommended for "rejection."

Conclusion

Mr. Commander and Members of the National Executive Committee, we of the Internal Affairs Commission sincerely appreciate all of the assistance given to our Commission and for this opportunity to appear before you and serve you.

I might add, Mr. Commander, that it has certainly been a personal privilege for me to have been permitted to work with you this year.

. . . The printed Report of the Internal Affairs Commission is as follows:

INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
Report to
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
THE AMERICAN LEGION
May 6, 1987
Herman G. Harrington (NY), Chairman

Chairman Herman G. Harrington (NY) called an executive section of the Internal Affairs Commission to order at 10:00 a.m., May 4, 1987, Room 207, 2nd floor, Indianapolis Headquarters, Indianapolis, Indiana.

The following Commission members were present:

D. Ed Grove (AK)	A. V. Patterson, Jr. (LA)
John M. Tyson (AL)	George K. Walker (MA)
J. W. Steinsiek (AR)	F. Douglas Johnson (MD)
Bryant B. Barron (AZ)	Donald V. Gray (MN)
Neale V. Cabral (CT)	John P. Tipping (NY)
Ray Hendrix (GA)	Herman G. Harrington (NY)
Dr. Robert C. McDonough (IA)	Thomas E. Fish (SC)
Larry J. Besson (IL)	C. G. Norton (TN)
Robert Osos (IN)	C. Lynn Steward (TX)

Internal Affairs Commission Liaison Committee members present were:

Robert A. Tart (NC), Chairman	Charles Pat Smith (CO)
Talmage C. Carawan (MD)	W. P. (Bill) Petersen (MT)
Ernesto P. Golez (Philippines)	

Membership and Post Activities Committee

The Membership and Post Activities Committee will report separately to this body. Membership resolutions recommended for approval by the Internal Affairs Commission will be given to the National Executive Committee at the end of this report.

Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Committee

Earl D. Franklin, Jr. (CO), Chairman, presented the committee report, which is attached to this report.

Sons of The American Legion

The report of the Sons of The American Legion is also attached to this report. We commend the Sons of The American Legion as they continue with another successful year in

membership. An addendum reporting the disposition of resolutions of the Sons of The American Legion is attached to this report.

Paid-Up-For-Life

In accordance with Resolution 336, titled "Review National Paid-Up-For-Life Program," approved by The American Legion at National Convention, Cincinnati, Ohio, September 2-3-4, 1986, National Commander James P. Dean appointed an Ad-Hoc Committee to study the PUFL Program. The complete report was presented to the Internal Affairs Commission and is attached as an Addendum to this report for your consideration.

National Leadership Workshops

The Subcommittee discussed the following topics:

1. 1987 calendar of meetings
2. 1988 calendar of meetings
3. Format
4. Program sessions
5. Theme for 1987
6. Distribution of promotional materials
7. Roosevelt Center for American Policy Studies

1987 Calendar of Meetings

Region	Host Department	Dates
8	Idaho	9/11-13
1	Maine	9/11-13
3	Florida	9/18-20
6	North Dakota	9/18-20
2	Virginia*	9/25-27
4	Mississippi	9/25-27
5	Indiana	10/2-4
7	Nevada**	10/2-4

*The established rotation schedule technically identifies the Department of District of Columbia as host for 1987. They asked Virginia (who accepted) to replace them as host.

**In Region #7 each year, the Department who is technically the host, as designated by the fixed schedule, yields to the Department of Nevada to replace them as host. This has been the pattern for the past several years, but nothing prevents the scheduled Department to serve as host if they choose to do so.

1988 Calendar of Meetings

Region	Host Department	Dates
1	Vermont	9/16-18
8	Washington	9/16-18
3	Georgia	9/24-25
6	South Dakota	9/23-25
2	Maryland	9/30-10/2
5	Ohio	9/30-10/2
4	Arkansas	10/14-16
7	Nevada**	10/14-16

**Same as previously noted above

Format

The 1987 format will be basically the same as it has been in recent years. That is, there are three primary segments of each of the eight workshops and these are:

1. Opening General Session on Friday evening followed by a reception for all of the attendees.
2. Separate Program Sessions scheduled for all day Saturday.
3. Memorial Service and a Closing General Session will be conducted on Sunday. Adjournment will be prior to NOON.

Program Sessions

For 1987, the Legion programs that will be running separate sessions on Saturday are: 1. Americanism; 2. Children & Youth; 3. Membership; and 4. Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation. The last two years, Public Relations also ran a training session, but their Commission has recommended that this be suspended, beginning with the 1987 series of meetings. In place of a separate session, Public Relations will be provided a segment of time on each of the participating programs for a presentation. Also, with space permitting, a meeting room will be set aside at each hotel on Saturday afternoon for persons to meet with the Public Relations representative to discuss one-on-one questions.

Theme for 1987

In reality, each of the eight Workshops is several separate meetings because of the active participation by the various programs.

The Opening and Closing Sessions help tie the Workshop together, and to further unify the separate parts into one overall entity, the development of a theme is utilized.

For 1987, it is appropriate to relate the theme to the 200th anniversary of the U.S. Constitution. In addition, the posters, brochures, and Workshop Pin will carry a patriotic-styled look.

Distribution of Promotional Materials

The brochures and posters are still being developed and will be available for distribution within the next 30-45 days. Distribution will be through: 1. Direct mail to last year's attendees; and 2. Bulk quantities mailed to each Department Adjutant and Secretary for subsequent use at conventions, meetings, etc.

Roosevelt Center

The Roosevelt Center is a non-profit, non-partisan public policy research institute whose goals are to clarify the policy choices before the nation and to encourage and facilitate the participation of citizens in the decision-making process at all levels of government.

At the 1987 Workshops, with space permitting, The American Legion will support this group in their effort to encourage a limited number of attendees to participate in a role-playing exercise they will be conducting.

This learning exercise takes about 2-2½ hours and could be one of the following projects:

1. Stopping and spread of nuclear weapons
2. Federal budget deficit
3. Central America
4. Food and agriculture
5. High-flex society

All of these projects are designed for active involvement by the attendees and are presented to challenge and cause a deepening awareness of national/international issues that impact individuals and societies.

Family Benefits Plan

The American Legion Family Benefits Plan was created to assist in the acquisition and retention of members while increasing the real and perceived value of every Legionnaire's card. Corporate sponsors of this plan offer a variety of discounts on hotel lodging, motor club membership, car rentals, and recreation parks.

At this time, discounts and services are being offered by the following companies: Allstate Motor Club, American Red Ball, Atlas Van Lines, Avis, Days Inn, La Quinta, Marriott, National Car Rental, Ramada, Sea World, Rodeway, Thrifty and United Van Lines.

Renewal agreements are being finalized at this time and preparation for new promotional materials are under way. A marketing strategy for the 1988 plan is in the final stages of executive review. It will be implemented upon its approval.

Efforts continue to seek potential new corporate sponsors in a greater variety of choices. Negotiations with existing corporate sponsors are ongoing to expand benefits and increase participation by our members.

National Membership Workshops

The 1987 National Membership Workshops will be held on July 23-24 and July 30-31. Two new items of interest will be implemented at this year's Workshops.

In response to suggestions by the workshop attendees, we will be testing the feasibility of utilizing facilities outside the National Headquarters building. The first Workshop (July 23-24) will be held at the Hilton At-the-Circle. The second Workshop (July 30-31) will be held at the National Headquarters building as was the case previously. At the end of each Workshop, staff will conduct an evaluation and report the results back to the National M&PA Committee and the Internal Affairs Commission.

The Workshop content will be presented in highly motivational style. Traditional information (program updates, new materials, etc.) will still be the heart of our curriculum; however, this material will be presented utilizing the theme "The Habit of Winning." This presentation style will also be evaluated (utilizing the attendees' evaluation sheets primarily). From these evaluations, a decision will be made as to the format of Workshops in future years.

Direct Marketing Report DMS

Over 21,000,000 DMS packages have been mailed for 1987 membership acquisition, resulting in over 175,000 new members for The American Legion.

Responses are continuing to come in from previous mailings and an additional 950,000 packages are still scheduled to be mailed for 1987 membership acquisition. With this in mind, we project that total 1987 DMS acquired members will exceed 190,000 by August 1, 1987.

Plans for the 1988 DMS program include testing a direct response TV commercial, direct response magazine ads, a credit card insert package and various copy and package tests.

Direct Renewal

Direct renewal notices for the 1987 membership year were mailed July 1, September 15, November 15, January 15 and March 15. Although successful, we found that two months between renewal notices does not allow sufficient time for members dues to reach National Headquarters.

The 1988 Direct Renewal schedule has been adjusted to better meet the needs of the Departments. It is as follows: First notice—July 1 or August 1 (Department's choice); second notice—November 1; third notice—January 4; final notice—March 7.

We will continue to use the renewal notice as a vehicle to promote Legion programs such as Family Benefits and Membership Awards. We are also studying the feasibility of adding foreign departments to Direct Renewal, but, as of yet, have not found a cost-effective method to accomplish this.

Revenue Enhancement

A 1987 American Legion calendar was the only product tested during the 1987 year. This test was conducted in ten (10) Departments and consisted of four phases. Phase I (the product offer); Phase II (first follow-up); Phase III (second follow-up) have been completed. Phase IV (third follow-up) is scheduled to drop May 15, 1987. The calendar mailing included an insert test consisting of coupons offering subscriptions and/or catalogs of leading magazines or merchandise offer. Results of the test were lower than originally projected, but do remain encouraging. Ideas are underway to explore a re-test of the concept in the future.

The program is again proving successful and will be expanded to include another ten (10) Departments for 1988. The 1988 Revenue Enhancement Program will also include new product offerings. They are: Christmas cards, all-occasion cards, return address labels, calendars, and a combination of cards and labels in one package.

Action on Resolutions

The following resolutions are recommended for approval:

Res. 13, Bequest to The American Legion

Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

RESOLVED . . . By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 6-7, 1987, That the National Organization is hereby authorized to accept said bequest to be used for the assistance of disabled veterans by allocation to the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation budget.

Res. 24, "Manual of Ceremonies" Change

Origin: Department of Texas

RESOLVED . . . By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, That The American Legion include in the "Manual of Ceremonies" a guide and ceremony to drape the Post Charter and that it be included in the "Post Officer's Guide" during the next revision.

Res. 25, Authorize Issuance of Temporary Charter to Foreign Posts

Origin: M&PA Committee

RESOLVED . . . By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, That the National Adjutant is authorized to issue temporary charters to the following Posts to be affiliated with the named Departments.

1. Camp Zama Post No. 60, located at Camp Zama, Japan, affiliated with the Department of Alaska.
2. New Philippine Scouts, Army of the United States Association in Panay Post No. 209, located in Iloilo City, Philippines, affiliated with Department of Philippines.
3. Puntarenas Post No. 15, located in Puntarenas, Costa Rica, affiliated with the Department of Panama Canal.

Res. 23, Transfer of The American Legion Energy Program to the National Security Commission of The American Legion

Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

RESOLVED . . . By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, That the Energy Program of The American Legion and responsibility for resolutions concerning energy issues and other related matters, is hereby assigned to the National Security Commission.

Res. 22, Support the Norman Rockwell Museum Fund Drive at Stockbridge, Massachusetts

Origin: Department of Massachusetts

RESOLVED . . . By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, That The American Legion Departments and Posts are encouraged to support this effort with assistance to carry this project to a successful completion.

Res. 21, Korean War Memorial

Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

RESOLVED . . . By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, That The American Legion will engage in a fund-raising activity to support the Korean War Memorial if a Legionnaire, who served in the Korean War only and recommended by The American Legion, is appointed to serve on the twelve member Advisory Board, and be it finally

RESOLVED . . . That all funds raised by The American Legion will be applied only to construction costs of the Korean War Memorial and will be forwarded to the American Battle Monuments Commission upon receipt of certified expenses for actual construction of the Korean War Memorial.

Recommendations for disposition of all unapproved resolutions will be found attached to this report.

CONCLUSION

Mr. Commander and members of the National Executive Committee, we of the Internal Affairs Commission appreciate all of the assistance given to our Commission and for this opportunity to appear before you and serve you.

Recommended Action—Received and Recorded

Res. No. 2161 (DEC-86 (OH))—Issue Commemorative Postage Stamp to Honor Captain Edward V. Rickenbacker.

Recommended Action—Hold for Further Study

Res. No. 2147 (DEC-85 (HI)) Transfer of Wayne E. Marchand Post No. 28, Okinawa, from Department of Hawaii to the Department of Philippines.

Res. No. 2122 (DEC-85 (Philippines)) Transfer of American Legion Post 28 from Department of Hawaii to Department of Philippines.

Recommended Action—Referred to National Security

Res. No. 33 (1986 Natl. Conv. (UT))—Urging Congress to Continue the Synthetic Fuels Programs.

Res. No. 32 (1986 Natl. Conv. (UT))—Energy Conservation.

Res. No. 2157 (DEC-86 (MN))—Create a National Committee on Energy and Conservation in The American Legion.

Recommended Action—Rejected

Res. No. 2163 (DEC-86 (VA))—Grant U.S. Residency for Madam Anne Brusselmans, a Belgian Heroine of World War II.

Res. No. 166 (1986 Natl. Conv. (OH))—Korean War Memorial

ADDENDUM
Internal Affairs Commission Report to
National Executive Committee
The American Legion
May 6, 1987
Disposition of Action of
Sons of The American Legion
National Executive Committee

In compliance with Resolution 21 entitled, "Establish Procedure for Handling Matters Originating from SAL National Conventions and SAL National Executive Committees," adopted by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion at its meeting April 30-May 1, 1973, this is to report disposition made by the Internal Affairs Commission of SAL actions taken at the meeting of the SAL National Executive Committee May 4, 1987, and at previous meetings.

Res. NEC F2-86—"Detachment Membership Awards" —APPROVED AS AMENDED
RESOLVED . . . By the Sons of The American Legion National Executive Committee in regularly convened meeting this 4th day of October, 1986, at the Airport Hilton in Indianapolis, Indiana, that the following membership awards be established for each of the five areas:

1. A plaque to be awarded at the National Convention annually to the first Detachment in each of the five areas to reach 100% of its previous year's membership as determined by records at National Headquarters.
2. A plaque to be awarded at the National Convention annually to the Detachment in each area that has the greatest percentage of increase over the previous year's membership by May 1, and be it further

RESOLVED . . . That these awards be placed into effect for the 1987 Convention, with funds for the payment of these awards for 1987 to be provided from the Membership Committee's existing budget, and be it further

RESOLVED . . . That future awards of this nature shall be funded through the request of the National Membership Committee's annual budget request submitted to the Finance Commission.

Res. NEC F-1-86—"Establishment of a National Missing Children Study Committee"
 —RECEIVED & RECORDED

Res. NC 5-86—"Opportunity to Enlist in the Armed Forces of the United States by Philippine Veterans' Descendants"
 —REJECT

Res. NC 4-86—"Opportunity to Work in the American Bases for Philippine Veteran Descendants"
 —REJECT

Res. NC 3-86—"Proposed 'Ten Ideals' Changes" —HOLD FOR FURTHER STUDY

Res. NEC S-3-87—"Sons of The American Legion Color Guard Contest"
 —HOLD FOR FURTHER STUDY

Res. NEC S-5-87—"Need for an Americanism Package" —REJECT

Res. NEC S-6-87—"National Executive Committee Meeting Schedule Change"
 —APPROVED

RESOLVED . . . By the National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, IN, this 2nd day of May, 1987, That the schedule of the Fall and Spring National Executive Committee Meetings be expanded to a two-day session with specific times to be established by the National Commander and be it further

RESOLVED . . . That this schedule be implemented for the 1987 Fall Meeting of the National Executive Committee or as soon thereafter as possible.

Report of
TROPHIES, AWARDS AND CEREMONIALS COMMITTEE
 to
INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
May 3-4, 1987

The Trophies, Awards & Ceremonials Committee met Sunday, May 3, 1987, at 2:00 p.m., in Room 313 at National Headquarters with the following members present:

Earl D. Franklin, Jr. (CO), Chairman	Randall W. Busch (NB)
Murray D. Barnes (AL)	Leonard Hoff (ND)
Jerald W. Ritenour (IA)	William L. Brown (NY)
William H. Schultz (IL)	Paul H. Drake (OH)
Joseph P. Donovan (IN)	Vernon K. Grosenick (WI)

The Minutes of the previous Trophies, Awards & Ceremonials Committee were approved.

National Commander James P. Dean (MS) arrived at 2:45 p.m., to bring greetings to the Committee. Commander Dean gave his recommendation for the Distinguished Service Medal Award. A motion was made by Vernon K. Grosenick (WI), seconded by William H. Schultz (IL), and unanimously approved to make the appropriate recommendation to the National Executive Committee for the Distinguished Service Medal Award.

New Business

There were ten (10) nominations considered for the Canadian Friendship Award. After review and discussion, a motion was made by William H. Schultz (IL), seconded by Randall W. Busch (NB), and unanimously carried that the following nominations be approved: Frederick T. Appleby (Canada); Tom Reynolds (Canada); Harold George Bowles (Canada); and James E. Buffam (Canada). NOTE: Mr. Buffam's name was submitted twice. The Committee accepted the nomination with the most documentation.

The Department of Maine and the Department of Washington each submitted two (2) nominations. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved that the two nominations from the respective Departments be returned for a determination as to which single nomination they desire to resubmit with the appropriate documentation for reconsideration by the Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Committee.

There were three (3) nominations considered by the Committee for the International Amity Awards. A motion was made by William H. Schultz (IL), seconded by William Brown (NY), and unanimously carried to approve the following nominations: Mary Jane Noreillie (Belgium); James Hector De Lisle Neilson (Australia); and Luis Gonzales Villa-Real (Phillippines).

Chairman Franklin and members of the Committee discussed a necessary amendment to Resolution No. 389 titled "Manual of Ceremonies" Change. A motion was made by Paul H. Drake (OH), seconded by Murray D. Barnes (AL), and unanimously carried to approve the Resolution as amended.

A motion was made by Gerald W. Ritenour (IA), seconded by Murray D. Barnes (AL), and unanimously carried to approve the "Unofficial Membership Awards".

The Committee also discussed looking into the possibility of making an addition to the Chaplain's Closing Prayer in the *Manual of Ceremonies*. This addition would remember the POW/MIA's. It was also suggested that another prayer (one that could be used before dinner, etc.) be added to the manual.

The meeting was recessed until 9:00 a.m., Monday, May 4, 1987.

The meeting of the Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Committee was reconvened at 9:00 a.m., Monday, May 4, 1987.

UNOFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

This year, target points and \$25 Gift Certificates were awarded to each Department equalling or surpassing their assigned target date goals. The points are accumulated and will determine winners of the National Commander's Team Plaque. Gift Certificates are accumulated and one for each Department will be awarded.

Early Bird Awards—Thirty-one (31) Departments qualified for Early Bird target points and gift certificates. They are: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Indi-

ana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Puerto Rico, and Panama Canal.

Midway to Success—Twenty (20) Departments qualified; they are: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, and Wisconsin.

Veterans Day Awards—The nineteen (19) Departments to qualify were: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, North Dakota, Ohio, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, and Wisconsin.

"Big Twelve" Target—Twenty (20) Departments qualified. They are: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, and Wisconsin.

"Big Twelve" Competition Winners—Category I—Minnesota and Indiana; Category II—Wisconsin and Florida; Category III—Kansas and Nebraska; Category IV—Arkansas and North Dakota; Category V—South Carolina and Alabama; Category VI—Delaware and Rhode Island.

American Legion Birthday Target—The American Legion Birthday Target was not reached by any Departments.

Gold Brigade Recruiter Award

A Legionnaire who recruits 50 or more new members by District Competition Target Date, May 1, 1987, will qualify for enrollment in the elite **Gold Brigade** of The American Legion. A total of 110 recruiters have been certified as of May 1, 1987. The combined number of new members recruited by Gold Brigade winners totals approximately 6,959 as of May 1, 1987.

Post Honor Ribbon: Post Honor Ribbons were shipped to 2,579 Posts whose 1987 membership as of December 31, 1986, exceeds 1986 membership.

Certificate of Meritorious Service: These certificates were awarded to 593 Posts for attaining a new All-Time High membership for 1987 by December 31, 1986.

Top District Commander Competition: Twenty (20) District Commanders received a walnut based American Legion Desk Clock and Pen set with engraved brass plate: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, and Wisconsin. These District Commanders received this award for attaining the highest percentage of increase over the District's 1986 total membership by The American Legion Birthday.

Department "Recruiter of the Year"—Each American Legion Post will have the opportunity to submit the name of the Recruiter who has signed up the highest number of New Members for that Post for the 1987 membership year by The American Legion Birthday, March 17, 1987. National Headquarters will supply certification forms to be completed by the Post Commander or Adjutant and submitted to Department Headquarters by April 1, 1987. Department Adjutants will determine the Top New Member Recruiter for their respective Departments and certify the winner to National Headquarters, postmarked on or before May 1, 1987.

The Top New Member Recruiter, properly certified from each Department, will be awarded a **State Outline Trophy** with his/her accomplishment inscribed thereon. As of May 1, 1987, thirty-four (34) Departments have certified a "Top New Member Recruiter."

National "Recruiter of the Year"—The individual certified with the highest number of New Members recruited from among all the Departments will be declared "National Recruiter of the Year."

ANNUAL SPRING REPORT
of the
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
to
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Internal Affairs Commission
May 4, 1987

1. INTRODUCTION

The National Organization of the Sons of The American Legion continues to grow in numbers and active programs. Membership as of April 29, 1987 is 74,445 members compared to 66,502 for the same time the year before, meaning an increase of 7,943 members. Our programs throughout our Organization are increasing in size, program participants and monetary donations. We have seen a tremendous rise in public awareness of the Sons of The American Legion through the efforts of members of our Organization and through publications from the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, which is National Commander Bible's Special Project.

The Rehabilitation program of the Sons of The American Legion is growing each year. National Commander Douglas Bible, of the Sons of The American Legion was able to present a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier during the Washington Conference. A group of seven SAL members were able to attend this prestigious event, of which we hope to continue.

The Spring meeting of the National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion was very successful. We had two guest speakers; Mr. Joseph Cimicata, the Program Manager for Clubs and Organizations for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation and Mr. John Hamparzomian, the Administrative Assistant for the Department of Illinois Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation. Both of these gentlemen gave a very informative talk to the members of the NEC, and the members of the NEC will in turn relate the information back to their individual Detachments.

The members of the National Executive Committee are striving to work hard to tie together the various Committees and Commissions. They are working on meeting plans to make our meetings more efficient and productive. The ideas that are brought forward by the members of the NEC have been very innovative and are incorporating the members throughout the Nation.

The programs of the Sons of The American Legion follow those of The American Legion. The members of the Sons of The American Legion are committed to assisting The American Legion, it's programs, and the veterans and also to making our communities, States and Nation a better place to live and learn.

2. SPRING NEC REPORT

On May 2, 1987 the National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American met for their Spring meeting at the Best Western Airport Inn at Indianapolis, IN. We had a total of 57 people present including 9 National Officers, 20 National Executive Committeemen, 6 Alternate National Executive Committeemen, 7 Past National Commanders, 9 members as guests and 6 nonmember guests. The meeting ran from 9:00 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

3. HIGHLIGHTS OF COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION REPORTS

Convention Committee: Plans are being made for the National Convention in San Antonio in August. It is recommended that all Detachments bring their colors and stands for the Convention. It was also recommended that members of the committee be made up of people from Detachments that will be hosting National Conventions in the near future.

Membership and Squadron Activities Committee: The membership committee discussed the increase of membership Nationwide and its future growth potential. One resolution, NEC S 4-87 "National Area Awards" was considered.

Make-A-Wish Committee: The committee discussed donations turned in so far this year. This year's donations total \$13,733.63 not including the \$2,500.00 to be donated at the National Convention.

National Commander's Special Awareness Committee: Changes in the requirements of the 10 Ideals Award was discussed, and hopefully the changes can be made for the next printing of the Squadron Handbook.

Color Guard Committee: There was much discussion regarding the SAL Color Guard contest. The committee felt that it would be best to follow the Legion's requirements with a minor exception. A resolution was considered to set up the guidelines for the contest. Also enclosed is a letter to the Convention Corporation.

Scholarship Committee: The scholarship committee felt that much work is needed to be done before the actual presentation of the scholarships will be made available. Acting Chairman Joe Mayne will definitely be in contact with Mr. Lee Hardy at National Headquarters for his guidance and considerations.

National Commander's Special Project Committee: The committee is very pleased with the activities that are being done throughout the country to help this very worthwhile project. The Juvenile Diabetes Foundation has been very helpful to the Squadrons, Districts and Detachments with materials and publicity. Commander Douglas Bible will be attending the Annual JDF Conference in Atlanta on May 28-30, 1987 where the supporting organizations of JDF will have booths on display and recognition will be made to the various organizations. Total donations recorded so far are \$4,322.55 not including the donation of \$2,500.00 to be made at the National Convention.

Children and Youth Committee: The Committee discussed the National Commanders and National Presidents campaign against drug abuse and felt that the SAL should help support in any way possible. A motion was made to purchase 1,000 Auxiliary coloring books and 500 "Say No to Drugs" buttons and have both items available to be given out at the National Convention.

Americanism Commission: The Americanism Commission discussed the feasibility of having an Annual Americanism packet to be made available to each Detachment Adjutant, Detachment Americanism Chairman and members of the National Americanism Commission. The packet would include: SAL Handbook, Americanism book, Know Your America, Flag Etiquette, Declaration of Independence/Constitution and Parliamentary Procedure pamphlet. The commission also brought up that they felt that there were no conflicts regarding a change in the 10 Ideals programs. The resolution is enclosed regarding the Americanism packet.

Internal Affairs Commission: The Internal Affairs Commission discussed the rushed amount of time that we have at the National Executive Committee meetings and felt that it is necessary to expand upon the allotted time due to the infrequency of our meetings and the work that needs to be accomplished during the NEC meetings. A resolution was presented.

Legislative Commission: The Legislative Commission members reviewed the resolutions from the Philippine Detachment and felt that they were in conflict with a foreign government and should not be involved.

Rehabilitation Commission: The commission members reviewed the work that has been done on Rehabilitation projects and are very pleased with the results so far. A motion was made to have National Commander Douglas Bible place an appropriate plaque at Arlington National Cemetery, on behalf of the Sons of The American Legion. Information was discussed about the National Games of the Paralyzed Veterans in Michigan in August. A video is hoped to be viewed by the NEC at the Fall meeting and perhaps have copies available for members. It is strongly emphasized that as many Squadrons, Districts and Detachments fill out their Rehabilitation reports so that National can know approximately how much is put into rehabilitation each year. Motion to have a wreath placed each year at Arlington National Cemetery on behalf of the SAL in May. It was also urged that with all of the Federal cutbacks, that the SAL help out at the VA facilities as much as is possible.

Community Affairs Commission: The commission members discussed the lack of participation in many community affairs. It is noted that this is where we present ourselves to the public and where we can also serve The American Legion in their community activities. A motion was made to have the Administrative manual corrected to read "prior to the National

Community Affairs Commission meeting at the National Convention." (line 14). It was also noted that we need a definition of Community Affairs for the National Convention. It was requested that the rules for the Scrapbook contest be printed in an upcoming issue of the Update.

Public Relations Commission: The commission members recommend that the Administrative Manual be sent to the Detachment Adjutant, the Detachment Commander, the NEC, the Alternate NEC and all past National Commanders. It was also recommended that the Update emphasize the individual Squadrons and Detachments.

Finance Commission: The members presented a preliminary budget, however they were unable to make a full budget proposal due to the lack of some necessary information. The Committees and Commission will need to break down their projected expenses and the commission needs a comparative financial statement to see exactly where we are and where we are going. Actual cost figures are necessary to make a realistic budget for 1988, which should be done for the Fall NEC meeting.

4. STATUS OF RESOLUTIONS

Four resolutions are being presented for your consideration. The committees and commissions hope that they will be able to receive a favorable response.

5. CONCLUSION

As National Commander, I would like to thank the members of the Internal Affairs staff and committee for their help and guidance. Special thanks go to Mr. Herm Harrington, Mr. Thomas Leavitt, Mr. John Kerestan and Ms. Linda Demaree for all of their special help these past months. We have received the utmost courtesy and assistance from Headquarters, that our Organization has been able to grow and branch out in many directions. We are most proud to help our founding organization, The American Legion, in any way that is possible, and I think that you can see from some of various reports some of the fine work that is accomplished throughout the Nation. The Sons of The American Legion model themselves after the Legion and their programs, and I am proud to say that we can have no better model than the one we have right now.

ADDENDUM

National Paid-Up-For-Life (PUFL) Program Study

Direction

Res. No. 336—Subject:

"Review National Paid Up For Life Program"

Approved by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Cincinnati, Ohio, September 2, 3, 4, 1986.

Resolved that the Committee report to the Spring (1987) NEC Meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana, with its recommendations.

Assignment

National Commander James P. Dean assigned the resolution to the Internal Affairs Commission and named Herman G. Harrington Chairman. Because the report could involve finances, the following persons were requested to serve on an Ad Hoc Committee to assist in the preparation of this report:

George W. Boucek, Chairman (Illinois) National Finance Commission

Miles S. Epling, Chairman (West Virginia) Membership and Post Activities Committee

Raymond C. Patterson, Director, Internal Affairs Division

The Ad Hoc Committee initially met during the Washington Conference, Sunday, February 8, 1987, in the Sheraton Washington Hotel.

Several matters were discussed during this meeting, some specific, and some abstract. The

consensus of the Committee was to further research the suggestions, recommendations, and proposals from the February meeting subject to the final preparation of the formal report.

A subsequent meeting was held at National Headquarters, Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 3, 1987.

PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION

Prior to isolating what could or could not be considered as valid ideas and suggestions, the Committee discussed/reviewed numerous supporting topics relative to our current program as well as other paid up plans of other groups.

Among those of interest were:

1. Resolution #10, which is the controlling resolution that governs the National Paid Up For Life Plan. (Copy of Resolution #10 attached.)
2. Current distribution process of checks—under the existing procedures, National Headquarters remits per capita payments to National, Department, and Posts in July, October, January, and May.
3. Cost of other veterans organizations' life plans.

This Committee acquired information from the following groups:

- A. Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA)—Cost of a membership is a flat fee of \$250.
- B. Disabled American Veterans (DAV)—Cost of a membership ranges from \$75-\$150.
- C. The Retired Officers Association (TROA)—Cost of a membership ranges from \$85-\$245.
- D. American Ex-Prisoners of War, Inc.—Cost of a membership ranges from \$50-\$150.
- E. Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)—Cost of a membership ranges from \$50-\$200.
- F. The National AMVETS—Cost is a flat rate of \$125.
- G. Fleet Reserve Association—Cost of a membership ranges from \$100-\$455.
- H. Jewish War Veterans (JMV)—Cost is a flat rate of \$200.
- I. Vietnam Veteran of America—Cost is a flat rate of \$250.
- J. Military Order of the Purple Heart—Cost of membership ranges from \$50-\$125.
- K. American Military Retiree Association—Cost of a membership ranges from \$60-\$150.

4. In addition, this Committee solicited information from those American Legion Departments that do not belong to the National plan, but instead, operate a Paid Up For Life Plan of their own. These Departments are Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Ohio, and Pennsylvania.

Our Committee did not receive any information from the Department of Colorado, but the comparison of National's rates to the other four Departments, using only age 42 and an annual dues rate of \$15.00 as an example is as follows:

- A. National Cost—\$343.00
- B. Ohio Cost—\$405.00
- C. Nebraska Cost—\$336.76
- D. Kansas Cost—\$180.00
- E. Pennsylvania Cost—\$335.00

The following is a quote from the January 1987-Pennsylvania American Legion NEWS: "Yes . . . Pennsylvania's rates are HIGHER than the national rates published in the magazine and Post Officer's Guide. Why is this? Because Pennsylvania American Legion every five years has an outside actuary firm set the rates. Pennsylvania wants to make certain that our PUFL plan is financially sound."

5. Actuarial review filed by McCready & Keene, Inc., on October 6, 1986.

The following are some of the excerpts from that review of the actuarial status of The American Legion Paid-Up-For-Life Plan.

Assumptions Used In This Study

In this study we have taken a different approach than in previous studies. We have used no assumption for future rates of inflation as they apply to existing Paid-Up-For-Life members.

We have assumed a future gross rate of return of 8½% with no provisions for future inflation. This rate has been reduced to a net rate of 6½%, assuming that 2% is required to pay the expenses of administering the program.

Results of Study

The present study shows that the trust fund is adequate to pay all future dues for present Paid-Up-For-Life members based on the above assumptions.

Current Status of Trust Fund

For 1985, the investment income from dividends, interest and realized capital gains was not quite sufficient to pay the dues required for 1985. There were, however, unrealized capital gains of over \$450,000. As a result, the investment income was adequate to pay all dues and expenses with a surplus of \$434,000. If there had been no capital gains of any kind, dividends and interest would have fallen short of dues and expenses by nearly \$75,000. The shortfall can be expected to be much greater if there are no capital gains (or even capital losses) in some future years.

Summary and Conclusion

The plan is generally in good health. Naturally, the continued good health of the plan is dependent on several factors.

The main factors for continued good health of the plan are: 1) continued favorable investment experience; and 2) holding down the level of future dues increases.

Recommendations

This Committee upon discussion of the previously outlined topics, and after research of other PUFL-related matters by the National staff, and subsequently our 2nd meeting on Sunday, May 3, 1987, the following recommendations are put forth for your consideration:

Changing the Rate Schedule for Paid-Up-For-Life

This Committee recommends that the existing rate schedule should remain intact. This opinion is based upon the factors that were contained in the actuarial study as well as the fact that National's rate is very similar to most of the Department Plans operating separately; namely, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Nebraska.

To tamper with the rate schedule at this time could . . . 1) adversely affect the economic stability of the plan, and 2) cause National's Plan to be out of congruity with the Department Plans—this could be a disservice to them and could likewise damage their financial status.

Provide a Premium Inducement to New Applicants into PUFL

This Committee recommends that premium inducements be available for becoming a PUFL member. It would seem that a bonus might influence Legionnaires to enter the program if they felt that over and above the benefit of never paying dues again, they would receive some tangible item in return.

Obviously, the type or value of the premium is subject to discussion and budget restrictions. The most logical area that could provide monies for the premium would be from the authorized maximum 1½% draw off the trust assets (as of June 30th of each year)—this would be considered a part of the administrative expenses to operate the plan.

Rather than universally offering the premium as a material motivation to join PUFL, it is further recommended that tests be conducted in various participating Departments using different valued premiums to see which draws the best. Comparing the premium offer to the

return of applications without the bonus gift would then provide the necessary data to see if this method has validity and will then be expanded to all participating Departments.

A variation of this proposition would be to offer seasonal bonus gifts for joining (e.g. Christmas, Legion Birthday, July 4th, Veterans Day, etc.).

Department/Post PUFL Committee

As with many programs of The American Legion, much of the problem(s) could be resolved if additional education could be communicated and publicized.

While this Committee has no conclusive data to back it up, we doubt whether many Posts know very much about the Paid-Up-For-Life Program. It is probably not something that is actively promoted to the membership.

We recommended every Department (and Posts therein) be encouraged to establish a committee to oversee and promote the program in order to further develop its expansion. We are confident that if more Legionnaires knew about PUFL, they would be more inclined to take advantage of the opportunity to join.

Post and/or Individual Award

To encourage involvement by Posts and individuals, this Committee recommends Departments consider establishing award(s) to recognize the Post or someone at the local level for signing up PUFLs—a competition similar to many new/renewal membership contests already established in most Departments.

Insurance

Insurance comes in many forms (e.g. Whole Life, Term, dental, accidental death, automobile, hospitalization . . . to name a few), and they *all* cost something.

In light of the fact The American Legion National Organization will, in the very near future, begin offering two new and additional insurance products to all Legionnaires, it is this Committee's recommendation that providing any other form of insurance at this time to PUFL members would confuse the situation.

From our limited understanding of the new products that are going to become available, we believe that they hold a tremendous amount of potential for our membership. Wanting to assure their immediate acceptance and success, this Committee recommends no further insurance plans be considered at this time.

If, at a later date, there is still some interest as a potential benefit for our members, a complete study may be undertaken by the Legion Life Insurance & Trust Committee with regard to feasibility to include cost, type, etc.

Increased Editorials/Articles

Currently, the National staff prepares numerous articles, pamphlets, and promotional ad-slicks for publication and distribution.

Mostly, the articles are for internal use in ADVANCE, ALNS, and the NATIONAL ADJUTANT'S NEWSLETTER. The brochures and ad-slicks primarily are sent in quantity to Departments for their subsequent use.

Use of The American Legion Magazine is very limited due to the cost of paid publicity. The Magazine does provide "free" space on occasion to promote the program, but it is at irregular intervals.

In addition to the above promotional efforts and with budget permitting, this Committee recommends that supplemental use of paid space in the Magazine be utilized for promoting the Paid-Up-For-Life Program offered through National Headquarters. These expenses would be paid out of the authorized administrative draw from the PUFL Trust.

Purchasing space would provide better control over content and seasonal timing—past experience has shown an increase in applications each time that PUFL is included, and the

more professional the ad, the better the chance a positive return on dollars invested will be realized.

Additional Promotional Mailings

This Committee recommends that a direct mailing to the members be tested in selected participating Departments and compare those mailings to the traditional way of acquiring PUFL members.

These mailings would be to a selected quantity, identified by criteria such as continuous years, war era, did they join through DMS, did they contribute to the Revenue Enhancement Program (calendar/card mailing), do they currently have American Legion Life Insurance, etc.

These mailings would be paid for through the previously mentioned amount authorized for administrative expenses.

Closing Statement

This Committee appreciates the opportunity and responsibility assigned to us. We wish to thank The American Legion and National Commander James P. Dean for the confidence he has placed in this Committee.

This report and its contents are provided herewith to the National Executive Committee for their consideration.

Respectfully submitted by Herman Harrington, Chairman, Ad Hoc Committee.

MR. SHEEKS, Indiana: Mr. Commander, I move to receive and accept the Report, except for the disposition of the resolutions.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Blair, Alaska, and carried.

REPORT OF RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE FOLLOWING THE REPORT OF THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION

Resolution Subcommittee Chairman Stone presented the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Mr. Commander, due to the fact that this involves money, this is being read under Rule 8 A. We will read this promptly tomorrow morning.

May the record show that it is being read at 3:10 P.M.

Bequest to the American Legion

Res. No. 13 (Submitted by: National Internal Affairs Commission)

WHEREAS, Ruth M. VanTassel provided for a bequest to The American Legion in her Last Will and Testament to be used as The American Legion sees fit for assistance of disabled veterans; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion has been advised by the Executrix of the estate that this bequest, after payment of all taxes and fees chargeable thereto, totals \$692.01; and

WHEREAS, This matter has been approved by the National Internal Affairs Commission which recommends approval of this Resolution to the National Executive Commission; and

WHEREAS, A check has been received in the above cited amount; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 6-7, 1987, That the national organization is hereby authorized to accept said bequest to be used for the assistance of disabled veterans by allocation to the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation budget.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Resolution No. 21 is also being read under Rule 8 A.

Korean War Memorial

Res. No. 21 (Submitted by: Internal Affairs Commission)

WHEREAS, Resolution 132, titled Korean War Memorial, approved at the 1986 National Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio did support the construction of a Korean War Memorial, and

WHEREAS, Public Law 99-572 authorized the American Battle Monuments Commission to establish a Korean War Memorial on federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs, and

WHEREAS, Public Law 99-572 authorized the appointment of a twelve-member Advisory Board consisting of veterans of the Korean War and assigned said Board the responsibility of recommending the site and selecting the design for the Korean War Memorial, and

WHEREAS, Public Law 99-572 stated the Korean War Memorial site be constructed with private funds; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana on May 6-7, 1987, That The American Legion will engage in a fund-raising activity to support the Korean War Memorial if a Legionnaire, who served in the Korean War only and recommended by The American Legion, is appointed to serve on the twelve member Advisory Board, and be it finally

RESOLVED, That all funds raised by The American Legion will be applied only to construction costs of the Korean War Memorial and will be forwarded to the American Battle Monuments Commission upon receipt of certified expenses for actual construction of the Korean War Memorial.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: This is being read at 3:12 P.M. on the 6th day of May and will be read again tomorrow morning.

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER ERLE COCKE, Georgia: How much money was that?

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: It just says we will raise the money, Commander. It doesn't say how much.

We will take 50,000 any time you want to give it.

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER COCKE: I am honored.

**Support the Norman Rockwell Museum Fund Drive at
Stockbridge, Massachusetts**

Res. No. 22 (Submitted by: National Internal Affairs Commission)

WHEREAS, The American Legion supports programs that enlighten the citizens of our great country; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion always strives to provide information to encourage strong patriotic activity; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion endorses fund-raising campaigns that promote all things that make America great; and

WHEREAS, Legionnaires throughout our country are aware of Norman Rockwell's paintings that depict our American Way of Life; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion, Department of Massachusetts assembled in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, at the Department Convention, June 26, 1986, agreed to support, encourage and promote the Norman Rockwell Museum Fund Drive at Stockbridge, Massachusetts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, That the American Legion Departments and Posts are encouraged to support this effort with assistance to carry this project to a successful completion.

SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval and I so move.

... The motion was seconded by Mr. Comer, Massachusetts and carried.

**Transfer of the American Legion Energy Program to the
National Security Commission of the American Legion**

Res. No. 23 (Submitted by: Internal Affairs Commission)

WHEREAS, Resolution 34 (Utah), "Transfer of The American Legion Energy Program to the Washington Office of The American Legion," was approved by the delegates during the 1986 National Convention held in Cincinnati, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, In 1977, a strong emphasis was placed upon active participation in energy education and conservation of all energy resources resulting with energy matters being assigned to Internal Affairs; and

WHEREAS, The emphasis has now shifted to energy source awareness and for development of alternative energy supplies which is compatible with the Legion's position of support for energy self-sufficiency, the main purpose being national security and job availability for veterans; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion's concern for the nation's economic prosperity and security will continue to demand our full attention and active supervision; and

WHEREAS, Because the Department of Energy and all major agencies dealing with energy issues are located in Washington, D.C., it is important The American Legion establish contacts and a working relationship with federal agencies and National Energy Associations if we are to be an active source with energy issues and policies; and

WHEREAS, The Legion Energy Program is presently assigned to Internal Affairs at the Indianapolis Headquarters, making it almost impossible to monitor the progress of national energy issues of interest to The American Legion on a regular basis because of distance from Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, The National Security Commission has reviewed and concurs with the reasoning to transfer the Energy Program to the Washington, D.C. Headquarters Office; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana on May 6-7, 1987, That the Energy Program of The American Legion and responsibility for resolutions concerning energy issues and other related matters; is hereby assigned to the National Security Commission.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Cooper, Alabama and carried.

"Manual of Ceremonies" Change

Res. No. 24 (Submitted by: National Trophies, Awards & Ceremonials Committee)

WHEREAS, Several Posts do drape the Post Charter as a visible means of mourning the loss of a Legionnaire; and

WHEREAS, The draping of the Post Charter is a more individual and local recognition of the veteran; and

WHEREAS, The survivors of all the veterans do not attend District or Division Memorial Services; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, That The American Legion include in the "Manual of Ceremonies" a guide and ceremony to drape the Post Charter and that it be included in the "Post Officer's Guide" during the next revision.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Fisher, Arkansas and carried.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Attached to the Internal Affairs Commission's Report is an Addenda relative to the recommended action of the various resolutions.

I move that the recommended action on these resolutions be approved by the National Executive Committee.

. . . The motion was seconded by National Vice Commander William Detweiler, Louisiana.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Motion has been made and seconded. Is there any discussion?

MR. GOLEZ, Philippines: Mr. Chairman, there are two resolutions approved by the SAL

National Convention, particular resolutions 965-86.

And the other resolution NC4-86, Opportunity to Work in The American Bases for the Philippine Veterans' Descendants and they have been recommended for rejection.

May I ask the Chairman of Internal Affairs Commission what is the reason for rejection?

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Mr. Chairman?

INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION CHAIRMAN HARRINGTON: If I'm not mistaken, the two resolutions that we are referring to are resolutions that emanated from the Sons of The American Legion. They have been held for further study by the Internal Affairs Commission until such time as we can confer with the Officers of The Sons of The American Legion, who presented us this resolution, to see what some of their background was on that, sir.

MR. GOLEZ: So it is not true that they have been recommended for rejection, they are just held for further study?

COMMISSION CHAIRMAN HARRINGTON: As our Director has just pointed out to me, the two resolutions are referred to us from the Sons of The American Legion and were part of another addendum. They were recommended by the Internal Affairs Commission for rejection, because there was some question in our minds as to the germaneness of these resolutions.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Any other questions?

Motion has been made and seconded, any discussion or questions? All those in favor say Aye; those opposed Nay. It is approved.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Our next Chairman is the Chairman of the Membership and Post Activities, Miles S. Epling of West Virginia.

**REPORT OF
MEMBERSHIP AND POST ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE
Miles S. Epling (WV), Chairman**

National Commander Dean, Members of the National Executive Committee, it is a pleasure for me to come before you this afternoon to give you this membership report. But at the close of day today, the National Organization had 2,755,395 members. At this time last year, we had 2,608,428 members. This reflects an increase of 146,967 members.

We can attribute a lot of this to the DMS Program. The DMS Program has attracted over 172,000 members this year and more than 350,000 members in the past two years. It only proves that the members are out there, if someone will ask them to join The American Legion.

One more goal this year that we must keep in our minds, and that goal is to arrive in San Antonio, Texas, with a National membership of 3,000,000 members. The increase in the membership is what we are all working for, and we can do it because now, we are working as a team. Special congratulations and appreciation should be expended to the Departments recognized this morning who have already exceeded their 1986 final membership. There are 40 Departments who already surpassed their 1987 goals.

In addition, 6 of those Departments have also established new all-time highs in membership.

Those 6 are Florida, Minnesota, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maryland and Arizona.

Also, your Membership and Post Activities Committee met January 15 and 16 here in Indianapolis, Indiana, to go over the 1988 membership program.

Also, 1988 membership awards program were discussed, and the Membership and Post Activities staff has prepared a detailed awards manual to describe the individuals, the Posts and the District and the Department awards that can be achieved this year and the 1988 further awards.

Also, we discussed our theme for 1988, and it was the unanimous decision of our Committee to use this theme, the same thing that we used this year, "Get Involved! We're Winning!"

Because gentlemen, we are getting involved, and we are winning, and we are climbing toward that 3,000,000 members. Also, as you have been told, the Workshop dates have been set, and are tentative, because the National Organization is working on a cost savings study.

National Commander Dean would encourage the newly elected Department Commanders, Department Adjutants, and Department Membership Chairman to attend the National Membership Workshops. These Workshops are very good, and will help them to get our feet on the ground, and get started for a successful year.

As you have been told, the first Workshop has been moved out of the building and will be held at the Hilton Hotel here in Indianapolis.

On behalf of the Membership and Post Activities Committee, we would like to thank you, the NEC for your leadership, your guidance and all the help that you have given the membership team.

And gentlemen, as we leave here, I think we have got something going, and as we go home, let's work in our Departments, in our Districts and our Posts, and if working together as a team we are winning, we are going to have that 3,000,000 members.

Commander, that concludes my report.

... The printed report of the Membership and Post Activities Committee is as follows:

**Report of
MEMBERSHIP AND POST ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE
to the
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 6-7, 1987
Miles S. Epling (WV), Chairman**

National Commander James P. Dean and members of the National Executive Committee, membership records as of Wednesday, May 6, 1987 indicate a membership enrollment for 1987 of 2,755,395. On this date last year, membership reported for 1986 was 2,608,428. This reflects an increase of 146,967 members on comparative dates.

Again this year, the increase that we enjoy today, can be attributed to the tremendous success of the Direct Membership Solicitation (DMS) Program, in attracting over 172,000 new members into our organization for 1987. In the last two years, this program has recruited more than 350,000 new members. The DMS program vividly proves the point that there are high numbers of eligible veterans who would become members of The American Legion if only someone would ask them to join.

Your M&PA Committee and staff are enthusiastic and optimistic about further success for 1987 membership. Our next goal is to go to the National Convention in San Antonio with a total membership of 3 million. This goal is attainable and with an all-out effort at every level, it will be met. I encourage you to increase your intensive efforts within your own Departments, Districts, and Posts, and thereby increase the success the entire organization will experience. We appreciate very much your cooperation, and I am sure you realize that we must continue to build on the increase of 1987 membership in order to position The American legion to soar to new heights of 1988 of over 3,000,000 members.

Special congratulations and appreciation should be extended to the Departments recognized this morning who have already exceeded their 1986 final membership. There are thirty-nine Departments who have already surpassed their 1987 goal. In addition, six of those Departments have also established new All-Time Highs for 1987 membership. These are: Florida, Minnesota, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maryland and Arizona.

1988 Membership Campaign Promotion

During the annual planning session of the Membership and Post Activities Committee held here in Indianapolis, January 15-16, 1987, your Committee formulated the promotion plan for the 1988 National Membership Campaign. After careful analysis of our membership potential, progressive recruitment methods and the positive progress of 1987 membership, your Committee felt confident The American Legion would increase its membership. To enhance this effort, your M&PA Committee established three subcommittees. They are:

Membership Acquisition, Retention, New Post Development; Education & Training; and, Awards & Incentives.

Many new and exciting incentives have been authorized at those meetings for the 1988 National Membership Awards Program. They are designed to motivate and recognize outstanding membership accomplishments at all levels of the organization. The M&PA staff has prepared a detailed Awards Manual for 1988 and promotional brochure describing Individual, Post, District and Department Awards that can be earned for membership performance. I encourage you to familiarize yourself with those incentives and promote them as widely as possible.

National Theme For 1988
"Get Involved! We're Winning!"

Also during the M&PA Annual Planning Session, the Committee considered a theme for the 1988 year. It was unanimously agreed that the 1987 theme, "Get Involved! We're Winning!" was now even more appropriate than before to guide the organization through the 1988 Membership Campaign.

The theme is a call for action in a positive manner and is directed at our own members, eligible non-members and the general public as well. Several items have been developed and are available to promote this dynamic theme.

24th Annual National Membership Workshops

The M&PA Committee has set the following dates for the 24th Annual National Membership Workshops:

1st Workshop—July 22-24, 1987

2nd Workshop—July 29-31, 1987

National Commander Dean is asking each Department to have the newly elected Department Commander, Department Adjutant and Department Membership Chairman attend the workshops. National will cover the expense of two call-ins per Department. Departments have been assigned when these individuals should attend their workshops.

Attendance at the National Membership Workshops increases each year and at times exceeds seating capacity and adequate group workshops areas available at National Headquarters. Therefore, upon recommendation of the National M&PA Staff and the approval of the M&PA Committee and our parent Commission, Internal Affairs, the first workshop will be conducted at the Hilton Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana and the second workshop will be held at the National Headquarters Building. At the conclusion of each workshop, an evaluation will be conducted among attendees and national staff members and a decision will be made as to the planning and locations of future workshops. Past workshops have been highly motivational experiences, but plans are well under way to make the 1987 workshops the best ever.

These workshops provide an excellent opportunity for new Department Commanders, Membership Chairmen and District Commanders to receive first hand information on the National Membership Campaign and to exchange ideas and plans with their counterparts from other Departments.

Unofficial Membership Awards

Your M&PA Committee has submitted a report to the Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Committee including the unofficial membership awards that have been earned thus far during the 1987 membership year. A listing of these awards is contained in the Internal Affairs Commission report.

I extend the Committee's appreciation to our parent Commission, Internal Affairs, and to the many of you who have offered constructive counsel and guidance in the vital area of membership. We look forward to and welcome your continued cooperation and support.

MR. HARRELL, Georgia: Move to receive and file with the exception of the disposition of the resolutions.

. . . The motion was seconded by National Vice Commander Doris Gross, Washington and carried.

**REPORT OF
RESOLUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE FOLLOWING THE
REPORT OF THE
MEMBERSHIP AND POST ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE**

RESOLUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Resolution No. 25 is a house-keeping resolution, authorizing issuance of temporary charter to Foreign Posts and is as follows:

Authorize Issuance of Temporary Charter to Foreign Posts

Res. No. 25 (Submitted by: National Membership & Post Activities Committee)

WHEREAS, An application for the issuance of a charter to Posts outside of the United States has been received, properly endorsed by officers of the Departments which will accept responsibility for supervision, and all in conformity with Res. No. 42, adopted by the National Executive Committee at its meeting of April 29-30, May 1, 1959; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana on May 6-7, 1987, That The National Adjutant is authorized to issue temporary charters to the following Posts to be affiliated with the named Departments.

1. Camp Zama Post No. 60, located at Camp Zama, Japan, affiliated with the Department of Alaska.
2. New Philippine Scouts, Army of the United States Association in Panay Post No. 209 located in Iloilo City, Philippines, affiliated with the Department of the Philippines.
3. Puntarenas Post No. 15, located in Puntarenas, Costa Rica, affiliated with the Department of Panama Canal.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: This has the approval of the Internal Affairs Commission and Membership & Post Activities Committee. I move that the resolution be approved.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Olmstead, New Hampshire, and Mr. Blair, Alaska, and carried.

* * *

INTRODUCTIONS

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Anybody want to make any introductions?

MR. TEMPLETON, Michigan: I would like to introduce our newly installed Department Adjutant, a former employee here at National Headquarters, Michael Kerrigan.

Our consultant and retired Department Adjutant Gary Veldman and our Membership Director, is in the hall, Michael Williams.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Any other introductions?

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Mr. Commander, this is Resolution No. 31. Mr. Commander, this morning we had the National Convention Commission to make a report. Within that report, we asked them to draw up a resolution relative to authorizing the National Commander to sign a contract with the National Convention Corporation of Kentucky.

The Resolution is as follows:

1988 National Convention Contract

Res. No. 31 (Submitted by: National Convention Commission)

WHEREAS, All conditions for a contract have been resolved with The American Legion National Convention Corporation of Kentucky, Inc. for our National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky on September 2-8, 1988; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 6-7, 1987, that The National Commander be authorized to sign a contract with The American Legion National Convention Corporation of Kentucky, Inc. to host the 1988 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky on September 2-8, 1988.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Under Rule 8 A this is being read at 3:18 P.M. on May 6 and it will be read again tomorrow morning at which time we will move for approval of the resolution.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Stone. Any other resolutions? Any other business to conduct?

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: I have second readings that will be ready in about two minutes.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: We will stand in recess for about two minutes.

MR. M. RAY OLMSTEAD
New Hampshire

Mr. Commander, if I might take a moment of personal privilege, I would like to take the opportunity at this point to thank Past National Commander Dale Renaud and present National Commander James Dean, and our Adjutant, Mr. Spanogle and our Treasurer Webber LaGrange, all you wonderful gentlemen and ladies here in this room today.

You don't know what it means until it happens to you to find out just what it means to have friends like you have in The American Legion. I want to thank you all for all the kindnesses you showed my wife in Cincinnati, and I also want to thank you for all the calls and the cards that I received during my illness.

I want to tell you, it is damned great to belong to an organization like that, and I want to thank you all, one in all, God bless you one in all.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: We stand in recess for about two minutes.

. . . At this time a recess was taken.

AFTER RECESS

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: We will now return to order, please.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Resolution No. 28 was read this morning at 11:26 A.M. pursuant to Rule 8 A. The Resolution is as follows:

Contract for "Need A Lift?" CASHE Program

Res. No. 28 (Submitted by: National Americanism Commission)

WHEREAS, The American Legion has promoted the distribution of college scholarships and financial aid information for 36 years through the NEED A LIFT? Program; and

WHEREAS, The current number of scholarships, available from a myriad of sources, is far greater than the realistic capacity of NEED A LIFT?; and

WHEREAS, There exists a microfiche program entitled CASHE which lists over 180,000 scholarships from over 20,000 sponsors and is used as the current date source for NEED A LIFT?; and

WHEREAS, College Student Financial Aid Services, Inc., the creator of CASHE, will, at

no cost to The American Legion, agree to continue to develop a microfiche delivery system for use by The American Legion for a period of three years beginning June 1, 1987; and

WHEREAS, This service will be further offered to each American Legion Post willing to participate for a fee of no more than \$250 per annum as a supplement to NEED A LIFT?; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 6-7, 1987, That the National Americanism Commission, the National Adjutant and the National Judge Advocate be and are hereby authorized to negotiate the terms and conditions of said three (3) year contract; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That they do hereby give approval and when and if the aforesaid three (3) year contract has been drafted and finalized, that the National Commander be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute said three (3) year contract and the National Adjutant be and is hereby authorized and directed to attest same.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: May the record show that this Resolution was read on May 6 at 3:32 P.M.

Your committee recommends approval and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith, Colorado and carried.

Contract for 1987 Boys Nation

Res. No. 29 (Submitted by: National Americanism Commission)

WHEREAS, The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 3-4, 1978, approved Resolution No. 32 authorizing The American Legion to enter into a contractual agreement with American University, Washington, D.C. for the purpose of conducting Boys Nation; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion must enter into a contractual agreement with Marymount University for the purpose of conducting the 1987 Boys Nation program; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 6-7, 1987, That the National Americanism Commission, the National Adjutant and the National Judge Advocate be and are hereby authorized to negotiate the terms and conditions of the 1987 contract; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That they do hereby give approval and when and if the aforesaid 1987 contract has been drafted and finalized, that the National Commander be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute said 1987 contract and the National Adjutant be and is hereby authorized and directed to attest same.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: May the record show that at 3:33 P.M. on May the 6th we had the second reading of this Resolution, pursuant to Rule 8 A.

This resolution has the approval of your Subcommittee on Resolutions.

Move the approval of the resolution.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Blair, Alaska, and Mr. Sheeks, Indiana, and carried.

Gatorade Scholarship Program

Res. No. 26 (Submitted by National Americanism Commission)

WHEREAS, Stokley-Van Camp, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Quaker Oats Company, wishes to support American Legion Baseball by providing \$10,000 in scholarship funds per year for three consecutive years beginning with the 1987 season, in return for the privilege of placing Gatorade in dugouts, advertising signage in the various tournament programs; and

WHEREAS, The project has been reviewed by the Baseball and Recreation Subcommittee of the National Americanism Commission and recommended by the said Subcommittee to the National Americanism Commission; and

WHEREAS, The project has been reviewed by the National Americanism Commission and recommended to the National Executive Committee for favorable action; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 6-7, 1987, That the American Legion enter into an agreement with Stokely-Van Camp, Inc., to provide that the latter organization shall furnish \$10,000 in scholarship funds per year, for three consecutive years beginning with the 1987 season, and annually thereafter, provide Gatorade for contending team dugouts, suitable signage for tournament ball parks and advertising for tournament programs; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the National Americanism Commission appoint selection committees at each site to award a \$1,000.00 scholarship to the Most Valuable Player at each of the eight (8) Regional Tournaments and a \$2,000.00 Scholarship to the Most Valuable Play at the World Series Tournament; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That after review and approval by the National Judge Advocate of said agreement, the National Commander be and he is hereby authorized and directed to execute said agreement and that the National Adjutant be and is hereby authorized and directed to attest to the same.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: May the record show that this Resolution was read at 3:35 P.M., on May 6 for its second reading.

Pursuant to Rule 8 A, the terms and conditions of that Rule having been fulfilled, your Committee recommends approval and I move approval of the Resolution.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Studer, Iowa and Mr. Anderson, Connecticut, and carried.

1987 American Legion Baseball World Series Contract

Res. No. 30 (Submitted by: National Americanism Commission)

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 38, adopted May 7, 1985, awarding the 1987 American Legion Baseball World Series to Stevens Point, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion must enter into a contractual agreement with Stevens Point World Series, Inc.; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 6-7, 1987, That the National Americanism Commission, the National Adjutant and the National Judge Advocate be and are hereby authorized to negotiate the terms and conditions of said 1987 contract; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That when they do give approval and if the aforesaid 1987 contract has been drafted and finalized, that the National Commander be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute said 1987 contract and the National Adjutant be and is hereby authorized and directed to attest same.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Let the record show that the second reading was made at 3:35 P.M. on May 6.

Your Committee recommends approval of the Resolution and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith of Colorado and carried.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Any other announcements or discussions?

Mr. Adjutant?

NATIONAL ADJUTANT SPANOGL: No.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Hearing nothing else, the Chair declares the meeting recessed.

Tomorrow morning, the meeting will be called to order at 8:30 A.M.

Stand and salute the Colors.

. . . The National Executive Committee stood and saluted the Colors following which recessed at 3:50 P.M., to reconvene the following day, Thursday, May the 7th, 1987 at 8:30 A.M.

PROCEEDINGS of the THE AMERICAN LEGION

Thursday, May 7, 1987

The National Executive Committee was called to order by National Commander James P. Dean at 8:30 A.M.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: We will call the meeting to order and salute the Colors, following which the Invocation will be delivered by Very Rev. Fr. Arthur Jakobiak our National Chaplain.

. . . The National Executive Committee stood and saluted the Colors, the Colors already being in place.

* * *

INVOCATION

Very Rev. Fr. Arthur Jakobiak,
New Mexico
National Chaplain

Heavenly Father, we ask Your blessings as we begin a new day.

We look to You to give us guidance, and wisdom for the greatest honor and glory of Yourself for the God of our Country, the God of our organization, and we ask in your name, Amen.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: We will recite the Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion.

. . . The Members of the National Executive Committee stood and recited the Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: I will ask the Adjutant to call the Roll.

ROLL CALL

. . . National Adjutant Robert Spanogle called the Roll as follows:

National Officers

James P. Dean, Mississippi, National Commander
 Robert W. Spanogle, Michigan, National Adjutant
 Very Rev. Arthur Jakobiak, New Mexico, National Chaplain

National Vice Commanders

William M. Detweiler, Louisiana
 Doris R. Gross, Washington
 Donald E. Neil, Delaware
 Allen L. Titus, Indiana
 Ervin F. Van Dyke, Wisconsin

Past National Commanders

John E. Davis, North Dakota	Michael J. Kogutak, New York
Robert E. L. Eaton, Maryland	Al Keller, Jr., Illinois
Robert Charles Smith, Louisiana	Keith Kreul, Wisconsin
John H. "Jack" Carey, Michigan	Dale L. Renaud, Iowa

Department	Committeeman	Alternate
Alabama	Andrew J. Cooper	
Alaska	Robert G. Blair	
Arizona	Dr. Charles L. Vawter, Jr.	
Arkansas	Lawrence E. Fisher	
California	Lloyd Higginson	
Canada	H. Rena. Chaplin	
Colorado	Charles Pat Smith	
Connecticut	Richard W. Anderson	
Delaware	Robert J. Lauer	
D.C.	Robert L. Waters	
Florida	George L. Derrick	
France	William S. Lombardo	
Georgia	W. D. Harrell	
Hawaii	Robert J. Conrad	
Idaho	Lyle Hupfer	
Illinois	Firman E. Henricks	
Indiana	Gilbert E. Shiiks	
Iowa	Mark J. Studer	
Kansas	U. S. (Udie) Grant	
Kentucky	Joseph K. Goodness	
Louisiana	Carroll B. Fields	
Maine	(Excused)	Franklin R. Donley, Sr.
Maryland	Talmage C. Carawan	
Massachusetts	John P. Comer	
Mexico	Harry Wright	
Michigan	(Excused)	Andrew A. Templeton
Minnesota	Donald R. Schroedl	
Mississippi	Fred M. Ingellis	
Missouri	Jerome N. Roach	
Montana	W. P. (Bill) Petersen	
Nebraska	Wayne Davis	
Nevada	Charles F. Langel	
New Hampshire	M. Ray Olmstead	

New Jersey	James H. Hall	
New Mexico	Robert W. Durand	
New York	William P. McLaughlin	
North Carolina	Robert A. Tart	
North Dakota	Robert E. Hennessy	
Ohio	Dominic V. Belloni	
Oklahoma	Tom C. Smith	
Oregon	T. Les Galloway	
Panama Canal	(Excused)	John K. Hoyle, Jr.
Pennsylvania	Joseph V. Adams	
Philippines	Ernesto P. Golez	
Puerto Rico	Luis A. Andujar	
Rhode Island	N. Pio Stizza	
South Carolina	E. Roy Stone, Jr.	
South Dakota	Donald Clarke	
Tennessee	James T. Waters	
Texas	Harvey Holcomb	
Utah	William E. Christoffersen	
Vermont	(Excused)	Milton Willis, Jr.
Virginia	Emmett B. Burley	
Washington	Clint Stebing	
West Virginia	Jack T. Gribben	
Wisconsin	Jerry A. Kautzer	
Wyoming	David E. Nauman	

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: A quorum being present, we will proceed with the business.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The first report to be the National Economics Commission, Bruce Thiesen, Chairman of the Department of California.

**REPORT OF
NATIONAL ECONOMICS COMMISSION
Bruce Thiesen (CA), Chairman**

Commander Dean, Members of the National Executive Committee, although your National Economic Commission is not recommending any resolutions for your approval today, 1987 has proven to be one of the busiest years for our Commission in terms of the challenges we face in veterans housing and job programs. The 68th National Convention in Cincinnati anticipated these challenges and charged your Commission with an ambitious set of mandates.

Of particular importance to The American Legion and our Nation's Veterans is the integrity of the federally funded public employment service system. As most of you know, the employment service has been providing preferential service to Veterans since its creation in 1933. In fact, the employment service is the cornerstone for the veterans employment system. During the past year, however, the Administration and the Labor Department have been advocating turning control of the Employment Service entirely over to the states, to the extent that the Governor of each state will be able to decide whether or not there is to be an Employment Service in that state. You can imagine the effect this move would have on veterans preference, not to mention the basic services available to the unemployed Veteran.

Earlier this year, as the Legion predicted, the Labor Department introduced in Congress

legislation to defederalize the Public Employment Service.

Your Commission is pleased to report to you today that thanks to the active involvement of Commander Dean, your Legislative Commission, and the various departments throughout the nation, that this legislation appears to be dead. This has by no means permitted us to relax, however. Here in Indiana, major changes are being made to the employment service by the State itself, without federal legislation. We believe that we may see a trend in that direction in many states. Equally important, the Cincinnati Convention gave your Commission the mandate to strengthen employment services for veterans. Working with our Legislative Commission, we see the opportunity this year to bring greater strength and stability to existing Veterans employment programs. We expect that this will constitute our major project between now and our convention in San Antonio.

Of course, the fate of Employment Service for Veterans is by no means our complete charge. We are presently actively involved with the VA Home Loan Program, as we resist changes which could undermine its value to Veterans, and advocate those which better protect the Veteran against loan foreclosures, particularly on assumed loans. We are continuing the Legion's work with homeless veterans, and veterans who own or wish to own small businesses.

I want to thank Commander Dean, the Legislative Commission and this Committee for your continuing active support.

...The printed Advance Report of the National Economic Commission is as follows:

ADVANCE REPORT
to the
NATIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSION
Bruce Thiesen, Chairman
to the
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
THE AMERICAN LEGION
May 4-7, 1987

The following advance report covers the activities and program of the National Economic Commission and its affiliated committees of Employment and Veterans Preference from October 15, 1986 to March 31, 1987.

I. Meetings of the National Economic Commission

An Executive Section meeting of the National Economic Commission was held February 9-11, 1987 in the Marshall Room of the Sheraton Washington Hotel, Washington, D.C., in conjunction with the Twenty-seventh Annual Washington Conference.

There were 28 members of the National Commission and its affiliated committees present, as well as William Christoffersen (UT), chairman, and Jerome Roach (MO), member, of the NEC Liaison Committee. Also in attendance were various Legionnaires and others interested in the Legion's economic program.

The various speakers from the Congress, government agencies, and the private sector brought news of various developments in programs under the supervision of the Commission, and response from those in attendance was vigorous and interested.

**A. Special Committee for Selecting Two Recipients of the 1986 Award
as "Employer of the Year for Hiring Veterans."**

On Tuesday, February 10, the members of a committee to select the 1986 winners of the Employer of the Year for Hiring Veterans award, given each year at the National Convention by the National Economic Commission, met in the suite of Mr. Bruce Thiesen. James A. McMahon (ME), chairman; Henry Field (SC); Harry Klug (OR); Winston Reider (MN); and John White (FL) made the selections for twenty-four (24) nominations in the category of small employers (200 or under employees) and twenty-three (23) in the category of large

employers (over 200 employees) which had been received from twenty-four (24) departments. The recommendations of this special committee were unanimously approved by the Commission during the business session February 11, 1987. The recipients will be:

Small Employer (200 or fewer employees)

Center Heating and Air Conditioning Co., Inc., Sanford, North Carolina
Central Telephone of the South, Milledgeville District, Milledgeville, Georgia (runner up)

Large Employer (more than 200 employees)

Adolph Coors Company, Golden, Colorado
Burnside-Ott Helicopter Maintenance Service Project, Milton, Florida (runner up)

Several nominations that had been received were ineligible for consideration for the employers to be honored at the National Convention because they did not meet one of the four criteria listed on the nomination form. Departments submitting these nominations were sent a plaque for presentation by the departments, as were the companies named above. The companies receiving plaques, other than those listed above, were:

**Large Employers
Over 200 Employees**

Sikorsky Support Service, Inc., Ft. Rucker, Alabama
Rheem Manufacturing Company, Fort Smith, Arkansas
Kinnett Dairies, Inc., Columbus, Georgia
American Protective Service, Idaho Falls, Idaho
Keco Industries, Inc., Florence, Kentucky
Brown & Root U.S.A., Inc., at Sohio Refinery, Belle Chasse, Louisiana
Packaging Corporation of America, Grand Rapids, Michigan
Arctco, Inc., Thief River Falls, Minnesota
A & S Tribal Industries, Popular, Montana
Split Ballbearing Division of MPB Corporation, Lebanon, New Hampshire
Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station, Forked River, New Jersey
City Wide Security, Brooklyn, New York
Automatic Transmission Shops, Inc., Gastonia, North Carolina
Gradall Company, New Philadelphia, Ohio
Robberson Steel & Bridge Company, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Wetterau, Inc., Pittsburgh Division, Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania
TDS Incorporated, North Charleston, South Carolina
Home stake Mining Company, Lead, South Dakota
Bridgestone (U.S.A.) Inc., Tire Manufacturing Group, LaVergne, Tennessee
Stewart & Stevenson Service, Inc., Houston, Texas

**Small Employers
200 or Fewer Employees**

Quality Mechanical Contractors, Inc., Mobile Alabama
R. E. Darling Company, Inc., Tucson, Arizona
Chase Bag Company, Monticello, Arkansas
Criminal Justice Alternatives Inc., Brush, Colorado
Kamm Aerospace Corporation of Jacksonville, Jacksonville, Florida
Lake City Radiator, Coeur D'Alene, Idaho
J. T. Lardner Cut Stone, Topeka, Kansas
Fuller Manufacturing Company, Falmouth, Kentucky
Vickrey Vending, Inc., Bossier City, Louisiana

Georgia Pacific Corporation, Grand Rapids, Michigan
The Mill Lawn & Garden, Inc., Lee's Summit, Missouri
Livingston Ford-Lincoln-Mercury, Livingston, Montana
Gilchrist Metal Fabricating Co., Inc., Hudson, New Hampshire
Sottile and Sons, Turnerville, New Jersey
Ronald J. Hovan Heating & Cooling Company, Oakwood, Ohio
Wells Fargo Guard Service, Tulsa, Oklahoma
Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation, Washington, Pennsylvania
Lockheed Aeromod Center, Inc., Greenville, South Carolina
Barber Transportation Company, Rapid City, South Dakota
Crawford Technical Services, Inc., Ft. Campbell, Tennessee
ITT/Base Services, Inc., District 5, Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah
ALTEC International, Inc., La Crosse, Wisconsin

The special committee also selected a runner-up company in each category in case either of the companies selected were unable to accept the award or to attend the National Convention. Both of the winning companies have accepted and, in accordance with Legion policy, the company official attending the National Convention to accept the award will be given a stipend to defray expenses.

There was also extensive discussion of the nomination and procedures to ensure accurate and complete information for the selection committee, and ways to promote the awards program to bring in the largest number of nominations.

As it has before, the committee stressed the importance of clear, brief answers to the question on the form which asks for reasons why the nominating company should receive the award. Many of the nominations are so excellent that the final selection rests on information furnished to this question.

B. Small Business Administration

At the time of the February 1986 Washington Conference, the Small Business Administration (SBA) was facing the end of its existence as an agency, with some of its functions (such as its Veterans Affairs Office) abolished and others distributed to other federal agencies. The Administration has apparently given up on such dismantling, and a new Administrator, former Senator James Abdnor, has taken over the agency.

Richard Ellis, new director of SBA's Office of Veterans Affairs, speaking at the February 9th session sees an increase in small businesses in the next fifteen years leading to the landmark year of 2000. Many of the beginners in business will be unaware of the resources the SBA can provide them to prevent their premature going out of business, as half now do in the first two years. The SBA expects to soon begin putting in place the Regional Veterans Affairs Officers who will work on increasing the contracts with the veterans organizations, the creation of Veterans Business Resource Councils, and persuading the retired executives who comprise SCORE to appoint veterans affairs chairmen in each of their chapters. This year will see the end of direct loans to veterans, but Ellis pointed out that 26 percent of all SBA-guaranteed loans go to veterans.

C. VA Home Loan Guaranty Program

A panel discussion of the VA's home loan program was held in the afternoon of the February 9 meeting of the Economic Commission. It was comprised of: Robert O'Toole, Director, Loan Guaranty Service, VA; Bryan Chappelle, Senior Director, Residential Finance Division, Mortgage Bankers Association; Gloria Royce, professional staff member, Subcommittee on Housing and Memorial Affairs of the House Committee on Veteran's Affairs; and John H. Fugeman, President, Catlettsburg Federal Savings and Loan Association, Catlettsburg, Kentucky, and a member of the Employment Committee.

Mr. O'Toole reported on the administration's proposal to increase the user fee to 2.5 percent as of June 1987, and to make the interest rate negotiable between the veteran

purchaser and the lender instead of having the VA set the maximum interest rate. Ms. Royce expressed the commitment of the House CVA to the VA home loan as an earned benefit, and its opposition to the negotiated interest rate as well as the increase in the user fee, regarding the latter as nothing more than a selective tax directed only to veterans.

Mr. Fugeman, whose savings and loan no longer makes VA-guaranteed loans, says the transfer of such loans to mortgage bankers, who sell the loans for investment packages, makes impossible the on-the-ground supervision and counseling necessary to keep the default rate down. He had called his regional VA office to find the nearest lender, discovering it was 150 miles away. The speaker from the Mortgage Bankers Association, Bryan Chappelle, said that association is concerned about the VA's no-bid program, under which the VA pays the lender the VA-guaranteed amount and turns over the property to the lender for disposition. Many of the defaults are in economically depressed areas, where resale by the lender does not cover the loan, which has resulted in a \$100 million loss. Mr. O'Toole reported that the overall VA foreclosure rate is about four percent, lower than the FHA, higher than for conventional loans.

All the panelists agreed that veterans with payment problems that could lead to foreclosure are receiving little or no service from the mortgage bankers, where the emphasis is on generating new loans. The VA, because of personnel cuts, is not in a position to provide counseling for veterans.

At the Legislative Rally, held on Tuesday, February 10, for all attendees, the chairman of the Economic Commission, Bruce Thiesen, stressed the importance of informing Congress of the Legion's opposition to any increase in the user fee and to the substitution of negotiating interest rates for a VA-established interest maximum.

D. Homeless Veterans

Daniel R. "Ray" Cloutier, special assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans Employment and Training, who had conducted a study last year on homeless veterans, spoke to the Commission on Monday. He estimated that there is a basic population of about 11,000 homeless veterans, with about four or five that number homeless at sometime during the coming year. About a third or less have had emotional or mental problems. While a very small percentage need institutionalization, most can be treated on an out-patient basis.

Ordinary sources of economic and medical help cannot reach these people; the homeless are often hostile and dirty. The veterans outreach centers are good at reaching the homeless veterans because of veteran identification and the casual atmosphere and clothing. The office of the Assistant Secretary is financing demonstration projects in ten cities, hiring veterans who have either been homeless or near it, to lure others into the system. The veterans organizations are helping. In San Diego, IV-C funding helped a program that provided jobs for 20 veterans, and in Detroit The American Legion was one of three veterans organizations that "adopted" shelters.

II. Employment Committee Report

Seven members of the Employment Committee, including James A. McMahon (ME), its chairman, attended the meetings on February 9-11, 1987.

A. Office of Assistant Secretary of Veterans Employment and Training

Garnett "Bill" Prince, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans Employment and Training, spoke to the Employment Committee on February 9, as the Assistant Secretary, Donald Shasteen, was speaking to another Legion meeting.

Prince covered the attempts to free unused money from the Veterans Job Training Act (VJTA) from the U.S. Treasury. Late in 1986, the VA had suddenly announced that VJTA funds were almost gone. Meantime, approximately \$8 million of VJTA money was turned over to the Treasury, representing money committed to VJTA training which veterans did not complete. The Legion, the office of the Assistant Secretary, and the Congressional veterans

affairs committees were all agreed that the money should be returned to the VA for new use.

The efforts of the Assistant Secretary to increase enforcement of the legal requirement that federal contractors take affirmative action to hire and promote Vietnam era and disabled veterans were reviewed. A recent query to the ten top federal contractors had resulted in many variations on "didn't know about the law." The office will continue to build relations with the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs to get more audits and investigators, and will be meeting with federal procurement officers to emphasize the law.

B. Job Service

Jill Cockran and Darryl Kehrer, staff members, respectively, of the House and Senate Committees on Veterans Affairs, spoke to the group on February 9. They agreed that both committees were committed to an extension of the Veterans Job Training Act, and, currently, getting the Treasury to refund the VJTA money to the VA. Funding for VJTA is under discussion, and Ms. Cochran pointed out that usually half of what is authorized is eventually available. To a question on the lack of a coordinated Congressionally mandated employment program for veterans, she pointed out that, while the CVA is considered the responsible place for veterans, most employment legislation comes before other committees, such as the proposed legislation on changing the Employment Service and that for dislocated workers, although veterans are a large constituency for both proposals.

The employment Services Act of 1987, a section of the Trade, Employment, and Productivity Act of 1987, a massive bill designed to address the issue of American competitiveness, proposes that "public employment services" be provided through whatever mechanism the Governor of each state would designate. The system which has been in place for over 50 years, of a federal/state employment service, financed through employer taxes and returned to the states by the federal government for a nationwide public employment services in which veterans are to have special priority, would cease. The Private Industry Councils, which oversee the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) program, would be granted monitoring and evaluation powers over such a mechanism; states would not even be required to have any public employment service at all.

The American Legion has long been aware that such a "devolution" of employment services to the states was contemplated by the Department of Labor, and at the 1986 National Convention approved resolution No. 230 which opposes any such action. The Department of Labor held hearings in the fall of 1986, on the future of the Employment Service. Bruce Thiesen, Chairman, National Economic Commission, testified at the hearings in San Francisco, as did many other Legionnaires elsewhere. The independent contractor hired to summarize these hearings concluded that "most (respondents) felt that the current ES System needs fine-tuning, rather than a complete overhaul." National Commander James P. Dean has written in protest to Secretary of Labor William E. Brock, pointing out that, in spite of the Department's assurances that veterans preference would continue under the new system, such priority and preference is impossible under the terms of the Act.

C. Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA)

Title IV-C of the Job Training Partnership Act, the only part of the Act that pertains to veterans, is being funded at approximately \$10 million, which will finance a few demonstrations or research projects.

While Secretary of Labor Brock had been earlier supportive of identification of veterans as a target group in certain titles of JTPA, particularly its section on dislocated workers, of whom veterans constitute 26 percent, the administration's proposed legislation as presented to Congress has no such provisions.

D. Veterans Job Training Act (VJTA)

The cessation of the VJTA program by the VA in the late 1986 because of lack of funds, and the movement of \$8 million to the U.S. Treasury, were covered by several speakers at the

Washington Conference meeting. While it is understood that the Treasury has agreed to return the money to the VA for use for VJTA, to date there has been no movement.

The Legion testified March 18 before a subcommittee of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs on VJTA, urging a \$30 million supplemental appropriation to carry the program through the end of the present year; and applauding the proposed two-year extension and the Committee's request for \$60 million for VJTA in FY 88.

Dennis Wyant, Director, Vocational Rehabilitation and Education Service of the Veterans Administration, who had recently been given responsibility for the VA's part of the VJTA, addressed the Employment Committee on February 9. The Vocational Rehabilitation division of the VA has been its only division with any responsibility for employment placement, and it has not done the job it should, partly because of staff shortages and partly because of a belief that services already in place, such as the Employment Service, should be used. They are creating a Job Bank, not primarily for placement, but partly to show veterans what is available. There are 400,000 veterans who have met the criteria of so many weeks of unemployment and have been certified for VJTA. They have sent out 50,000 letters to VJTA-certified, disabled veterans to determine if they may be eligible for vocational rehabilitation, which can provide training and pay for relocation, if necessary.

E. National Employ the Handicapped Week

In the calendar year 1986, nineteen (19) plaques were presented by Legion departments to companies with outstanding records of hiring the handicapped, including disabled veterans. The National Economic Commission provides these plaques to nominating departments for presentation to the employers.

The President each year proclaims the first full week of October as "National Employ the Handicapped Week; in 1986 it was October 5-11. The Legion joins the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped and its committee on Disabled Veterans in promotion of this week.

F. Employ the Older Worker Week

In a similar program to that for the handicapped, The American Legion presents plaques to departments nominating employers of older workers. Although the Legion has been unable to have the second full week in March of each year made a "National Employ the Older Worker Week" by presidential proclamation, many organizations promoting such employment have joined the Legion in calling attention to this time span, which in 1986 was March 8-14. Twenty-five (25) awards were made by as many departments to employers with truly excellent records in hiring and retaining older workers.

III. Report of the Veterans Preference Committee

Nine (9) members of the Veterans Preference Committee, including its chairman, Henry Field (SC) and vice chairman, Charles Gray (CA) attended the February 9-11 meeting.

A. Office of Personnel Management

The Office of Personnel Management had just gone through a reorganization, and there was no one in charge of its affirmative employment programs for veterans to speak at the February meetings. There are no emergency issues of veterans preference before the Committee at this time. The staff maintains close contact with various OPM staff and is prepared to monitor any developments in this area. It is expected there will be a representative of OPM addressing the Commission and Committee at the 1987 National Convention.

... The printed report of the national Economic Commission is as follows:

**Report of
THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSION
to the
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 6-7, 1987
Bruce Thiesen (CA), Chairman**

An Executive Session of the National Economic Commission and its standing Committee on Employment was called for May 4-5, 1987, at the the Hilton Circle Hotel in Indianapolis, Indiana. The purpose of this meeting was to consider one (1) register resolution and two (2) resolutions which had been referred from the Fall, 1986 meeting. Also discussed were other matters relevant to The American Legion's Economic Program.

The following were in attendance:

Economic Commission

Bruce Thiesen (CA), Chairman
Joseph Holska (NY)
Robert W. Groccia (MA)

Francis W. LaRocco (NY)
Richard C. Calahan (WA)

Employment Committee

James A. McMahon (ME)

Liason Committee

William Christoffersen (UT), National Executive Committeeman
Jerome Roach (MO), National Executive Committeeman

Also in attendance were: William Rogers (ME), Past National Commander; Anthony Santillanes (NM); Marvin Jones (CA); and Dennis K. Rhoades, Staff Director.

Register Resolution

Resolution No. 2167 (TN), titled: **Enact Legislation to establish the position of Regional Director for Veterans Employment and Training for each Department of Labor Region** is recommended to be received and recorded.

Referred Resolutions 1986 National Convention

Resolution No. 109 (VA), titled: **Seek Amendment to the National Guard Technician Act (PL 90-486)** is recommended to be received and recorded.

Resolution No. 207 (DC), titled: **Seek Amendment to the National Guard Technician Act (PL 90-486)** is recommended to be received and recorded.

Other Business

1. A discussion was held on the Employer Award program, with a recommendation that the lead time on distribution of award packages be advanced.

2. Discussion was also held on format, speakers and topics for the Commission meeting at the 1987 National Convention.

3. The Commission heard a staff report concerning current programmatic and legislative developments in Washington, D.C.

The Commission adjourned on May 5, 1987.

Recommended Action—Received and Recorded

Res. No. 2167 (DEC (TN))—Enact Legislation to establish the position of Regional Director for Veterans Employment and Training for each Department of Labor Region.

Res. No. 109 (1986 Natl. Conv. (VA))—Seek Amendment to the National Guard Technician Act (PL 90-486).

Res. No. 207 (1986 Natl. Conv. (DC))—Seek Amendment to the National Guard Technician Act (PL 90-4860).

MR. HIGGINSON, California: I move that the Report be received and filed, with the exception of the disposition of the Resolutions on the Addendum.

. . . The motion was seconded by Ms. Chaplin, Canada and carried.

RESOLUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Attached to the National Economic Commission's Report is the disposition of three Resolutions.

I move that the recommended action that is attached to the National Economic Commission's Report be approved by this Executive Committee.

. . . The Motion was seconded by Mr. Sheeks, Indiana and carried.

* * *

Resolutions

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Mr. Commander and Members of the National Executive Committee, we have a number of Resolutions that we read under Rule 8 A yesterday, and may the record show that these Resolutions are being read this morning at 8:42 A.M. on May 7th, 1987.

**American Legion Magazine Advertising Contract with Fox Associates, Inc.
of Chicago, Illinois**

Res. No. 14 (Submitted by: The American Legion Magazine Commission)

WHEREAS, The current contract with The American Legion's Publisher's Representative for advertising sales, Fox Associates, Inc. of Chicago, Illinois, will expire on May 14, 1987; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion Magazine Commission, meeting in regular session on February 10-11, 1987, in Washington, D.C. expressed its desire that Fox Associates, Inc. should continue to serve as The American Legion's Publisher's Representative for advertising sales; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion Magazine Commission did authorize the Publisher/Editor-In-Chief and The American Legion Magazine Commission Chairman, with advice and counsel of the National Judge Advocate, to negotiate a new contract with Fox Associates, Inc. for the period May 15, 1987 through November 30, 1987, with appropriate provisions for subsequent one-year renewals, such contract to contain appropriate commission incentives for outstanding performance; and

WHEREAS, The National Finance Commission has reviewed and recommended approval of the recommendations of The American Legion Magazine Commission; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, That it does hereby grant approval for entering into a contract, containing appropriate commission incentives for outstanding performance, with Fox Associates, Inc. of Chicago, Illinois, for the purpose of soliciting advertising throughout the United States for The American Legion Magazine on a non-exclusive basis for the period of May 15, 1987 through November 30, 1987, with appropriate provision for one-year renewals; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the National Commander be and he is hereby authorized to execute the said contract when approved as to terms and conditions by the National Judge Advocate, and the National Adjutant be and is hereby authorized and directed to attest the same.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Fisher, Arkansas, and Dr. Vawter, Arizona and carried.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Emanately from the Internal Affairs Commission is a request as signified by Resolution No. 13 which is as follows:

Bequest to the American Legion

Res. No. 13 (Submitted by: National Internal Affairs Commission)

WHEREAS, Ruth M. VanTassel provided for a bequest to The American Legion in her Last Will and Testament to be used as The American Legion sees fit for assistance of disabled Veterans; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion has been advised by the Executrix of the estate that this bequest, after payment of all taxes and fees chargeable thereto, totals \$692.01; and

WHEREAS, This matter has been approved by the National Internal Affairs Commission which recommends approval of this Resolution to the National Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, A check has been received in the above cited amount; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 6-7, 1987, That the national organization is hereby authorized to accept said bequest to be used for the assistance of disabled veterans by allocations to the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation budget.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Henricks, Illinois and carried.

Korean War Memorial

Res. No. 21 (Submitted by: National Internal Affairs Commission)

WHEREAS, Resolution 132, titled Korean War Memorial, approved at the 1986 National Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio, did support the construction of a Korean War Memorial, and

WHEREAS, Public Law 99-572 authorized the American Battle Monuments Commission to establish a Korean War Memorial on federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 99-572 authorized the appointment of a twelve member Advisory Board consisting of veterans of the Korean War and assigned said Board the responsibility of recommending the site and selecting the design for the Korean War Memorial, and

WHEREAS, Public Law 99-572 stated the Korean War Memorial site be constructed with private funds; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 6-7, 1987, That The American Legion will engage in a fund-raising activity to support the Korean War Memorial if a Legionnaire, who served in the Korean War only and recommended by The American Legion, is appointed to serve on the twelve member Advisory Board, and be it finally

RESOLVED, That all funds raised by The American Legion will be applied only to constructions costs of the Korean War Memorial and will be forwarded to the American Battle Monuments Commission upon receipt of certified expenses for actual construction of the Korean War Memorial.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Lauer, Delaware and carried.

1988 National Convention Commission

Res. No. 31 (Submitted by: NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMISSION)

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Resolution No. 31 emanating

from the National Convention regarding the contract with the 1988 National Convention, there was one change that we are placing in the resolving clause, and if you listen attentatively you can pick it up.

WHEREAS, all conditions for a contract have been resolved with The American Legion National Convention Corporation of Kentucky, Inc. for our National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky on September 2-8, 1988; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 6-7, 1987, that—(And this is the new language) that upon the approval of the Judge Advocate, the National Commander be authorized to sign a contract with The American Legion National Convention Corporation of Kentucky, Inc. to host the 1988 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky on September 2-8, 1988.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Goodness, Kentucky and carried

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Mr. Commander, this completes the 8 A Resolutions.

* * *

Legislative Policy

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: I will now give you the resolutions which will be the Legislative Policy of The American Legion, which will be added to the Legislative Policy of the American Legion. As they were passed by this National Executive Committee:

Foreign Relations

Res. No. 17 Policy regarding South Africa

Res. No. 18 Support stricter regulation of former senior government officials who become foreign government representatives

National Security

Res. No. 2 Modern medical center at Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland

Res. No. 6 Support funding for anti-satellite weapons

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

Res. No. 4 Establish seven year presumption for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis

Res. No. 5 Exempt Chapter 34 educational benefits from "sequestration" under PL 99-177 (Gramm-Rudman budget act)

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: This is presented pursuant to Rule 8-B of this body and this is the Legislative Policy.

I move approval of the Resolution.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Comer, Massachusetts, and Mr. Fisher, Arkansas, and carried.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The Resolutions to be adopted as the Legislative Program are approved.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The next report will be the Report of the American Legion History Committee, by Past National Commander Al Keller, Jr. of Illinois, Member of that Committee.

HISTORY COMMITTEE MEMBER AND PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER AL KELLER, JR.: Thank you, Mr. Commander. Members of the National Executive Committee, I have the distinct honor to make this Report this morning to you on The American Legion History Committee, only because of the untimely death of our Chairman from the South, Legionnaire Ralph Godwin, the gentleman from Mississippi.

It was appropriate that he was chosen as Chairman of this Committee, because of his ability to recall the many years that he had the opportunity to serve The American Legion, all the events that took place during that time, and he was certainly a great help to the newcomers on the Committee, and a great help to the author that we have hired to do the History of The American Legion in this three-year period of time that was granted to us by the Resolution which passed in October of 1986.

I realize that you just received our History Committee report just a few seconds ago, and therefore probably have not had time to look through it, but I would like to spend just a little time to kind of review with you what is in the Report, then talk to you briefly about the Chapter which was on your desk when you came in this morning.

As you know, and as I said, the Resolution that was passed in October of 1986 gave the authority for the publication of The American Legion History.

It also gave the authority to hire an author for this history and subsequently Mr. Thomas A. Rumer was hired to proceed with the program.

The discussion that came at our first meeting was how to eventually publish such a history. Should we do it in-house, should we do it with the availability and the use of the outside publisher? And it was determined that we should in all probability use an outside publisher, therefore, that would entail various phases of the history and that is outlined in our Report.

The first being, of course, to prepare a sample chapter which could then be given to a publisher to determine whether or not the publisher would be interested in publishing the history. If not, of course, we can go back to the in-house publication.

So we have outlined for you, everything that has happened since that Fall Meeting in 1986; the first page, the progress that has been made from November 1986 on up.

It outlines at the bottom of the page, which shows you what that sample, Chapter that you will have the opportunity to read, consists of, and you will note that that outline then includes the basic elements of the Legion's History during the early and mid-1950's—the Korean period, that we were interested in writing a chapter about.

And the major themes were developed for this program, such as membership of the Citizens Soldiers in the time of war, and peace, and incorporating the subject of preparedness, the benefits, the service to the country, the Legion and the Veterans Administration; the Legion, mainstream of America, the Legion as an organization from the standpoint of the view from the inside, the work of the National Convention and voluntarism, the work at the National level, and what has happened since that time beginning in September 1986, which you will find on page 3 of the Report.

Also, I think Mr. Stone and myself, and Mr. Godwin, were he here, would want to give our thanks to the oversight group, which works here on almost a daily basis with it, our own Adjutant, Mr. Spanogle, and Mr. Onderdonk, the Judge Advocate, and the Publisher of The American Legion Magazine. Tom Hull, certainly from the Library and this group meets quite often with Mr. Romer to discuss what is being done on the history.

Also, we are using the services of some of our past employees, Joe Keeley and Bob Pitkin, who are helping with that service.

It outlines further on pages 4 through 6 the progress that has been made in January, February, March and April of 1987, and finally then it says that we have the first draft before us, which is the document which you have on your desk, and we hope that you will take it home and read it.

I think you will find it very interesting reading. Certainly those of us who have read it have started with the first page and kept on with the job until it was completed.

I think we are on the right track, and we're going to have a very successful publication, once all of the research, all the writing is finished, and it finally comes out in book form. Mr. Stone and myself, and a Committee will meet with the author later today to further discuss phase two on our plan on how to proceed with the history that we are writing for The American Legion.

I'm sure that if any questions come up from the Members of the NEC, that Mr. Rumer would be happy to answer them. You can find him in the library, in the back part.

I would suggest that once you have read the chapter, perhaps some of you would like to communicate with the National Adjutant, and tell him how you feel about it, whether it is on the right track, and from your comments, I'm sure we can do a much better job in drafting, writing, and publishing the history of The American Legion.

Mr. Commander, thank you for the opportunity to serve, and thank you for allowing me to make the report.

The printed report of The American Legion History Committee is as follows, together with the sample chapter first draft:

**Report of
THE AMERICAN LEGION HISTORY COMMITTEE
to
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Al Keller, Jr. (IL)
May 7, 1987**

The National Executive Committee of the American Legion, at its meeting on October 8-9, 1986 in Indianapolis, adopted Resolution No. 9 titled "Preparation and Publication of a History of The American Legion," and created a committee for the preparation of a history of the American Legion. The resolution also engaged Mr. Thomas A. Rumer as the author to research, write, edit, and to proofread such a history.

Mr. Rumer's task is to create a table of contents and a sample chapter to be submitted to a prospective publisher. The Committee authorized Mr. Rumer to prepare the initial chapter on the Korean War period.

Mr. Rumer has been researching The American Legion National Headquarters archives and his progress on the initial chapter before you was as follows:

November, 1986

Background reading: *American Legion Magazine*, 1949-1957; National Convention Proceedings, 1949-1957; a selection of fourteen departmental histories; the history of The American Legion Auxiliary, 1944-1957; *The American Legion Story* by Raymond Moley, Jr.; secondary works from the Legion library on the Korean War, the G.I. Bill (first, and Korean War), on the Korean War, the G.I. Bill (first, and Korean War), Universal Military Training (and other works on "preparedness").

Archival Survey: Biographical and other files of the following National Commanders: George N. Craig (1949-50), Erle Cocke, Jr. (1950-51), Donald R. Wilson (1951-52), Lewis K. Gough (1952-53); subject correspondence files on the Korean War and UMT.

Compilation/Composition: Notetaking necessary to compile: (1) Word processor files on current events of the 1950's; (2) A glossary of terms for American Legion initiatives, positions, and other activities for the period; (3) Select biographies; (4) A working list of major themes, and a detailed outline of the Korean War era chapter of the eventual Legion history publication (the outline herewith follows).

American Legion History: The 1950's, the Korean War Era Outline (November, 1986) for sample chapter to be submitted April 1, 1987

- I. 1949—Transition from Wartime Status
 - A. National Economy
 1. The G.I. Bill (1944), an update
 2. The Veterans Administration and veterans benefits
 - B. World Events
 1. U.S. demilitarization
 2. World communism
 3. The emerging U.S. foreign policy

- C. The Legion in the Postwar Era
 - 1. Leadership by WW II veterans
 - 2. Legion service programs (beneficences)
 - 3. The VA, the Hoover Commission, and the Legion
 - 4. The Legion and prophetic concern for foreign policy
- II. The Korean War, 1950-53
 - A. Outbreak; U.N. and U.S. involvement
 - 1. Drastic changes in manpower needs
 - 2. The Legion and UMT
 - B. Limited war, a new concept
 - C. Korean War G.I. Bill (1952), and Veterans Preference
 - D. The Legion and the VA
 - E. The Legion's war
 - 1. Psychological warfare
 - 2. Internal security
- III. The Legion and Post War Relevancy, 1953-57
 - A. The Legion and Korean War veterans
 - 1. Benefits
 - 2. Legion membership
 - B. Continuity in Legion service programs
 - C. The reordering of world alliances
 - D. A retrospect

The outline above includes the basic elements of the Legion's history during the early and mid 1950's. The following are major themes which will be developed according to the format above: The advocacy of the Legion as a membership of citizen soldiers in time of war and peace (incorporating the subjects of preparedness, benefits, service to the country); the Legion and the Veterans Administration; the Legion as mainstream America; the Legion as an organization (the view from the inside, the work of the annual conventions, volunteerism on the national level); Legion positions on foreign policy and internal security.

A few sidebars may be developed which will help highlight and emphasize select topics, such as the Korean War G.I. Bill; the public image of the Legion (featuring the Roper poll and the editorial philosophy of the Legion magazine); national convention highlights; biographical sketches (Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson, a former National Commander); world tours of National Commanders during the period.

December, 1986

Archival Survey: Work in December on the American Legion's history project has included extensive reading of archival files on (1) Universal Military training for the years 1949 to 1955; (2) Biographical files for Past National Commanders Authur J. Connell (1953-54), Seaborn Collins (1954-55), J. Addington Wagner (1955-56), and W. C. Daniel (1956-57), (3) Positions during the late 1940's and early 1950's; (4) National Child Welfare Commission reports, publications and other materials for the years 1950-56.

Oral History: Mr. Rumer conducted an interview with National Adjutant Robert W. Spanogle in which they discussed various topics relating to the history of The American Legion, particularly how a variety of themes, which will be developed in the narrative history of the Legion, all related specifically to the Korean War period.

Compilation/Composition: For the sample chapter of the eventual Legion history publication, Mr. Rumer began composition of a section about the Legion's experiences during the 1950's when the Legislative Division and the National Security Commission attempted to convince several U.S. Congresses to adopt Universal Military Training legislation proposed by the American Legion.

History Committee: (Oversight Group, Indianapolis: Robert W. Spanogle, National Adjutant, Philip B. Onderdonk, Jr., National Judge Advocate, Daniel S. Wheeler, Publisher/Editor-in-Chief, American Legion Magazine, and Thomas V. Hull, Librarian and Museum Curator): This group met on December 3rd and discussed Mr. Rumer's report of history

project activities performed during November. During the meeting, two additional persons were recommended as potentially helpful oral history interviewees: Joseph C. Keeley and Robert B. Pitkin (former editors of the American Legion Magazine).

January, 1987

Archival Survey: Close reading of the National Executive Committee verbatim minutes for meetings in 1949 through 1953; correspondence files relating to Child Welfare activity, Tide of Toys, and the year (1957-58) in office of National Commander, John S. Gleason, Jr. Review of biographical and other files to prepare for oral history interviews (as below).

Additional Reading: *Medical Care of Veterans* (House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Print No. 4, 90th Congress, 1st Session). GPO, 1967. 411 pp. (Official history of the Veterans Administration).

Oral History: Conducted interview on January 22nd with Past National Commander George N. Craig (1949-50); made arrangements for interviews (to be conducted in February) of Past National Commander Erle Cocke, Jr. (1950-51); James R. Wilson (Past Director of National Security Division) and William F. Hauck (Past National Adjutant).

Compilation/Composition: Continued composition of section on UMT; continued to develop an outline of the major themes to be treated in the sample chapter; began a reference file of photos and other illustrations for sample chapter.

February, 1987

Archival Survey: National Executive Committee verbatim minutes in 1954-1956; biography files for several past national officers (who were subsequently oral history interviewees, as below); source materials at the Washington office of The American Legion relating to UMT and noted other materials in the program areas of Rehabilitation, National Security/Foreign Relations, Economics and Public Relations.

Oral History: Traveled to Florida to conduct interviews with the following: Robert B. Pitkin, William F. Hauck, James R. Wilson, and to Washington, D.C. to interview Past National Commander Erle Cocke, Jr., and several members of the Washington office, including Mylio S. Kraja, G. Michael Schlee, Spencer Leopard, Robert E. Lyngh, John F. Sommer, Jr., and John Hanson. Interviewed Charles W. Geile, Jr. in Greenfield.

Compilation/Composition: Continued composition of various sections of the sample chapter of the Legion history.

March, 1987

Archival Survey and Use: Returned to several files in American Legion National Headquarters archives relating to UMT and the Hoover Commission; consulted additional biography files for several past national officers to whom references were made by those interviewed during February; viewed American Legion Magazine articles recommended by former editor Robert B. Pitkin.

Oral History: Prepared extensive note sheets on the interviews cited in the February progress report, and began overseeing the word-for-word transcribing of the interview tapes. Made preparations for additional interviews.

Compilation/Composition: Continued composition of various sections of the sample chapter of The Legion History, particularly those about (1) The Hoover Commission (1946-49) and the Citizens Committee for the Hoover Commission Report, 1949-54, and, (2) The Legion's attempts to achieve Congressional (and Presidential) approval, enactment and implementation of a Universal Military Training bill.

History Committee: Met on 17 March with the National Headquarters based members of the American Legion History Committee for an oral progress report, which included discussion of an updated outline for the sample chapter on The American Legion in the Korean War era.

April, 1987

Archival Survey and Use: Returned to several files in American Legion archives relating to UMT and the Hoover Commission; consulted additional files on: Child Welfare, American Legion Junior Baseball, Americanism, Departmental biography files for select National Executive Committeemen.

Oral History: Supervised the transcribing of three taped interviews (with Past National Commander Erle Cocke, Jr., and with James R. Wilson, and Charles W. Geile). Involving thirty-five hours of secretarial time.

Compilation/Composition: Completed composition of a sample chapter of The American Legion History, focusing on two major themes during the Korean War years (1949 to 1954); (1) The Legion's attempt to have Universal Military Training adopted as part of the nation's defense policy, and (2) The Legion's efforts in opposing the recommendations of the Hoover Commission for cutbacks in veterans' benefits. Other developments and program areas have been treated also: Child Welfare, Americanism, and National Security.

The first draft of the sample chapter of The American Legion History was submitted to the History Committee on Sunday afternoon, May 3, 1987.

Present at this meeting were: Al Keller, Jr. (Illinois), E. Roy Stone, Jr. (South Carolina), Robert W. Spanogle (Michigan), Philip B. Onderdonk, Jr. (Maryland), Daniel S. Wheeler, Thomas V. Hull, and author, Thomas A. Rumer.

A copy of the sample chapter has been reproduced and it has been distributed to each member of the National Executive Committee.

If there are any questions about the sample chapter, the author will be happy to answer them for you at his office in the National Headquarters Library.

MR. HARRELL, Georgia: I move that the Report be received and filed.

... The motion was seconded by National Vice Commander Doris Gross, Washington and carried.

* * *

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Before proceeding to the final Report, we have, Resolution No. 3, Appointment of a Policy Coordination Action Group.

This tentative resolution has already been realized by the National Commander by his authority to appoint any Special Committee, and this was done in Washington, D.C.

We feel like it is a great success that this Committee, or this Council Group, Action Group has had this at their first meeting in Washington, D.C. and we feel like it should be continued for the time being, therefore, we are placing this resolution before you.

Appointment of a Policy Coordination and Action Group

Res. No. 3 (Submitted by: Resolutions Subcommittee, National Executive Committee)

WHEREAS, In this rapidly changing and increasingly complex world, a wide range of domestic and foreign problems raise issues that could seriously affect the future of the United States, and

WHEREAS, Based on the philosophy expressed in the Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion, highly effective programs of Foreign Relations, National Security, and Americanism have been implemented by this organization since its inception; and

WHEREAS, In this area of increasing complexity, close interrelationships between foreign and domestic problems, and rapid change, there exists within The American Legion a need for an organization to plan and coordinate actions on the issues mentioned above in accordance with the mandates of this organization; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion, in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 6-7, 1987, That the National Commander is authorized and directed to appoint a Policy Coordination and Action Group, of not more

than seven (7) members, one (1) observer, and such number of consultants, from within or without The American Legion, as he shall determine necessary; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chairman of the Group shall be the National Commander and shall include in its membership the Immediate Past National Commander as Vice Chairman and the following as members: one member of the National Executive Committee and the Chairmen of the following Commissions: Foreign Relations, National Security, Americanism and Public Relations. The National Commander may also invite a Candidate for National Commander to participate as an observer; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That this group be charged with the responsibility to coordinate decisions dealing with the programs of The American Legion and to establish a plan or plans of action to address foreign or domestic situations that may affect the national security or domestic stability of our nation; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That the National Commander may make a report to the National Executive Committee or to the National Convention when and if he deems it advisable or necessary.

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Your Committee recommends approval and I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Cooper, Alabama, and Mr. Blair, Alaska and carried.

* * *

BENEFICIARY TRAVEL

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: We don't have time to place this matter before you in resolution form, however, we are making a motion which I will read in just a moment.

I want you to recall that yesterday the National—well, I will call it by its old name, Rehabilitation Commission made a report to you relative to beneficiary travel, and this matter is a very serious matter in our opinion. And so, the Members of the Committee feel this way also, and we feel like this is something we should target, and we are therefore making this as a motion.

The National Executive Committee authorizes and directs the VA & Rehabilitation Commission to make a study on recent changes made by the Veterans Administration regarding beneficiary travel with particular concern on an agreement with a sister veterans organization, to handle travel to the VA and the effects that it will have on our disabled veterans.

Further, that we direct that the VA & Rehabilitation Commission report their findings to their pre-convention meeting of the NEC in San Antonio, Texas as the Convention.

I make that as a motion, and then I have a word I would like to say about it.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Harrell, Georgia.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Motion has been made and seconded, is there any discussion or questions?

MR. WATERS, District of Columbia: I would like, are we just talking about to a VA installation or a medical installation recommended by the VA?

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: We are talking about any VA facility, whether it is an out-patient clinic or a hospital or for VA Regional Office, either one.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Any other questions?

Any discussion?

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: As I mentioned before, we feel this is a very important question.

I would feel like by targeting this matter, it will be targeted throughout the National Convention, as well, by us having it at the pre-NEC meeting.

Therefore, it will probably be set up as a, on the agenda, at the pre-NEC meeting, as a Special Order of Business. We hope that we will have a report which we believe is going to show that the VA has made one hell of a mistake, and the man that is going to pay for it is the disabled veteran.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Any other discussion?

If not, all those in favor say Aye; those opposed Nay.

Motion is carried.

* * *

FINAL REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN E. ROY STONE, JR., South Carolina: Mr. Commander, Members of the National Executive Committee, your Subcommittee on Resolutions has been in session since May 4. We have considered all resolutions that have come before the Committee and we have acted and approved 31 resolutions that have been presented to this body.

I would like to thank the Members of the Committee who have done a fine job, and have attended every session, and have participated in the discussion of the resolutions.

They are W. D. Harrell, Vice Chairman (Georgia), John P. Comer (Massachusetts), Firman E. Henricks (Illinois), T. Les Galloway (Oregon), and Emmett B. Burley (Virginia).

Appreciation is also extended to National Historian Tom Hull and his staff who have worked with the Committee, and also to Mrs. Lori Bede, Director, Graphic Communications Center, and to the Directors and Chairmen of the Commissions and Committees who have been most cooperative and have helped the Committee and its work this week, and to get these resolutions before you.

Mr. Commander, I move approval of the Report.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Fisher, Arkansas and carried.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: I will now call on the National Adjutant for reports.

CONFIRMATION OF INTERIM APPOINTMENTS

MR. STONE, South Carolina: Mr. Commander, may I address this statement to the National Adjutant:

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Yes.

MR. STONE: The list of Interim Appointments that you have there, do you certify that that is a true and correct list?

NATIONAL ADJUTANT SPANOGLA: I so certify.

MR. STONE: I move that the list be approved without being read.

. . . The motion was seconded by Mr. Sheeks, Indiana and carried.

. . . The Interim Appointments so approved are as follows:

Donavon L. Orth, Delaware—Region 2 Chairman, Commission on Children & Youth, 1987

Ernest Gober, Arkansas—Region 6 Vice Chairman, Commission on Children & Youth, 1987

Ann M. Pina, California—Region 7 Vice Chairman Commission on Children & Youth, 1987

Hershel O. Ladner, Mississippi—Member, Convention Commission, 1987 (Replacing Ralph M. Godwin, MS—Deceased.)

Frank M. Shaffer, Wyoming—Consultant, Emblem Committee, 1987 (Replacing Norman J. Guster, Wyoming—Deceased)

Donald F. McCarthy, Connecticut—Member, Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Committee, 1989 (Replacing Richard W. Anderson, Connecticut—Resigned)

Bernard Irwin, Alabama—Member, Defense Civil Preparedness Committee, 1989, (Replacing Adril L. Wright, Alabama—Deceased)

Oren Williams, Mississippi—Vice Chairman, National Security Council, 1987 (Replacing Hershel O. Ladner, Mississippi—resigned)

John Ve. Miraglia, Massachusetts—Region 1 Chairman, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission, 1987

Lee O. Walker, Oklahoma—Region 4 Vice Chairman, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission, 1987

Buddy J. Phelps, New Mexico—Region 7 Vice Chairman, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission, 1987

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CONFIRMATION AND CANCELLATION OF POST AND/OR SQUADRON CHARTERS

MR. STONE, South Carolina: Mr. Commander, may I address another question to the National Adjutant?

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Yes.

MR. STONE: Do you certify that that is a true list?

ADJUTANT SPANOGL: I so certify.

MR. STONE: I move that it be approved without being read.

... The motion was seconded by Mr. Anderson, Connecticut and carried.

... The list of Charters and/or Squadrons is as follows:

Department	Name of Post	No.	Location
Arkansas	Brooks-Cupples	116	Marmaduke
	Eddie Pettiford	416	Cotton Plant
California	Hollywood Womens	185	Hollywood
	Winters	242	Winters
	Navy	278	Los Angeles
	Troy L. Martin	334	Twentynine Palms
	Griffith Park	353	Los Angeles
	Tuolumne	395	Tuolumne
	Alamitos Bay	445	Long Beach
	Bill Varnell	554	Trona
	Justice	575	Los Angeles
	Goleta Valley	610	Goleta
	McClellan-Jack R. Carrigg	818	North Highlands
Dist. of Columbia	Department of Commerce	45	Washington, D.C.
Florida	South Bay	161	South Bay
	Daniel Riccio	229	Hialeah Gardens
Illinois	Fort Dearborn	268	Chicago
	Scales Mound	1058	Scales Mound
	Forest City	1190	Forest City
	Marquette Heights	1275	Marquette Heights
Iowa	Ogden-Nelson	618	Carpenter
Louisiana	Henry Earl Brew	399	Winnfield
Massachusetts	Leon E. Abbott	57	Swampscott
Michigan	Kenneth E. Somero	299	Greenland
	William Stoppels	323	Muskegon
	Dimondale	515	Dimondale

Missouri	Clay T. Henderson	98	Sedalia
New Jersey	New Brunswick	29	New Brunswick
	Parkyn-Schaffroth	48	Palisades Park
	Mason-Perkins	308	Orange
	Essex Womens	406	East Orange
	General Robert Wood Johnson	501	New Brunswick
	Viet Nam Era Khe-Sahn	514	Newark
New Mexico	Amistad	67	Amistad
North Dakota	American Legion Memorial	104	Hannah
Ohio	Tremont	577	Cleveland
	Hellenic	585	Dayton
Oregon	For God and Country	13	Portland
	Christine B. McCormick	111	Bonanza
	Leatherneck	169	Portland
Tennessee	David Cunningham-Joe Harold McCoy	118	Milan
Texas	Tim Gates	380	Andrews
	Tinker-Hill	481	Seagraves
	Clovis Paschal	546	Covington
	Itasca	662	Itasca
	Coleman-Lofton	813	Corsicana
Washington	Theodore Roosevelt	23	Enumclaw
	Mt. Baker	121	Lynden
	Mansfield	177	Mansfield
	Henry Beerman	180	Tieton
	Peru-Pancoska	208	Battle Ground

**Charters of the American Legion Posts
to be Reinstated**

Department	Name of Post	No.	Location
Arkansas	John Thomas Rainbolt	198	St. Joe
France	Otha T. Spriggs	GR21	Crailsheim, West Germany
Louisiana	Coney-Flowers	547	Bogalusa
New Mexico	Bitsoi Henry-Henry Morgan Morris	111	Naschitti
Oklahoma	Lucius Terrel	168	Lanston

**Charters of S.A.L. Squadrons
to be Cancelled**

Department	Name of Squadron	No.	Location
California	Goleta Valley	610	Goleta
Illinois	DeKalb	66	DeKalb
	Manuel Perez, Jr.	1017	Chicago
Indiana	David McAllister	239	Lawrenceburg
	Clifton E. Peterson	310	Kirclin
	New Chicago	454	New Chicago
Pennsylvania	Sanford-Diletto	433	Morrisville

* * *

CONFIRMATION FOR DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

NATIONAL ADJUTANT SPANOGLE: The dates of the 1987 Fall Meetings and dates of the 1988 and 1989 meetings have been previously confirmed by the National Executive Committee. They are as follows:

1987 Fall Meetings

Commissions & Committees	October 12-13
Commanders & Adjutants Conference	October 12-13
National Executive Committee	October 14-15

1988 Washington Conference

Feb. 28-March 2

1988 Spring Meetings

Commissions & Committees	May 2-3
National Executive Committee	May 4-5

1988 Fall Meetings

Commissions & Committees	October 10-11
Commanders & Adjutants Conference	October 10-11
National Executive Committee	October 12-13

1989 Washington Conference

Feb. 26-March 1

1989 Spring Meetings

Commissions & Committees	May 8-9
National Executive Committee	May 10-11

1989 Fall Meetings

Commissions & Committees	October 16-17
Commanders & Adjutants Conference	October 16-17
National Executive Committee	October 18-19

TO BE CONFIRMED BY THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The dates to be confirmed by this meeting of the National Executive Committee are as follows:

1990 Washington Conference

February 25-28 (TENTATIVE)
(To Be Confirmed During
October Meeting)

1990 Spring Meetings

Commissions & Committees
National Executive Committee

April 30-May 1
May 2-3 APPROVED

1990 Fall Meetings

Commissions & Committees
Commanders & Adjutants Conference
National Executive Committee

October 15-16
October 15-16 APPROVED
October 17-18

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: The Chair will entertain a motion for approval of the confirmation of dates for future meetings.

. . . The motion was so made by Mr. Carawan, Maryland, seconded by Mr. Christoffersen, Utah, and carried.

* * *

CLOSING REMARKS

James P. Dean, Mississippi
National Commander

Members of the National Executive Committee, in the past two days we have discussed many significant issues.

I believe that we are closer now to reaching our goals than ever before.

Our meetings have set us in the right direction, I think they have set the pace for our great membership. It is up to us now to take what we have learned here and pass it on to the fellow Legionnaires, so we can succeed in the many concerns that we have.

We must ask all of our eligible Veterans to join The American Legion now, and continue to strengthen our ranks and do whatever is necessary to keep America strong, relying upon each and every one of you as a Member of the National Executive Committee and each of the Department Commanders that head up the most important drive for us now to reach again, another all-time high when we come to Convention in San Antonio.

In our continued efforts to help our friends in Central America, we must never lose sight that this is a National Security issue and not a political issue.

I want to thank each and every one of you for your contribution, and certainly your patience with the National Commander.

I will be looking forward to seeing you in San Antonio for our National Convention and certainly many of you during my travels in the next few months, the final months serving you as the National Commander.

Again, I want to thank you for being a part of our American Legion team, part of my team, and I wish all of you a very safe journey home, and certainly God bless all of you.

Thank you very much.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Mr. Stone, we need a resolution.

TECHNICAL RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STONE: Mr. Commander, I move that, as is our custom, the National Adjutant be authorized to edit the record of these proceedings to remove extraneous comments without changing the meaning, and that he insure that our discussions and actions taken while the rules were suspended is treated as if this body had

entered Executive Session.

I so move.

. . . The motion was seconded by National Vice Commander Doris Gross, Washington and carried.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Is there any unfinished business to be considered by the National Executive Committee? Any unfinished business?

If not, I will call on Reverend Fr. Arthur J. Jakobiak, our National Chaplain for the Benediction.

* * *

BENEDICTION

Very Rev. Fr. Arthur J. Jakobiak

New Mexico

National Chaplain

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the gifts You have given us and the deliberations we had, for the fellowship we have engaged in, and we ask that You continue to bless us, particularly as we return to our various Departments and to our various homes.

Keep us safe, and bring us together again, we ask in Your name, Amen.

* * *

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: Salute the Colors.

. . . At this time the National Executive Committee stood and saluted the Colors.

NATIONAL COMMANDER DEAN: We are adjourned.

. . . At 9:10 A.M., EST, the Spring Meeting of the National Executive Committee adjourned sine die.

the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are aged 65 and over has increased from 10.5 million to 13.5 million (19.5% of the population).

There is a growing awareness of the need to address the needs of older people, and the Government has set out a strategy for doing this in the White Paper on *Ageing Better* (Department of Health, 1999). The White Paper sets out a number of key objectives for the health care system, including:

- to improve the health and quality of life of older people;
- to ensure that older people are able to live independently in their own homes;
- to ensure that older people are able to access the services they need;
- to ensure that older people are able to participate in the decisions that affect their lives.

The White Paper also sets out a number of key principles for the health care system, including:

- to be patient-centred;
- to be accessible;
- to be effective;
- to be efficient;
- to be equitable;
- to be safe;
- to be transparent;
- to be accountable.

The White Paper also sets out a number of key actions for the health care system, including:

- to improve the health and quality of life of older people;
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