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THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 505

COMMITTEE: Foreign Relations

SUBJECT: POW/MIA

WHEREAS, a lengthening 9 1/2 years ago, we witnessed the triumphant return of 566 military and 25 civilian Prisoners of War from Southeast Asia; and

WHEREAS, information from the enemy concerning those still held as prisoner or missing has been deliberately and cruelly withheld, save for the token number of remains (77) furnished various U.S. delegations to Hanoi; and

WHEREAS, the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action problem is now entering its most critical period since 1973, as reports of Americans still in captivity have increased in number and validity over the past year. The Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) has accumulated over 1400 reports, the subjects of which range from sightings of prisoners still held to date, and on crash/grave sites. Over 430 of these sightings are first hand, eyewitness reports of men in captivity, some as recent as this year; and

WHEREAS, the DIA has substantiated information which verifies that the Vietnamese are withholding the remains of over 400 American servicemen; and

WHEREAS, in June 1982 letter to the National League of Families, President Reagan personally made the following strong pledge of action: "Actions to investigate livesighting reports receive and will continue to receive necessary priority and resources, based on the assumption that at least some Americans are still held captive. Should any report be proven true, this government will act decisively to ensure their return,"; and

WHEREAS, the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia must be included in all inter-agency discussions from which policy intended to resolve this issue will evolve; and

WHEREAS, there must be new initiatives to obtain information regarding our prisoners and missing; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, that maximum U.S. economic

(Res.505 -continued)

and diplomatic pressure be sustained, for as long as it takes to the end that those nations and movements which are hindering the search for the MIAs desist from this cruel practice and assist in the search effort as called for not only in the Paris Accords of 1973, but also by our common humanity; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Administration and the Congress speak out forcefully and publicly on this issue of our Prisoners of War and Missing in Action; that no most favored nation status be granted the Soviet Union or Warsaw Pact countries; that no further trade agreements be negotiated with the aforementioned; and, that no material or monetary aid even be considered for the Socialist Republic of Vietnam or any other likeminded countries until such time as an accurate accounting and/or return of our Prisoners of War and Missing in Action.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 191

COMMITTEE: Economics

SUBJECT: PROMOTE THE PURCHASE OF AMERICAN MANUFACTURED GOODS

WHEREAS, The American Legion is composed of over 2.6 million members who are also consumers of millions of products daily and annually; and

WHEREAS, The United States is currently experiencing high levels of veterans unemployment and industrial plant closings; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion is committed to the ideal that all citizens should be actively concerned over their country's economic course of events; and

WHEREAS, the purchase of American manufactured goods by the members of The American Legion will have a positive economic impact and help alleviate the serious rate of unemployment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, that The American Legion promote through its posts and departments the purchase of American manufactured goods.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 257

COMMITTEE: Economics

SUBJECT: FULL FUNDING FOR THE OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
VETERANS EMPLOYMENT

WHEREAS, PL 96-466 established the office of Assistant Secretary for Veterans Employment, to coordinate and direct all veterans employment/training activities within the Department of Labor; and

WHEREAS, in order to fully implement those pertinent sections of title 38, USC, as regard veteran employment matters, the office of Assistant Secretary for Veterans Employment must be fully funded; and

WHEREAS, underfunding of the office of Assistant Secretary for Veterans Employment will have a negative impact on the employment/training delivery services to all veterans, especially those of the Vietnam era; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, that the office of Assistant Secretary for Veterans Employment, U. S. Department of Labor, be fully funded to carry out its mission as prescribed by law and regulation.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 298

COMMITTEE: Economics

SUBJECT: SUPPORT THE UNITED STATES SAVING BOND PROGRAM

WHEREAS, The American Legion has long promoted the United States Saving Bond Program; and

WHEREAS, United States Saving Bonds have long provided a safe opportunity for systematic investments, with a fair return, and an attractive federal income tax deferral and state and local income tax exemption; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Savings Bonds had increasingly become less attractive as an investment because other investment opportunities, with equal safety, offered much higher returns; and

WHEREAS, Congress enacted legislation to allow the U.S. Treasury to increase the interest paid on U.S. Savings Bonds and otherwise make them more attractive as an investment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, that The American Legion continue its support of the United States Savings Bonds program, and that its individual and group effort be used to assist in effecting the success of this program; and be it further

RESOLVED, that The American Legion support any necessary legislation that will enable the U.S. Savings Bond program to continue to be of financial benefit to bond purchasers, as well as an expression of patriotic support of our Nation.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 368

COMMITTEE: Economics

SUBJECT: DESIGNATE THE SECOND FULL WEEK IN MARCH AS "NATIONAL EMPLOY
THE OLDER WORKER WEEK"

WHEREAS, The American Legion for a number of years has concerned itself with the difficulty encountered by the older worker, inasmuch as many of this group are veterans; and

WHEREAS, the practice of discrimination in employment because of age for otherwise qualified persons is contrary to the American principles of liberty and equality of opportunity for all citizens; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion since 1959 has promoted annually a successful program to focus public attention on the advantages of employing older people, especially veterans, under which the second full week in March is designated as "Employ the Older Worker Week," and citations are presented to employers who do not discriminate against older workers; and

WHEREAS, Department participation and interest of the Legion, employers, and the public in the program has increased each year for the past two decades and it has been recognized throughout the Nation and by the United States Congress as a meaningful and significant program to combat age discrimination in employment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, that The American Legion petition the Congress of the United States to adopt a Joint Resolution requesting the President of the United States to issue a Proclamation (1) designating the second full week in March of each year as "National Employ the Older Worker Week"; and (2) calling upon employer and employee organizations, other organizations concerned with employment, and the citizens of the United States in general to observe such a week with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs designed to bring about the elimination of discrimination in employment because of age.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 419

COMMITTEE: Economics

SUBJECT: OPPOSE CONTRACTING OUT OF FEDERAL JOBS RESERVED BY LAW FOR VETERANS

WHEREAS, Title 5, United States Code, 3310 (PL 89-554) provides that the positions of guards, elevator operators, messengers and custodians in federal agencies are restricted to veterans preference eligibles; and

WHEREAS, the federal government never fully sought to see that those positions are to be given to preference eligibles; and

WHEREAS, those positions have been contracted out to private contractors, thus denying a preference eligible the opportunity to compete for those positions; and

WHEREAS, the federal government intends to increase, through private contractors, those services, thus circumventing the intent of the above provisions; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, that The American Legion oppose contracting out of those positions as guards, elevator operators, messengers, and custodians restricted to veterans preference eligibles as provided in title 5, United States Code.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
63rd NATIONAL CONVENTION
HONOLULU, HAWAII
SEPTEMBER 1-3, 1981

RESOLUTION 172

COMMITTEE: Internal Affairs

SUBJECT: "AMENDMENT TO COPYRIGHT ACT. OF 1976, PUBLIC LAW 94-533,
SECTION 110"

WHEREAS, The Copyright Act of 1976, Public Law 94-553, which became effective January 1, 1978, as written, permits Broadcast Music, Inc. (BMI) and/or the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) to require our American Legion Posts to pay an annual license fee; and

WHEREAS, the penalty for copyright infringement subjects the violators to suit in federal court, and under the law fines of \$250 for each piece of music played during an unlicensed performance may be levied, plus court costs and attorney fees; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion, including all of its Posts, is a Congressionally chartered, nonprofit, fraternal and patriotic organization; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Honolulu, Hawaii, September 1-3, 1981, That we seek the passage of legislation in the Congress of the United States to amend Section 110 of Public Law 94-553, the Copyright Act of 1976, to specifically exempt any and all musical performances within the Post homes of The American Legion and all other Congressionally chartered, nonporfit, fraternal and patriotic organizations.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 507

COMMITTEE: Children & Youth

SUBJECT: SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, there has been an expression of concern by health authorities and various national organizations with an interest in the status of proper nutrition among young people; and

WHEREAS, The Federal School Lunch Program and other federally supported nutrition programs for children have demonstrated their worth as evidenced by a reduction of health problems, improved performance among children and a reduction in the drop-out rate; and

WHEREAS, there are many school systems throughout the United States that do not participate in the federal/state-supported school lunch program; and

WHEREAS, there are many schools and school systems throughout the United States that have never had a lunch program or have dropped existing lunch programs because of the lack of funding adequate for facilities and the training of personnel; and

WHEREAS, since 1941, The American Legion has supported the Federal School Lunch Program and other related programs of nutrition for children; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, that the Congress of the United States and the various state legislatures be urged to appropriate sufficient funds for school nutrition programs to reflect the increased cost of food and to provide for needed facilities and trained personnel for the purpose of conducting an adequate school lunch program.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 511

COMMITTEE: Children & Youth

SUBJECT: CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

WHEREAS, the American people have been understandably shocked by recent, startling revelations of the use of children in pornographic magazines and films; and

WHEREAS, the use of children as subjects in the production of pornographic materials has a devastating effect upon these young people, which is a disgrace to our society; and

WHEREAS, existing laws dealing with the production, sale and distribution of pornographic materials are inadequate as they do not fully protect against the use of children in the production of such materials; and

WHEREAS, many state penal codes aimed at the prosecution of those people involved in developing, promoting and selling child pornography are either non-existent or in need of clarification; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, That state legislators be encouraged to evaluate and make appropriate improvements in existing laws aimed at those adult individuals involved in the child pornography business; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that we urge the strengthening of existing federal legislation by the United States Congress to make penalties severe enough to eliminate the production, distribution and sale of materials that use children in sexually explicit scenes, and we urge that adequate funding be provided when necessary to accomplish these goals.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 513

COMMITTEE: Children & Youth

SUBJECT: CATASTROPHIC ILLNESS AMONG CHILDREN

WHEREAS, there is an ever-widening crisis in many states relating to the delivery and accessibility of health care and medical treatment to the children of this country; and

WHEREAS, historically, it has been The American Legion's position that all children should have adequate health services to assure their physical, mental and emotional well-being; and

WHEREAS, several applications have been received by the National Americanism and Children & Youth Division from Departments of The American Legion requesting financial assistance for needy medical cases from the Temporary Financial Assistance Program; and

WHEREAS, many children are not receiving needed medical treatment because their families have been unable to afford the cost of the catastrophic illness to one of their children; and

WHEREAS, many of these same families have had hospitalization insurance and even major medical insurance, yet cannot meet the cost of the catastrophic illness; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, that it reaffirms its position in urging the federal and state governments to enact the necessary legislation to assist financially those individual families faced by the catastrophic illness of one of their children in order to maintain the integrity of the family; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that in lieu of a better approach, the present federal and state Crippled Children Service program be expanded to include catastrophic illness, with each state developing its own definition and financial standards relating to catastrophic illness.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 509

COMMITTEE: Children & Youth

SUBJECT: ADOPTIVE CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

WHEREAS, more than 100,000 children are now considered unadoptable because of the lack of clear direction and objectives in our many public and private adoption agencies; and

WHEREAS, many of these are children of "special needs" who have not been adopted due to their age, race, ethnic group, mental, physical or emotional disability; and

WHEREAS, a crucial factor in the adoption of children of "special needs" is the high cost of medical care often impossible to estimate; and

WHEREAS, those persons who would be willing to commit themselves to the involvement with and care for a physically or mentally handicapped child would need financial assistance; and

WHEREAS, the total cost of such assistance would have been appropriated for such service or support had such children remained in foster or institutional care; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, that it supports the passage of Public Law 96-272 and encourages the Congress of the United States and the Office of Management and Budget to continue its fiscal support to the fullest degree possible of this most vital legislation.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 510

COMMITTEE: Children & Youth

SUBJECT: NATIONAL FAMILY WEEK

WHEREAS, one of the principles guiding The American Legion's Children & Youth program is to maintain the integrity of the family home; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that official recognition be given to the importance of strengthening family life; and

WHEREAS, the family is the center of our affections and the foundation of our American society; and

WHEREAS, no institutions can take the family's place in giving meaning to human life and stability to our society; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, that it urges the President of the United States and the Congress to establish "National Family Week" during Thanksgiving holiday week as an annual observance.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 515

COMMITTEE: Children & Youth

SUBJECT: REAFFIRMING IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, The American Legion has long recognized that there is no place in civilized society for communicable diseases; and

WHEREAS, there are already today vaccines and other specific medical treatment to protect children against communicable diseases; and

WHEREAS, there exists today in our country areas with an extremely low level of immunization against certain childhood diseases; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August, 24-26, 1982, That it reaffirms its position of supporting the fullest use of any licensed vaccine to combat communicable diseases; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that local Posts of The American Legion provide leadership and support to stimulate local treatment and immunization programs so that children in every community may achieve the fullest protection against communicable diseases; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, that sufficient federal and state funds be provided so that medically indigent children may be afforded an opportunity to receive the necessary treatment and immunization against all communicable diseases.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 1

COMMITTEE: Americanism

SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES

WHEREAS, effective intelligence agencies are required to preserve the national interests of the United States, and

WHEREAS, the intelligence agencies of the United States have been seriously damaged in the past by acts that jeopardized Free World agents throughout the world, and

WHEREAS, the real world adversaries of the United States are the Soviet Union and its satellites which do not hesitate to infiltrate their intelligence agents into most countries of the world, and

WHEREAS, Soviet communism, since 1917 Bolshevik Revolution has infiltrated primarily into three areas (labor, education, and military) of other countries with the goal of subversion and inciting anarchy, and

WHEREAS, Groups of "concerned" activists are impeding the development of defense industries, to include nuclear energy and even civil defense in the United States, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, that The American Legion urges the President and the Congress of the United States to:

- (1) Recognize that intelligence agencies cannot function effectively, nor can they feasibly conduct security operations when they are required to disclose sensitive information.
- (2) Rebuild, reconstitute, and/or create one or more intelligence and counterintelligence agencies that are answerable only to the Executive Branch of the United States.
- (3) Recognize the need to educate students through an Americanism Program in our school system.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 11

COMMITTEE: Americanism

SUBJECT: FLAG CODE AMENDMENT

WHEREAS, The American Legion has always been deeply concerned with the treatment of the Flag of the United States of America and has continuously urged uniform and proper display of our Flag and appropriate expression of civilian etiquette toward this symbol of our nation, and

WHEREAS, The American Legion manifested its deep concern through its initiative of and support for revision of the U.S. Flag Code, setting forth the details of the needed revisions through Resolution No. 87 (Washington)- "Amendments to the United States Flag Code be Expedited"- adopted by the 54th National Convention, August 22-24, 1972; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 344, 94th Congress, amending the "joint resolution to codify existing rules and customs pertaining to the display and use of the Flag of the United States of America as amended," hereinafter referred to as the Flag Code, was signed into law July 7, 1976, and

WHEREAS, the content of the revised Flag Code goes beyond the recommendations as set forth by The American Legion with the inclusion of one two-word phrase which has resulted in a great amount of confusion and misunderstanding among the nearly 2.7 million war veterans who make up our organization, and

WHEREAS, the insertion of the two words, "remain silent," in the final sentence of Section 7 of Public Law 344, 94th Congress, calls for deportment in a diametric opposition to more than 50 years of established custom for the expression of Flag Etiquette within the ranks of The American Legion, and

WHEREAS, it should be the intent of the revised Flage Code to clarify and encourage Flag display and the appropriate expressions of respect to the Flag, and

WHEREAS, Section 7 of said revised Flag Code may discourage the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance at American Legion and other civic functions, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, that The American Legion take

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 23

COMMITTEE: Americanism

SUBJECT: MEMORIAL DAY

WHEREAS, Memorial Day was established following the Civil War to be observed on May 30th each year, and

WHEREAS, the time-honored tradition of observing Memorial Day on May 30th has been eroded to make a long holiday weekend, thus causing Memorial Day to now be observed on the last Monday of May, and

WHEREAS, the change in holiday observances to the last Monday of some months has caused a diminished observance and defies time-honored traditions, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, that The American Legion call upon the Congress of the United States to restore Memorial Day to the proper day of observance on May 30th of each year.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 186

COMMITTEE: Americanism

SUBJECT: ILLEGAL ALIENS

WHEREAS, the number of illegal aliens in the United States has been increasing rapidly since 1965 and the Commission of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service estimates there are currently 5,000,000 to 7,000,000 such individuals in the United States, and

WHEREAS, the increasing number of illegal aliens in the United States is creating problems of serious economic impact which include increased welfare costs, adverse effects on the American labor market and the expense of deportation of apprehended illegal aliens, and

WHEREAS, present Federal law makes no prohibition on the employment of illegal aliens allowing some employers who have little regard for employment of American citizens to hire illegal aliens at depressed wage levels and under poor working conditions, and

WHEREAS, many veterans, particularly Vietnam veterans, are unable to locate employment because of the employment of illegal aliens, and

WHEREAS, there is a shortage of personnel in the Immigration Service to handle this problem, and

WHEREAS, Legislation has been approved by the House of Representatives prohibiting the employment of illegal aliens with appropriate penalties for employers who knowingly engage in such practice, and

WHEREAS, the problem of illegal aliens has many and varied facets, and

WHEREAS, The American Legion desires to have a position which is all encompassing, and

WHEREAS, our current mandate should cover an improved identification system, whereby there would be a counter-feit-proof workers' identity card to verify one's legal residence, and

WHEREAS, there now seems to be relatively no exchange of information or related interaction among the several Executive Departments responsible for dealing with various aspects of immigration, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, by the American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, that we urge the adopting of legislation which will prohibit the employment of illegal aliens

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 187

COMMITTEE: Americanism

SUBJECT: ASKING CONGRESS TO COMMEND CERTAIN IMMIGRATION OFFICERS

WHEREAS, The American Legion is always alert to and, especially because of the present state of the economy, concerned about the need for strict immigration enforcement; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that The American Legion urge Congress to commend those immigration officers for their outstanding performance to improve employment opportunities for American citizen by upholding the laws of the United States; and, be it further

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, adopt this resolution for its approval and implementation.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 198

COMMITTEE: Americanism

SUBJECT: TERRORISM

WHEREAS, The United States continues to be the scene for acts of terrorism, violence and subversion; and

WHEREAS, many of the acts are committed by citizens of our own country, who for whatever reason, in order to further their own cause resort to acts of property destruction and worse, the taking of lives; and

WHEREAS, such groups include members of the FALN and the National Liberation Movement who advocate the independence of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico by all means available including armed struggle; and

WHEREAS, FALN has claimed responsibility for certain bombings that have occurred throughout this nation over the past several years; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that The American Legion reiterate its support of our law enforcement agencies, and the courts in their efforts to bring an end to these and other similar acts of terrorism, violence and subversion; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the concerns of our organization and our support of those government agencies and branches of government who are taking steps to eradicate this scourge from our shores be brought to the attention of the Congress and the President so that in this time of budget cutting and program elimination, the commendable efforts of the federal authorities will not be hampered or brought to a halt; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that this resolution be transmitted to The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, for its approval and implementation with a request that a copy of this resolution be forwarded the President of the United States and to the appropriate committee of each House of the Congress.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 330

COMMITTEE: Americanism

SUBJECT: SCHOOL PRAYER

WHEREAS, the majority of Americans have historically believed in seeking God's protection and guidance through prayer, and

WHEREAS, the value of expressing spiritual convictions through public prayer has been recognized as a firm basis on which to conduct public proceedings, and

WHEREAS, Supreme Court decisions during the early 1960's have had the effect of severely restricting the practice of any manner of public prayer although these decisions simply addressed prescribed or compulsory prayer, and

WHEREAS, this restriction is most evident in our nation's public schools where a concurrent moral and spiritual decline is clearly manifested, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, that this organization urge the Congress of the United States to assume its responsibility in correcting the unnecessary problems created by court rulings which prohibited prescribed or compulsory prayer, and, be it further

RESOLVED, that we urge the Congress of the United States to express its majority belief in the value of voluntary prayer in public schools and at other public gatherings, and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Congress pass legislation to promote the concept of school prayer, including the approval of legislation to preempting federal courts from rendering decisions on prayer issues if such preemption is deemed necessary to insure that our nation's public school children have a daily opportunity to pray, and, be it finally

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the U.S. Senators and Representatives, the President of the U.S. Senate, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Chairmen of both the Senate and House Judiciary Committees, and the President of the United States.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 527

COMMITTEE: Americanism

SUBJECT: INTERNAL SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES

WHEREAS, the Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications, published by the U.S. Government Printing Office, identifies the Communist Party as a subversive organization which advocates the overthrow of our government by force and violence; and

WHEREAS, The U. S. Civil Service Commission (now Office of Personnel Management) has virtually abandoned any examination of individual applicants for subversive activities as members of the Communist Party; and

WHEREAS, such inaction contributes to the weakening of the internal security of the United States; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, that The American Legion call on the Congress and the President of the United States to approve legislation and executive action necessary to deny communists the ability to infiltrate and subsequently destroy our governmental agencies and institutions.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
64th NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 24-26, 1982

RESOLUTION 528

COMMITTEE: Americanism

SUBJECT: ENACT LEGISLATION TO DECLARE GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY
ANNIVERSARY A NATIONAL HOLIDAY

WHEREAS, the dates of patriotic holidays have been changed from their original dates to provide "three-day weekends"; and

WHEREAS, the present observance of these patriotic holidays places emphasis on a structured and unnatural recreational holiday rather than on a contemplative review of significant dates in American history; and

WHEREAS, the time-honored traditional observances of these holidays have been eroded; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Chicago, Illinois, August 24-26, 1982, That The American Legion call upon the Congress of the United States to restore Washington's Birthday to February 22, Memorial Day to May 30 and Columbus Day to October 12 each year.

The President

*file American
Legion*

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