

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Indianapolis, Indiana
May 13-14, 1992**

Resolution No. 38: Distinguished Service Award Nomination

Origin: Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Committee

Submitted by: Internal Affairs Commission

WHEREAS, The American Legion created The American Legion Distinguished Service Medal and has authorized its award to distinguished Americans in recognition of their outstanding service to the nation; and

WHEREAS, It is in keeping with the principles, purposes, and traditions of this award that it be bestowed upon an American who served as the 76th attorney general of the United States under Presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush from 1988-1991; and

WHEREAS, As attorney general he executed stepped-up initiatives against drug traffickers, initiated actions to combat organized crime and white collar criminals, and sponsored stronger enforcement of civil rights, antitrust and environmental laws; and

WHEREAS, He has been a leader in enactment of laws benefiting disabled Americans; and

WHEREAS, He served two terms as governor of Pennsylvania from 1979-1987, carrying out widely-recognized programs of tax reduction, economic development, crime control, welfare and education reform; and

WHEREAS, From 1987-1988 he was the director of the Institute of Politics at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government; and

WHEREAS, He served as United States attorney for Western Pennsylvania in 1969-1975 and was assistant attorney general of the United States in 1975-1977; and

WHEREAS, He continues to serve the nation as U.S. under-secretary-general of administration and management of the United Nations with responsibilities for budgeting, financial and personnel management; and

WHEREAS, He supports the highest principles and objectives of The American Legion through his life-long dedication to his fellow citizens both in uniform and out; and

WHEREAS, He worked closely with the State Veteran Council of Pennsylvania in securing the creation of a third state veterans home and continued his support in the planning of a fourth, and in so doing, did establish himself as the recognized veterans' advocate in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 13-14, 1992, That the Distinguished Service Medal of The American Legion be presented to Richard Thornburgh, under-secretary-general for administration and management of the United Nations in New York.