Top priority will be given by the U.S. Veterans' Advisory Commission to recommending legislation that would give Vietnam veterans "full and complete benefits," The American Legion has been informed.

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More and more as each day passes the Vietnam Era veteran's voice is being heard in the affairs of The American Legion. Now comes word of what may be the first Vietnam Era veteran to be elected commander of an established American Legion Post. He is Jerry Stachowiak, who now holds the top spot of Romulus Neenan Post 426, LaSalle, Ill.

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* * *

Secretary of State Dean Rusk told The American Legion Boys Nation delegates that the U. S. is fighting in Vietnam because of its concern for organizing a durable world peace.

* * *

The American Legion's youthful VIPs, champions of the competitive Americanism programs for the past year and selected representatives of the non-competitive programs, will again be among distinguished guests at the 1967 Legion National Convention in Boston Aug. 25-31.

-alns-
WASHINGTON—(ALNS)—Top priority will be given by the U. S. Veterans' Advisory Commission to recommending legislation that would give Vietnam veterans "full and complete benefits."

The statement on emphasis was made by Robert M. McCurdy of Pasadena, Calif., commission chairman, as the commission recently wound up the sixth of a series of 10 regional and national meetings aimed at gathering suggestions on how to improve veterans' programs.

The American Legion was among veterans' organizations and allied groups testifying before the commission at its most recent meeting. Other organizations, including non-veterans groups such as labor and medical organizations, have been invited to testify at the commission's next meeting here Oct. 2-4.

McCurdy pointed out that the commission is studying in detail the more than 1,000 recommendations made to it.

The Veterans Administration has been requested by the commission to make a multitude of in-depth studies relating to the recommendations and these will be available to commission members before the next meeting.

The commission's major task, McCurdy pointed out, will be to set priorities on the recommendations and get its final report to Veterans Administrator William J. Driver probably by Nov. 15.

"The major thing in our hearts and minds now," McCurdy emphasized, "is to guarantee that Vietnam veterans receive full and complete coverage to enable them to return to the mainstream of American life as soon as possible." He continued:

(More)
"We recognize that this war is a different kind of war than most of us knew. It's a tougher war and a dirtier war, and the commission feels that its veterans should be fully compensated for their role in it."

McCurdy's commission was established by the Veterans Administrator after President Johnson directed that official to submit recommendations by Jan., 1968, "to assure that our tax dollars are being utilized most wisely and that our Government is meeting fully its responsibility to all those to whom we owe so much."

McCurdy is a former chairman of The American Legion National Rehabilitation Commission and one of the nation's authorities in the field of veteran affairs and rehabilitation. Legion Immediate Past National Commander L. Eldon James of Hampton, Va., also is a member of the commission.

-alns-

INDIANAPOLIS—(ALNS)—Two new publications have been made available by The American Legion National Child Welfare Commission. They are: "Programming for Children in the Computer Age" (1968 Child Welfare Program of The American Legion) and "American Legion Child Welfare Foundation."

"Programming for Children in the Computer Age" is an attractively illustrated 16-page brochure outlining the major points of emphasis for the 1968 Child Welfare Program.

Commission Chairman Morris (Bob) Nooner of Plymouth, Ill., stated the program publication is being made available to departments at an early date in order that national child welfare objectives may be incorporated into 1968 department program plans. He added that every post and unit should have a copy of the publication since most of the 1968 objectives involve community level activity.


Requests for these free publications should be directed to the National Child Welfare Commission, The American Legion, P. O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, Ind. 46206.

-alns-

DUBLIN, GA.—(ALNS)—Four tons of watermelon for 1,000 disabled veterans at the Veterans Administrations Center here has been donated by the South Georgia Watermelon Growers Association. Boston Post 198 of The American Legion and its Auxiliary Unit have assisted in this project.

-alns-
BOSTON, MASS.--(ALNS)--The American Legion's youthful VIPs, champions of competitive Americanism programs for the past year and selected representatives of the non-competitive programs, will be among the distinguished guests at the 1967 Legion National Convention here Aug. 25-31.

The four youths will be presented to the convention delegates at about 12:15 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 29, in the Boston War Memorial Auditorium by Legion National Commander John E. Davis of Bismarck, N. D.

For the first time in the history of the Legion's youth programs there is a dual champion in Alan L. Keyes of San Antonio, Texas, who in April captured The American Legion's National Oratorical Contest and a $4,000 college scholarship, and in July was elected president of the 1967 American Legion Boys Nation. Alan, the first Negro to win either honor, is the son of Army Sgt. Maj. and Mrs. Allison L. Keyes of San Antonio.

William Corbett Parker, Jr., of Tuscaloosa, Ala., will attend the convention as The American Legion Baseball Player-of-the-Year. Young Parker was selected as a result of his performance during last year's American Legion Baseball World Series at Orangeburg, S. C., where he performed for the team sponsored by Farley Moody Post 34, The American Legion, of Tuscaloosa.

Dick Tate Clardy, Jr., of Odessa, Texas, is the 1967 representative of Boy Scouts of America to the convention, and is representative of the more than 4,000 Boy Scout units sponsored by the Legion. He is the son of Mrs. Dortha M. Clardy of Odessa, and is sponsored by Earl Bailey Post 430, The American Legion.

The 1967 representative of Sons of The American Legion is John H. Ryan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Ryan of 4942 Lansdowne Ave., St. Louis, Mo. The entire Ryan family is associated with The American Legion or the American Legion Auxiliary.

-DALLAS, TEXAS--(ALNS)--Fifty-three state representatives or winners of The American Legion Boys Nation and National High School Oratorical Contest were honored as "Young Captains of Achievement" at the Sixth Annual Golden Plate Banquet of the American Academy of Achievement here recently.

-alns-
INDIANAPOLIS—(ALNS)—More and more as each day passes the Vietnam Era veteran's voice is being heard in the affairs of The American Legion.

Now comes news of what may be the first Vietnam Era veteran to be elected commander of an established American Legion Post. He is Jerry Stachowiak, who now holds the top spot of Romulus Meehan Post 426 of LaSalle, Ill.

LaSalle's "Daily News-Tribune" reported young Stachowiak's election with this head, "LaSallian May Be First Viet Era Legion Chief." The Viet-vet commander served in the Army from 1964 to 1966, chiefly in Germany.

The Kansas Department, claims the distinction of organizing the first all Viet-vet post—Vietnam Post 155 of Wichita. Walter Seis, Jr. is the post commander.

An interesting item appeared in a Legion publication recently. It concerned a post that had enrolled its first Vietnam Era veteran. When the Viet-vet turned up at the post, there was another spanking new Legionnaire with him...the Viet-vet's dad who had served in World War II.

The double-generation enrollment is happening more and more in the Legion. A strong activities program by a post for the Vietnam Era serviceman frequently stimulates an interest among members of his family.

On the Legion national level, national officers and others listened intently and respectfully last fall when a special Vietnam Veterans Advisory Committee made its report. The report targeted in on how the Legion can best serve this new generation of veterans and attract and hold their interest. Highlights of the report will be presented again at the Legion National Convention in Boston, Mass., Aug. 25-31.

Fifty-two departments by invitation of Legion National Commander John E. Davis of Bismarck, N. D., will send a Vietnam Era veteran as a special representative to the Boston Convention.

Legionnaires from three earlier wars will be listening with rapt attention to what this new veteran has to say. Much interest also will be shown in how these young men and women make themselves and their ideals felt in our society.

Briefly put, the welcome mat is out to the new generation of veterans at all levels of the 2.5-million-member American Legion.

-alns-
NATIONAL NEWSPAPER WEEK

INDIANAPOLIS—"Newspapers Get Things Done" is the theme for the 1967 observance of National Newspaper Week on Oct. 8 to 11. The last date also is observed as International Newspaperboy Day.

Many American Legion posts and Auxiliary units observe National Newspaper Week with special programs honoring their local publisher or editor and recognizing the role newspapers play in the life and progress of their communities and a free society.

Should local posts and units desire to plan programs around this week, John F. Blatt of Tavares, Fla., National Newspaper Week coordinator, pointed out that local publishers, editors and other newspaper people will cooperate in supplying a worthwhile program.

Under the general theme, "Newspapers Get Things Done," the sub-themes developed for the event include these:

For People... Inform, entertain, educate, act as the public's "proxies" wherever public business is transacted.

For Communities... A constructive force for growth and development; stimulate progressive action.

For Good Government... Encourage good citizenship; act as Sentinels of Freedom.

For Improved Education... Back efforts to provide better schools, better teachers, and quality education.

For Public Health, Safety... Help with health and safety education and help raise funds for every worthwhile purpose.

For Religion... The Arts... Give generous support to their communities' spiritual and cultural needs and activities.

For Advertisers... Stimulate the community's economy by moving merchandise for merchants, selling services and ideas.

---alns---
WASHINGTON—(ALNS)—"The American Legion condemns in the strongest possible terms the senseless outbreaks of violence, rioting, insurrection and lawlessness now plaguing this nation and to which we have been subjected for much too long," Legion National Commander John E. Davis of Bismarck, N. D., has declared.

"Some of our major cities have been subjected to atrocities which have brought them to the brink of anarchy, and The American Legion believes there is no place in our society for this type of behaviour on the part of any of our people for any reason, real or imagined.

"Rabble rousing, irresponsible persons who allege themselves to be leaders, such as Stokely Carmichael and H. Rap Brown, are the worst examples of inciters of anarchism that this country has ever seen.

"We would call for a return to reason on the part of those involved. We would remind our leaders at all levels of government of the grave responsibility that is theirs, not only to bring these situations under control once they have erupted, but to keep a watchful eye on developments at the local, state and national level.

"The best possibility of heading off these terrible riots lies in prompt and forceful action. There should be no mollycoddling of the perpetrators of these crimes against society.

"These conditions are intolerable on the American scene, and there is responsibility, not only on the part of government which is representative of the people, but upon the people themselves, to help maintain law and order throughout the land.

"Maintenance of law and order has been a prime concern of The American Legion since our founding days, and was written into the Preamble of The American Legion Constitution as one of our principal reasons for being. Support for the forces of law and order has been a major project of the Legion during my term of office as National Commander, and recent developments have vividly demonstrated the urgent need for such programs," the Legion chief emphasized.

—alns—
BOSTON, MASS.—(ALNS)—American Legion National Commander John E. Davis' banquet for distinguished guests at the 1967 Legion National Convention here will have an all-New England flavor when the governors of five New England states and the lieutenant-governor of the sixth speak at the colorful event.

This highlight event of the convention is set for 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 29, in the Grand Ballroom of the Sheraton-Boston Hotel. The convention opens here Aug. 25 and continues through Aug. 31.


This event may well represent the greatest single gathering of state chief executives aside from the Governors' Conference itself, and it will be presided over by Legion National Commander Davis, who has served two terms as Governor of his own home state of North Dakota.

The planned program marks a sharp departure from the established format of this standout event of national conventions, which normally has featured one nationally known figure as guest speaker.

"It has been so long since The American Legion has conducted its National Convention in this area of the country which is so important to the Legion (the six states combined have nearly 175,000 Legionnaires), and has played so vital a role in American history and the development of our heritage, we felt it would be most appropriate to have each of the states officially represented at our Boston National Convention," Commander Davis said.

WATERVILLE, ME.—(ALNS)—Nathaniel T. Cobb of this city, former adjutant of The American Legion Department of Maine, has been named department public relations officer. He succeeds Daniel E. Lambert of Orrington, who was elected a department vice commander.
BOSTON, MASS.--(ALNS)--Those traveling by automobile to the 1967 American Legion National Convention on "the Highway of History" may obtain information by stopping at the new Massachusetts Pike Information Center at Mile Marker 80 in Charlton, just 55 miles from this city.

Dedicated last June, it is operated jointly by the Turnpike Authority and the Massachusetts Department of Commerce and Development.

At the information booth conventioneers will be able to obtain the best information on their approach to a particular section in the Boston area as well as obtain booklets and maps on points of historical interest they may want to see while in the convention city.

The new building is a replica of the historical John Ward House of Salem, which was built in 1648.

* * *

Massachusetts Legionnaires are urged to register in advance for the 1967 American Legion National Convention and those from other states as soon as they arrive here for the Aug. 25-31 event.

In addition to being a souvenir item, the registration packet will contain many coupons affording countless hours of pleasure during the week-long meeting.

They will include the rental of an Avis car at a 20 percent discount on rental charge and mileage.

With your car you will be able to see on your own the many and varied tourist attractions in, close to, and for miles around the city.

If you want to participate in a group, Garber Travel Service, the approved agency for the convention, has a full schedule of activities planned.

Included are: a tour of historic Boston and the Freedom Trail; visits to Cambridge, Lexington and Concord, a Ladies Day Program and an Olde Fashioned New England Clambake.

The coupons also will provide reduced prices to such things as the view of Boston from the 50th floor of the Prudential Insurance Company Tower, a trip to Rockingham Park in New Hampshire for an afternoon of Horse Racing, visit to the Paragon Amusement Park at Nantasket Beach and many others.

--alns--
INDIANAPOLIS—(ALNS)—A check for $1,293, representing remaining funds in The American Legion Vietnam Relief Fund, recently was sent to Gen. W. C. Westmoreland, Commander of the U. S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, for use in civic action work there.

From the fund started among Legion and Auxiliary members during L. Eldon James' term as National Commander, a total of $123,000 has been raised and sent to South Vietnam for civic action work either through General Westmoreland or the facilities of CARE.

In extending his thanks for the latest contribution, General Westmoreland wrote Legion National Commander John E. Davis:

"I wish to take this opportunity to reiterate my deep appreciation for the outstanding financial support afforded our civic action program by The American Legion. This assistance has proven invaluable as it has enabled numerous projects to be undertaken when no other means were available. Your support has contributed directly to the success of our civic action program as an integral part of the United States effort in Vietnam.

The contribution by The American Legion demonstrates again your organization's patriotic devotion to the ideals of our nation. This command is grateful for your support."

VATICAN CITY—(ALNS)—The sum of $15,000 given on behalf of The American Legion for Italian flood relief was presented to Pope Paul VI recently by Judge Paul P. Rao of the U. S. Customs Court, New York.

AUGUSTA, ME.—(ALNS)—A husband and wife team literally will be writing American Legion history in Maine. Mr. and Mrs. Dominic Bruno of this community, recently were elected Legion and Auxiliary Department historians, respectively.
INDIANAPOLIS—(ALNS)—Leyden-Chiles-Wickersham Post 1 of Denver, Colo., has regained its title of the world's largest American Legion Post with 6,111 members enrolled.

To capture the top spot, Denver's Post 1 nudged out its old rival for the honor, Lincoln Post No. 3 of Lincoln, Neb., with 5,991 members enrolled. The margin stands at 120 members.

The new standings were disclosed by Legion National Headquarters here with the release of the list of 27 posts with 2,000 or more 1967 members enrolled for the period ending last June 30.

On the new list of king-size posts, Wayne E. Marchand Post 28 of Okinawa, R. I., with 4,800 members, jumped to No. 4 position from its former 12th position.

Westphal Post 251 of Minneapolis, Minn., is a newcomer to the list and holds last place on it with 2,065 members.

No state has more than two king-size posts, and four states share the king-size duet honors: Louisiana, Minnesota, Nebraska, Tennessee.

The 27 king-sized American Legion posts listed by their standing are:

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<th>POST</th>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>DEPARTMENT</th>
<th>MEMBERSHIP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Leyden-Chiles-Wickersham Post 1</td>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>6,111</td>
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<td>2. Lincoln Post 3</td>
<td>Lincoln</td>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>5,991</td>
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<td>3. Richfield Post 435</td>
<td>Minneapolis</td>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>5,004</td>
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<td>4. Wayne E. Marchand Post 28</td>
<td>Okinawa, R. I.</td>
<td>Hawaii</td>
<td>4,800</td>
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<td>5. Alonzo Cudworth Post 23</td>
<td>Milwaukee</td>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>4,643</td>
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<td>6. Omaha Post 1</td>
<td>Omaha</td>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>3,916</td>
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<td>7. Lowe-McFarlane Post 14</td>
<td>Shreveport</td>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>3,616</td>
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<td>8. East Liberty Post 5</td>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>3,616</td>
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<td>9. Hanford Post 5</td>
<td>Cedar Rapids</td>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>3,610</td>
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<td>10. Adam Plewaki Post 799</td>
<td>Buffalo</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>3,439</td>
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<td>11. Cecil H. Bolton Post 37</td>
<td>Huntsville</td>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>3,115</td>
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<td>12. Memphis Post 1</td>
<td>Memphis</td>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>2,819</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Nicholson Post 38</td>
<td>Baton Rouge</td>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>2,800</td>
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<td>14. Gilbert C. Grafton Post 2</td>
<td>Fargo</td>
<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>2,800</td>
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<td>15. Oklahoma City Post 35</td>
<td>Oklahoma City</td>
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<td>16. Parkville Post 183</td>
<td>Parkville</td>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>2,633</td>
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<td>17. Sioux Falls Post 15</td>
<td>Sioux Falls</td>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>2,602</td>
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<td>18. Nashville Post 5</td>
<td>Nashville</td>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>2,584</td>
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<td>19. Harvey Seeds Post 29</td>
<td>Miami</td>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>2,560</td>
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<td>20. Carson-Wilson Post 1</td>
<td>Tulsa</td>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>2,375</td>
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<td>22. Los Angeles Police Post 381</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>California</td>
<td>2,236</td>
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<tr>
<td>24. Commonwealth Edison Post 118</td>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>2,193</td>
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<tr>
<td>25. Hammond Post 3</td>
<td>Kingsport</td>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>2,164</td>
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<tr>
<td>26. Capitol Post 1</td>
<td>Topeka</td>
<td>Kansas</td>
<td>2,155</td>
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<tr>
<td>27. Westphal Post 251</td>
<td>Minneapolis</td>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>2,065</td>
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WASHINGTON--(ALNS)--Secretary of State Dean Rusk told The American Legion Boys Nation delegates that the United States is fighting in Vietnam because of its concern for organizing a durable world peace.

The nation's top cabinet officer told the young senators that the Vietnam War was an issue that transcended the country of South Vietnam.

He added that the United States must make clear to aggressors, or any potential aggressor, that conquest by armed might could not succeed.

He also said it was vital for the United States to make good on its pledged word in order to preserve the confidence of its friends and allies in its publicly stated commitments.

Secretary Rusk supplemented this justification for U.S. involvement by recalling that before World War II governments had failed to act in organizing a durable world peace. He suggested that this lack of involvement revealed both "Disregard" and "Negligence." Thus, he said, criticism that crisis was "too far away" or "not our business" clouded the issue.

He maintained that the United States did not want to become the world's policemen and did not seek to involve itself in all the quarrels in the world but he said, that in addition to the United Nations, the United States had been obliged to develop certain defensive alliances because of communist agitation for world revolution.

Secretary Rusk pointed out, that these treaties need not be invoked if aggression in the world would cease.

--alns--

JEFFERSONVILLE, IND.--(ALNS)—A hint for parallel action by other posts to follow is provided by current efforts of Lawrence Capehart Post 35 of The American Legion. This city is preparing to enroll its 40 potential 50-year members early, as part of its planning for a special event honoring these long-time Legionnaires.

The question to ask in preparation for the forthcoming 50th anniversary is how many 50-year members do we have in our post and what are our plans to honor them? Now is the time to plan.

--alns--
One of the nation's outstanding displays of drum and bugle corps talent will be presented during an evening of music and pageantry at Boston's Fenway Park at 7 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 27. The three-hour show is The American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps Finals and Parade of Champions held traditionally on the eve of its big National Convention.

* * *

Primarily because of a housing shortage, The American Legion Convention Corporation of Milwaukee, Wis., has withdrawn its bid to host the 1968 Legion National Convention. Milwaukee had been tentatively selected to host the convention, but now the Legion National Convention Commission must recommend a new site for the 1968 event.

* * *

The American Legion passed another milestone on July 28, when membership surpassed the official 1967 membership goal of 2,567,700. While 1965 and 1966 recorded membership gains, 1967 is the first time in many years that the year's national goal has been surpassed. Membership on Aug. 9 stood at 2,572,556, a gain of 31,503 over the same day last year, or 18,774 ahead of the 1966 final figure.

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Frank Robinson, Baltimore's slugging outfielder and baseball's first triple crown winner since 1956, has received The American Legion Baseball Graduate-of-the-Year Award.

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Henry B. Clay, American Legion National Executive Committeeman from Louisiana, and his wife were killed Aug. 3, when their private plane exploded and crashed near Nevada, Mo.

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Lt. Gen. Pham Xuan Chieu, Vietnam Veterans Legion president, will speak on Tuesday, Aug. 29, at The American Legion National Convention in Boston.

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EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE

* There will be no issue of American Legion News Service Aug. 18 because of the National Convention Aug. 25-31. ALNS will come to you from Boston as the news breaks there. ALNS will return to its normal weekly schedule from Indianapolis Sept. 8.

-alns-
BOSTON, MASS.—(ALNS)—One of the nation's outstanding displays of senior and junior drum and bugle corps talent will be presented by The American Legion during an evening of music and pageantry at Boston's Fenway Park at 7 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 27.

The three-hour show is The American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps Finals and the Parade of Champions held traditionally on the eve of the big Legion National Convention.

Twelve corps, five senior and seven junior, will be competing in the colorful event which determines the national champions in the two categories. Also participating will be the champions of the Legion's other uniformed groups contests.

An estimated 7,500 persons will be taking part in the various competitions leading to the finals and the Parade of Champions. Legion officials estimate that $150,000 will be spent by participating units and the sponsoring organization in transportation and other costs involved in getting to the contests and in staging these events.

The national convention's location in the East also has generated heavy participation by various competing groups, particularly among junior drum and bugle corps. A total of 65 junior corps have registered. While there were 56 junior corps at last year's Washington National Convention, the normal number is usually around 35 corps. Junior color guards total 46 this year against a normal 20 to 25 such units. Junior bands normally number about three, but total six this year.

Advance ticket sales also indicate that the Fenway Park show will be a sell-out. The park has a seating capacity of more than 33,000.

All of last year's champions will be back defending their titles in this year's various competitions. They are:

Senior Drum and Bugle Corps—The Caballeros, Post 109, Hawthorne, N. J.
Junior Drum and Bugle Corps—The Cavaliers, Post 985, Chicago, Ill.
Junior Color Guard—Troopers, Post 2, Casper, Wyo.
Firing Squad—Monmouth County Rifles, Post 338, Leonardo, N. J.
Senior Band—McAllister Memorial Band, Post 1284, Joliet, Ill.
Junior Band—Racine Elks Youth Band, Post 310, Racine, Wis.
Chorus—Singing Legionnaires, Post 15, Sioux Falls, S. D.
SHREVEPORT, LA.—Henry B. Clay, American Legion National Executive Committee-man from Louisiana, and his wife, Ellen, of this city, were killed Aug. 3, when their light plane exploded and crashed near Nevada, Mo. The couple had been en route to Canada for a vacation.

Mr. Clay, 49, was executive vice president of the International Broadcasting Co. and general manager of radio station KWKH, this city. He also was director and a member of the executive committee of the Times Publishing Co., also of this city, and of the News-Star World Publishing Co., Monroe. He was a member of Lowe McFarlane Post 14, of The American Legion, this city.

Surviving are three daughters and a son.

- alns -

CLINTON, N.Y.—(ALNS)—Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, III, U.S. Army-Ret., grandson of the famous Union commander during the Civil War, on his 86th birthday on July 4th was presented a plaque by Utica Post 229 of The American Legion, Utica, N.Y.

The plaque cites the service of the general and his family to the nation. A scroll from the U. S. Military Academy, from which General Grant was graduated in 1903 in the same class as General Douglas MacArthur, was presented to Clinton's retired Army general by U.S. Rep. Alexander R. Pirnie, a Utica Post past commander.

- alns -

MAMARONECK, N.Y.—(ALNS)—The monthly newspaper of Mamaroneck Post 90 of The American Legion, this city, had its own correspondent on the scene during the recent Middle East crisis.

Paul W. Dowdell, editor of "Gay 90's" and an oil company roving employee felt the effects of the clash between the Israelis and the Arabs firsthand while on a business trip for his firm in Arabia. He reported his adventures and mis-adventures upon his return to the states in the post publication.

- alns -
BOSTON, MASS.--(ALNS)--The Right Honorable Lord Carew, C.B.E., chairman of The British Legion in 1963-66, will be presented The American Legion International Amity Award at the Legion National Convention here on Thursday, Aug. 31.

Legion National Commander John E. Davis of Bismarck, N.D., also announced that the award will be made to Lord Carew before a regular convention session in Boston War Memorial Auditorium at about 10:45 a.m.

Lord Carew, who resides at Mountarmstrong, Donadea, County Kildare, Ireland, is the sixth Baron and a retired Army major from the Duke of Cornwall Light Infantry. He was aide-de-camp to the governor and commander-in-chief of Bermuda in 1931-36. Lord Carew was educated at Wellington School and Sandhurst.

President of the Irish Olympic Horse Society, Lord Carew will be coming to the convention directly from presiding over the organization and management of the Combined Training Horse Championship of Europe being held in Ireland Aug. 25-29.

The American Legion Amity Award, a plaque and medal, was established in 1961 by the Legion National Executive Committee to recognize outstanding service in veterans affairs and contributions to international good will by members of veterans organizations of U. S. wartime allies.

NEW YORK--(ALNS)--The National Broadcasting Co. seeks the help of World War II veterans who were in service in England just prior to D-Day, 1944, and who were then friendly with one or more English families and are still in contact with them.

The former servicemen are being sought in connection with an experimental television show planned for next year, based in England and on the relationship of GI's with English civilians during the war. Veterans who meet the requirements and wish to cooperate with NBC should write to John Lord, NBC, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N. Y. 10020.
BOSTON, MASS.—(ALNS)—Gen. Wallace M. Greene, Jr., Commandant of the U. S. Marine Corps, will be the military speaker at the 49th American Legion National Convention here Aug. 25-31.

Legion National Commander John E. Davis of Bismarck, N. D., said General Greene will represent the nation's Armed Forces as a speaker before a full convention session in Boston War Memorial Auditorium at about 11:15 a.m., Wednesday, Aug. 30.

General Greene was nominated by the late President John F. Kennedy to be the 23rd Commandant, and was promoted to four-star general on assuming that office on Jan. 1, 1964. He had served as Marine Corps Chief of Staff with three-star rank since Jan. 1, 1960.

The Vermont native has been a Marine Corps officer since being graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 1930. In World War II, General Greene, then a lieutenant colonel, was awarded his first Legion of Merit with Combat "V" for outstanding service as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, Tactical Group One, during the Marshall Island Invasion. He also holds a number of other decorations and awards, including the Distinguished Service Medal.

The Marine Commandant, in a speech before the Legion's National Executive Committee during the term of immediate Past National Commander L. Eldon James of Hampton, Va., won the Legion's support for the U. S. Military Forces' civic action program among the South Vietnamese people.

More than $120,000 was raised through the Legion's Vietnam Relief Fund and sent to Vietnam for civic action work.

Legion National Commander John E. Davis of Bismarck, N. D., also announced that the senator will speak to the delegates at a full session of the convention in Boston War Memorial Auditorium at about 1:45 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 30.

First elected to the U. S. Senate in 1947, Senator Stennis is a member of the Aeronautical and Space Sciences Committee, ranking member of the Armed Services Committee, chairman of the Armed Services Preparedness Investigating Committee, a senior member of the Appropriation Committee and chairman of the Select Committee on Standards and Conduct.

A lawyer for nearly 40 years, the Senator's public career began in 1928 when he was elected to the Mississippi House of Representatives. He also has served as a district prosecuting attorney and as a circuit judge.

For his efforts in national defense, he has received awards from the Reserve Officers' Association of the United States and the Mississippi National Guard.

--alns--

MONTGOMERY, ALA.—(ALNS)—The South has always been noted for its beautiful women, and one such representative will be at the 1967 American Legion National Convention in Boston, Mass., Aug. 25-31. She is Miss Kerry Lee Bode who was crowned "Miss American Legion Department of Alabama" at the recent department convention at Mobile.

--alns--
INDIANAPOLIS—(ALNS)—American Legion National Commander John E. Davis has announced that The American Legion Convention Corporation of Milwaukee, Wis., voted on Aug. 7 to withdraw its bid to host the 1968 Legion National Convention.

Milwaukee had been tentatively selected as the host city for next year's Legion Convention, however, the bid was withdrawn primarily because of housing shortages that have not been overcome, Commander Davis said.

The Milwaukee Corporation has indicated it will submit a new bid for the convention as soon as the local problem has been resolved.

"It now becomes the duty of our National Convention Commission to submit recommendations to the National Executive Committee of The American Legion so that a new site may be selected for the important 50th Anniversary Convention of the Legion to be conducted in 1968," Commander Davis pointed out.

-ALNS-


MacBeath, who will speak at the convention on Tuesday morning, Aug. 29, is a Canadian building contractor who served as a captain with the New Brunswick Rangers, later the 10th Brigade Independent Machine Gun Co., in Europe during World War II.

-ALNS-
INDIANAPOLIS—(ALNS)—"Can Do!" was the theme as more than 170 American Legion leaders gathered at National Headquarters here recently to map the 1968 membership campaign.

Representatives were present from 49 state American Legion organizations, as well as from the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Mexico.

National Membership Chairman Earl D. Franklin, Jr., of Sterling, Colo., launched the fourth annual National Membership Workshop on a note of high optimism with the announcement that 1967 membership was already more than 18,000 ahead of the final 1966 enrollment.

"We now have three consecutive years of membership growth," Chairman Franklin said. "These annual early planning sessions with department leaders have made an important contribution to this success. I fully expect 1968 to show an even greater gain."

Conferees heard from National Commander John E. Davis of Bismarck, N. D., who thanked them for the cooperation of the past year and voiced his confidence in the future. Past National Vice Commander William E. Galbraith of Beemer, Neb. addressed a dinner session at the Indianapolis Athletic Club.

A team of three business administration experts from Indiana University applied modern business management principles to The American Legion. They analyzed the concept of the "image of The American Legion," stating that the "Institutional personality" or image is a product of many factors.

The leadership or management problem is to reduce the gap between the "ideal image," (or what we want an organization to be and do) and the "real image," which is what an organization actually is and the way the public sees it, they pointed out.
Participating from the Hoosier college were Drs. Edward J. Kuntz, Edgar G. Williams and Thomas R. Bossort. A dramatization of the down-to-earth application of the meaning of "image" by Drs. Kuntz and Bossort highlighted the final session. The presentation was filmed live and is expected to be fully edited and available for department and district use soon after Sept. 1.

National Membership Director J. Lloyd Wignall and members of the national staff outlined plans for the 1968 campaign as previously drawn up by the National Membership and Post Activities Committee.

Department membership leaders received a preview of new membership materials. Included were: 1968 membership planning guide, entitled "Can Do"; new co-op advertising mat for Veterans Day; audio-visual presentation on the 1968 campaign, "A World War II Veteran Explains The American Legion to His Son"; 35mm. slides summarizing the findings of the recent survey in depth of The American Legion image; a new 21-sheet billboard poster; a special edition of the monthly American Legion ADVANCE, devoted entirely to program suggestions relating to the Viet-Vets.

BOSTON, MASS.--World War Tank Corps Association (former commands of Gens. Eisenhower and Patton) will hold a 50th reunion get-together at the Parker House Aug. 28-30, during The American Legion National Convention in this city, Charles L. Miles of Boston, association senior vice commander, has announced.

NASHVILLE, TENN.--(ALNS)--Tennessee with four posts of 2,000 or more members leads The American Legion in the number of king-size posts. The four posts are:

Memphis Post 1, with 2,815 members; Nashville Post 5, with 2,584 members; Summers-Whitehead Post 14, Chattanooga, with 2,291; and Hammond Post 3, Kingsport, with 2,164 members.

There are 27 posts in the National Organization with 2,000 or more members, and among the king-size posts, Tennessee's Post 1 stands 12th, Post 5 stands 18th, Post 14 stands 21st and Post 3 stands 25th.

(In the ALNS 8-4-67 issue, the Department of Tennessee was incorrectly listed as having only two king-size posts.)

INDIANAPOLIS--(ALNS)--The 1967 Uniformed Groups Congress will be held here Oct. 14-15. All American Legion units are invited to send representatives and to take part in this conference between competing units and the Legion National Contests Supervisory Committee.
WASHINGTON--(ALNS)--The Department of Alabama is the winner of The American Legion National Commander's Public Relations Award for 1967, National Commander John E. Davis of Bismarck, N. D., has announced.

The award is presented to the department judged by the National Public Relations Commission to have developed and executed the best public relations program from among the 58 departments.

Alabama's immediate Past Commander J. D. Myers of Fayette, Ala., will receive the plaque representing the award at the Legion's 49th National Convention in Boston, Mass., at approximately 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 30. Bill Jones of Montgomery, Ala., is the department public relations chairman.

Established in 1964, the award was won by the Department of Michigan that year and in 1966. The Department of Pennsylvania won the 1965 award.

A heavy response to the competition by the various departments was reported by C. D. (Deke) DeLoach of Washington, D. C., National Public Relations Commission chairman.

"Many of the entries represented outstanding efforts in the area of public relations," DeLoach stressed, saying that "the Department of Alabama is to be complimented on a really outstanding and well-planned public relations program in its state."

-alns-

STUART, NEB.--(ALNS)--The eighth annual Elkhorn Valley Quarter Horse Show was held here recently by Norton-Carlisle Post 115 of The American Legion. There were 157 entries from 40 Nebraska towns and six neighboring states. The youth class had 91 entries, an increase over last year's show.

-alns-
BALTIMORE, MD.-(ALNS)--Frank Robinson, Baltimore's slugging outfielder and baseball's first triple crown winner since 1956, was presented The American Legion Baseball Graduate-of-the-Year Award here recently.

For the third straight year, the award was presented in Baltimore Stadium, home of the Baltimore Orioles, and Frank Robinson becomes the fourth member of the Orioles' present personnel to receive the honor.

Eddie Fisher was the 1965 winner. Brooks Robinson was honored for his playing in 1964. Coach Sherm Lollar, now with Baltimore, received the award in 1958 as a member of the Chicago White Sox.

Legion National Commander John E. Davis of Bismarck, N. D., presented the plaque just prior to the Orioles game with the Chicago White Sox.

Daniel J. O'Connor of Jackson Heights, N. Y., chairman of the Legion National Americanism Commission which is responsible for conducting the Legion's Baseball program, in commenting on the award winner, said:

"The player selected for this honor is representative of the thousands of youngsters who play and have played American Legion Baseball, and who prove themselves a credit to the game in general and the principles of Legion Baseball in particular."

Robinson played American Legion Baseball with Captain Bill Erwin Post No. 337 team of Oakland, Calif. Last year Robinson batted .316, hit 49 home runs and had 122 runs batted in in his first American League season. He was selected Most Valuable Player in the American League, and tagged by The Sporting News as Major League Player-Of-The-Year.

Other previous recipients of the award include: Ted Williams, Stan Musial, Bobby Richardson and Warren Spahn.

Departments are expected to enlarge on this theme in their marching contingents in the eight-hour, two-mile-long parade over Back Bay and downtown streets in this historic city so intimately associated with the nation's early struggle for freedom.

More than 20,000 persons are expected to participate in the parade, including Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and National Guard units. The military portion of the parade is expected to run one hour.

Beefed up by the representative units of the nation's military and naval might, the convention parade is expected to be the largest ever held in this city. Boston has hosted two previous Legion National Conventions.

In announcing the decision to dedicate the parade to servicemen in Vietnam, Legion National Commander John E. Davis of Bismarck, N. D., said such action is most fitting because it will focus attention on young people serving the cause of freedom.

Legion Immediate Past National Commander L. Eldon James of Hampton, Va., will serve as the parade's honorary grand marshal. The grand marshal will be Maj. Gen. John B. Bestic, USAF, commander of Electronic Systems Division (AFSC), Hanscom Field, Bedford, Mass.


-alns-
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-26-67

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- American Legionnaires attending the 49th National Convention, Aug. 25-31, here, got their first glimpse of the adaptation of a famous World War I military painting which will be used in the promotion of the Legion's 50th Anniversary celebration.

The adaptation of Harvey Dunn's "The Machine Gunner" appears on the back cover of the official convention program and posters displayed throughout the convention city. Representative of the brawny, self-reliant American fighting man, "The Machine Gunner" was painted by Captain Dunn while he was attached to the American Expeditionary Forces in France.

This famous work of military art will help convey the message of the Golden Anniversary celebration of The American Legion from August 1968 through November 1969.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-26-67

WASHINGTON, D. C. --- (ALNS) --- President Lyndon B. Johnson has appointed Past National Commander L. Eldon James of The American Legion to a special 20-man commission to go to South Vietnam and observe the current campaign and elections. In addition to three U. S. Senators and three state governors, the commission consists of representatives of labor, religious, business, and veterans organizations.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-26-67

BOSTON -- (ALNS) -- The need for continued efforts to expand social services intended to meet the needs of homeless, neglected, and deprived children has been outlined by Rep. James A. Burke (D-Mass.) to The American Legion's National Child Welfare Commission.

Speaking to the commission meeting prior to the 49th National Convention here, Congressman Burke declared:

"For the future of child welfare, I hope to see adequate federal laws which will protect both the child and our society; a sufficient number of trained personnel and the necessary facilities to provide social services, which will be equally available to all children in all political subdivisions; adequate health services, to insure the physical, emotional, and mental well-being of children; extensive research in child behavior; and the opportunity for the highest quality of education."

The speaker, a member of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, recognized "the worthwhile assistance The American Legion has given needy children . . . I have seen the outstanding results achieved by volunteer workers in providing not only financial assistance to our children, but also the guidance and understanding which is often absent in broken or disrupted homes."

He warned that there were no immediate or simple solutions to the problems faced by the growing number of families requiring public support and services.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-26-67

BOSTON -- (ALNS) -- Increases in Soviet and Eastern European military capabilities are roadblocks to any assurance of freedom from attack or threat of attack in Europe, the deputy commander of the U. S. European Command has advised The American Legion.

Addressing the Legion's National Security Commission prior to the 49th National Convention, Aug. 25-31, here, Gen. David A. Burchinal, USAF, warned that there has been no lessening of the fiber of the Warsaw Pact's military confrontations along the line from Northern Norway to the Caspian Sea.

Relocation of NATO's main headquarters and installations from France to other nations has been completed "in an orderly manner, efficiently, relatively inexpensively, and without unnecessary rancor or ill-will between the U. S. and the French people."

Speaking on behalf of the 300,000 American military personnel in the European Command, General Burchinal said, "We have maintained our combat capabilities in Europe and, while there is nothing we could not do better with full assurances of French participation in the military matters of the Alliance, there is nothing that we must do in NATO that we cannot do in our new, relocated posture."
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-27-67

BOSTON---(ALNS)---First National Bank of Chicago Post 985 has retained the senior color guard championship during competition at The American Legion’s 49th National Convention, Aug. 25-31, here.

Complete unofficial results of the senior color guard contest are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>POST</th>
<th>CITY &amp; STATE</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>First National Bank of Chicago Post</td>
<td>985</td>
<td>Chicago, Ill.</td>
<td>89.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Little Bills</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>Chicago, Ill.</td>
<td>84.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Iroquois Indians</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>Louisville, Ky.</td>
<td>84.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Richfield Rifles</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>Richfield, Minn.</td>
<td>83.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Rogers Rangers</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Bloomington, Ind.</td>
<td>83.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bentley Trumble</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>Horseheads, N.Y.</td>
<td>82.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#7</td>
<td>Highlanders</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>Louisville, Ky.</td>
<td>81.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#7</td>
<td>Coachmen</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>Detroit, Mich.</td>
<td>81.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Black Angels</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>Kenmore, N.Y.</td>
<td>79.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Jersey Chevrons</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Ridgefield Park, N.J.</td>
<td>79.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>John Harold Buckley Post</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Longmont, Colo.</td>
<td>74.65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-27-67

BOSTON—(ALNS)—Here are the unofficial results of the preliminary junior drum and bugle corps competition at The American Legion’s 49th National Convention:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>POST</th>
<th>CITY &amp; STATE</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Boston Crusaders</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>Boston, Mass.</td>
<td>87.833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Blessed Sacrament</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>Newark, N.J.</td>
<td>86.350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Golden Knights</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Cardinals</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>Beverly Farms, Mass.</td>
<td>85.133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Cavaliers</td>
<td>985</td>
<td>Chicago, Ill.</td>
<td>84.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>St. Kevin Emerald Knights</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>Cambridge, Mass.</td>
<td>82.666</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>St. Lucy’s Cadets</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>Newark, N.J.</td>
<td>81.733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>St. Joseph’s</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>Batavia, N.Y.</td>
<td>81.550</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(First seven places qualify for competition in national finals)

8 Garfield Cadets 255 Garfield, N.J. 81.366
9 Muchachos 199 Hawthorne, N.J. 79.783
10 Blue Rock 181 Penns Grove, N.J. 79.650
11 Shoreliners 196 Milford, Conn. 78.383
12 St. Raphael Buccaneers 63 Westport, Conn. 78.366
13 I. C. Reveries 61 Revere, Mass. 77.516
14 St. Paul Scouts 4th Dist. 4th Dist. 76.283
15 Appleknockers 396 Geneva, N.Y. 75.922
16 P. A. L. Cadets 11 Bridgeport, Conn. 74.996
17 Argonne Rebels 180 Great Bend, Kans. 73.016
18 Dundalk Cadets 38 Dundalk, Md. 72.283
19 Norwood Debonnaires 70 Norwood, Mass. 71.938
20 Pittsfield Cavaliers 232 Stockbridge, Mass. 71.403
21 Immaculate Conception 97 Winchester, Mass. 70.650
22 Nisei Ambassadors 3rd Dist. 3rd Dist. 70.416
23 Sacred Heart Crusaders 304 Manville, N.J. 69.283

(More)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>POST</th>
<th>CITY &amp; STATE</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Sacred Heart Sabers</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>Middleboro, Mass.</td>
<td>68.550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Royaleers</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>Cherry Hill, N.J.</td>
<td>68.066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Emerald Statesmen</td>
<td>1013</td>
<td>Irondequoit, N.Y.</td>
<td>68.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Troubadors</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>Trumbull, Conn.</td>
<td>67.166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>St. Aedan Emerald Cadets</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>New Haven, Conn.</td>
<td>66.516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Queensmen</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Kenosha, Wis.</td>
<td>66.400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Little Falls Cadets</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>Little Falls, N.J.</td>
<td>66.033</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Targets</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>Springfield, Mass.</td>
<td>65.733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>St. Francis Xavier Sancians</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>South Weymouth, Mass.</td>
<td>65.550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Vanguards</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Miami, Fla.</td>
<td>64.583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Statesmen of Everett</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>Melrose, Mass.</td>
<td>64.666</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Braintree Warriors</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>Boston, Mass.</td>
<td>64.433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Andrew Sabres</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Portland, Me.</td>
<td>62.716</td>
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<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>South Boston Jay-Jay's</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>Somerville, Mass.</td>
<td>62.700</td>
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<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Maple City Cadets</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>LePorte, Ind.</td>
<td>62.383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Sir Thomas More Cadets</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>Roxbury, Mass.</td>
<td>61.366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Joanettes</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>Leominster, Mass.</td>
<td>61.283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Golden Rays</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>Stoughton, Mass.</td>
<td>61.100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Ft. Dodge Lanciers</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>Ft. Dodge, Iowa</td>
<td>60.583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Barons of Steuben</td>
<td>1252</td>
<td>Corning, N.Y.</td>
<td>60.433</td>
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<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>SAL Squadron 26 Little Devils</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Bordentown, N.J.</td>
<td>60.250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Castlemen</td>
<td>1645</td>
<td>Binghamton, N.Y.</td>
<td>58.550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Imperials</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>Pembroke, Mass.</td>
<td>57.516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Royal Cadets</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>Gardner, Mass.</td>
<td>57.466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Majestic Knights of Columbus</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>Malden, Mass.</td>
<td>56.150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Mello-Dears</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>Owego, N.Y.</td>
<td>51.616</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Tilton 49ers</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>Tilton, N.H.</td>
<td>50.683</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Dirigo Jets</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>South Portland, Me.</td>
<td>50.633</td>
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<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Regal Crownsmen</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>East Providence, R.I.</td>
<td>49.766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Royal Hylanders</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>New Britain, Conn.</td>
<td>49.316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Berwyn Centurians</td>
<td>422</td>
<td>Berwyn, Ill.</td>
<td>38.200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Young Americans</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>Newport News, Va.</td>
<td>37.950</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-27-67

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- In competition so close that less than
one full point decided the winner, the Militaires, sponsored by
Post 121, Fremont, Ohio, have captured the junior color guard champion¬
ship at The American Legion's 49th National Convention, Aug. 25-31,
here.

The Militaires copped the crown with 92.95 points, just .95
of a point ahead of the second-place White Tornadoes, sponsored by
American Legion Post 40, Momence, Ill.

Complete unofficial results of the junior color guard contest
are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>POST NO.</th>
<th>CITY &amp; STATE</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Militaires</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>Fremont, Ohio</td>
<td>92.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>White Tornadoes</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Momence, Ill.</td>
<td>92.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Titans</td>
<td>845</td>
<td>Frankfort, N. Y.</td>
<td>91.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Aquinas Institute</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>Rochester, N. Y.</td>
<td>90.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Highlanders</td>
<td>1144</td>
<td>Opa-Locka, Fla.</td>
<td>89.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Our Lady of the Holy</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Kenosha, Wis.</td>
<td>89.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Casper Troopers</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Casper, Wyo.</td>
<td>88.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Sacred Heart Rosinettes</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Roslindale, Mass.</td>
<td>88.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Holy Name Band Color Guard</td>
<td>369</td>
<td>Dorchester, Mass.</td>
<td>88.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Colleens</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>South Amboy, N. J.</td>
<td>88.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Dundalk Cadets</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Baltimore, Md.</td>
<td>87.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Brook Park Rangerettes</td>
<td>610</td>
<td>Brook Park, Ohio</td>
<td>87.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Little Falls Cadets</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>Fair Lawn, N. J.</td>
<td>87.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>St. John's Missilemen</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>East Boston, Mass.</td>
<td>86.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>W. Genesee SHS Wildcats</td>
<td>1540</td>
<td>Camillus, N. Y.</td>
<td>86.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Ft. Dodge Lanciers</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>Ft. Dodge, Iowa</td>
<td>86.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>St. John's Missilette</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>Winthrop, Mass.</td>
<td>86.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Cleveland Caballaros</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Elyria, Ohio</td>
<td>86.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Shoreleiners</td>
<td>468</td>
<td>Greece, N. Y.</td>
<td>85.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>St. Theresa Little Flowers</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>Everett, Mass.</td>
<td>84.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Barons of Steuben</td>
<td>1252</td>
<td>Corning, N. Y.</td>
<td>83.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Sherburne</td>
<td>876</td>
<td>Sherburne, N. Y.</td>
<td>83.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Highland Lassies</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>Louisville, Ky.</td>
<td>83.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(more)
### Junior Color Guard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>POST NO.</th>
<th>CITY &amp; STATE</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Fair Lawn Cadets</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>Fair Lawn, N. J.</td>
<td>83.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>St. Theresa's</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>South Boston, Mass</td>
<td>82.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Grenadiers</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>Milltown, N. J.</td>
<td>80.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>St. Therese Toreadors</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>Everett, Mass</td>
<td>79.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Berwyn Centurians</td>
<td>422</td>
<td>Berwyn, Ill.</td>
<td>78.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Maple City Cadets</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>LaPorte, Ind.</td>
<td>78.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Commanchero's</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>Rosemont, Md.</td>
<td>78.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>St. Raphael's Marionettes</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>Westport, Conn.</td>
<td>76.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Andrew Sabres</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Portland, Me.</td>
<td>76.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>St. Therese Little Buds</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Chelsea, Mass</td>
<td>74.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Dirigo Jets</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>South Portland, Me</td>
<td>69.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Royal Hylanders</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>New Britain, Conn.</td>
<td>64.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Royal Vikings</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Baltimore, Md.</td>
<td>60.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Royal Lancers</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Baltimore, Md.</td>
<td>59.90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Runner-up in the junior band contest went to the defending champions, Racine Elks Youth Band, sponsored by American Legion Post 310, Racine, Wis.**

Complete unofficial results of the junior band competition are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>POST NO.</th>
<th>CITY &amp; STATE</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lake Band</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>Milwaukee, Wis.</td>
<td>89.466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Racine Elks Youth Band</td>
<td>510</td>
<td>Racine, Wis.</td>
<td>87.966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>West Genese BHS</td>
<td>1540</td>
<td>Camillus, N. Y.</td>
<td>79.990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>St. Camel Mountains</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>Mount Carmel, Pa.</td>
<td>79.383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>St. Agnes</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Arlington, Mass.</td>
<td>78.733</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**BOSTON -- (ALEG) -- The senior American Legion band sponsored by J. R. McAllister Memorial Post 1283, Joliet, Ill., has retained its national championship during competition at the Legion's 49th National Convention, Aug. 25-31, here. Unofficial results are as follows:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>POST NO.</th>
<th>CITY &amp; STATE</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>J. R. McAllister Post</td>
<td>1283</td>
<td>Joliet, Ill.</td>
<td>92.156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>American Legion Band</td>
<td>2601</td>
<td>Tonawanda, N. Y.</td>
<td>81.730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Griswold-Booth Band</td>
<td>City Central Kansas City, Mo.</td>
<td>62.616</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gordon-Sills Post</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Kansas, N. Y.</td>
<td>78.312</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-27-67

BOSTON -- (ALNS) -- Lake Band, sponsored by Post 180, Milwaukee, Wis., is the new national champion junior band as the result of the uniformed groups competition at The American Legion's 49th National Convention, Aug. 25-31, here.

Runner-up in the junior band contest went to the defending champion Racine Elks Youth Band, sponsored by American Legion Post 310, Racine, Wis.

Complete unofficial results of the junior band competition are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>POST NO.</th>
<th>CITY &amp; STATE</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lake Band</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>Milwaukee, Wis.</td>
<td>89.466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Racine Elks Youth Band</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>Racine, Wis.</td>
<td>87.966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>West Genesee SHS</td>
<td>154-0</td>
<td>Camillus, N.Y.</td>
<td>79.950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mt. Carmel Mounties</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>Mount Carmel, Pa.</td>
<td>79.383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>St. Agnes</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Arlington, Mass.</td>
<td>74.733</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BOSTON -- (ALNS) -- The senior American Legion band sponsored by A. R. McAllister Memorial Post 1284, Joliet, Ill., has retained its national championship during competition at the Legion's 49th National Convention, Aug. 25-31, here. Unofficial results are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>POST NO.</th>
<th>CITY &amp; STATE</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>A. R. McAllister Post</td>
<td>1284</td>
<td>Joliet, Ill.</td>
<td>92.366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>American Legion Band</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>Tonawanda, N.Y.</td>
<td>91.730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Grtr. K.C. Band</td>
<td>City Central Kansas City, Mo.</td>
<td>82.616</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gordon-Bissell Post</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Keene, N.H.</td>
<td>76.316</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-28-67

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- A new champion reigns over the realm of American Legion senior drum and bugle corps as the result of the competition during the Legion's 49th National Convention, Aug. 25-31, here. The Connecticut Hurricanes, sponsored by American Legion Post 16, Shelton, Conn., last year's runner-up senior corps, took the title at the combined junior-senior finals and Parade of Champions at Boston's Fenway Park.

Having missed the 1966 title by just a whisker, the Hurricanes took the field determined to unseat the defending champion Hawthorne Caballeros of Post 199, Hawthorne, N. J.

In the junior corps finals, the Cavaliers of Post 985, Chicago, Ill., successfully defended their national title in competition so keen that less than one-half point separated them from the second-place Boston Crusaders of Post 128, Boston, Mass.

Sparkling performances by the competing units kept the crowd of 20,000 echoing one continuous cheer of approval as the corps displayed their precise series of formations. Before the night was over, Fenway Park, itself no stranger to intense competition of another type, was reverberating rhythms from Latin beats to jazz and tunes covering a spectrum from near-classic to themes from current hit musicals.

Paced by a drum section which in itself is a champion, the Cavaliers displayed a brand of excellence with a fresh approach to (MORE)
the fine art of marching and maneuvering which was a joy to behold.

In taking the title, the junior champs proved themselves capable of overcoming a fourth-place showing in the preliminary competition which eliminated all but seven units from a field of fifty-five.

Complete unofficial results of the drum and bugle corps final contest are as follows:

**Senior Drum & Bugle Corps**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>POST</th>
<th>CITY &amp; STATE</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Connecticut Hurricanes</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Shelton, Conn.</td>
<td>81,983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hawthorne Caballeros*</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>Hawthorne, N. J.</td>
<td>80,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Rochester Crusaders</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>Rochester, N. Y.</td>
<td>76,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Syracuse Brigadiers</td>
<td>1677</td>
<td>Syracuse, N. Y.</td>
<td>75,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Junior Drum & Bugle Corps**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>POST</th>
<th>CITY &amp; STATE</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cavaliers</td>
<td>985</td>
<td>Chicago, Ill.</td>
<td>84,433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Boston Crusaders</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>Boston, Mass.</td>
<td>83,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Blessed Sacrament</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>Newark, N. J.</td>
<td>81,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>St. Joseph's</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>Batavia, N. Y.</td>
<td>79,716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>St. Lucy's Cadets</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>Newark, N. J.</td>
<td>77,983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>St. Mary's Cardinals</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>Beverly Farms, Mass.</td>
<td>77,633</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>St. Kevin's Emerald Knights</td>
<td>4142</td>
<td>Cambridge, Mass.</td>
<td>75,733</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 1966 National Champions

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**BOSTON (ALSU)** — New 1967 Ford convertibles have been presented to American Legionnaires during the 21st annual Seagram Posts Ford Awards at The American Legion's 19th National Convention, Aug. 25-31, here. Recipients of the new cars are as follows:

- John J. Gordon - Post 460, Brooklyn, N. Y.
- Edward Kile - Post 798, South Holland, Ill.
- Karl P. Conradi - Post 31, Thomasville, Ga.
- Theodore Rietveld - Post 6, Dubuque, Iowa.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-28-67

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- Here are the uniformed groups champions of the various areas of competition staged during The American Legion’s 49th National Convention, Aug. 25-31, here:

Senior Drum & Bugle Corps - Connecticut Hurricanes, Post 16, Shelton, Conn.
Senior Color Guard - First Nat'l Bank of Chicago, Post 985, Chicago, Ill.
Junior Color Guard - Militaires, Post 121, Fremont, Ohio
Firing Squad - Post 291, East Lynn, Mass.
Senior Band - A. R. McAllister Post 1284, Joliet, Ill.
Junior Band - Lake Band, Post 180, Milwaukee, Wis.
Chorus - Singing Legionnaires, Post 15, Sioux Falls, S. D.
Quartet - Cudworth Legionnaires, Post 23, Milwaukee, Wis.
Motorcycle Drill Team - Post 56, Indianapolis, Ind.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-29-67

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- James L. Boyle of Waterville, Me., has begun his year as president of the Society of American Legion Founders, succeeding Orville Taylor of Chicago, Ill. Named as president-elect at the Founders’ annual meeting during the Legion’s 49th National Convention, Aug. 25-31, here, was Judge Levi M. Hall of Minneapolis, Minn.

Vice-presidents are Thomas W. Miller, Reno, Nev.; S. L. Jerpbak, Minneapolis, Minn.; Hugh P. Haugherty, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Oscar Venstrand, Red Oak, Iowa; and J. Edward Radley, Peoria, Ill. Chairman of the executive committee is David L. Shillinglaw, Chicago, Ill. Joseph A. Bernard, St. Louis, Mo., was re-elected secretary-treasurer.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-28-67

BOSTON—(ALNS)—In a massive expression of support for American defenders of freedom in Vietnam, The American Legion passed in review with a gigantic parade to open its 49th National Convention here.

Ever mindful of their city's proud heritage and its role in this Nation's early struggle for freedom, more than 250,000 Bostonians and their convention guests jammed the sidewalks of the two-mile route of the eight-hour spectacle.

With more than 20,000 participants, the parade was a colorful tapestry woven by freedom-loving Americans, expressing unqualified support of their Nation's purpose in South Vietnam.

The soul-stirring beat of hundreds of drums resounded throughout the downtown streets of this historic city as four generations of war veterans stepped off in harmony to send off another important message "to be heard 'round the world" — a message of loyalty on the home front.

Office workers along the parade route showered the marchers with paper streamers, adding their expression of appreciation and support.

This was the first convention parade for the Legionnaires representing the Nation's newest generation of war veterans. At its 1966 National Convention, the Legion approved membership eligibility to those who have served since Aug. 5, 1964—the Vietnam era. A special contingent of Viet-Vet Legionnaires drew heavy applause from the crowd.

There were also many of the elements traditional to an American Legion National Convention parade. It started with an escort of representatives of the armed forces and displays of some of the latest military hardware.

The parade was American Legion pageantry at its very best with hundreds of marching groups—bands, drum and bugle corps, color guards, drill teams, and the marching delegations of the various departments.

Occupying the position of honor in this year's National Convention parade was the Department of Hawaii which earned the pole position by posting the highest percentage of its previous four-year average of membership by May 1.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-28-67

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- The Singing Legionnaires of Post 15, Sioux Falls, S. D., have retained their title as the national champion chorus at The American Legion's 49th National Convention, August 25-31, here. Complete unofficial results of the chorus contest are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>POST</th>
<th>CITY &amp; STATE</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Singing Legionnaires</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Sioux Falls, S. D.</td>
<td>95.116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Champions of Song</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Milwaukee, Wisc.</td>
<td>93.966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>American Legion Balladiers</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>Parkville, Md.</td>
<td>88.383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Nabb-Leslie Post Chorus</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>Millville, N. J.</td>
<td>85.716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Harrie W. Southwick American Legion</td>
<td></td>
<td>Onondaga Co., N. Y.</td>
<td>83.033</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- Cudworth Legionnaires, sponsored by Post 23, Milwaukee, Wisc., have taken the quartet championship at The American Legion's 49th National Convention, Aug. 25-31, here. Complete unofficial results of the quartet contest are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>POST</th>
<th>CITY &amp; STATE</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cudworth Legionnaires</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Milwaukee, Wisc.</td>
<td>89.083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Cudworth Posters</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Milwaukee, Wisc.</td>
<td>87.266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Legion Four</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Milwaukee, Wisc.</td>
<td>81.650</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-29-67

BOSTON -- (ALNS) -- Four American Legion departments -- Delaware, Minnesota, Iowa, and Arizona -- have been declared winners for 1967 of American Legion national honors and awards related to the Legion's various Americanism activities and programs. The awards were announced during the 49th National Convention of The American Legion Aug. 25-31, here.

The Hearst Americanism Trophy, awarded annually to that Department attaining the greatest number of percentage points compiled from information contained in the Americanism and Post Activity Report Forms, has been won by the Department of Delaware.

The Department of Minnesota has won the Frank N. Belgrano, Jr., Trophy which is awarded each year to that Department which has given the most outstanding service to the program of the Boy Scouts of America.

To the Department of Iowa goes the James A. Drain Trophy for "showing the most consistent service to the community, state, and Nation." Basis of this award is a detailed statement filed by each Department Commander and Adjutant 15 days prior to the opening of the national convention.

The Ralph T. O'Neil Education Trophy has been awarded to the Department of Arizona, the Department within the continental United States which showed the greatest Americanism activity in the use of American Legion School Medal Awards.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-31-67

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- To the unanimous roar of approval by nearly 3,000 delegates, William E. Galbraith, 41, Beemer, Neb., has been elected National Commander of The American Legion. Galbraith was elected to the Legion's highest office at the closing session of its 49th National Convention, Aug. 25-31, here.

In his acceptance of the mantle of Legion leadership, National Commander Galbraith called for a year of intensive dedication by the entire American Legion organization to teach the unknowing, awaken the apathetic, and remind the conscientious of the fact that --

"FREEDOM IS NOT FREE."

"Freedom, as we know it," the new National Commander declared, "was purchased by the blood of our forefathers. Each new generation of Americans, and at least three generations are represented in this hall, has been called upon to make its installment upon the initial purchase price ... By every means available to us we must strive this year to drive home to every American the fact that this precious freedom, which too many take for granted, bears a high price tag."

National Commander Galbraith warned against current attempts by America's enemies to "weaken us through insidious attacks against the freedoms for which a million Americans have died ... There is a growing hostility toward law and order, toward accepted standards of decent behavior -- indeed, to the very concept of liberty under law ...
Embers of anarchy smoulder, and are fanned by a small minority of malcontents with nothing to offer to replace the social structure they seek to destroy."

Citing that the Legion has, in the past, and with striking results joined forces with other outstanding groups and organizations in the advancement of programs to promote the Nation's welfare, National Commander Galbraith said, "We can do so again, and we must make every American aware that "FREEDOM IS NOT FREE."

A Navy veteran of World War II, National Commander Galbraith joined American Legion Post 159, Beemer, and has served his post as service officer, adjutant, and commander. He is a past national vice commander (1965-66) and past department commander (1962-63).

In addition to his American Legion activity, he served as chairman of the Nebraska Centennial Commission, co-chairman of the Governor's Conferences on Education, and member of the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Youth Council. He is a past master of his Masonic Lodge, past chairman of the county board of school reorganization, and past state president of the Swine Producers Organization. He has received high honors from the Nebraska State Education Association.

A graduate of the University of Nebraska, he was an instructor in agriculture for ten years, and now operates his own livestock feeding and farming operations. He is a director of the First Fidelity Insurance Company of Nebraska and a director of Community Development Corporation. He is married to the former Miss Gwen Jean Taylor of Pawnee City, Neb., and they are the parents of two children.

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BOSTON — (ALNS) — Five national vice commanders and a national chaplain have been elected by the 49th National Convention of The American Legion to complete National Commander William E. Galbraith's "cabinet."

National vice commanders elected are Roscoe D. Curtiss, Columbia, Tenn.; Dr. Edwin L. Peterson, Logan, Utah; Louis Malo, West Warwick, R. I.; Coleman Nolan, Okemah, Okla.; and Marvin Roth, Janesville, Wis.

National chaplain for the coming year is the Rev. Edward P. Nolan, pastor of St. Jude's Church, Mt. Top, Luzerne County, Pa.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-31-67

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- The chief executive of a major corporation has asked The American Legion to help in encouraging U. S. business to assume its proper role in bringing about a solution to some current domestic problems.

Addressing the final session of the Legion's 49th National Convention here, Donald M. Kendall pointed out that a key to the solution of the current problem of continued deterioration of disciplined responsibility - disrespect for law and order - can be found in the training of the currently unemployable and defiant poor that they may become employable.

The speaker also asked the Legionnaires "to help re-establish peace under law ... without which this nation or any other ... cannot long stand ... Unless our nation re-establishes a spirit which hampers the criminal instead of his captor ... which protects the majority as well as the minority ... which permits compassion to temper but not replace justice, and which requires that all who enjoy the liberty of a true democracy assume responsibility for maintaining it ... we shall have no democracy, no freedom, no peace."

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- Mrs. Vernon H. Randall of Maryland has been elected National President of the American Legion Auxiliary at its 47th National Convention, Aug. 25-31, here.

National vice presidents of the Auxiliary are Mesdames Glenn Hultquist (Iowa); John Powel, Jr. (Del.); Lewis E. Peck (Nev.); Maurice Kubby (Tex.); and W. A. Pierce (Mont.).

National historian is Mrs. Clarence F. Kouns (Mo.) and national chaplain is Mrs. John M. Flynn (La.).
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-31-67

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- The American Legion has gone on record opposing the policy of the American Medical Association to convert Veterans Administration hospitals into community hospitals and to staff them with private physicians. In adopting the report of the Committee on Rehabilitation, the 1967 National Convention voiced its disapproval of the self-serving policy of the AMA to use the advantages of capitalism for the enrichment of its members.

The Legion has long supported the concept that the Veterans Administration be the single agency whose exclusive responsibility and mission are to serve veterans and their dependents.

The National Convention also gave approval to sponsorship and support of legislation to provide that jurisdiction of national cemeteries be placed under those committees of the U. S. Senate and of the House of Representatives which have jurisdiction of veterans affairs. The Legion said that it would also petition the President, the U. S. Congress, and the Secretary of Defense to rescind the discriminatory order of Feb. 10, 1967, which limits burials in Arlington National Cemetery to Medal of Honor winners, active duty and retired members of the Armed Forces, and honorably discharged veterans who have also held high positions in the federal government.

Convention delegates approved the sponsorship and support of legislation to reopen for a one-year period the right of certain war veterans to apply for National Service Life Insurance (NSLI). This would apply to those insurable and service-disabled veterans of service between the inclusive dates of Dec. 7, 1941, and Sept. 2, 1945; and of June 27, 1950, and July 27, 1953.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-31-67

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- Noting that a stable and durable peace in the Middle East is a matter of prime national interest to the United States, the 49th National Convention of The American Legion has gone on record urging the President of the United States, using all resources at his command, to attempt to bring about direct Arab-Israeli negotiations. Should the Arab leaders refuse to enter into negotiations with the Israelis, the Legion feels that the United States should lift its embargo on arm shipments to Israel immediately upon “finding that any Arab country or any combination of such countries has secured from the Soviet Union or elsewhere a level or kind of weapons beyond that which it possessed prior to the onset of hostilities in June 1967.”

In adopting the report of the Committee on Foreign Relations, The American Legion National Convention assembled here expressed deep concern over deteriorating United States-French relations. Deploiring General DeGaulle’s attitudes and actions to disunite allies in their pursuit of mutual security and international peace, Resolution 423 calls on the U. S. government to “take strong measures of diplomatic and economic retaliation against France, including proceeding against French assets in the U. S. to obtain payment of debts owed the U. S. by France.”

The Legion also denounced and condemned Israel’s irresponsible attack on the USS Liberty and insisted that the U. S. government conduct a thorough investigation of this incident.

Noting that Legion posts and departments are being importuned for action and fund donations by self-constituted and nebulous organizations calling for release of purported prisoners being held by communist countries as a result of the Korean War, the National Convention called for a complete investigation of all organizations and individuals purporting to work for the release of alleged prisoners of the Korean War and prosecution of those responsible if fraud is discovered. The Legion has been reliably informed that not one shred of evidence exists showing that any American is still living in communist captivity as a result of the Korean War.

The Legion also urged the President and Congress to prohibit further trade between this country and any communist country which is providing North Vietnam with assistance of any form that can increase the war-making potential of its forces.
BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- In an address before the opening session of The American Legion's 1967 National Convention, Lt. Gen. Pham-Xuan Chieu, president of the Vietnamese Veterans Legion, said that "peace is worth discussing more than any other topic and that peace for Vietnam is a problem which not only concerns veterans, but all who really care about the future of mankind."

The Vietnamese Army officer told the convention delegates that the people of South Vietnam have no wish other than to live quietly on the land bequeathed by their ancestors and to develop good relations with other countries without any ambition of attacking and dominating anybody ... but also without accepting aggression and domination by anybody.

He pointed out that the Vietnamese people after several years of blood and tears, know too well what the communists want. "Their objective is to take over South Vietnam through neutralism, with a coalition government in which nationalists will have to sit with communist cadres," he said. General Chieu pointed out that this was precisely the fate of the coalition of some East European countries after World War II.

The communist plan of world revolution, the prospect of nuclear weapons being acquired by irresponsible or unstable countries, the speed of modern international communication have all made the world a small place. He warned that "war, even a limited one, is a danger to all mankind.

In concluding his remarks he said, "In South Vietnam your sons and our people are fighting not for power or territorial ambition, but just to safeguard everybody's right to freely choose his way of life and system of government. But let me assure you of one thing ... your sacrifices will not be in vain."
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-29-67

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- Legionnaires and Bostonians united in a spontaneous accolade to America's newest generation of war veterans -- the Viet-Vets -- as The American Legion's 49th National Convention exploded into this historic old city.

Some 50 veterans of the Vietnam era, representing their American Legion Departments, marched smartly in the eight-hour-long parade, immediately following National Commander John E. Davis, to the resounding cheers of the 250,000 spectators who jammed the line of march.

But the appearance of the young Legionnaires in the parade was merely incidental to their participation in the National Convention itself. Each one had been chosen by his home department in answer to a call from National Commander Davis for a meeting of members from the Vietnam period during the annual reunion.

Frank W. Naylor, Jr., Navy veteran from Kansas City, Kan., was elected chairman of the Vietnam Era Advisory Committee after a spirited contest that saw three other Vietnam era members nominated for the chairmanship.

One of the highlights of the opening session, Aug. 29, was Naylor's report to the entire convention, recommending methods and programs for bringing the newest generation of war veterans into American Legion membership and participation in Legion activities and programs.
This special committee recommends the formation of three-man "V-Teams" at each post, consisting of the service officer, one new veteran, and one other post member. This committee would call on returning veterans to explain their rights and benefits, offer the Legion's help in obtaining benefits, and invite them to become Legionnaires and participate in the local post's activities.

The committee further recommended a comprehensive American Legion public relations program to communicate the Legion's concern for the serviceman and his family in order to develop a foundation for his future involvement in Legion affairs.

Naylor expressed the committee's unanimous opinion that the Americanism program is one of major concern to most returning veterans and submitted recommendations for expansion of this major program.

"It should be perfectly clear," the committee's report emphasized, "that the only effective Americanism program must be one of positive action. We must, as America's strongest symbol of patriotism, become ... active in our local communities, on our campuses and centers of education, to present to our people the story of democracy. This recommendation commits each of us to individual involvement at every level for the Americanism program of The American Legion."

The report, summarizing two full days of discussion, committee meetings, and just plain bull session, points to the broad highway The American Legion must travel in expanding its services for today's serviceman and absorbing the newest generation of veterans into the mainstream of future Legion affairs.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-29-67

BOSTON -- (ALNS) -- William D. Chester, Jr., of Louisville, Ky., has been elected president of The American Legion Press Association (ALPA), succeeding Eugene Lee of Whitewater, Wis. The new ALPA chief was named at the organization's annual meeting during the Legion's 49th National Convention, Aug. 25-31, here.

Vice-presidents elected at the meeting, Aug. 27, are: Elmer H. Braun, Flushing, N. Y.; C. Russell Gudknecht, Willingboro, N. J.; Norbert Schellinger, Hartford, Wis.; and Nels L. Soderholm, Corpus Christi, Tex.

Frank J. Giambra of Tonawanda, N. Y., was re-elected secretary, and Jack R. C. Cann of Indianapolis, Ind., was re-named to the office of treasurer. Members of the Executive Board are: Charles H. Congdon, Brooklyn, N. Y.; George V. Harrison, Versailles, Ind.; Edward A. Branley, Metairie, La.; Richard C. Parks, Glendale, Calif.; and Sam L. Latimer, Jr., Columbia, S. C.

Mrs. Mary B. Howard of Augusta, Ga., was re-appointed as ALPA historian.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-29-67

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- "Having participated in two American Legion programs, aimed at inspiring in youth an interest in government, I can here give testament to the great faith which the members of The American Legion have in the heritage of our nation," noted Alan Lee Keyes of San Antonio, Tex., before delegates to the 49th National Convention here.

The youthful Keyes, the 1967 president of Boys Nation, and the winner of The American Legion's National High School Oratorical Contest this year, also told the Legionnaire delegates that The American Legion inspires young Americans to seek the values which transcend the problems of our age.

Other Americanism champions to address the convention included: William Corbett Parker, Jr., 19, Tuscaloosa, Ala., The American Legion Baseball player of the year; Dick Tate Clardy, Jr., 17, Odessa, Tex., the 1967 representative of the Boy Scouts of America; and John H. Ryan, 19, St. Louis, Mo., the 1967 representative of The Sons of The American Legion.

SAL representative John Ryan said that "no SAL group on any level can function without the full support of The American Legion." "In Missouri, officers and members of the Legion work continuously to initiate and help carry out programs for the advancement and well-being of The Sons of The American Legion," he remarked.

Eagle Scout Dick T. Clardy, Jr., declared that through the efforts of the Scouting program, such respected people as lawyers, doctors, astronauts, educators, and national leaders have developed their leadership abilities. "Their minds have been sharpened and their aims have been attained," he said.

Baseball player William Parker told delegates that he was very honored to represent The American Legion Baseball program and hoped that each and every American Legion Baseball player would find this outstanding Americanism program as beneficial as he had.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-29-67

BOSTON — (ALNS) — Frank C. Dacquet, Wamego, Kan., has been elected the new president of the National Association of Department Historians of The American Legion. Legionnaire Dacquet was elected at the Association's 19th annual breakfast meeting Sunday, Aug. 27, during the Legion's 49th National Convention.

Other newly elected officers are: Vice Presidents: Vincent J. Nattera (Mass.), Mary B. Howard (Ga.), Thelma K. Bonner (Va.), Frank B. Piper (Mo.), and Florence E. Land (Calif.). Mrs. Minnie Belle Hickman (D.C.) was re-elected executive vice president of the Association.

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Hazel Carlson (Minn.), former department historian of Florida; Chaplain: The Rev. Dan Collie (Conn.), new residing in Florida; Sergeant-at-Arms: Joe P. Yotz (Kan.); Judge Advocate: Frank E. Monnin (N.Y.); Historian: Thomas V. Hull (Ind.); and editor of The American Legion Historians National News: Ethel Matuschka (Wis.).

National Historian Harold A. Shindler (Ind.) introduced former State Sen. John J. Wicker, Jr. (Va.), an American Legion Founder, who spoke on The American Legion's pilgrimage to Europe during the 1927 National Convention, and also on the early work of the veterans' organization in the field of rehabilitation and national defense.

The Association was honored at the breakfast with the presence of Past National Historian H. Armand de Masi (Italy), as well as many other distinguished guests.
BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- The American Legion has bestowed its highest honor - the Distinguished Service Medal - to recently retired Supreme Court Justice Tom C. Clark during the 49th National Convention here.

National Commander John E. Davis presented the award to Attorney General Ramsey Clark, who accepted it in behalf of his father who is recuperating from an illness he suffered shortly after his retirement from the highest court in the land.

In accepting the Legion's high tribute to his father, Attorney General Clark expressed great admiration for the leadership provided by The American Legion in such programs as Boys State and Boys Nation, American Legion Baseball, Boy Scouts, and the oratorical contests.

Such programs, he declared, "have shown what imagination, initiative, and hard work can accomplish. Redouble these efforts. Think anew and act anew to help our youth. Because it is in the hearts of young Americans -- our future, our most precious resource -- and our most lawless citizens -- that the war on crime will be won -- or lost."

He warned that the trend toward lawlessness -- rising crime and rioting -- will not be easily arrested. Reversal of that trend "will come even harder," he added. "But that it can and must be reversed is manifest. We have no higher priority. Crime is the antithesis of all our belief and hope."

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-29-67
BOSTON -- (ALNS) -- Seven distinguished speakers, representing various national organizations, brought greetings before the opening session of the 49th National Convention of The American Legion here on Aug. 29.

Veterans Administrator William J. Driver noted that in 1967 there has been an abundance of good news for veterans. He reported that "within the past few days Congress has passed and President Johnson now has on his desk a measure that removes entirely from the step-child category our veterans of Vietnam and also provides a number of benefits for the older veterans."

Driver pointed out that the Veterans' Pension and Readjustment Assistance Act of 1967 embodies most of the legislative goals sought by the President and supported by The American Legion as a matter of equity. The VA Administrator said that the Act calls for spending an additional $286-million in benefits for millions of veterans during the first year, and is designed to improve programs for veterans to the tune of $1.7 billion over the next five years.

Driver also recalled that on March 3 of last year a new G. I. Bill was signed by the President starting our gallant Vietnam era veterans on the road to comparability with veterans of World War II and the Korean War.

"Rarely has The American Legion met in National Convention with so much on their side -- and in favor of all veterans," Driver said.

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Speaking on behalf of the Boy Scouts of America, Thomas Allsopp, chairman of Region One, told delegates that the spark which kindled The American Legion in Paris has burned brightly down through the years and that "your determined efforts to keep our country strong and alert have earned the recognition of an appreciative nation."

"Like The American Legion and its Auxiliary, Scouting is looking ahead to insure a place in the America of the future for its activities and for its ideals," Allsopp said.

Pointing out that America is facing many complex and disturbing problems, he also noted that attitudes are changing, values are shifting and old solutions are no longer necessarily valid.

"The country, its people and, particularly, its youth all look to national organizations like ours for answers to these problems, for renewed and vigorous leadership and for evidence that the opinions and needs of our youth are being met," the Boy Scout leader said.

Braulio Alonso, president of the National Education Association, declared that "every generation of Americans must prove his right to freedom ... every generation must earn the right to keep it and "it is indeed fitting that The American Legion is meeting in Boston, one of the cradles of American liberty."

Alonso told the delegates that the American school is in deep trouble and that education in America is in the midst of revolution. "The forces of public apathy, of misunderstanding, of reaction, of prejudice, of censorship, of antiprofession are buffeting the teachers of America," he said. He also said that lack of public financial support for education at all levels is making this time one of important decisions and of crisis.

Others who brought messages of greetings from their organizations included: Mrs. A. J. Ryan, Sr., national president of the American Legion Auxiliary; James L. Boyle, national president of The Society of American Legion Founders; Lt. Gen. William D. Eckert, USAF-Ret., commissioner of baseball; and Ronald E. BacBeeath, dominion president of the Royal Canadian Legion.
BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- In a keynote address which combined a review of history and a study of semantics, Secretary of State Dean Rusk reaffirmed in no uncertain terms to The American Legion that U. S. forces are in South Vietnam to prevent the seizure by armed conquest of South Vietnam by North Vietnam.

Speaking to the delegates at the Legion's 49th National Convention, Aug. 25-31, here, Rusk pointed out that the U. S. commitment to South Vietnam was to give the South Vietnamese an opportunity for self-determination. He told the Legionnaires that acts of Vietcong terrorism, attempting to intimidate South Vietnamese candidates and voters in the upcoming election, indicated the Cong's own terror at the prospect of free election in the south.

Rusk's informal history lesson traced the inability or unwillingness of governments in the '30's to prevent World War II or prepare for it. He cited acts of aggression whose victims included Manchuria, Ethiopia, Czechoslovakia, and Poland. He noted the change of perspective brought about by World War II and the subsequent organization of the United Nations.

The top-ranking Cabinet officer declared that the crisis in Southeast Asia was not a new crisis -- we've seen it before" in Stalin's brand of world revolution in attempting to spread communist domination to Western Europe, South Korea, and the Philippines.

Rusk challenged the argument that the U. S. shouldn't involve itself in a "civil war" in South Vietnam, pointing to the presence of North Vietnamese regular troops in combat there. "If there were 20 divisions of East German regulars in West Germany, no one would call it a civil war," he declared.

Concluding his keynote address, Rusk faced the group of Vietnam period Legionnaires, seated at the front of the hall, stating, "It is tragic that our young men have the task that faces them. This Nation is deeply in your debt. Thank you, gentlemen; thank you very much, indeed."
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-29-67

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- With the current year's membership already more than 21,000 over the total for all of 1966, The American Legion is "an organization on the go and on the grow," National Commander John E. Davis has reported to the 49th National Convention, Aug. 25-31, here.

Speaking at the opening business session, National Commander Davis declared, "It is an achievement that has been made possible only through the dedicated effort of thousands of hard-working American Legionnaires all across this great land ... We are only beginning to feel the impact of the influx of Vietnam Era veterans ... an important part of the work of this National Convention will be carried out by these new Legionnaires."

The National Commander received enthusiastic applause from the delegates when he detailed the Legion's active support, during his term of office, "to the position of firmness and strength, which is the present position of our government with regard to Vietnam." He pointed out that the Legion had called for "further steps ... to help hasten the end of hostilities," including denial to the enemy of sanctuary in Cambodia; providing U.S. military commanders with full authority to conduct the war; and to accelerate further the bombing of strategic targets in North Vietnam.

"Events of this past year must prove conclusively to all American Legionnaires that this organization is sorely needed by America, and that we must respond to the need whatever it may be and wherever it arises," he said. "This giant that is America must awaken to her challenges at home and abroad, and it must be the duty of The American Legion to sound the alarm."
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-30-67

BOSTON -- (ALNS) -- The American Legion for almost a half century has sought the establishment in the United States Senate of a standing committee on Veterans Affairs. In approving the report of the Convention Committee on Legislation and Rules, the 49th National Convention in Boston, Mass., has urged that the House Committee on Rules take appropriate action to bring this long sought for legislation to the floor of the House of Representatives for consideration.

Before adopting the report, the National Convention noted that the bill, S. 355 (known as the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1967 and which contains a provision to establish such a Committee), was passed by the Senate on March 7, 1967. However, the legislation has been installed in the House Committee on Rules since March 9, 1967.

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BOSTON -- (ALNS) -- All posts of The American Legion are being urged to hold special ceremonies at the time their World War I members are presented their 1969 membership cards. In adopting the report of the Committee on Membership, the 49th National Convention also urged the 50th Anniversary Committee of The American Legion to include this program as one of several being suggested to the posts through department and district committees as they plan the post's golden anniversary.

The approved report also noted that the annual Membership Workshop has become an accepted and valuable tool in the launching of membership campaigns. A resolution was approved recommending that a National Membership Workshop be held in 1968 and that departments be encouraged to send additional representatives to the workshop without cost to the National Organization.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-30-67

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- The restlessness of growing millions of Americans with disruptive elements of society were mirrored in the report of the Americanism Committee adopted by the 49th National Convention of The American Legion here.

Concern over the rising crime rate and the difficulty of controlling the Communist conspiracy were cited in Resolution No. 350, which called upon Congress "to restore the constitutional balance of power by initiating . . . corrective legislation after public hearings to ascertain the feasibility of legislation limiting or preempting the authority of the Supreme Court . . . ."

Resolution No. 549, which had been originated by the Department of Puerto Rico, requested "the Department of Justice to make a complete investigation of the activities of Stokely Carmichael to determine if he should be deprived of the privilege of American citizenship."

Daniel J. O'Conner of New York, Americanism chairman, was loudly applauded when the Carmichael resolution was read.

Other policy statements approved by the National Convention asked that legislation be adopted to make seditious statements uttered while the United States is engaged in armed conflict a federal crime and to govern the use of the United States mails by persons and organizations cited by the Justice Department as subversive.

Resolution No. 180 asked the Attorney General of the United States to investigate persons reported to have given medical supplies to North Vietnam and to prosecute if the investigation finds any law violation.

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Africanism (cont'd. - page 2)

The Legion also called on the Congress, through its Resolution No. 280, "to give its wholehearted support to legislation that would protect the internal security of the country."

Other recommended actions were: Prosecution for illegal use of passports in connection with unauthorized visits by Americans to Hanoi; condemnation of the Students for a Democratic Society; and recommendation that the names of all Boys States include the words "The American Legion."

Resolutions were also adopted commending FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover; the Federal Bureau of Investigation itself "for its splendid achievements"; Captain Raymond W. Gimmler of the New York Fire Department for organizing a public demonstration in support of the U. S. Armed Forces in Vietnam; Marine Leston Renth for attempting to thwart flag desecration at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin; the House Committee on Un-American Activities and the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee; and Senator Everett Dirksen on his proposal to amend the Constitution to permit prayer in schools and other public buildings.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-30-67

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- "We're not going to have any city problems or any pocketbooks to worry about - if we do not possess the national will and the power to halt world revolution," Marine Corps Commandant General Wallace M. Greene, Jr., proclaimed to The American Legion's 49th National Convention here.

The cheers of 3,000 delegates and thousands of visitors left little doubt that the world's largest veterans' organization agreed with him.

General Greene pounded home four major points in answering critics of the nation's Vietnam policies.

The war is not less important than domestic problems, since, unless the Chinese communist theory of revolution is proved false, the resolution will move closer to our shores.

The bombing must not be stopped. "Men fighting this war for us should not be denied their principal means of striking the enemy sanctuary," General Greene said.

"We must not get out of Vietnam until the aggression from North Vietnam ceases," he maintained.

"We are not stalemated."
BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- "A way to the peace table must be found in Vietnam. I submit that the American people have the correct formula ... succeed or get out," Rep. Gerald R. Ford (R-Mich.) asserted in a major address to Legionnaires attending the 49th National Convention here. A long time member of Furniture City Post 258, Representative Ford told delegates that he opposed sending one more American foot-soldier to Vietnam if our pilots are prevented from doing the job that needs doing ... a job that should have been done months before.

"Some people are concerned about civilian casualties in North Vietnam. I am more concerned about the lives of Americans and our allies in South Vietnam," Ford declared.

Legionnaires love America and I take pride in being a Legionnaire because The American Legion has been unwaveringly determined to protect America's security, he told the delegates.

Representative Ford declared that "our fighting men have been tragically handicapped by the Administration's policy of gradualism and, at the same time, the South Vietnamese have not done enough in their own behalf.

"Let's not mince words. The South Vietnamese regular army thus far has failed to meet the military challenge. The local militia has failed to provide the security needed to make the pacification program work," he said.

He also noted that tragically, the Saigon government would probably collapse if both the Americans and North Vietnamese were to withdraw from the battlefield and let the South Vietnamese and the Viet Cong fight it out.

Representative Ford said that to succeed in Vietnam we need a clear and coordinated plan with the determination at the top to see it through. "If this fails, then the story of American participation in the Vietnam war will be written in five words in the history books -- too little and too late. Too little early in the war -- and too late now."
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-30-67

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- Noting that the number of Vietnam veterans returning to civilian life this fiscal year will either reach or exceed 750,000, The American Legion has commended President Lyndon B. Johnson and has urged implementation of his directive (dated Aug. 14, 1967), providing employment assistance to all Vietnam veterans.

Other convention action in adopting the report of the Committee on Economics included support of federal and state Veterans Employment Services, promotion of the Veterans Preference Program in employment, amending the Veterans Reemployment Rights Act as it pertains to rights of the returning veteran in a "temporary" federal position, and informing military personnel of their employment rights and benefits prior to their discharge.

The Committee on Economics revealed the fact that newly discharged veterans need all the assistance possible in obtaining employment and that prospective employers are not always aware of the numerous well-trained veterans available for job vacancies.

Res. 107 approved by the 49th National Convention commended the Department of Labor for the publicity program to bring to the attention of employers (and the general public) the excellent qualifications represented by the numerous men and women being discharged from the military service.

The resolution also stated that such publicity be made as extensive as possible, and that potential employers be made aware of the hidden skills which the ex-servicemen and women possess.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-30-67

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- A ten-point declaration of American Legion policy concerning the American position in Vietnam has been enthusiastically approved by the Legion's 49th National Convention here. The policy was set forth in a special resolution submitted to the convention delegates by a special joint committee of representatives of the convention committees on foreign relations and security. By adoption of the resolution, the Legion --

1. Reiterated its strong support of U. S. assistance to the people of South Vietnam.

2. Reaffirmed that defense of South Vietnam and defeat of communism's efforts there is our vital national interest.


4. Expressed deep concern over our increasing casualties while existing political limitations apply to the conduct of the war.

5. Insisted on removal of political limitations that military forces can bring war to early and successful conclusion.

6. Urged that military commanders be given whatever men, material, and authority are required to accomplish this end.

7. Called for termination of enemy's sanctuaries in Cambodia, Laos, and the Demilitarized Zone.

8. Demanded an immediate lifting of restrictions placed on nature and scope of strategic targets in North Vietnam.

9. Supported repeated and intensified bombing or shelling of appropriate targets in North Vietnam.

10. Recommended strongly the closing of the part of Haiphong by whatever military means are considered most feasible and effective.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-30-67

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- The 49th National Convention of The American Legion has recommended that the Legion's National Headquarters maintain a strong and effective counter-subversive activities section, adequately staffed and funded, to implement the mandates of the National Convention in this highly important field.

In approving the report of the Committee on Credentials and Internal Affairs, the Convention noted that it was imperative to be able to distinguish between the opinions of true Americans, with honest differences of opinions as to the best course of conduct for America, and the opinions fostered by communists or fellow travelers, which masquerade as the opinions of loyal Americans.

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BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- "The St. Louis Globe-Democrat" has been named the recipient of The American Legion's 1967 Fourth Estate Award for distinguished public service in the field of communications.


National Commander Davis noted that this year's recipient has long followed an editorial policy supporting the fundamentals of American freedoms.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-30-67

BOSTON --- (ALNS) --- The objective of the United States must be victory in the war in South Vietnam, Sen. John C. Stennis (D-Miss.) has declared to delegates to The American Legion's 49th National Convention here.

The Conventioners gave enthusiastic applause to Senator Stennis' call for a military solution to the present hostilities in that war-torn Southeast Asia nation.

"We must hit every significant military target that our military commanders consider to be necessary to the enemy's war-making capability," he said. "The hardest and most crippling blow we can give the enemy is the bombing of military targets in North Vietnam."

The speaker called for national unity, pointing out, "Carping criticism, prolonged arguments that tear down our national spirit have no place in the constructive discussion of our problem. Americans everywhere should now close ranks and give our fighting men the support and backing they need and deserve. Continued criticism will only cause our enemy to mistake our national purpose, and lead to more casualties. It will decrease, not improve, the chances for peace."

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 8-30-67

BOSTON — (ALNS) — The American Legion has recognized the distribution of pornography to children as harmful to the welfare of youth and has encouraged Legionnaires to work toward promoting legislation to restrict the distribution of lewd, indecent and pornographic material to children 17 and under.

By its adoption of the report of the Committee on Child Welfare, the 49th National Convention here also approved a resolution urging posts to survey their communities through contact with appropriate local medical and health sources to determine the need for pre-school vision testing programs.

Another approved child welfare resolution urged posts to contact local school authorities to ascertain if family life education courses (to include such subjects as preparation for marriage and parenthood, as well as nutrition and health) are offered in the school curriculum. If not, the Legion should seek the cooperation of the Parent Teachers Association, local medical societies, clergy, etc., to the end that such courses be instituted in the school system.

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ATTENTION LEGION EDITORS  *

BOSTON — (ALNS) — Deep concern for the maintenance of law and order in the United States has been expressed by The American Legion during its 49th National Convention, Aug. 25-31, here.

By adopting the report of the convention committee on national security, the delegates reaffirmed the Legion's support of the FBI's National Crime Information Center; called for continued aid and support to all phases of law enforcement; reiterated its opposition to so-called police review boards; expressed its support of police in their efforts to maintain law and order; condemned rioting, insurrection, and use of violence as unlawful violations of constitutional rights; commended the National Guard for services rendered during recent riots; and petitioned Congress to evaluate impact of recent Supreme Court decisions on legitimate law enforcement practices.

Other national security action by the convention included expressions of Legion support for the development and procurement of improved, more effective military hardware and equipment; reaffirmation of support of Civil Defense programs; called for a national drive from Dec. 4, 1967, to Jan. 8, 1968, conducted jointly by the Legion and Red Cross for blood collections; reaffirmed its continuation of a direct program of action for a strong Merchant Marine.

The Legion called for legislation which would declare as treasonable demonstrations promoting defiance of draft laws and physical acts which interfere with war effort of the U.S. The delegates also called for production and deployment of a land-based system of antiballistic missiles.