President Johnson has signed into law the Veterans Pension and Readjustment Act of 1967, and the vital veterans benefits measure known as S-16 while in the legislative process now has become Public Law 90-77, with most of the major benefits and adjustments of benefits becoming effective October 1, 1967. The Veterans Administration estimates that the new law will have a significant impact on great numbers of the 25.8 million living American veterans. National Commander William E. Galbraith hailed the new law "a most significant milestone in the history of American veterans legislation."

Farley W. Moody Post No. 34, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., is the 1967 champion of American Legion Baseball by virtue of besting George William Benjamin Post No. 791, of Northbrook, Ill., 1-0 in the championship game of the World Series of American Legion Baseball on Tuesday, Sept. 5, at Memphis, Tenn. Ray Larsen, catcher for the Northbrook team, was named American Legion Baseball player-of-the-year; Randy Ryan, Tuscaloosa's catcher, was winner of the James F. Daniel, Jr., Memorial Sportsmanship Award, and Joe Cherico, shortstop of the Wilmington, Del., team was the series batting champ with a .514 average.

William F. (Bill) Hauck, Executive Director of the Washington office of The American Legion's National Headquarters, was named acting National Adjutant of The American Legion, on recommendation of National Commander William E. Galbraith, and with the concurrence of the National Executive Committee, at the post-Convention session of the NEC in Boston, Mass. The action came following the resignation of Earnest N. Schmit as National Adjutant.

Richard H. Amberg, President and Publisher of The St. Louis Globe Democrat and winner of The American Legion's Fourth Estate Award for 1967, died of a heart attack in New York City on Sept. 3, while enroute home from the Boston Convention.

Ernest Henderson, Sr., 70, President and General Chairman of the 1967 American Legion National Convention Corporation of Massachusetts, died of a heart attack on Tuesday, Sept. 5. Chairman of the Board of the Sheraton Corporation, Mr. Henderson was Vice Commander of Crosscup-Pishon Post No. 281, Boston, at the time of his death.

National Commander William E. Galbraith, of Beemer, Neb., hit the membership go-getters trail early. On his first trip back to Nebraska, two days after the close of the Boston Convention, he signed UPI reporter James W. Joyce, of Lincoln, Neb., and Rex V. Fuller, retired USAF Major, to membership in Lincoln Post No. 3.
Washington, D.C.—(ALNS)—Even as the 1967 National Convention of The American Legion was in its final session in Boston, Mass., President Johnson signed into law the Veterans Pension and Readjustment Act of 1967, making Vietnam Era veterans eligible for compensation and disability benefits comparable to those made available to veterans of other wars.

Most provisions of the new Act become effective Oct. 1, 1967, and will have a significant impact on many of the 25.8-million living American veterans, according to spokesmen for the Veterans Administration.

Newly-elected American Legion National Commander William E. Galbraith, of Beatrice, Neb., said the new law was a long-sought rehabilitation-legislative objective of The American Legion, and hailed the new bill as "A most significant milestone in the history of American veterans legislation."

Among major provisions of the act are:

1. Increased educational assistance allowances.
2. Full educational assistance allowances to "educationally disadvantaged" veterans to complete high school training without reducing advanced educational benefits.
4. Monthly allowances for farm cooperative training covering institutional agricultural courses and related work on the farm.
5. Ninety per cent of established charges for flight training for veterans with a private pilot's license who can qualify for commercial licensing.
6. An allowance of $1,600 for purchase of specially equipped automobiles for certain severely disabled veterans.
7. Burial allowance of $250 (effective immediately)

The new bill also provides for cost-of-living increases for veterans and their dependents now receiving VA pensions; for educational allowances for the children of veterans who died or are permanently and totally disabled as a result of service-connected disability; and numerous other extensions of benefits.

Some of the latter provisions of the law cover certain American veterans from the Vietnam era to the Spanish-American War.
Memphis, Tenn.--(ALNS)--Farley W. Moody Post No. 34, of Tuscaloosa, Ala.,
bested George William Benjamin Post No. 791, of Northbrook, Ill., 1-0 in a white
hot pitching duel here Tuesday night to win the 1967 championship of American Legion
Baseball.

The lone run of the game came in the seventh inning off Northbrook's Ken Kozil
who had just relieved starting pitcher Dave Thake. Bob Baughman led off the Alabama
seventh with a ringing double to left field and advanced to third on a wild pitch by
Kozil. Pinch hitter Woody Sexton promptly smashed a single to center plating
Baughman, and giving Tuscaloosa the championship.

John Hushing, considered the number four pitcher on the Tuscaloosa roster,
tossed his second three-hitter of the series in the championship game. The three
Northbrook pitchers, starter Thake, Kozil, and Henry Hyde, who pitched the ninth
inning, gave up a total of only five hits.

The 1967 player-of-the-year is Ray Larsen, catcher for the Northbrook nine.

Randy Ryan, Tuscaloosa's catcher, was selected winner of the James F. Daniel,
Jr., Memorial Sportsmanship award, and Joe Cherico, shortstop of the Wilmington, Del.
team was the series batting champion with a tremendous .512 average. Total paid
attendance for the series was 22,788.

Here is how the eight regional winners fared, game by game, in the double
elimination tourney:

Game No. 1—Alabama 3; Illinois 0
Game No. 2—North Dakota (Grand Forks Post No. 6) 3; Colorado (Leyden-Chiles
Wickersham Post No. 1, Denver) 0
Game No. 3—Oregon (Klamath Post No. 8, Klamath Falls) 3; Delaware (Joseph B.
Steele Post No. 30, Wilmington Manor) 2
Game No. 4—Tennessee (Memphis Post No. 1) 6; New Hampshire (Manchester Post
No. 79) 1
Game No. 5—Illinois 9; Colorado 1 (Colorado eliminated)
Game No. 6—Delaware 8; New Hampshire 0 (New Hampshire eliminated)
Game No. 7—Alabama 6; North Dakota 2
Game No. 8—Oregon 3; Tennessee 1
Game No. 9—Illinois 2; Tennessee 1 (Tennessee eliminated)
Game No. 10—Delaware 7; North Dakota 1 (North Dakota eliminated)
Game No. 11—Alabama 3; Oregon 1
Game No. 12—Illinois 4; Oregon 2 (Oregon eliminated)
Game No. 13—Alabama 3; Delaware 1--12 innings (Delaware eliminated)
Game No. 14—Illinois 5; Alabama 0
Championship Game—Alabama 1; Illinois 0

Farley W. Moody Post No. 34, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., becomes the 1967 champions of
American Legion Baseball.

-alns-
Boston, Mass.--(ALNS)--Ernest Henderson, Sr., 70, President and General Chairman of the 1967 American Legion National Convention Corporation of Massachusetts, died Tuesday, Sept. 5, in Massachusetts General Hospital following a heart attack suffered two days earlier.

At the time of his death, he was Vice Commander of Crosscup-Pishon Post No. 281 of The American Legion in Boston.

He was a co-founder of the Sheraton Corporation, a hotel system operating 150 hotels in 10 countries and was Chairman of the Board of that organization at the time of his death.

At the outbreak of World War I, Mr. Henderson left Harvard to enlist in the United States Navy and served as a pilot in what was then known as the "Navy Air Service."

He was long active in civic affairs in Boston, and had served as President of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce, as a member of the board of directors of United Fund, and at the time of his death was Chairman of the Board of the World Trade Center of New England which engages in promoting international business for that area of the country.

Funeral services were at Trinity Episcopal Church on Boston's Copley Square at noon on Friday, Sept. 8, with memorial services at 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, at Emmanuel Church in Dublin, N. H., with burial in Dublin.

Mr. Henderson is survived by the widow, Faryl, five children and seven grandchildren.

The family has requested that contributions be made to the Heart Fund in lieu of flowers.

-alns-
Indianapolis---(ALNS)---Mr. Richard H. Amberg, president and publisher of The St. Louis Globe Democrat, and winner of the 1967 American Legion Fourth Estate Award, presented from the platform of the recently concluded 1967 National Convention, was stricken with a fatal heart attack in New York City on Sunday, Sept. 3, while enroute home from Boston.

American Legion National Commander William E. Galbraith, of Beemer, Neb., upon learning of the death of Mr. Amberg immediately sent a message of condolence to Mrs. Amberg, and had the following message dispatched to The St. Louis Globe Democrat:

"The American Legion joins the staff and employees of The St. Louis Globe Democrat, the people of St. Louis, and the journalistic profession in mourning the death of a fine craftsman and a true gentleman, Mr. Richard H. Amberg, publisher of The St. Louis Globe Democrat.

"The Legion was most fortunate to have recognized the talents of Mr. Amberg, and his personal contributions and those of his staff to the perpetuation of the American ideal, with our presentation to him on Wednesday of last week, our Fourth Estate Award for 1967.

"We were shocked and saddened to learn of his sudden and untimely death, for we know that we, the people of St. Louis and the people of the United States have lost an articulate and courageous champion of the values, the principles and the ideals that have made America great."

During the 1966-67 American Legion year, Mr. Amberg served as Missouri Department Chairman of the National Commander's program of support for the forces of law and order.

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Indianapolis—(ALNS)—William F. (Bill) Hauck, Executive Director of the Washington office of The American Legion's National Headquarters, was named Acting National Adjutant of The American Legion on recommendation of newly-elected National Commander William E. Galbraith, and with concurrence of the National Executive Committee, during the post-Convention meeting of the NEC in Boston, Mass.

The action came following the resignation of National Adjutant Earnest N. Schmit, of Fargo, N. D., who had held the position since the spring 1967 meetings of the NEC at National Headquarters in Indianapolis, Ind.

Hauck has been director of the Washington offices of The American Legion since 1952, having been appointed to that position by then National Commander Donald R. Wilson.

A native of Ohio, and a veteran of World War II service with the U. S. Army, Hauck was wounded by a land mine explosion while serving in the European Theater, and was retired on disability from the armed forces in 1945.

Prior to his appointment to the National Headquarters staff of The American Legion, Hauck had served as Department Adjutant of The American Legion of Indiana. He is a member of Aaron Scisinger Post No. 178 of The American Legion, Garrett, Ind.

While serving as Acting National Adjutant, Mr. Hauck will conduct the administration of the National Headquarters, and will continue to fulfill his duties as Executive Director of the Legion's Washington Office.

-alns-

Boston, Mass.—(ALNS)—Alfredo C. Sese, 65, Manila, Philippines, Alternate National Executive Committeeman from the Department of the Philippines, died Sept. 4 in Jamaica Plains Hospital, Boston, where he had been confined since suffering a heart attack while attending a function of the 1967 American Legion National Convention here.

-alns-
"The American Legion is forming its own 'Task Force for the Future' in preparation for the Legion's 50th Anniversary observance, and to plan the course for continued service to God and country," National Commander William E. Galbraith told crowds at the Nebraska State Fair just two days after his election by the Boston Convention. Commander Galbraith also outlined plans to carry out his theme: "Freedom Is Not Free," saying that an important objective of the program is to make young Americans aware of the great task before them— that of maintaining their heritage of freedom—and that the task has never been, and never will be, free of pain, free of struggle, or free of individual and collective effort.

The 17th edition of "Need A Lift?, The American Legion's Education and Scholarship handbook and guide to more than two billion dollars worth of scholarships, loans and other educational assistance available to college and vocational students, is available for distribution to high schools and libraries during American Education Week, Nov. 5-11. Posts are encouraged to secure at least five copies of Need a Lift? which can be purchased for $1.00 (prepaid), quantities of 100 or more are available at 15 cents each (prepaid) from: The American Legion, Department S, Post Office Box 1055, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206.

National Commander William E. Galbraith will travel to Vietnam later this month to view first-hand the work of the American and allied military effort and for military and diplomatic briefings. He will be accompanied by Assistant National Adjutant Robert E. Lyngh, and Peter Marchetti, Past Commander of the Department of Nebraska and a practicing attorney in Omaha.

Past National Commander Edward N. Scheiberling, 79, died Sunday, Sept. 10, in St. Peter's Hospital, Albany, N. Y., following a brief illness. Services were conducted Wednesday, Sept. 13, with interment in Lady Help of Christians Cemetery, Glenmont, N. Y., near Albany. Mr. Scheiberling served as National Commander of The American Legion in 1944-45.

National Executive Committeeman Thomas W. Miller, of Nevada, led a successful fight this past summer to have the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) retained as a compulsory course on the campus of the University of Nevada. Faculty and student groups had sought to have the program placed on a voluntary basis, but Mr. Miller and his supporters prevailed upon the University Board of Regents to keep the program on a mandatory basis.
Lincoln, Neb.—(AILNS)—"The American Legion is forming its 'Task Force for the Future,' in preparation for the Legion's 50th anniversary observance and to plan the course for continued service to God and country," National Commander William E. Galbraith told crowds at the Nebraska State Fair Centennial observance just two days after his election by the Boston National Convention.

Relating his home state's 100th anniversary observance of statehood to the Legion's approaching 50th anniversary, Commander Galbraith commented: "Even as Nebraska reviews her proud history and plans for her future, so does The American Legion look back on its 50 years of service and, based upon that experience, formulate its plans for continued service."

Commander Galbraith said: "Each of our program divisions is hard at work reviewing those things which the Legion has done over the past half-century and, in the light of present day conditions at home and throughout the world, planning such revisions and changes in program as may be necessary to enable The American Legion to continue to render effective patriotic service to the nation in the years ahead."

Commenting on his chosen theme for his term of office as National Commander, "Freedom Is Not Free," he said: "The effort will be aimed at awakening the conscience of all Americans of all ages that Freedom Is Not Free. Every blessing we enjoy as citizens of these great United States was purchased at great cost in personal sacrifice and treasure. The initial purchase price was paid by those early American patriots...new installments have been paid by every succeeding generation of Americans, and none is more aware than those who have paid a part of that price, that Freedom Is Not Free. No organization is better qualified than The American Legion to carry this message to our fellow Americans, and that is precisely the task we have taken upon ourselves for this year."

A vital part of the challenge, Commander Galbraith said: "Is to make young Americans aware of the great task before them—the task of maintaining their great heritage of freedom—and of the fact that this task never has been, and never will be, free of pain, free of struggle, or free of individual and collective effort."

Leaving Nebraska immediately after his speaking engagement, Commander Galbraith went to Memphis, Tenn., for the World Series of American Legion Baseball, then to speak before the New Jersey Department Convention.

-AILNS-
Fox Lake, Ill.--(ALNS)--How are you doing with your returning Vietnam Era veterans?

Lake Region Post No. 703, Fox Lake, Ill., may be in a unique position, both by virtue of location and facilities, to do an outstanding job for the convalescing veterans home from Vietnam, but they are doing it in grand fashion.

Starting in early June, and continuing through late fall, each Tuesday, the Post and its Auxiliary have entertained approximately 50 convalescing Vietnam veterans from the Great Lakes Naval Hospital. On the agenda are such enticing items as fishing, motor boating, picnics, floor shows and dancing to a live orchestra.

The guests are transported by bus to and from the hospital and treated to a full day's entertainment and recreation. Hospital officials have commended the program as: "A substantial contribution toward speeding the men on their way to recovery."

Not every Post is so well equipped or so strategically located that it can perform this type of service, but everyone can do something to show the new generation of American veterans that "The American Legion cares."

Columbus, Ohio--(ALNS)--Flag desecrators in Ohio are going to find the going a bit rougher come October, thanks to the passage by the Ohio State Legislature and signing by Governor James A. Rhodes, of a bill backed by The American Legion of Ohio calling for jail sentences and monetary fines of persons found guilty of defiling the flags of the United States and of the State of Ohio.

The bill, which received unanimous approval in both houses of the Ohio Legislature, calls for a fine of $1,000, or imprisonment from 30 days to one year, or both, upon conviction.

House sponsors of the Bill were Representatives Doug Applegate and Gordon Schriner, Jr., and in the Senate the sponsors were John H. Weeks and William Taft.
Indianapolis, Ind.--(ALNS)--Into any program involving work with children come moments of great triumph; such as the discovery of a preventive against polio; moments of anguish, when the magnitude and complexity of childhood problems looks insurmountable, and moments of pathos that bring a lump to the throat of the most seasoned worker.

So it is with The American Legion's Child Welfare program, and such a moment of pathos was experienced recently in the form of a letter from the parents of a recipient of temporary financial assistance from the Child Welfare program.

Some liberties have been taken with the text of this letter to protect the identity of the child and her family but, with the exception of names and places, here it is:

"Words in a letter can never adequately express how much we appreciated the five hundred dollar check sent by National Headquarters to the hospital where our child was confined. This money helped defray a large debt and ease our financial burden.

"We thank all the people involved in obtaining this grant, for their work and kindness. Our daughter is at home most of the time at present. We pray every day that a cure for leukemia will be found before it is too late for her. We also pray for other children who will fall victim to this disease, that even if help doesn't come soon enough for our daughter that the 'key' will be discovered soon and spare thousands of children's suffering and their parents' heartbreak.

"The American Legion will be remembered by us and our family always, with gratitude from the bottom of our hearts."

How often it is asked: "Just what does The American Legion's Child Welfare program do? What happens to the more than nine million dollars that Legionnaires and Auxiliary members pour into this program annually? Why do some 50,000 members of the Legion and the Auxiliary devote their major attention to the problems of children?"

Remember this letter from the parents of a little child, and you will find a large part of the answer.

-alns-
Albany, N. Y.—(AINS)—Past National Commander Edward N. Scheiberling, 79, died Sunday, Sept. 10, in St. Peter's Hospital here following a brief illness. Mr. Scheiberling had attended the 49th Annual National Convention of The American Legion just two weeks ago in Boston, Mass.

A World War I veteran, and organizer and first commander of Capital City Legion Post No. 225 in Albany, he had been active in The American Legion since 1919. He served as an infantryman in France during the first World War and won a battlefield promotion to the rank of captain for his conduct during the St. Mihiel offensive.

Long prominent in the legal profession in Albany and throughout the state of New York, Mr. Scheiberling served as National Commander of The American Legion in 1944-45. He had served as a member of the Legion's National Legislative Commission, and at the time of his death he was chairman of The American Legion's 50th Anniversary observance for the Department of New York.

In addition to his American Legion and professional work, Past National Commander Scheiberling also was extremely active in government and civic affairs. Under his guidance as New York Department Commander, 1935-36, the Department achieved its highest American Legion membership up to that time.

Among the survivors are the widow, Ethel.

Funeral services were at 11 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 13, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Albany. Interment will be in Lady Help of Christians Cemetery, Glenmont, N. Y.

Following is a portion of the message forwarded to Mrs. Scheiberling by National Commander William E. Galbraith: "We are deeply saddened by the news of the untimely passing of your husband. The Legion has lost a good friend and a dedicated comrade, and the entire membership joins me in extending our sincere sympathy to you and your family."

-alns-
Indianapolis, Ind.--(ALNS)--National Commander William E. Galbraith will follow in the steps of most of his recent predecessors by making a trip to Vietnam later this month to view first-hand the work of the American and allied military effort there, and for military and diplomatic briefings on the situation.

"I believe this trip to be necessary, for I know that Vietnam will continue to be a vital subject of discussion in the months ahead, and I think it is essential that I see and hear for myself some of those important things about which I know I will have to speak on behalf of The American Legion during my term of office."

Present plans call for the Commander to depart the United States on September 24 and to return on October 11. He will be accompanied by Assistant National Adjutant Robert E. Lyngh and Peter Marchetti, Past Department Commander of Nebraska, and a practicing attorney in Omaha.

Reno, Nevada--(ALNS)--The American Legion of Nevada, led by National Executive Committeeman Thomas W. Miller, conducted a successful campaign this past summer to have the Reserve Officers Training Corps program retained on the campus of the University of Nevada as a mandatory course.

The faculty of the University, the Student Senate, and other undergraduate organizations had voted in favor of placing the University's ROTC program on a voluntary basis. NECman Miller and his supporters prevailed upon the University's Board of Regents to retain a mandatory ROTC program. The vote was 9-1.

New York--(ALNS)--The 82nd Division Association will conduct its golden anniversary reunion on Oct. 21, in New York City. For further details write: 82nd Division Association, 28 East 39th Street, New York, New York 10016.
Washington, D. C.--(ALNS)--National Commander William E. Galbraith's first Department Convention appearance at Wildwood, N. J., on Sept. 8, won high praise for him, for his program for the coming year, and for The American Legion, from the Garden State's Governor Richard J. Hughes.

Following his appearance on the Convention platform, during which he outlined plans for carrying out his theme: Freedom Is Not Free, and the intent of the project, which is to instill a new sense of patriotism in Americans, young and old, Governor Hughes told the Commander that in all his years in public life he had never heard a more sincere and stirring message concerning a program of which the country is in such urgent need.

Returning to the Legion's Washington offices following the New Jersey appearance, Commander Galbraith plunged into a busy two-day schedule of official business and courtesy calls before going on to Indianapolis for his first formal news conference since his election in the National Headquarters city.

Items on the Commander's Washington itinerary included: Taping of a message on American Education Week at headquarters of the National Education Association along with the president of N. E. A. and the P. T. A., and an interview with the editor of American Education, a monthly publication; an official visit with Congressman Olin E. Teague, Chairman of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, in which he pledged American Legion support to the Congressman's effort to have rescinded the order restricting burials in Arlington National Cemetery; an official call upon Secretary of State Dean Rusk, where he received briefings on international affairs, with particular emphasis on Vietnam; a taped interview with Nebraska Senator Roman L. Hruska, and a Tuesday evening dinner meeting with American Legion and other officials.

"FREEDOM IS NOT FREE"

-alns-
Indianapolis--(ALNS)--The 17th edition of NEED A LIFT?, The American Legion's Education and Scholarship Handbook, is available for distribution to local high schools and libraries as a Post project during the observance of American Education Week, November 5-11. The Handbook contains information about hundreds of college and vocational school scholarships for qualified high school students.

The Legion's Education and Scholarship Program estimates that there will be available sources of scholarships, loans, and part-time jobs in excess of two billion dollars to assist students during the next school year.

This year's edition of NEED A LIFT? was researched and compiled with the cooperation of 197 national organizations interested in assisting students in the selection of careers and with resources to further their education. Posts are encouraged to secure at least five copies of NEED A LIFT? which can be purchased for $1.00 (prepaid), quantities of 100 or more are available at 15 cents each (prepaid) from: The American Legion, Department S, Post Office Box 1055, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206.

Posts and Auxiliary Units which purchase five copies of the Handbook will receive a Junior GI Bill Poster suitable for posting in schools or libraries. Included also in this packet will be a suggested news release for local newspapers, radio, and television stations. The news release will enable Posts to bring this fine American Legion service to the attention of all persons in the community, thereby offering parents and students alike the opportunity to share the valuable information contained in NEED A LIFT?

As another service for young people, it is recommended that copies of the updated GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS be purchased for distribution to each high school student to share with his parents for planning his education beyond high school. The GUIDE has received national recognition on the Blue Page of the U. S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, the JOURNAL of the American Personnel and Guidance Association, and many national organizations.

Copies of the GUIDE can be secured for printing and postage cost of $5.00 per 1,000 copies, or $2.50 for 500 copies by directing orders to: The American Legion, Education and Scholarship Program, Dept. A, Post Office Box 1055, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206.

With the cooperation of The American Legion and other sponsoring organizations, the National Education Association has prepared a packet of more than 30 items of promotional materials which may be used in the planning and observance of American Education Week. These packets are available at $2.00 each (payment to accompany order) from: American Education Week, National Education Association, 1201 16th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20036.
Washington, D. C.—(ALNS)—Some unfortunate misconceptions regarding American Legion position on the Middle East situation have arisen as a result of "interpretive" reporting of 1967 National Convention action. To clarify this matter in the minds of all Legionnaires, and with the public press, here is what actually happened. Two separate resolutions were adopted in this matter, and the substance of each follows:

One resolution notes The American Legion's support to Israel's "Right to existence—with recognized and secure boundaries—and her right of free maritime passage through the Suez Canal and Gulf of Aqaba." The same resolution calls upon President Johnson to use his influence to help bring about direct Arab-Israeli negotiations but, if the Arabs refuse, to lift the arms embargo against Israel should the U. S. find that any Arab country has secured from the Soviets or elsewhere, a level or kind of weapons beyond that which it possessed prior to the onset of hostilities in June, 1967. The measure also called for the U. S. to extend a commensurate share of assistance to Middle East refugees, and to continue to work for reasonable limitations on arms shipments to the area.

In a second resolution, The American Legion denounced the June 8 attack, by Israeli planes and torpedo boats against the USS Liberty, and insisted that the United States demand full compensation from Israel for the families of the 34 men killed in the attack, for injuries to 75 other members of the crew, and for damage to the ship.

It should be made crystal clear that no condemnation of Israel is involved in either of these actions, and that the second resolution is critical of the specific incident of an unprovoked and unwarranted attack on a United States ship, and notes that the attack took place in international waters, in calm, clear weather, on a ship that was properly marked as to her identity and nationality.

All other reports notwithstanding, the foregoing is a precise condensation of Convention action on the matter in question and, it should be noted that it is consistent with American Legion policy to take a critical view of attacks upon American personnel and property regardless of where, when, or by whom.

-alns-
Bob Considine, Hearst Newspapers King Features columnist, will speak at the dinner being held as part of the homecoming ceremonies for American Legion National Commander William E. Galbraith at Lincoln, Neb., on Saturday evening, Oct. 14. Nebraska Gov. Norbert T. Tiemann has announced that the homecoming will be one of the official events of the state's centennial observance. Oct. 14 will be declared "Bill Galbraith Day."

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"Programming for Children in the Computer Age" will be the theme for the five American Legion Area Child Welfare Conferences being held this fall and winter. The first of the five conferences, that for the Midwestern Area, opens at Des Moines, Iowa, Nov. 2.

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American Legion National Commander William E. Galbraith of Beemer, Neb., in a special letter to department commanders, has urged the establishment of a joint committee at department level of The American Legion and the State Education Association. Letters urging the same action were sent to the president of the various State Education Associations by Braulio Alonso of Tampa, Fla., National Education Association president. A joint committee at the national level of the two organizations has been most successful in sponsoring such projects as American Education Week.

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The Eighth annual Armed Forces Chess Championship Tournament will be held at The American Legion's Washington Headquarters for one week beginning Saturday, Oct. 21.

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In his first formal press conference since becoming American Legion National Commander, William E. Galbraith, at Indianapolis, Ind., urged that the limitations on the conduct of the Vietnam War be removed to enable our military forces "to bring the war to an early and successful conclusion."

SUGGESTED ADDRESS AVAILABLE

* Suggested Address No. 179 for American Legion speakers on Veterans Day, 1967, has been distributed to Department Adjutants and those persons whose names appear on the suggested address mailing list at National Headquarters. Copies of the speech may be obtained from your Department Adjutant or by writing the National Public Relations Division, The American Legion, P. O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, Ind. 46206. The speech ties in with the National Commander's 1967-68 program, "Freedom Is Not Free."

FREEDOM IS NOT FREE
LINCOLN, NEB.—(ALNS)—The American Legion National office in Washington announced today that the eminent newspaper reporter and syndicated columnist of the Hearst Newspapers King Features, Bob Considine, has accepted an invitation to deliver the major address at the homecoming ceremonies for the new national commander of The American Legion, William E. Galbraith, at a dinner to be held here Saturday, Oct. 14.

The invitation to Considine was extended by the Hon. Norbert T. Tiemann, Governor of Nebraska. Nebraska this year is observing its centennial year commemorating its 100th anniversary of statehood.

In extending the invitation to Bob Considine, Gov. Tiemann said:

"October 14th, 1967 will have great meaning to the people of the State of Nebraska, and to The American Legion. On this day we will declare 'Bill Galbraith Day', an official Nebraska Centennial event, an indication of how proud we are that William E. Galbraith has been unanimously elected National Commander of The American Legion, the First Nebraskan to receive this coveted honor. The banquet you will address will be the culmination of a series of events to be known as, 'Welcome Home National Commander Galbraith,' and about 1,500 Nebraskans and national dignitaries will attend."

Bob Considine is one of the top figures in contemporary journalism, his famous "On The Line" column appears regularly in the nation's top newspapers. In addition, he regularly turns out special series of timely articles both on his own and as part of the renowned Hearst task force. For "Asia: The Turning Point," this top reporting team (William Randolph Hearst, Jr., Milton L. Kaplan, and Considine) late in 1966 traveled to the Far East and talked to the leaders of seven Asian nations and to critics and neutral observers as well.

One of the best-known and highly respected newspapermen in the United States, Considine is also the author of many magazine articles and a number of best-selling books. He has also figured prominently in countless radio and television programs.

"It's better to know nothing than know what ain't so."—Josh Billings

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"The wolf may lose his teeth, but never his nature."—Russian proverb
WASHINGTON—(ALNS)—Rep. Olin E. Teague, chairman of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs has introduced HR-12801, a bill supported by The American Legion to establish within the Veterans Administration a national cemetery system.

The Bill has a three-fold purpose:

1. To transfer to the Administrator of Veterans Affairs existing national cemeteries now under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Army, the Department of the Interior, and the National Park Service.

2. To provide the Administrator with authority and responsibility for the operation, care and maintenance of these national cemeteries.

3. To direct the Administrator to plan a system of national cemeteries and to establish a program of expansion of existing cemeteries and creation of additional ones so that the capacity and location of cemetery sites will always be sufficient to assure burial in a national cemetery for those who so desire.

The American Legion has strongly opposed the curtailment of burial of veterans at Arlington National Cemetery, and the provisions of the Teague Bill would accomplish the intent of Rehabilitation Resolution No. 497 adopted by the Boston National Convention.

-alns-
INDIANAPOLIS—(ALNS)—American Legion National Commander William E. Galbraith of Beemer, Neb., in a special letter to department commanders, has urged the establishment of a joint committee at the department level of The American Legion and the State Education Association.

Letters urging the same action were sent to the president of each of the various State Education Associations by Braulio Alonso of Tampa, Fla., National Education Association president.

In his letter to department commanders, National Commander Galbraith pointed out that such a committee has functioned effectively at the Legion's national level since 1921. Projects such as American Education Week and the manual, "Teaching About Communism—Guide Lines for Junior and Senior High School Teachers" have been sponsored by the group.

The Commander pointed out that "Many of our activities this current year, centering around our theme, 'Freedom Is Not Free' involve the schools." He added: "A joint committee could be of real help in making the program more effective."

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WASHINGTON—(ALNS)—Fred Kochli, 76, of Washington, D.C., an employee from 1936-56 of The American Legion National Rehabilitation Division, died at Walter Reed Hospital here Sept. 13.

A captain in World War I, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for valor while fighting with the 37th Division at Montfalcon, France, on Sept. 27, 1918. He lost an arm in another action.

A past national commander of the Army and Navy Legion of Valor, Mr. Kochli also held the French Legion of Honor, the Croix De Guerre with Palm and the Purple Heart.

Survivors include his wife, who resides at 5717—32nd St., N.W., Washington, a son, Col. Fred Kochli, Jr., USA—Ret., Hampton, Va., and a daughter, Mrs. Claude Andrews, Norfolk, Va.

-alns-
INDIANAPOLIS—(ALNS)—American Legion National Headquarters had one of the heaviest influxes of visitors in many years during the week ending Sept. 15.

The National Headquarters City was the site of the National Convention of World War I Veterans, most of whom are long-time American Legionnaires, and many took time out from their convention activity to pay a visit to National Headquarters.

American Legion National Commander William E. Galbraith sent the following message to William Walker, Commander of the World War I Veterans:

"On behalf of The American Legion, I extend to you and to all of our comrades of World War I, greetings and best wishes for a most successful National Convention here in the National Headquarters City of The American Legion. Many conventioneers have taken this occasion to visit the Legion's National Headquarters, and we have been delighted to have them. With all good wishes in the continuing service to God and country and our fellowman, I am sincerely yours."

-ALNS-

NEW ORLEANS, LA.—(ALNS)—New Orleans, which has been given a tentative award as host city for the 1968 National Convention of The American Legion, also will come into the Legion limelight later this year as the site of the Legion's official observance of Veterans Day, 1967.

Legion National Commander William E. Galbraith will deliver his 1967 Veterans Day address in New Orleans on Nov. 11, and will be in the city a day prior to Veterans Day itself to participate in activities leading up to the main event.

Larry Centola, former adjutant of The American Legion of Louisiana and now associated with the Department of Veterans Affairs, is general chairman of the regional Veterans Day observance.

-ALNS-
EDITORIAL
by Al Weinberg

April 7, 1917. Seems like it was yesterday. Almost half of the people in our nation today had not yet been born. To those who remember, the day was marked with mixed emotions. President Woodrow Wilson had delivered a somber message to the special session of Congress a few days before, on April 2. In his concluding remarks he declared: "...It is a fearful thing to lead this great peaceful country into war, into the most terrible and disastrous of all wars, civilization itself seeming to be in the balance. But the right is more precious than peace, and we shall fight for the things we have always carried nearest our hearts..." and he went on pledging to bring "peace and safety to all nations..." Five days later came the declaration that a state of war exists against the Imperial German Government.

It took the United States a long time to get ready. The Army consisted of a total of 102,000 men, all of whom could have been seated in the Los Angeles Coliseum. The "draft" came. Hundreds of thousands didn't wait to be called. They volunteered. Many of them didn't know the business end of their weapon. As a matter of record, men in the training camps all over the nation got infantry training with wooden guns. There were not enough Springfields to go around. Some of the canned Willie still bore the 1898-1899 date marks of the Spanish-American War.

Later, fully-equipped Infantry companies could boast of a two-gun, machine gun squad. They were Lewis Machine Guns, borrowed from the British. But Americans went to war. They helped Britain. They saved France. "Lafayette, we are here," were the quotes of a fighting American general. They rescued Belgium. "They" are the composite of the World War I American, today's grandpa. They wallowed in rat-infested trenches. They took the enemy gas. They single-filed it over muddy French roads in "perfect" French, drenching-rainy weather. They got a taste of the Kaiser's Big Bertha, his U-Boats and his Luftwaffe counterpart in the air. They had the Aviation Section of the Signal Corps, with "Jennie-4s" held together with baling wire and legging laces.

Whatever it was that took place back in the States, of one thing we were certain - when the stuff started rolling, the American doughboy went to town. He battered the Hindenburg Line. He fought it out in Belleau Wood, Chateau Thierry, Flanders. Before current history books were deleted, the story was known to many school children. He won the war. The Big War. It was the biggest the world had known up to then. He lost over 53,000 buddies in battle, 70,000 more died overseas and in camps through accident and disease. 4,057,000 were in uniform. More than
Editorial continued:

two million of them were overseas. He won his war.

He went to war because He was ordered to go. He was no more enthusiastic about going to war than any other living soul. But He went. Many didn't come back. Dan Miller once said, "The sin of war is an intolerable burden, but the culpability falls with less force upon the soldier than anyone else. He didn't start it. He stopped it." He had something to fight for and something to fight with. The World War II American did his job, too. A tougher one. He won his war. He had the tools, the cause and the will to win.

The guys who went to Korea, given the same ingredients, could also have wrapped up a victory. Let us not hogtie the fellows now in Vietnam. They've got the cause and the will. Let's give them the tools. Let them—fifty years from now—look back on the war they WON. And may God grant that there be no repeats during the interval.

-WALNS-

WASHINGTON—(ALNS)—American Legion National Commander William E. Galbraith has paid a courtesy call on President Lyndon B. Johnson at the White House, at which time he presented the President with a bound copy of the proceedings of the 1967 National Convention and issued an invitation to the chief executive to deliver the principal address at the 1968 National Convention scheduled for next September in New Orleans, La.

The White House visit was the highlight of another busy round of official visits, conferences and briefings for Commander Galbraith in the nation's capital on his second trip to Washington since his election at Boston.

Other items on the Commander's Washington agenda included a breakfast hosted by William J. Driver, Administrator of Veterans Affairs, and members of his staff, on Thursday, Sept. 21, for briefings on the current status of veterans affairs, and a visit to headquarters of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and a courtesy call on F.B.I. Director J. Edgar Hoover.

On Friday, Sept. 22, he went to the Pentagon for an official visit with Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, and for briefings by staff officers on the eve of his departure for Vietnam and the Far East.

On Saturday, Commander Galbraith was interviewed by Jim Lucas, Scripps Howard Newspapers columnist just prior to his departure from Washington for Baltimore, Md., where he attended the homecoming for Mrs. Vernon Randall, National President of the American Legion Auxiliary.

-WALNS-
REMOVE CURBS ON WAR,
NEW LEGION CHIEF URGES

By Byron C. Wells

The American Legion's new national commander said here yesterday (9-14-67) that limitations in the conduct of the Vietnam War must be removed to enable our military forces "to bring this war to an early and successful conclusion."

William E. Galbraith, holding his first press conference as commander said, "The Legion is deeply concerned over the matter of mounting American casualties in Vietnam, with no apparent end in sight while existing political limitations apply."

He recalled that a resolution passed at the Legion's 1967 National Convention calls for United States military commanders to be given the men, materials and authority required to stop the war.

Galbraith continued: "We proposed to do this by terminating, by military means, and as military judgment determines appropriate, sanctuaries across South Vietnam's borders into Cambodia, Laos and the demilitarized zone.

"We also propose the immediate lifting of restrictions placed on the military as to the nature and scope of strategic targets which should be destroyed in North Vietnam.

"The Legion also proposes that the port of Haiphong be closed by whatever military means considered most feasible and effective, with adequate and firm notice to all shipping nations."

In admittedly stronger language than the Legion has used in previous resolutions about the war, Galbraith added, "We believe if we are going to ask young Americans to fight a war, they should be permitted to fight to win."

"Surveillance of the Chinese armies have shown us that the intensified bombing of the last few months has not caused them to mass at the border as some people believe would have occurred," he said. More
Galbraith, 41 years old, Beemer, Neb, said he and two other members of the Legion will leave Sept. 24 for a two-week tour of the war area and meetings with military and civilian leaders. This will be a "free hand" inspection, not a guided tour, he said.

Galbraith said the resolutions are not to be considered as asking for an "escalation of the war, but an escalation of freedom for the people of South Vietnam."

"We could win this war almost instantly," he said, "but if we fight to win the war to insure the people over there freedom, it could last from two to 20 years."

"I should make it clear that the position of the Legion is not in support of any administration, or of any political party, but in support of policies which we believe to be in the best interest of America and the free world," the commander asserted.

Galbraith added that "while Vietnam is the major concern, we cannot ignore the fact we face grave problems here at home."

He declared: "We deplore the use of force, rioting and insurrection as a means of dissent, and we condemn such acts as unlawful and in violation of our Constitution. We call upon all authorities, local, state and federal to use the full power and force at their command to bring an end to this lawlessness, and for prosecution to the full extent those responsible for such lawlessness.

"We also intend to ask the Justice Department and the Congress if the laws, now on the books are enough for the prosecution of persons who commit seditious actions and utterances of those who seek to divide us at home and weaken us abroad."

The more than 2.5 million Legion members also plan to start a program of teaching Americanism in the schools, he said, adding: "We hope to work with the National Education Association on a program that includes the distribution of millions of posterboard flags for pupils to color. This will help to teach them what the flag stands for."

INDIANAPOLIS --(ALNS)--A 16 mm., black and white film explaining the meaning of The American Legion image in layman's language is now available from the film library at National Headquarters.

In the introduction of the film entitled "A View From Main Street," it is noted that the objectives of The American Legion have stood the test of time over the years, however, the Legion's image has been subject to change.

An important part of the National Membership Workshop held at National Headquarters recently was devoted to a demonstration on how a post commander can analyze the real image of his American Legion Post and then do something about it.

At that time, a 25-minute film was made of the workshop presentation by Dr. Thomas R. Bossart, professor of management, and Dr. Edward J. Kuntz, assistant dean, both of the Indiana University Graduate School of Business.

Orders for "A View From Main Street" should be directed to: Motion Picture Library, The American Legion, P. O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, Ind. 46206. A check for $2.50 should be included with each film order to defray the cost of handling.

Because of the limited number of prints available, at least one alternate showing date, in addition to your specific showing date, should be listed with your film order.
INDIANAPOLIS—(ALNS)—"Programming for Children in the Computer Age" will be the theme for the five American Legion's Area Child Welfare Conferences being held this fall and winter according to Morris (Bob) Nooner of Plymouth, Ill., Legion Child Welfare Chairman.

The Conferences will be used to present the 1968 child welfare objectives of The American Legion, and are open to all individuals who have an interest in the child welfare program.

The dates and locations of the 1967-68 Conferences are as follows: New England Area, Nov. 30, Dec. 1-2, 1967, Hartford, Conn.; Middle Atlantic Area, Jan. 4-6, 1968, Baltimore, Md.; Southern Area, Jan. 18-20, 1968, Jackson, Miss.; Midwestern Area, Nov. 2-4, 1967, Des Moines, Iowa; Western Area, Nov. 16-18, 1967, Denver, Colo.

WASHINGTON—(ALNS)—The American Legion's Washington Headquarters will again be the locale of the Armed Forces Chess Championship Tournament, the eighth annual competition for top honors in the United States Armed Forces, starting on Saturday, Oct. 21 and lasting one week.

The Army, Air Force and the Seas Services (Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard) send their top-rated players to compete for The Emery Trophy donated by World War I Marine Thomas Emery of the American Chess Foundation which sponsors the annual tournament.

The week-long program will include an opening luncheon at the National Capital USO Club, a five-round Swiss tournament to determine the individual champion and six-rounds of team play for The Emery Trophy, an American Legion party side games with Pan-American Union Chess Club and a visit to the White House, and the American Chess Foundation reception and awards dinner at the Sheraton-Carlton Hotel.

The dinner will be held Saturday evening, Oct. 28, at which Pulitzer Prize-winning War Correspondent Jim Lucas of Scripps-Howard, will be the main speaker, and Gen. David M. Shoup, C.M.H., retired Commandant of Marines and honorary chairman of the Foundation, will present the championship awards.

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AMERICAN LEGION NEWS BRIEFS
FOR WEEK ENDING 9-29-67

American Legion National Commander William E. Galbraith will report on his trip to the Vietnam war zone and the Far East during the Legion National Executive Committee meeting in Indianapolis, Ind., on Oct. 18-19. He will make his report at the banquet being held for the NEC and distinguished guests on Wednesday evening, Oct. 18, at the Indianapolis Athletic Club.

American Legion Posts and their Auxiliary Units are among the community organizations to be found this week sharing the gigantic task of helping to relieve distress in the Rio Grande Valley area in the wake of hurricane and raging rivers. As one example, Luling Post 177 of Luling, is sheltering and feeding 100 men, women and children driven from their homes by the storm.

Braulio Alonso of Tampa, Fla., National Education Association president, has written The American Legion a letter commending it for its 1967-68 program with the theme, "Freedom Is Not Free."

Many Nebraskans are busily engaged in plans and preparations for the gala homecoming of Nebraska's first National Commander of The American Legion, William E. Galbraith, to be held in Lincoln, Neb., on Saturday, Oct. 14. The homecoming has been officially designated as one of the events celebrating the state's 100th birthday.

READING SUGGESTION
If you want to read a highly informative article on education in America and one that firmly anchors into proper perspective The American Legion's role in this important area in recent years, we commend to the article, "It Didn't Start With Sputnic," By Frank G. Jennings, in the Sept. 16 issue of "Saturday Review." The article, among other achievements, brings out the importance of the Legion's efforts for modern education in sponsorship of the G.I. Bill of Rights with its revolutionary educational provisions. So at this late date if you have to borrow a copy to read the article, do so.

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK PLANNING HELP

What is your post doing to help in the observance of American Education Week?

Would a prepared address targeted in on American Education Week help your planning for this Nov. 5-11 observance sponsored by The American Legion and three other organizations?

For Suggested Address No. 180 for American Legion speakers during American Education Week, 1967, please contact your Department Adjutant or write the National Public Relations Division, The American Legion, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, Ind. 46206.
INDIANAPOLIS—(AINS)—American Legion National Commander William E. Galbraith will report on his trip to Vietnam and the Far East during the fall meetings of the Legion's National Executive Committee here.

The Legion chief will deliver his report during the banquet which he will host for the NEC and distinguished guests at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 18, at the Indianapolis Athletic Club. He will have been back in this country exactly one week when he reports here on the observations of his 18-day tour which took him to Vietnam, the Philippines, Taipei and Okinawa.

The Commander's report will be a highlight of a series of American Legion meetings covering more than a week and starting Oct. 10-11 with the annual Conference of Department Chaplains, to be held at Legion National Headquarters.

Two other important conferences will be held Oct. 14-15, with The American Legion Boys State Conference in session at National Headquarters on those dates, and the 11th Annual Uniformed Groups Congress meeting at the Sheraton Lincoln Hotel.

Approximately 200 representatives are expected for the latter meetings, which will be for discussions of rules, regulations and conduct of American Legion uniformed groups competition including drum and bugle corps, firing squads, color guards, bands and singing groups.

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. John P. Carroll, director of CYO activities for the Archdico- eese of Boston, and recognized in 1965 as the country's outstanding CYO Director, will speak at the Congress banquet at 6 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 14, at the Sheraton—Lincoln.

On Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 16-17, the annual Commanders and Adjutants conference will be held at National Headquarters and will feature discussions of the methods whereby the several program divisions of The American Legion can most effectively implement the National Commander's theme for the year—"Freedom Is Not Free."

Simultaneously with the C&A: meetings, the national commissions and committees of the Legion will be meeting in preparation for the fall session of the National Executive Committee, which will be held Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 18-19.
LINCOLN, NEB.--(ALNS)--Practically the entire state of Nebraska is busily engaged in plans and preparations for a gala homecoming for Nebraska's first National Commander of The American Legion, William E. Galbraith, to be held here Saturday, Oct. 1st.

Gov. Norbert T. Tiemann personally arranged the appearance of the noted journalist, Bob Considine, as guest speaker for the homecoming banquet set for 7 p.m. in Lincoln's Pershing Municipal Auditorium. A capacity crowd of more than 1,000 persons is expected for the banquet.

The day also has been proclaimed "Bill Galbraith Day" by the Nebraska Centennial Commission and made an official event celebrating the 100th anniversary of Nebraska's statehood.

The Governor's mansion also will be the site of a Saturday reception at 4 p.m., with arrangements being made by the Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary.

The Nebraska American Legion is handling details in connection with housing and transportation for visiting dignitaries.

There will be a special dinner on Friday evening, Oct. 13, for early arriving guests and a larger luncheon gathering on Saturday co-hosted by the Lincoln, Beaver and Nebraska State Chambers of Commerce.

The Nebraska National Guard is in charge of arrangements for the homecoming parade which will step off at 2 p.m., Saturday.

Mutual of Omaha is planning and sponsoring the decorating of Pershing Municipal Auditorium for the homecoming banquet. Legion Posts from throughout the state will display their colors at the banquet. The Nebraska State Centennial Commission, which Commander Galbraith has served as chairman, will be in charge of the overall banquet arrangements.

In addition to the featured speaker, entertainment during the banquet will include a performance by the Singing Legionnaires of Post 15, Sioux Falls, S. D., the 1967 national championship American Legion chorus, and comedian George Lindsay, the "Goober" of the Andy Griffith television series.

A charter plane will carry Commander Galbraith and other Legion officials from Lincoln to Indianapolis, Ind., on Sunday, Oct. 15, for the annual Commanders and Adjutants Conference and the fall meetings of the Legion National Executive Committee.

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WASHINGTON--(ALNS)--"A review of the history of developments in veterans benefits legislation reveals a clear national intent that war veterans and their survivors should have an income that would enable them to subsist at a level beyond the constant shadow of poverty."

That was the main point in testimony given by Edward H. Golembieski, American Legion Rehabilitation Division deputy director, in a recent appearance before the Subcommittee on Compensation and Pension of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Speaking on a number of resolutions, passed by delegates to the recent American Legion National Convention in Boston, which seek specific improvements in compensation and pension benefits, Golembieski pointed out that dependency and indemnity and compensation and pension programs to veterans and their dependents are needed programs.

"They are a means of supplementing the income of these beneficiaries when other income is non-existent or below standards necessary to meet expenses of food, clothing, housing, medical care, etc.," he declared. "We are talking about a group receiving fixed incomes in the form of old age, survivors or disability benefits from Social Security or similar programs."

"Because of these fixed incomes they are beyond the reach of the normal balancing factors against inflation," he emphasized. "They do not share in the margin of rising wages over raising prices. Theirs is the problem of living on a fixed income while the purchasing power of the dollar is being constantly lowered by inflation of prices." He added:

"Recognizing this Congress has from time to time enacted legislation to increase the amount payable for the purpose of offsetting this loss in purchasing power. However, the income limits under the new pension law was set in 1959; no changes have been made in these limits notwithstanding that increases in Social Security benefits and other Federal and private retirement type incomes granted to meet the spiraling cost of living may have resulted in a lowered total income.

"We agree with President Johnson's proposal in his message of January 31, 1967, that the Congress should enact the necessary safeguards to assure that Social Security benefit increases do not adversely affect benefits by the Veterans Administration to veterans or their survivors," the rehabilitation expert said. The American Legion does not agree with the approach originally recommended by the VA that beneficiaries affected by these increases be authorized to waive all or part of their Social Security benefit increase.

"The American Legion proposes a realistic increase in income limitations and rates of monthly payments to veterans, widows, children and parents, liberalization in computing income, and added exclusions in computing income to improve the dependency and indemnity compensation program for dependent parents of those members of the armed forces who die on active duty or of a disease or injury incurred in or aggravated by service," Golembieski pointed out.

(More)
"Resolution No. 449 of the 1966 National Convention seeks to provide that the additional annuity paid under the Railroad Retirement Act of 1937 as a result of inclusion of dependents in the family group shall not be counted as income of the veteran in determining entitlement to disability pension. HR 12490, introduced by Rep. Harley O. Staggers of West Virginia would accomplish this purpose."

INDIANAPOLIS—(ALNS)—America's intervention in Siberia, Russia, with an expeditionary force of about 10,000 officers and men commanded by Maj. Gen. William S. Graves, from 1918-20, is one of the strangest and most interesting chapters in American military history.

Because of the comparatively small number of troops involved and the confusion surrounding the expeditionary force's mission, the veterans of this adventure share an unusual and almost distinctive experience associated with World War I. Some historians suggest it was America's first bout with communism.

A veteran of this expedition, now blinded, who served with the 27th Infantry in the Valdivastok area expresses a wish to hear from some of his former buddies who shared this unusual military experience with him. He is John Shulman, 26 Arbutus St., Boston, Mass.

American Legion National Commander William E. Galbraith recently was interviewed by Forrest Boyd of Mutual Broadcasting System, at the White House following the Legion chief's conference with the President before departing for the Far East and Vietnam.

To that interview has been added excerpts from the Commander's acceptance speech at the Boston Convention, and it is now available on a 9 3/4-minute, 7 1/2 I.P.S. tape through the National Public Relations Division, The American Legion, 1608 "K" St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006. The price is $5.40 sent first class and $5.64 sent air mail per copy.
WASHINGTON—(ALNS)—Braulio Alonso of Tampa, Fla., National Education Association president, has written American Legion National Commander William E. Galbraith of Beemer, Neb., commending the Legion for its 1967-68 program with the theme, "Freedom Is Not Free."

The text of Mr. Alonso's letter follows:

"On behalf of the National Education Association I want to commend you and The American Legion on this year's theme 'Freedom Is Not Free.' In these days of stress and turmoil, it is indeed appropriate that all of us be reminded of the responsibilities we have for the advancement of freedom and for the protection of the rights of individuals. Your theme will make us all ponder on how much we owe our nation and how much we must work to keep our freedom. Freedom is not free.

"We are particularly pleased that you are distributing to the thousands of school children throughout our nation the coloring sheets 'Color It Proud.' This patriotic gesture should inculcate a greater love and understanding of our Flag.

"It is our hope that your year as National Commander be the greatest year The American Legion has ever had."

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HARLINGEN, TEXAS--(ALNS)--American Legion Posts and their Auxiliary Units are among the community organizations to be found this week sharing the gigantic task of helping to relieve distress in this Rio Grande Valley area in the wake of a hurricane and raging rivers.

One particular service performed by Legion Posts was the opening of their facilities as centers for receiving, sheltering and feeding refugees from the flooded areas.

From Austin, W. H. McGregor, Texas Legion Department Adjutant, reported that Luling Post 177 at Luling was one such example.

The post, in cooperation with the American Red Cross, was sheltering and feeding about 100 refugees--men, women and children--driven from their homes by the storm and raging waters.

Particularly in feeding these refugees, members of the Legion and the Auxiliary joined their talent and resources, the Department Adjutant emphasized. He added that G. I. style chow lines reminiscent of Army days were set up to do the job.

McGregor also reported that facilities of Pharr Post 101 at Pharr were serving as an evacuation center when the storm damaged the post home's roof and forced the shifting of refugees to a safer shelter area.

The Adjutant reported that there are about ten Legion Posts in the area hardest hit by the storm and flooding. He added that definite information on the extent of damage to their properties is not yet available.

Members of the Legion and the Auxiliary, working in cooperation with the Salvation Army, were engaged in gathering food and clothing for distribution in the areas hit by the disaster.

While the full story must wait until conditions return to normal to be told, McGregor said proudly that it is now known that the Legion Posts in the area "were in there pitching and doing their share in the emergency. They deserve a great deal of credit."

Texas Legion Department Commander William G. Nami of Cuero, was forced to cancel several speaking engagements. Cuero was isolated by floods after a 25-inch rainfall hit the community's area during the hurricane.

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