

**FORTY-SIXTH NATIONAL CONVENTION
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Dallas, Texas
September 22, 23, 24, 1964**

Resolution No. 140: Rescind Orders Eliminating the Services of a Firing Squad at National Cemeteries

Origin: Missouri

Submitted by: Convention Committee on Internal Affairs

WHEREAS, The Department of Defense has advised The American Legion that Army regulations provide that a firing squad (to include a bugler wherever possible) will be furnished to attend the funeral of a veteran whose last service was honorable, provide that such firing squad and bugler can be furnished “without interfering with the duties of the men composing it, and without expense to them or to the government, except in the use of available transportation, and provided further that such firing squad and bugler cannot be provided by a veterans or patriotic organization”; and

WHEREAS, It is reported that in some areas the application of this regulation coupled with overly zealous economy measure has resulted in the elimination of the services of military firing squads for veterans at national cemeteries; and

WHEREAS, American Legion posts located near national cemeteries are often unable to provide volunteer firing squads from their own membership for the funerals of veterans who are buried there from a wide area; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Dallas, Texas, September 22, 23, 24, 1964, That the proper authorities be contacted to insure that the services of a firing squad will be available for war veterans at all national cemeteries whenever so desired by the next of kin and that orders to the contrary be rescinded.