

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Indianapolis, Indiana
May 1-2, 1968**

**Resolution No. 1: Amendment to Overseas Graves Decoration Trust Agreement to Include
the Overseas Graves of Those Who Served During the Period of the Viet Nam Hostilities**

Origin: Finance Commission

Submitted By: Finance Commission

WHEREAS, There is presently extant an "Overseas Graves Decoration Trust Agreement" which was last amended by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, in May of 1956; and

WHEREAS, The president of the United States approved Public Law 89-550 on September 1, 1966, which law amended the Act Incorporating The American Legion so as to include for membership in The American Legion those who served on or after August 5, 1964, hereinafter referred to as the period of Viet Nam Hostilities; and

WHEREAS, The Overseas Graves Decoration Trust Agreement make no provision for the inclusion of those who served during the period of the Viet Nam Hostilities; and

WHEREAS, It is the desire of the trustees of the Overseas Graves Decoration Trust to make provision for those who served during the period of the Viet Nam Hostilities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 1-2, 1968, That the first Whereas clause contained in the Preamble of the Overseas Graves Decoration Trust Agreement be and it is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Whereas, In pursuance of what is deemed a sacred duty, a fund has been as is still being contributed to by the several State Departments of The American Legion, and by other patriotic organizations and persons, of which the income is to be used to honor, preserve and decorate the graves of those who served in the Armed Forces of the United States in World Wars I, II, the Korean War, and during the period of the Viet Nam Hostilities, who lie buried overseas; and *"; and, be it finally**

RESOLVED, That the eighth paragraph appearing and beginning on page two and ending on line nine, page three of the aforesaid Overseas Graves Decoration Trust Agreement, be and it is hereby amended as follows:

"The Trustees shall use the income of the Trust Fund to honor, preserve, and decorate the graves of those who served in the Armed Forces of the United States in World Wars I, II, the Korean Conflict, and of those who served during the period of the Viet Nam Hostilities, who lie overseas, and may adopt and use such methods and means as they may deem advisable, including the active cooperation and aid of overseas Departments and Posts of The American Legion and any other agencies, and in pursuance thereof may prescribe details, methods and practices deemed necessary, expedient or convenient. The income shall be used exclusively to honor, preserve and decorate the graves and for no other purpose, and under no circumstances shall the Trustees have the power or authority to expend, use or divert the Trust Fund or any part thereof for any other purpose.*"**