NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
MAY 4-5, 1994

Resolution No. 33: Foreign Departments
Origin: Internal Affairs Commission
Submitted by: Internal Affairs Commission

WHEREAS, It is among the founding principles of The American Legion "to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness" as expressed in The Preamble to Constitution of The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, The Constitution of The American Legion empowers the National Executive Committee to "establish Posts in the territorial and insular possessions of the United States and foreign countries, and shall designate the Department under whose jurisdiction they shall function" (Art. III, Sec. 1), to charter Departments which "shall be composed of the Posts within their respective areas, and such other Posts as the National Executive Committee may approve" (Art. VIII, Sec. 1), and to "cancel, suspend or revoke the charter of a Department for any good and sufficient cause to it appearing" (Art. XI, Sec. 1.); and

WHEREAS, The establishment and maintenance of Posts and Departments of The American Legion readily accessible to all members has proven to be the most effective means to fulfill the founding principles of The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, The Internal Affairs Commission has completed a study of the Foreign and Outlying Departments and Posts of The American Legion and concludes that those members residing or holding membership outside the Continental United States will benefit by the improved efficiency, communication and comradeship resulting from the realignment of said Departments and Posts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee in regular meeting assembled at Indianapolis, Indiana, May 4-5, 1994, That in order to improve the delivery of services to members and enhance their opportunities for comradeship and mutual helpfulness, the following be implemented and become effective upon the close of the 76th Annual National Convention of The American Legion:

1. Cancel the charters of the Department of Italy, the Department of Canada and the Department of Panama;

2. Reassign all Posts currently assigned to the Department of Italy to the Department of France;

3. Reassign the two posts residing in Ireland and assigned to the Department of Canada to the Department of France;

4. Reassign the remaining nine Posts of the Department of Canada to the nearest contiguous Department in the United States;

5. Reassign the Posts in the Department of Panama to the Department of Mexico; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That the National Executive Committee does and hereby directs The National Internal Affairs Commission to develop a policy by which all future decisions concerning the assignment of Foreign and Outlying Posts to Departments will be guided; and does and hereby directs the National American Legion Magazine Commission to investigate alternative delivery methods for The American Legion Magazine which may provide more timely and cost-effective delivery to members residing outside the Continental United States.