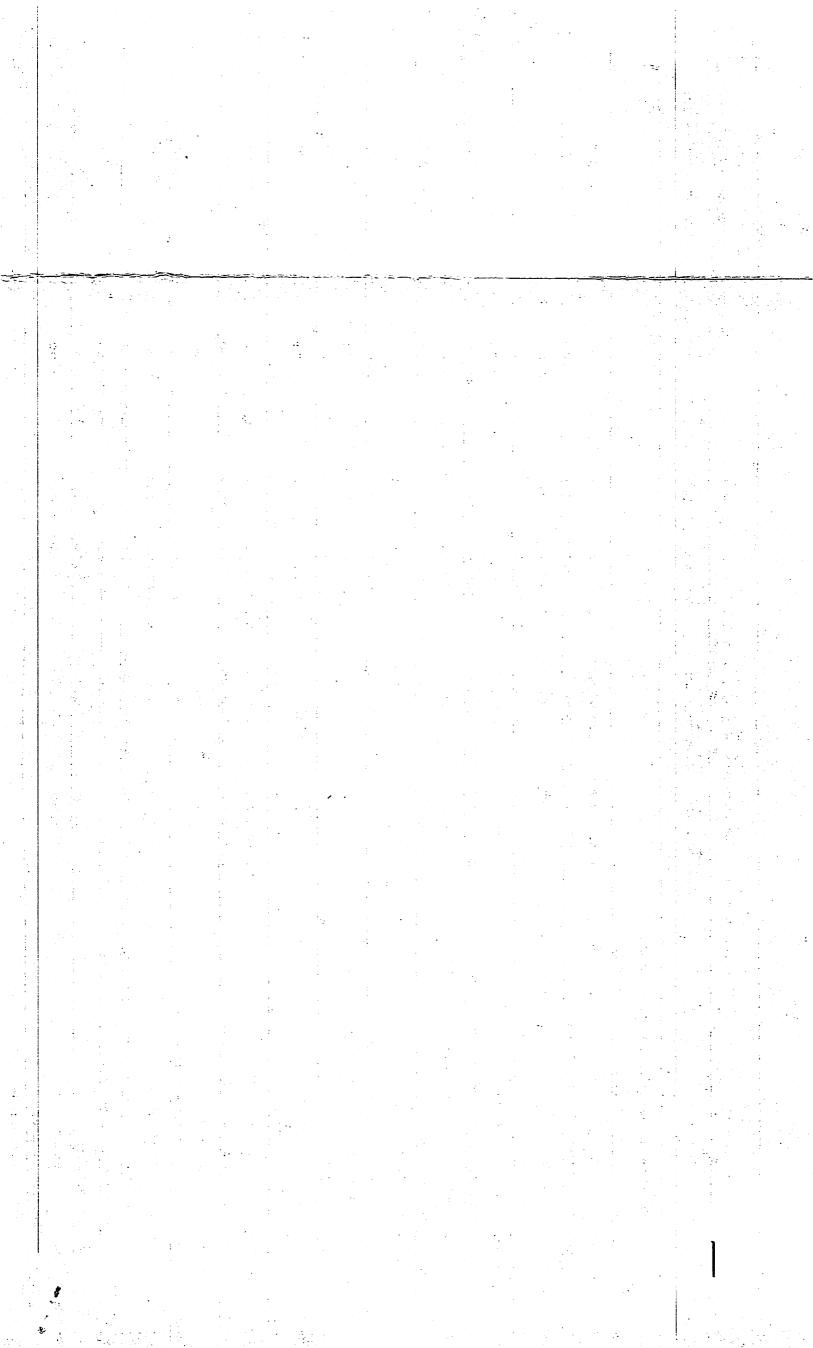
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			1990					
A C C G U N N U M B E I	TACCOUNT R NAME	1987 EXPENDITURE	UMMENDA June os, 196 198 Expenditure	1989 APPROP.	X EXP	1 9 8 9 EXP TO DATE	eterans Assista Commission <u>s</u> ORIGINAL BGT REQUEST	macree STY Com-
20	VETERAN'S ASSISTANCE COMMISSIO		The second secon	aring a second of the second				
20-01	VETERAN'S ASSISTANCE COMMISSIO	the same of the same		Part Sure Sec		***		
20-01-511.001	TELEPHONE	1,991.19	1,704.39	3,000.00	26.0	781.83	3,000.	\$3,000. zi <b>4</b>
20-01-517.001	BLDG RENTAL/UTILITIES	597.66	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.0	0.00	3,000	3.000/
20-01-540.001	POSTAGE	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.6	2.00	300.	300
20-01-548.001	EDUCATION	. 0.00	126.40	500.00	0.0	0.00_	500	500.
20-01-550.001	CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS	897.97	668.28	500.00	86.5	432.73	500.	500. ci
20-01-554.001	TRAVEL & TRANSP (EMERG AMB)	3,589.78	8,258.90	10,000.00	58.6	5,866,00	12,000	17,000.
20-01-570.001	DUES AND MEMBERSHIP	90.00	90.00	125.00	0.0	0.00	125.	125.
20-01-582.001	NEW PROGRAMS	0.00	0.00	46,983.36	0.0	0.00	50,000	50,000.
20-01-601.001	OFFICE SUPPLIES	253.78	305.88	500.00	34.8	174.24	500.	500.
20-01-601.002	BOOKS & PERIDDICALS	84.00	350.75	300.00	273 _	82.00	300	300.
20-01-601.003	OFFICE EQUIPMENT REPAIR	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.0	0.00	100.	0100.
20-01-640.001	PRINTING	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.0	0.00	300.	300.
20-01-701.001	NEW EQUIPMENT	76.23	2,605.75	500.00	4.8	24.23	500.	2,000.
20-01-717.001	LOAN TO REPAY	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0	0.00		
20-01-806.001	EMERGENCY RELIEF	70,891.25	59,277.51	75,000.00	30.8	23,109.94	75,000.	75,000.
20-01-810.001	HEALTH & LIFE INS	1,440.00	2,280.00	3,000.00	31.6_	950.00		4.525
20-01-810.002	UNEMPLOYMENT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0	0.00		F (
20-01-817.001	CATASTROPHIC MEDICAL	0.00	607.96	100,000.00	1.4	1,447.50	100,000.	100,000.
20-01-875.001	CONTINGENCIES	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	0.0	0.00	10,000.	10,000.
20-01-907-001	SUPERINTENDANT	20,961,48	<del>24,510.</del> 52	28,000.00		13,8+0.14	31,000	
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20-01-969.001	SECRETARY	0.00	. 0.00	0.00	0.0_	0.00	•	
20-01-986.001	EXTRA HELP	0.00	440.00	0.00	0.0	0.00		1.
	Service Officer						18,000_	hi
	Vehicle Operations					,	5 000	<b>H</b>

		виро	ET REC	1990 Ommenda June os. 198		FORM	<b>V</b>	eterans Assista Commission s	nce VAC County Com-
A C C O U N N U M B E F			1 9 8 7 EXPENDITURE	1 9 8 8 EXPENDITURE	1 9 8 9 APPROP.	X EXP	989 EXP TO DATE	ORIGINAL BGT REQUEST	BUDGET RECOMMEND
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0-01-511.001	TELEPHONE		1,991.19	1,,704.39	3,000.00	26.0	781.83	3,000.	\$3,000.
0-01-517.001	BLDG RENTAL/UTILITIES	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	597.66	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.0_	0.00_	3,000	3.000
10-01-540.001	POSTAGE		0.00	0.00	300.00	0.6	2.00	300.	300
0-01-548.001	EDUCATION		0.00	126.40	500.00	0_0	0.00_	500	500.
20-01-550.001	CONFERENCES AND SEMIN	ARS	897 <b>.</b> 97	668.28	500.00	86.5	432.73	500.	500.
0-01-554.001	TRAVEL & TRANSP (EMER	G AMB)	3,589.78	8.258.90	10,000.00	58.6	5,866,00	12,000	17,000.
0-01-570.001	DUES AND MEMBERSHIP	-	90.00	90.00	125.00	0.0	0.00	125.	125.
0-01-582.001	NEW PROGRAMS		0.00	0.00	46,983.36	0.0	0.00	50,000	50,000.
0-01-601.001	OFFICE SUPPLIES		253.78	305.88	500.00	34.8	174.24	500.	500.
0-01-601.002	BOOKS & PERIODICALS		84.00	. 350.75	300.00	27_3	82.00	300.	300.
0-01-601.003	OFFICE EQUIPMENT REPA	IR	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.0	0.00	100.	100.
0-01-640.001	PRINTING	· •	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.0	0.00	300.	300.
0-01-701.001	NEW EQUIPMENT		76.23	2,605.75	500.00	4.8	24.23	500.	2,000.
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0-01-810.001	HEALTH & LIFE INS		1,440.00	2,280.00	3,000.00	31.6	950.00		4.525
0-01-810.002	UNEMPLOYMENT		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0	0.00		ĸ
0-01-817.001	CATASTROPHIC MEDICAL		0.00	607.96	100,000,00	1.4	1,447.50	100,000.	100,000.
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-01-965.00	SETCE SUPERVISOR	- /	2.810.00	12.031.43	<del>13,301.12</del>		6,587.68	15,000.	······································
0-01-969.001			0.00	. 0.00	0.00	0.0	0.00		
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<u> </u>	ervice Officer			- 7 7 7 2 2 2 2		. 3.3	0.00	18,000.	ini .
V	ehicle Operations				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			5 000	h .



By the Associated Press

# Legislature holds Continental's fate

CHICAGO - Continental Bank has asked Illinois legislative leaders to consider measures to make it easier for the troubled industry giant to merge with, or be bought by, an out-of-state bank. Such legislation could stir up the historic battle between big and small banks. Small banks have for years opposed mergers and branch banking that would put them at a competitive disadvan-

### Duarte makes case

WASHINGTN — Salvadoran President Jose Duarte met with key members of Congress today determined to make his case against legislative efforts to link U.S. military aid to protection of human rights. In a speech Monday night, he said attempts by congressional liberals to impose unilateral conditions "on the people in the name of democracy is to take away part of the freedom for which they are fighting.

## Beatrice plans bid for Esmark

FICAGO The head of Beatrice Foods On said the proposed acquisition of Esmark Inc. would neate the largest, most dynamic company in the load and consumer product field." James J. Dutt; chief executive officer of Beatrice, said its management has recommended the company launch a \$2.5 billion based holding company.

President's news conference toniunt TUESCEN May 22 1984

Ninety-fifth Year - No. 121

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La Salle-Peru-Oglesby-Spring Valley, Ill.

30 cents

# St. Mary's site okayed for girls' ball diamond

By DAVID PICCIOLI

La Salle girls will have their softball diamond on St. Mary's Hospital grounds. At least for a while.

Mayor Al Gunia cast the tiebreaking vote on a motion to permit development of a softball facility at the northwest corner of the council, girls softball reams. St. Mary's site ...

The resolution, however, contains a stipulation that the softball league and park board must 'vacite' the property if a ball diamond interferes with a

Dennis Foley rend a letter from Tour 'no' votes on the ball field Poley saw no more reason for an aide to Gov. Jim Ghompson resolution stating the ball field would not af-

recreational facility will have no minds," he said after the bearing en our decision on the veterans care facility. These uses appear to be compatible and

could apparently coexist vithout conflict." said the letter from Jay Hedges, Thompson's assistant.

We had it verbally before; now we have it in writing. Foley declared.

and grass growing will take the debate. rest of the summer.

"I just hope it doesn't jeoparproposed veterans care center: Veterans care facility," sulf Ald The 54 voice came after Ald. Joe Wojciechawski, leader of the near future," he said.

fect the proposed veterans care Capital Development Board looks letter in our hand." at the property with these lights "I assure you the location of a and field, they may change their

Monday's vote was the third time the issue of ball field versus

veterans care center came to the council floor. Woiciechowski was joined by Aldermen Leo Nosalik, Zeke Iwaszek and Walt Kinczewski in voting against the ball field.

"Why don't we wait for a DESPITE APPROVAL from definitive answer from the governor on a veterans facility? That's won't be able to use the flath this all we're asking for," year. Preparation work, seeding Wojciechowski stated during the

It's too late this year to have a diamond started and used. I still dize our chances of gelting a think a decision (on a veterans esre center) will come in the very

delay. Why should we stalemate - After the governor and the a girls softball diamond with a

The issue of a hall diamond lost To will previous vince it come in the floor. But Foley and Bud Konieczny were joined Monday by First Ward Aldermen a (Continued on Page 17)

Score one for the airls

and Market of ்..... கூர்நீர≳சி. நகழ் anan talah salah dalah sa Malayah ta<del>hundin etaph</del>

# Spring Valley Council sets June 26 date for opening of bids on pool

By LINDA KLECZEWSKI

Spring Valley swimming pool plans took another giant step towards graund-breaking Monday as the city council approved a date to open pool construction bids.

The council earmarked June 26 as the bid date for the aluminum tank pool. However, Will Fredericks, architect for the project, said final drawings and other documents must be accepted by the Illinois Dept. of Conservation before construction can

Monday's decision was the latest development in the pool project's 20-year history. Several months ago, Fredericks presented final sketches to the council, detailing construction specifications.

The proposed pool promises to be easier to care for than its concrete counterparts, Fredericks said earlier aluminum tanks are less vulnerable to the Midwest's heat-thaw cycle; in addition, these pools are reportedly easier to maintain and repair, he said.

Funds for the project continue to roll in. The swimming pool committee, led by Frank Mignone, reports it has most of the \$450,000 needed to complete the project. A \$200,000 statematching grant is included in this estimate. Leftover monies from the fund-raising efforts will start a maintenance account.

Other business:
SALARIES — Spring Valley aldermen and the city clerk all got pay raises Monday after the council approved an ordinance granting the in-

Aldermen, who haven't had "a raise Aldermen, who haven't had "a raise in 10 years," will receive \$50 per meeting beginning in 1985. They will also receive \$25 per special meeting and \$10 for every informal meeting colled by the meyor. called by the mayor.

The city clerk's salary will jump to \$17,000 in 1985 — up from the current wages of \$14,500. In addition, the clerk will receive an extra \$500 per year for four years also beginning in 1985.

INDUSTRIAL PARK — Wolfer

drive in Industrial Park is targeted for improvements with the \$208,842 in construction work approved by the

This total falls well below the \$250,000 budgeted through block grant

funding.

The first part of the proposed construction includes installing a 500,000 gallon standpipe. The council awarded the \$171,600 project to Prairie Tank and Construction of Plainfield, Ill. Other bids were also reviewed: Chicago Bridge and Iron Co., \$181,300; Caldwell Tanks Inc. of Kentucky \$189,840.

The council approved a \$10,380 bid from Boehm Bros. of Pern to com-plete earthwork on the drive. Three plete earthwork on the universal other bids were also submitted for consideration: Grand Rapids Excavating, Marseilles, \$14,004; Universal Contracting Corp., Peru, \$13,839; Central Illinois Contracting Corp., La

Salle, \$13,179.
Concrete resurfacing work was awarded to Universal Contracting to the second Corp. for its \$26,862 bid.

POLICE — Glen Mealey was ap

pointed assistant chief of police to fill the position vacated by Jeff Casford

Chief of Police James Smoode told the council that Casford accepted a position with the Crest Hill depart-

# La Salle girls ball diamond approved

(Continued from Page one)

Sobin and Sam Raccuglia.

'I'm an ironworker. I'm for the jobs this (veterans facility) will bring. But that letter is enough for me," Sobin stressed.

Mayor Al Gunia, speaking sharply during the council debate, said part of the ground removed for the ball diamond will be used as base for a fire station road on other parts of St. Mary's

site Wojciechowski said Hedges "does not make decisions for the governor; he just gives answers to letters and questions.

"In other words you don't recognize an aide to the goverresponded Foley

"Let's not make this a carnival

show. Vote your convictions,"

said a red-faced Gunia.
"This is pretty neat," commented Kari Yeruski, a member of the junior girls softball league.

# Garbage pickup days changed in Peru, La Salle

R and R Wozniak Sanitation has announced changes in garbage pickup in La Salle and Peru because of Monday's Memorial Day holiday.

In Peru, garbage usually picked up Monday will instead be picked up Tuesday, May 29.

In La Salle, garbage usually picked up Monday will be picked up Saturday, May 26.

"We hoped it would pass. We knew the mayor was behind it, No, we didn't think there were enough votes," commented one mother attending the meeting on behalf of the girls league Officials of the league will meet with the La Salle Park Board to

decide how soon work will begin

# Class of '64 deadline extended

The deadline for reservations for La Salle-Peru High School Class of reunion has been extended to June 4.

The reunion will be July 13-14.

Ouestionnaire and reservation Questionnaire and reservation should be sent to Mrs. Jane Riva, 2021 Eighth, Peru, Ill. 61354.

money market CD

<u> 205T</u>	1988 <u>TOTAL</u>	NEW	RENEW	LIFE	1989 <u>TOTAL</u>	THIS DATE LAST YEAR		
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00	404	30	214	130	374	381		
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50	<b>.</b>	16			16			
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79 <b>3</b> 5	156	4	55	<b>59</b>	118	136		
<b>5</b> 6	238 48	11	123	73	207	211		
<b>5</b> 7	<u>50</u>	7	23 31	13	43	42		
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84	203		33	166	199	202		
92	337	31	83	140	254	280		
70	30		12	17	29	27		
74 76	72 177	12	43	19	74	70		
78	173 <u>25</u>	9	97	33	139	170		
TAL	1626	101	<u>10</u> 567	<u>10</u>	20	<u>23</u>		
	1010	101	367	779	1447	1498		
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14	12			30	402	463		
JTAL	1449	146	887	332	1365	1364		
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I	3,659	195	1,453	1,812	3,460	3,345		
<b>I</b>	-1-,524	103	648	678	1,429	1,443		
1	2,447	257	1,249	765	2,271	2,200		
: <b>V</b>	1,626	101	567	779	1,447	1,498		
V	1,449	146	887	332	1,365	1,364		
`O	819	<u>25</u> 827	<u>447</u> 5,251	<u> 292</u>	764	<u>776</u>		
TAL	11,524	827	5,251	4,658	$\frac{764}{10,736}$	10,626		
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ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT AMVETS 2206 SOUTH SIXTH STREET SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62703

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT AS OF MARCH 31, 1989

1988/1989

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APRIL 5, 19

<u>POST</u>	1988 <u>TOTAL</u>	NEW	RENEW	LIFE	1989 <u>TOTAL</u>	THIS DAT LAST YEF
DIVISION	<u>.</u>					
1 2 5 7	39	1	19	18	38	<b></b> .
2	20		13	7	20	34
5	35		13	22	35	20
7	274		125	140		35
13	312	2	254	23	265 279	233
17	295	3	56	203		297
18	252		29	217	262	267
24	59	5	12	45	246 62	247
34	178	9	84	81		57
36	172		4	159	174	175•
42	58		18	25	163	172
43	247	13	137	91	43	56
47	38	2	13	23	241	233
48	13		4	23 9	38	37
66	285	81	130	118	13	13
68	48	-	130		329	236
72	202	15	111	34 73	34	48
80	141		38		199	183
97	73		31	96 71	134	135
99	65	3	77	31	62	65
109	41	· ·	33 2	21	57	55
124	44	1	70	38	40	39
152	49	10	30	14	45	27
165	38	12	9	33	52	45
173	26	12	8	21	41	38
192	188	1	24		24	26
234	19		69	57	127	160
243	249	18	1.70	18	18	19
247	109	10	138	80	236	229
252	70	1	20	76	107	99
268	20	1	24	30	55	50
TOTAL	3659	195	5	15	21	12
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### DIVISION II

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	171	5	48	108	161	166
89		24		1	25	100
103	352	16	132	161	309	770
145	228	4	63	116		330
167	41	i			183	219
		_	12	29	42	41
245	52	3	21	31	55	49
250	149	1	27	79	107	
255	89	_				137
		6	49	38	93	86
277	24	8	4	21	33	24
TOTAL	1524	103	648	678	1429	1443

\*

Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of December 13, 1989.

Meeting was opened in due form. Roll call of officers was taken, all officers were present or accounted for. Minutes of previous meeting were read. Motion by Al Strozewski, seconded by Sam Maggio, minutes be accepted as read.

Our Superintendent explained further developments of old business. All questions of delegates present were answered.

Ron Cummings gave an update on the MIA/POW issue. He further shared with our delegates newspaper articles which were written by other veterans organizations. He gave each delegate a copy of "U.S. VETERANS NEWS AND REPORT" and a VETERAN OUTLOOK publication called, "BRAVO".

Next we had our election of officers for fiscal year 1990. They are as follows:

Chairman - John R. Cawley Senior Vice - Carl Kirar Chaplain - Sam Maggio Sgt. at Arms - Ralph Adler

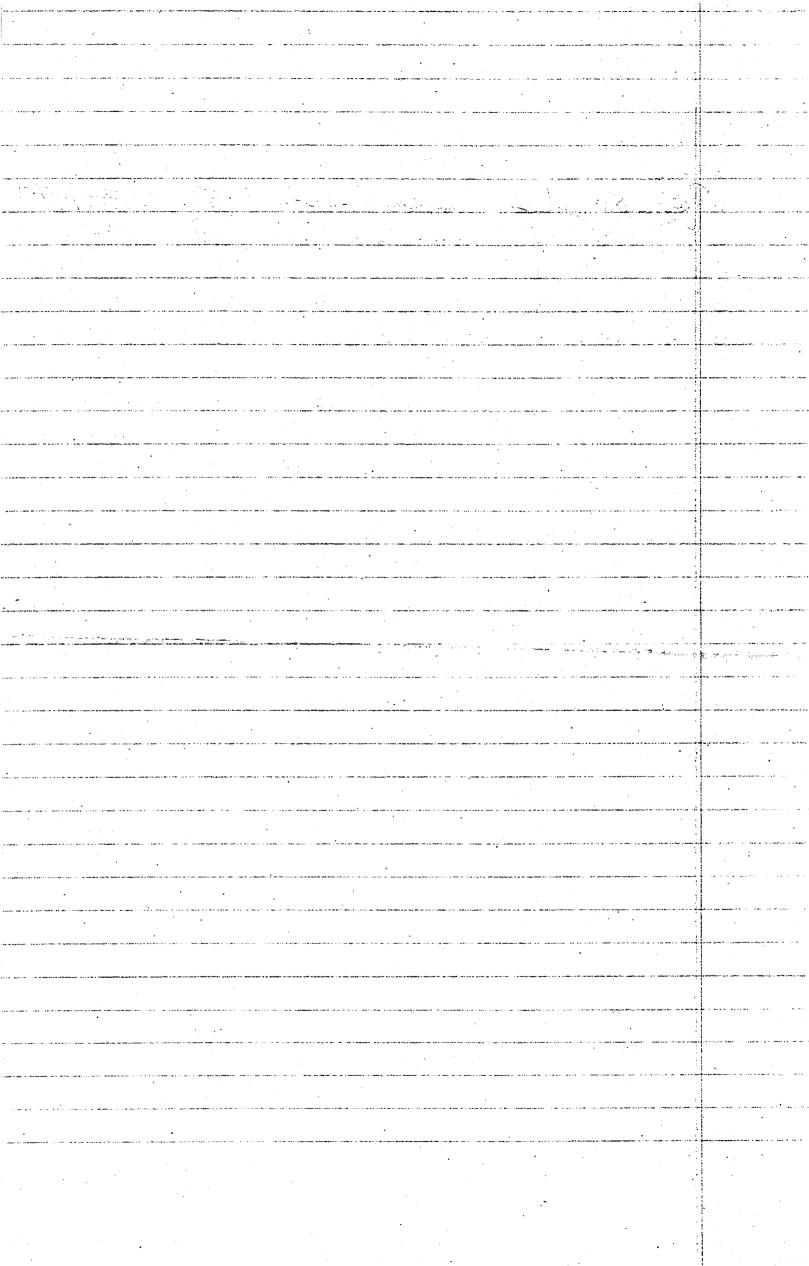
Motion by Bob Anderson, seconded by Ralph Adler, to adjourn. Motion passed.

#### Members present:

Delegates Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235; Al Strozewski, American Legion, Post 426; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Robert Anderson, American Legion, Post 33; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Samuel Maggio, Marine Corp League; and Ron Cummings, Nam Vets

Chairman John R. Cawley and Superintendent Martin J. Rue

puiteM voisamined D.A. V 10/11/89 1) Nich Pacità Dryonization Del. 223-6665 2) Down Rowlest Merusan Japan-237 DEC. 223-4/77 3) Cel Stronewski Como Dego #426 Del. 223-9521 4) Ralph Aelle A.L. 235 Del 795-5436 5) Carl Kirar St Many C. W. 883 Del 223-3336 O Edward Mortlewsk. Jeru 8232 Del 7 John Sadowsku St. Mary's (WV. ALT. 723-5810 223-9442 8 Ron Curry NonVeta 7. Jin CAPPEILINI FLD35 ALT. 16 Miche Layra A.L.729 DEL 433-1783 7954143 496-2/2/ Chapter Pacette rost present Agis Chosend by Minutes as presented of anon second by Shifteen pass. Delegate Marsalles same New Lets Comming Del Shellow A12. La Selle V.F.W. I seeme Zhender Sove Ven V.F.W, some Topeday some To Talle Bagion some Incorporate motion abler secon Coppolini Kinar record aller algern passon

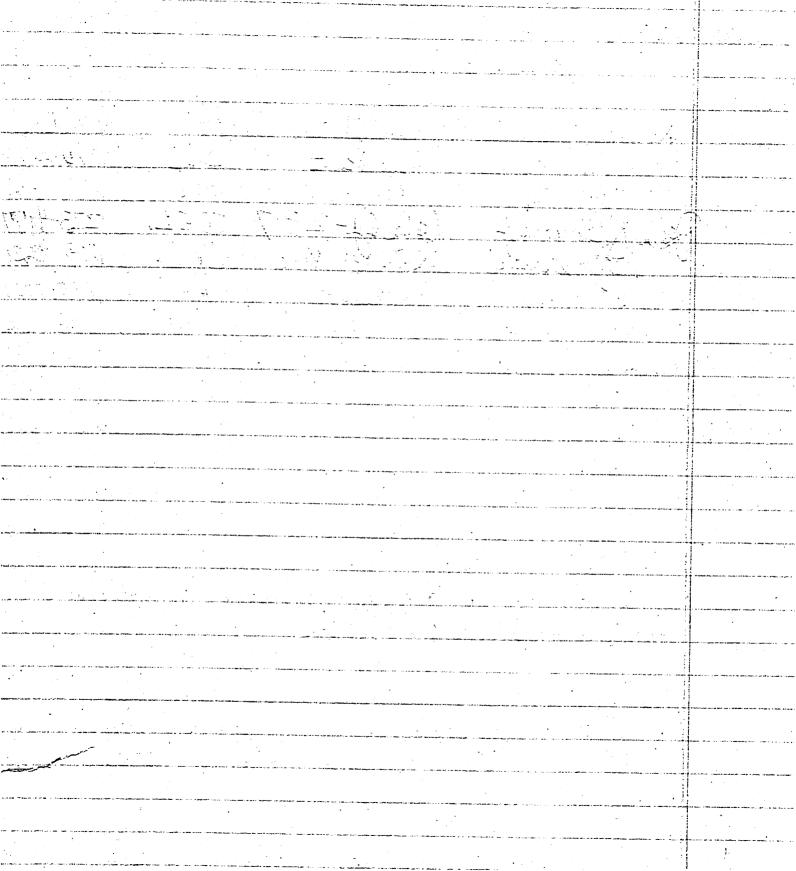


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Sept. 13, 1989

Klune requiremen 749-2614 Mike Shelton DeL new Vetr 223-6665 DEL. VFW 4668 Nich South 223-4177 Oglesly-237 DEL. John R. Cawley J. J. J. 6 Del. 23-9521 Magnishe FW SST Def 795-5436 Ralph Adler Del 43.80336 Robert anderson al 33 7954143 DEL. JAMES CAPPELLINI A.L. 235 Morres Trainted Pacation, Courter Cestier July bross robredul get har best best bed bed with Budget: Wation to occupt sevice officer at 18,000, a year and lowe vou go for vest year. Wation by Juderson second by Stresguardi. ayal may 1

adjour Pout ites Enved Tolton, Jassel



Nov. 30 1989 Meeting La Tolly V.FW. Cleft Parker Bob anderson alley a chairferen Il in favor passed. Johnson to all marelle for restant sond lay resters, job of broson romed put ranker.

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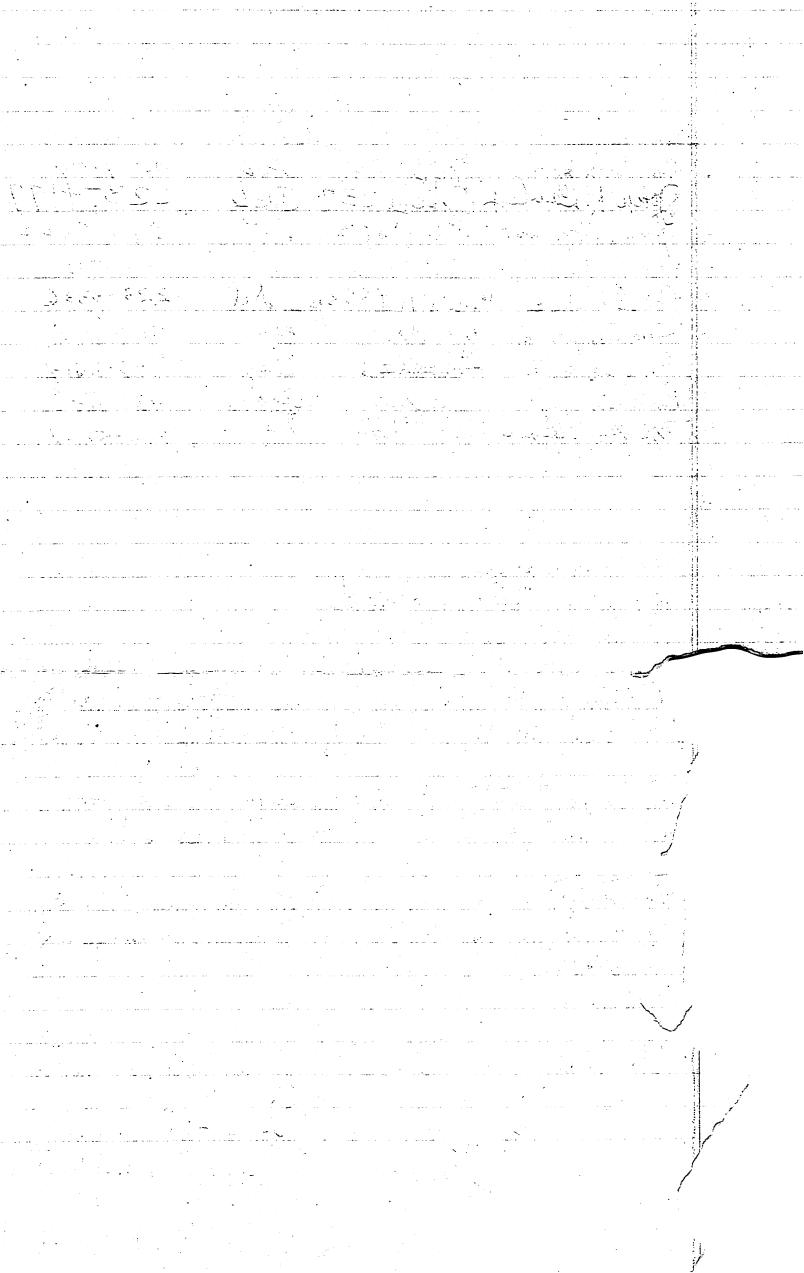
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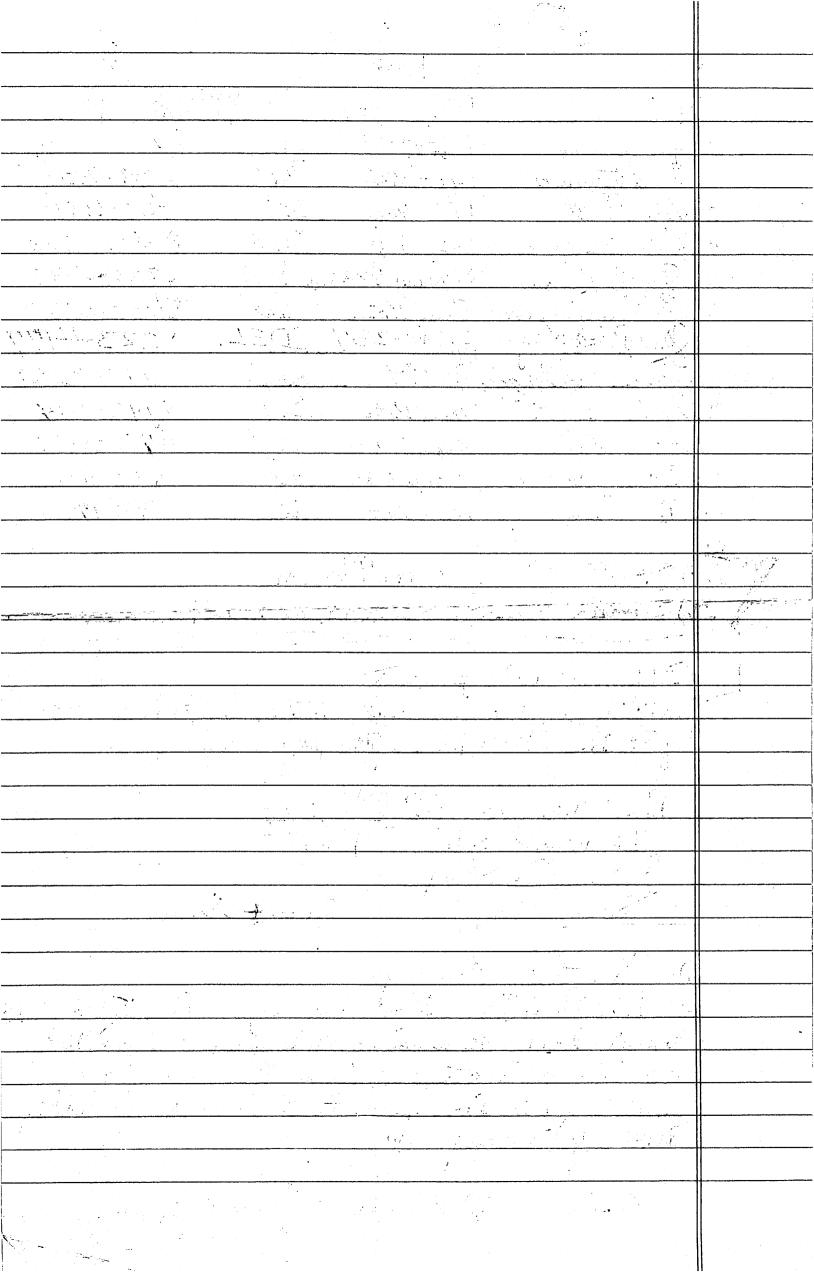
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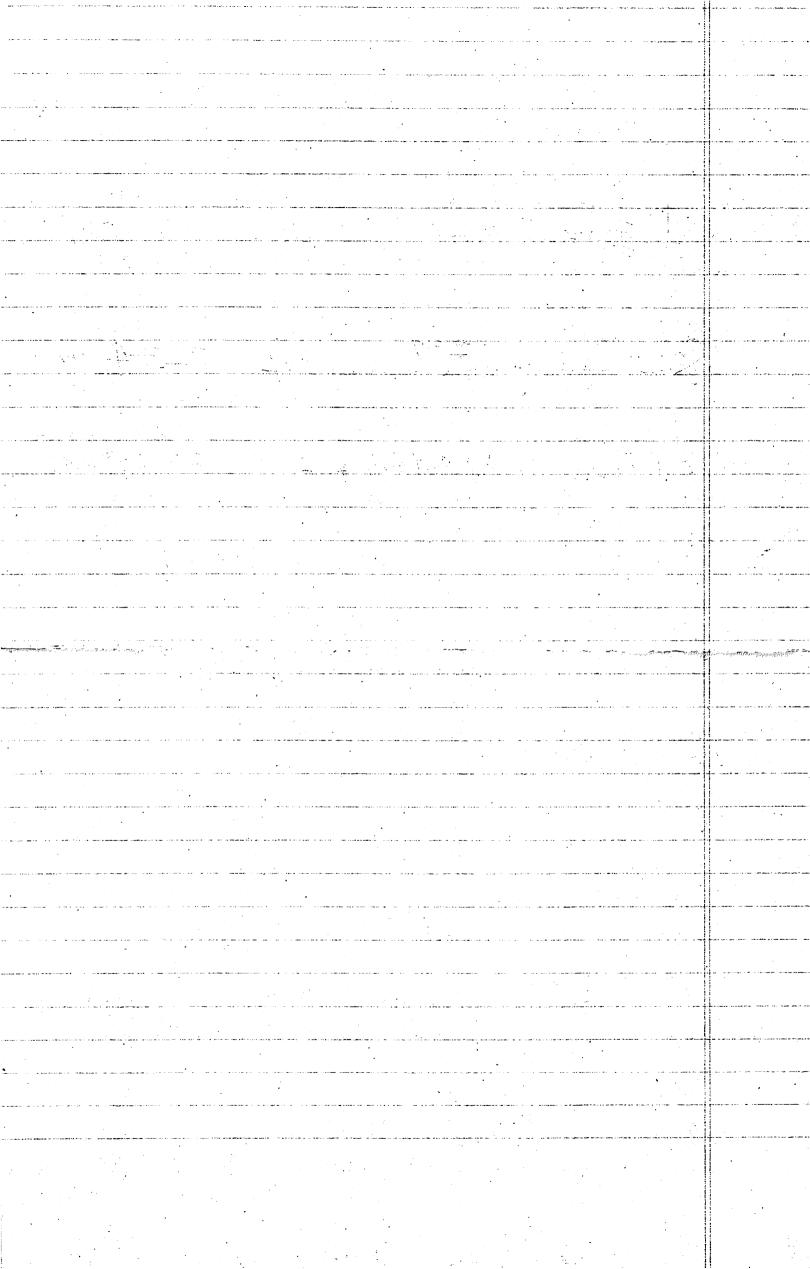
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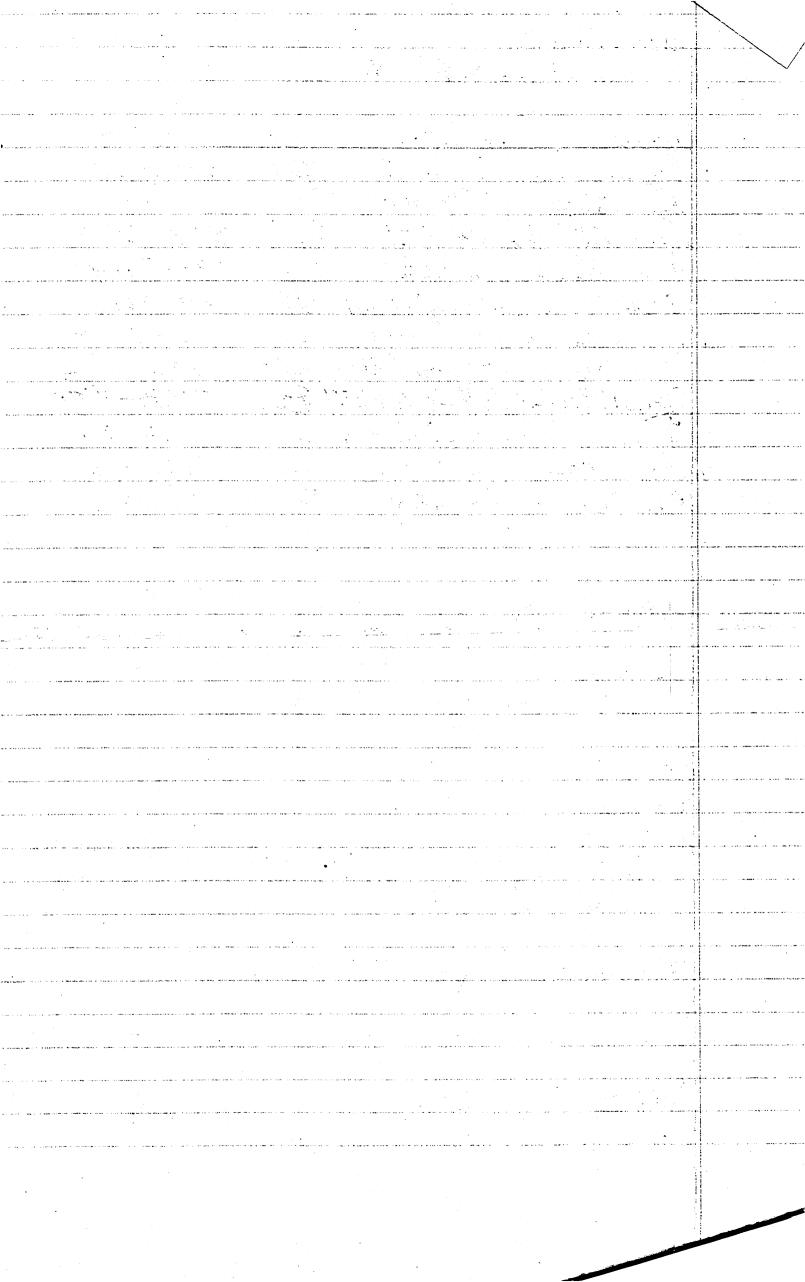
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V.A.C. Meeting Jan. 11, 1989

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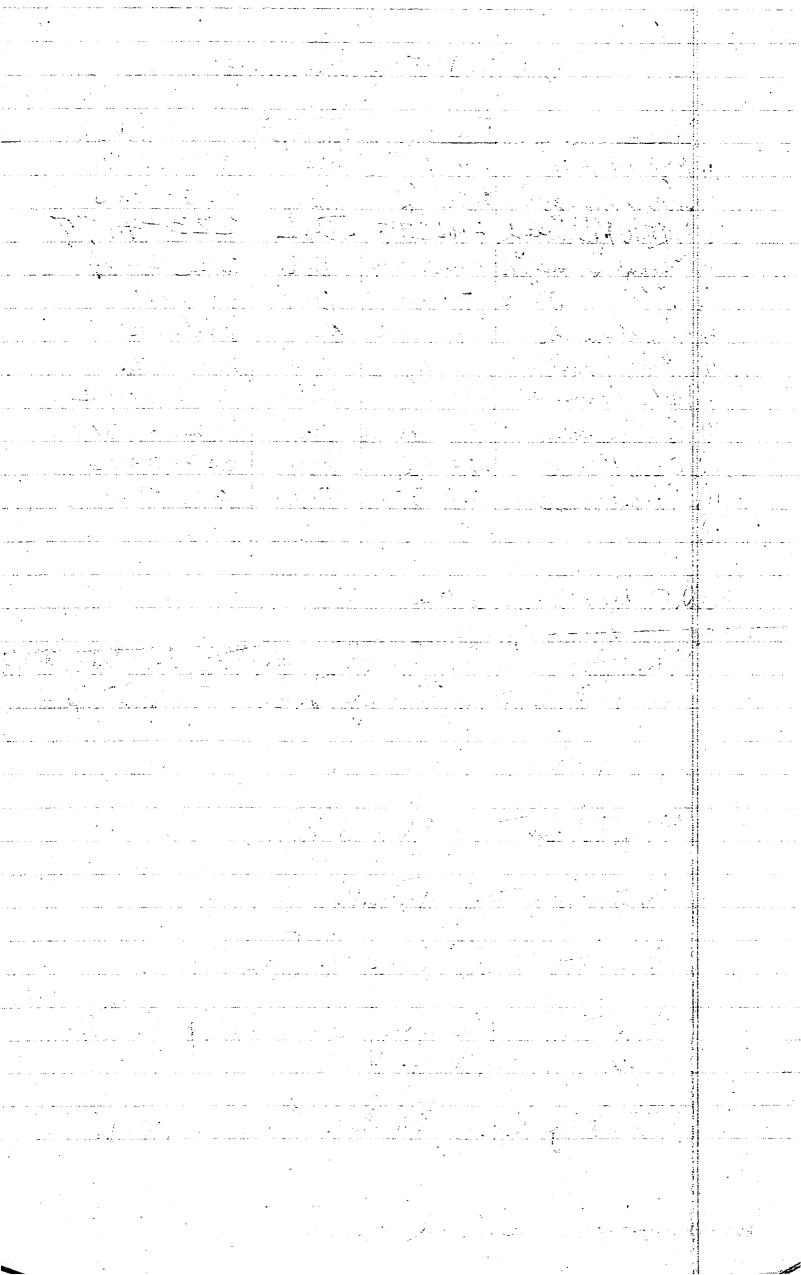
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Veterans Assistance Commission minutes from January 11, 1989.

Chairman John Cawley opened meeting in due form. Roll call of officers showed all present.

Minutes of previous meeting was read, Motion by Ed Wroblewski, seconded by Sam Maggio, that the minutes be approved as read. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS: Supt. Rue thanked Sam Maggio and Nick Pacetti for their assistance with Jim Noel's family's request for type A+ blood donations. He further stated that for the past week W.L.P.O. has been requesting type A+ blood donors. It appears the hospitals are short of this type blood.

We were again told of veterans being denied admission, out-patient treatment, and monthly medications by the VA. The problem continues to get worse due to the budgetary shortfalls of our medical facilities. It is up to each and everyone of us to get our posts, friends, and relatives to contact our Representatives and insist that they replenish the VA budget.

Our Superintendent announced that Congressman Hastert has agreed to meet with the Concerned Veterans Spokesman and Business Agents pertaining to the Haztech allegations. This meeting will take place at 10:00 a.m. on January 17, 1989.

We again discussed the possibility of another MIA/POW symposium. Nam Vets felt that for \$1500 they could sponsor this symposium. What we need is a fund raiser to cover those costs. If we could get those posts that have BINGO to sponsor one BINGO, with the proceeds going to the fund raiser, we would have enough money. Talk to the posts and see how they feel about holding a BINGO for this cause.

Motion by Bob Anderson, seconded by Carl Kirar, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates Nick Pacetti, Post 4668; Sam Maggio, Marine Corp League; Joseph Iwaszek, Post 1229; Lenard Laws; Post 78; Ralph Adler, Post 235; Ed Wroblewski, Post 8232; Carl Kirar, Post 883; and Robert Anderson, Post 33.

Alternate Tony Karczewski, Post 78; Superintendent Martin Rue, and Chairman John R. Cawley

Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of February 8, 1989.

Chairman John Cawley opened meeting in due form. Roll call of officers taken, all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Motion by John Sadowski, seconded by Sam Maggio, that minutes be accepted as read.

Our Superintendent discussed the meeting January 17, 1989 with Congressmen Hastert pertaining to Haztech, Inc. It is our understanding that the Attorney General's Office was investigating the violations of state laws pertaining to this site. It was also mentioned that a public meeting with Representatives Breslin and Mautino and Senator Welch took place on 1/18/89. It is important that our legislature become actively involved in this legislation.

Our Superintendent again mentioned that the NamVets would be willing to sponsor an MIA/POW symposium if they could find \$2,000 to pay for costs of transportation and expenses of the invited speakers. Any veterans organizations wishing to chair this project is welcomed.

We were then informed that the States Attorney's Office had requested to see one of our clients files. They wanted to know the financial payment our office has made per month to this individual through General Assistance. Motion by Ralph Adler, seconded by Ed Wroblewski, that the only way our Superintendent will provide information to any agency pertaining to our indigent war era veterans will be if that agency fills out the proper request for information forms. Our war era veterans are entitled to confidentiality and we should protect their privacy. Motion passed unanimously.

We were then told about the countless denials from VA health care facilities by our veterans. Due to the VA budget shortfalls, our comrades are being denied inpatient as well as outpatient entitlements. will only increase as the months go on unless Congress appropriates additional funding. providing the needed shortfalls they will be saving the federal government thousands of dollars and will losing hundreds of veterans due to needless premature deaths. It is up to our people to insist that human rights begin at home. It is inhumane, callous, and sadistic to make our aged veterans die street in order to prove that there is a shortage in VA funding. Contact your

representatives and tell them of your anger at this treatment.

We then discussed the rededication hoax of our Illinois Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The monument is hallow ground and has already been dedicated in memory of our living and dead. There is no sane reason why it should be rededicated a year latter. We must never use our memorials for anything other than to pay tribute to those for whom it was meant to honor. Let us remember this from this day forth.

Motion by Carl Kirar, seconded by Ed Wroblewski, to adjourn.

#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates Tony Karczewski, Amvets Post 78; Nick Pacetti, Post 4668; Sam Maggio, Marine Corp League; Mike Shelton, Nam Vets; Carl Kirar, Post 883; Ed Wroblewski, Post 8232; John Cawley, Post 237; and Ralph Adler, Post 235

Alternates John Sadowski, Post 883; Lenord Laws, Post 78; and James Cappellini, Post 235

Chairman John R. Cawley and Superintendent Martin Rue

# VAC & DATA PROCESSING

# DATA PROCESSING

A meeting of the Data Processing Committee was held January 31, 1989 in room 245 with the following members present:

Arthur D. Madden, Michael J. Crowley, Joseph J. Panzica, Ruth (Betty) Woodrich, Ron Rosengren, Charles Klever Jr., and R. Pete Bradley

Motion by Madden 2nd by Crowley that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as read. Carried

Motion by Rosengren 2nd by Panzica that the bills in the amount of \$14,465.34 be allowed for department 01-05. Carried

Comments: Mr. Hayden reported on Nursing Home request for equipment. Nursing Home Committee requested more information. Still looking for package program designed for Nursing Homes. Mr. Hayden also reviewed some minor changes in procedures requested in various offices. Possibility of more equipment. (Approx \$8,000.00)

Motion by Madden 2nd by Rosengren that after review of same with Committee by Mr. Hayden, that report covering Dick Vicich activities for January be accepted and placed on file. Carried

Comments: Tom Walsh explained diagram of Net Work and Emulating Cables in his Office. Tom stated taxes about ready to be finalized and preperation begun. Discussion on new procedure in County Clerks Office. Discussion on new contract with Illinois Valley coming up. Current one expires November 30, 1989.

Comments: Tom Walsh requested permission to have some-one from post office to appear at a meeting and discuss zip codes (plus 4) as related to mailings. Tom Walsh distributed hand outs entitled "Computer output Microfilm  $\bigvee$ S. Hard Copy Collectors Books". Discussion on same in regards to advantages.

Motion by Woodrich 2nd by Klever that the meeting recess. Carried

# VAC

A meeting of the VAC Committee was held January 31, 1989 in room 245.

Motion by Madden 2nd by Crowley that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as read. Carried

Motion by Panzica 2nd by Klever that the bills in the amount of \$1,415.45 be allowed for department 20-01. Carried

Comments: Mr. Creedon, Atty for 7 Townships appeared at the meeting for finalization of Inter Governmental Agreements. Final copy to be given to Bill Banich for final approval. Copy of final draft to be given to Committee Members.

Motion by Madden 2nd by Crowley that Petty cash fund for 3rd party transfer reimbursement be raised to \$1,000.00 for one month only then reimbursement at \$750.00 (on a trail basis) thereafter. Carried

Comments: Mr. Rue stated he had been tabulating additional work load due to weekend releases.

Motion by Woodrich 2nd by Rosengren that the meting adjourn.

Veterans Assistance Commission minutes from the March 8, 1989 meeting.

Chairman Cawley opened the 3/8/89 meeting in due form. Roll call of officers was taken. All officers were present or accounted for.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Motion by Robert Anderson, seconded by Mike Gaynor, to accept the minutes as corrected. Add to the minutes that Vietnow has contracted a firm to solicit area donations which will benefit Vietnam Veteran Programs. A firm keeps 85% of the contributions and 15% goes to Vietnow. We strongly recommend telling the area businesses not to contribute. Motion passed.

We are still looking for a post to sponsor a fund raiser campaign so that Ottawa Nam Vets can put on a POW/MIA Symposium. Ron Cummings would be happy to chair this project. We must raise approximately \$2,000. Ron further stated that at the April VAC meeting he will bring declassified documents from the CIA pertaining to MIAs. He said there have been live sightings of American Veterans still being held hostage from the Korean War.

The Superintendent discussed a proposed Medical Intergovernmental Agreement between the Township Supervisors, LaSalle County Board, and our Veterans Assistance Commission Office. He informed us of the present status of the litigation between Osage Township and a LaSalle County Veteran. Should this case continue, a decision would rendered by the Court which will stipulate who is obligated to administer total General Assistance to a War Era Veteran. Because they are War Era Veterans, we have set our Standard Payment Schedule aside in order not to be a detriment to our people. I personally feel we are not only War Era Veterans, we are also a citizen of the United States of America. It appears many of our politicians do not feel this way.

It was announced that another rally would be held on Sunday, March 12, 1989 at the Chicago Art Institute. They are requesting bodies of concerned people. Let's remember that our Flag represents all citizens of the United States, not just veterans. We are also awaiting for the petitions to get back in requesting that Scott Tyler be expelled and Judge Tillis be removed from the bench. Get those in as soon as possible.

A motion was made by Carl Kirar, seconded by Mike Gaynor, that the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission Superintendent sign the Intergovernmental Agreements for medical expenditures as they come in. Motion passed.

Motion by Robert Anderson, seconded by Mike Shelton, that we adjourn. Motion passed.

# Members present:

Delegates Al Strozewski, Post 426; Joe Iwaszek, Post 1229; Mike Gaynor, Post 729; Sam Maggio, Marine Corp League; Ed Wroblewski, Post 8232; Carl Kirar, Post 883; Mike Shelton, Nam Vets; Robert Anderson, Post 33; and Lenard Laws, Amvets.

Alternates Ron Cummings, Nam Vets; James Cappellini, Post 235; and John Sadowski, Post 883

Chairman John Cawley and Superintendent Martin Rue

We have State and Federal Laws covering veteran protection right for employment. These laws also direct corporations to hire veterans on jobs, if they are qualified, that are totally State or Federally These jobs are considered public works and the State or Federal Government pays the contractors the prevailing wage governed by Federal Statute. We in LaSalle County have two such jobs. One is funded from the Federal Super Fund for toxic cleanup and the other is funded from the Federal Housing Department which governs construction of low to moderate income senior citizen housing. The sad thing is even though hundreds of millions of Federal dollars are being spent on such projects, no people from the State of Illinois are being hired. Practically all people hired are from out or state. In an area such as ours where unemployment is running about 15%, practice is inexcusable. Another thing we must remember is about 60% of our union labor forces are veterans. Veterans are supposedly a priority group good to allege that our for hiring. It does no Congressional delegates from Illinois are bringing in hundreds of millions of dollars in public works if it is being pocketed by out of state contractors or out of state employees. Our State of Illinois Veterans need employment also.

# NEW VETERAN'S FACILITY - LASALLE COUNTY - LASALLE, ILLINOIS

**Bid Opening:** 

April 19, 1989, 1:30 p.m., Chicago (Mechanical) April 26, 1989, 1:30 p.m., Chicago (General)

Construct New Building CDB No. 040-050-001

MBE/FBE Targeted

Type of Work:

General - Under \$3,500,000
 Plumbing - Under \$400,000
 Heating - Under \$500,000

Ventilation - Under \$400,000
 Electrical - Under \$500,000
 Sprinkler - Under \$100,000

Plans Available From:

Heard & Associates, Ltd. 332 South Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60604 312-786-0770

Plan Deposit:

\$150.00

CDB Project Manager:

Lloyd Holldorf, 312-917-6000

Veterans Assistance Commission minutes from April 12, 1989.

Chairman Cawley opened meeting is due form. Roll call of officers called, all officers present except the Sgt. at Arms, who was absent.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. Motion by Robert Anderson, seconded by John Sadowski, the minutes be accepted as read. Motion passed.

Supt. Rue updated our old business. Questions pertaining to our old business were answered.

NEW BUSINESS: Our Supt. read letters that he had written pertaining to veteran hiring, our Flag, and VA denied admissions. He will handout a copy of those letters at our May meeting.

Motion by Sam Maggio, seconded by Mike Shelton, that the adjourn. Motion passed.

# MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates Al Strozewski, American Legion, Post 426; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans, Post 1229; Ed Wroblewski, V.F.W. Post 8232; Carl Kirar, Catholic War Veterans Post 883; Nick Pacetti, V.F.W. Post 4668; Sam Maggio, Marine Corp League; Mike Shelton, Nam Vets; and Bob Anderson, American Legion Post 33

Alternates: John Sadowski, Catholic War Veterans, Post 883

Chairman John Cawley, American Legion Post 237

Veterans Assistance Commission minutes from April 12, 1989.

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Alternates: John Sadowski, Catholic War Veterans, Post 883

Chairman John Cawley, American Legion Post 237

# "WILL THERE BE ANY VA MEDICAL ENTITLEMENT BY 1992?"

- I will discuss the continuation of loss of medical entitlements through the VA due to the 1988 fiscal year budget shortfalls. I must state that there has been no improvement in the 1989 budget requests. In fact, the situation has greatly worsened. Our comrades are being denied inpatient and outpatient care for a sundry of reasons. Some of those reasons are as follows:
- 1. This VA facility is not located in the veterans region of residence. You must go to the VA facility in your catch basin.
- 2. We no longer provide maintenance of care. It is your responsibility to pay for all your medication, even if you are a pension veteran, as long as your condition is determined to be chronic, but stable. The Means Test has no relevance as to whether or not you can afford to continue maintenance of care. It is the obligation of your personal physician to provide your \$700 worth of medication per month.
- 3. We no longer provide transplants due to the astronomical cost for the medication which prevents the body from rejection of the transplant. We also cannot afford the continued appointments needed as a result of the surgery.
- 4. We no longer have monies needed to provide contracts to private nursing homes. We realize that you are in need of skill care and have no one to take care of you, but you must understand that we do not have the means to purchase your care. We also realize that our VA skill units have a six month waiting list for admission, but due to your condition you must be discharged. We are not a long term care unit.
- 5. We would like to admit you, but due to the budget shortfalls we have had to again reduce our staffs, so there is no one on the ward to provide care. As a result, we would suggest you call us in another month.
- 6. It is our opinion that your acute condition will not cause your death within 72 hours. As a result, we must deny your admission. Should your condition worsen, you can reapply for admission.

7. Due to our budget shortfalls, we will not be able to provide you with your prosthesis. New monies should be available in three or four months. At that time you can reapply for your limbs.

As you can see, our health care services have dwindled away to practically nothing. By denying our comrades services we end up with less inpatient and With less requests outpatient requests for care. for services, the Office of Management and Budget will be able to statistically prove that the VA needs less money in their next fiscal year budget. As a result, more of our people will be denied health It is time for us to put up or shut up. Sitting at the bar or at a meeting and complaining about our shortfalls, accomplishes nothing if that is as far as it goes. We should be demanding that they provide emergency funding for getting our health care facilities back to their status of the 1950s. If our Congress can provide billions of dollars to nations that are lead by communists, marxist, dictators, fascists, etc., then they should be able to provide health care funding for our comrades who gave of themselves to keep our nation free.

Sincerely yours,

Martin J. Rue

# Commander and Comrades

Many of our North Central Illinois Veterans were thoroughly outraged at the blatant attack of our nations Flag at the Chicago Art Institute. We have always been taught that "Old Glory" deserves our It sickens us to know that the Cook utmost respect. County States Attorney, Illinois Attorney General, Attorney General could not have and the U. S. intervened to prevent the day by day desecration. does not surprise us, that in a society that has been tarnished for the past 20 years with white collar crimé, that a judge would rule that standing on our nations Flag cannot be construed to mean trampling. It does not surprise me, that in a society that condones releasing of convicted class X felons who have committed rape, armed robbery, or murder through the changing of there identity policy, that this same group would welcome the tearing or burning of our National Emblem. It does not surprise us, that in a society that believes in spending millions of dollars over numerous years through the appeal process in order to prevent the execution of individuals who have committed mass murders, that that society would welcome the desecration of our National Emblem for which many of our comrades have given their life, mind, or body to defend. We must never permit anyone to display our National Emblem, of the greatest sovereign nation of the world, on the floor or ground. Our country's Flag is a symbol which offers hope to the oppressed people of the world. Our Nation's Flag is a symbol which represents life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all free people. It is a symbol that represents all the freedoms which are provided in our United States Constitution and the United States Bill of Rights. It is a symbol that has been carried by our brave young men and women through many Wars in defense of those wishing to be free people. Millions of United States of America's people have given their lives; body; or mind, so that she may wave freely from above, displaying life like movement. It is a symbol that has earned and deserves total respect. In fact, there are Federal and State Laws that command the manner in which she may be displayed. Violation of those laws is a criminal offense. Those violators should be dealt with in an expedient manner. courts have no right to protect those who choose to violate and victimize our people, our nation, our Flag. We must now put up or shut up. This is not the 1960's . We are back whether you like it or not.

We must protect our national "Emblem" at all cost. Talk will not prevent desecration. Action will once again free her so she can proudly wave, expressing her joy for our freedoms. Always remember, "One Country, One Flag, One Language", and if necessary, I will fight for those principles.

In conclusion, I leave you with this:

"I AM YOUR FLAG", which was made available from the United States Government Printing Office.

"My Red Stripes...symbolize the blood spilled in defense of this glorious nation.

My White Stripes...signify the burning tears shed by Americans who lost their sons.

My Blue Stripes...is indicative of God's heaven under which I fly.

My Stars...clustered together, unify 50 States as one, for God and Country.

"Old Glory" is my nickname, and proudly I wave on high.

Honor me, respect me, defend me with your lives and your fortunes.

Never let my enemies tear me down from my lofty position, lest I never return.

Keep alight the fires of patriotism, strive earnestly for the spirit of democracy.

Worship Eternal God and keep His commandments, and I shall remain the bulwark of peace and freedom for all mankind."

"I am your Flag."

Martin J. Rue, Supt. VAC of LaSalle County

## "ILLINOIS CITIZENS DESERVE EMPLOYMENT"

We have State and Federal Laws covering veteran protection right for employment. These laws also direct corporations to hire veterans on jobs, if they are qualified, that are totally State or Federally funded. These jobs are considered public works and the State or Federal Government pays the contractors the prevailing wage governed by Federal Statute. We in LaSalle County have two such jobs. One is funded from the Federal Super Fund for toxic cleanup and the other is funded from the Federal Housing Department which governs construction of low to moderate income senior citizen housing. The sad thing is even though hundreds of millions of Federal dollars are being spent on such projects, no people from the State of Illinois are being hired. Practically all people hired are from out or state. In an area such as ours about 15%, this where unemployment is running Another thing we must practice is inexcusable. remember is about 60% of our union labor forces are veterans. Veterans are supposedly a priority group for hiring. It does no good to allege that our Congressional delegates from Illinois are bringing in hundreds of millions of dollars in public works if it is being pocketed by out of state contractors or out of state employees. Our State of Illinois Veterans need employment also.

It is our obligation to write our Federal Representatives and Senators and insist that our people in this State be hired. Those are our Federal tax dollars coming back to the State of Illinois and should be used to hire our qualified veterans. Of the fifty States in the United States of America, we receive far less than our fair share of returned Federal Tax dollars. We should demand our fair share in accordance to our population. Our people deserve to work also.

Sincerely yours,

Martin J. Rue, Supt

### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Amvets Post 78 has always been working towards providing services that are needed by their comrades, their widows, and their children; and

WHEREAS, Amvets Post 78 has always been concerned with outdated legislation that has been detrimental to the needs of our veterans; and

WHEREAS, our membership feel it is a grave injustice not to properly account for our service personnel and other American citizens, who have remained missing at the conclusion of any military engagement with hostile forces. We strongly feel that it is our governments responsibility to return all our prisoners of hostile conflicts or to properly document our missing in action beyond all reasonable doubt; and

WHEREAS, we feel that our present Missing Service Persons Act is grossly inadequate as it is presently written; and

WHEREAS, Congressman John Roland (R - CT) has introduced United States House Bill 1730 in the 101 st Congress that will hopefully end the present POW/MIA dilemma and will assure accountability of our children and grandchildren, who will be asked to meet our countries needs in the future.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we expect our Congressional Representatives to support Congressman Roland's bill to revise the Missing Service Persons Act and that all Amvets in the State of Illinois totally support House Bill 1730.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Congress be aware of the fact that we never again want our citizens left in a foreign nation to be forgotten.

Lenard Law, Commander Amvets Post 78

### RESOLUTION

Whereas, Amvet's Post 78 has always been interested in seeing that those who have served their country honorably are given an equal opportunity at employment when they leave the service of their country, and

Whereas, a great majority of our union personnel in the trades field are veterans. These people are priority groups in hiring on State and Federal funded jobs, and

Whereas, the State of Illinois has received hundreds of millions of dollars from the Federal Government for Public Works jobs in such fields as Construction of Public Low Income Housing and Super Fund Clean Up of hazardous waste material. These jobs should require the out of state contractors to hire local veterans who are qualified, and

Whereas if our people who are qualified are not hired for such employment this only worsens our unemployment situation. This further adds to our homeless problem.

Therefore Be It Resolved, that we insist that our State and Federal Government demand that our qualified veterans be hired at any job sight that is receiving Federal or State funds in that State. must be made a part of the contract that is let for bid that the contractor that is awarded the government funded program must hire qualified veterans from the State in which the work will be done. Local residency hire is applicable.

Lenard Law. Commander Amvets Post 78

Minutes of July 12, 1989 Veterans Assistance Commission meeting.

Chairman John Cawley opened meeting in due form. Roll call of officers showed Sam Maggio and Ralph Adler excused and remaining officers present.

Minutes were then read of previous meeting. Motion by Bob Anderson, seconded by John Sadowski, that minutes be accepted as read.

Old business was then discussed. Delegates and Alternates were updated on the current status of our Veterans Home Program in LaSalle, the Concerned Veterans dinner in LaSalle, the MIA/POW Supportive Resolution status, and the controversy over our American Flag issue. The questions directed to our Superintendent were answered.

New Business - Our Superintendent read a job description for a VAC Service Officer. It was strongly felt that it was a job that should be filled by an individual who had no other supportive income. Many of the Commission representatives were strongly questioning whether or not we could find someone qualified by paying such a nominal salary. They felt there would be no way an individual could raise a family on \$18,000 a year. A motion made by Mike Gaynor, seconded by Mike Shelton, to accept this job description as it was written. Motion passed.

Bob Anderson reminded the Commission of the Thursday. August 31, 1989 Concerned Veterans meeting which will be held at the Ottawa American Legion. The meeting will start at 7:30 p.m. With all the cutbacks in our veterans entitlement programs our comrades are no receiving full longer benefits. With the that POWs bureaucrats stating are no longer considered a priority group, many of them are being refused treatment. When our VA medical facilities are given the right to deny treatment to service connected veterans who are 50% or less disabled. the (treatment for non-service connected disabilities) this implies that our VA system is wasting away to nothing. Through our Concerned Veterans organization we can hopefully attack the politicians to protect the future of our entitlement. I urge you all to attend the Concerned Veterans meeting on August 31, 1989.

then discussed at length whether or not our Superintendent would be permitted to run for the position of the 75th District State Representative It was the feeling of the body should he choose. that he should not be denied the opportunity should It was further felt that the he decide to run. be assured a voice Valley would Illinois Springfield and he could be of greater service to us there if he were elected. He will not be required to resign the position as Superintendent unless he is elected as our State Representative. Motion by Carl Kirar, seconded by Mike Gaynor, that we suspend our rules to give our Superintendent, Martin Rue, the opportunity to run for State Representative of the 75th District. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Joe Iwaszek, seconded by Ron Cummings, to adjourn.

Members present: Delegates Joe Iwaszek, Post 1229; Robert Anderson, American Legion Post 33; Carl Kirar, Catholic War Veterans, Post 883; Mike Shelton, Nam Vets; Mike Gaynor, American Legion, Post 729.

Alternates John Sadowski, Catholic War Veterans Post 883; Jim Cappellini, American Legion Post 235; and Ron Cummings, Nam Vets

Chairman John Cawley and Superintendent Martin Rue

Veterans Assistance Commission minutes from August 9, 1989.

Meeting was opened by Chairman Cawley in due form. Roll call of officers was taken, all officers were present. Minutes of previous meeting were read. Al Strozewski made motion, seconded by Bob Anderson, to accept minutes as read. Motion passed.

New Business: A lengthy discussion involving the lack of activity by numerous veterans post in the Illinois Valley pertaining to attendance of the Concerned Veterans meeting. Commission delegates present requested that the VAC office send a letter to all veterans post informing them of the Concerned Veterans meeting on 8/31/89 at the Ottawa American Legion Hall. We should submit an agenda and ask for their participation.

We then discussed the possibility of making application for a National or State Veterans Cemetery. Superintendent Rue advised the Commission that the federal Department of Veterans Affairs office was looking to place a National Cemetery in the State of Illinois. He further informed the Commission that he felt that a former Congressman of a South Chicago suburb by the name of Edward Derwinski is probably interested in locating such a site in the Chicago area. Our Superintendent stated that he had first heard of Washington's desire to locate a National Veterans Cemetery in the State of Illinois the latter part of June of 1989. He found it strange that these bids had to be in by October of 1988. It is understood state wide that Fort Sheridan and Chenute Air Force Base are not scheduled for closing until Attorney General Hartigan has also stated that his office would proceed with litigation in an attempt to prevent the closing of these bases in the State of Illinois. With the previous mentioned premiss, our Superintendent cannot understand how Fort Sheridan could be the top contender for the National Veterans Cemetery when it will be approximately three years before Washington will even know if the land will be available. He further finds it hard to understand how Washington could insist that the bids had to be closed eight months prior to the public announcement calling for area bids on a federally funded Every area in the State of Illinois should be given an opportunity, if it chooses, to bid on federally funded projects. The VAC voted to proceed with the project in hopes of the possibility of the Illinois Valley receiving a National Veterans Cemetery.

The Superintendent then discussed veteran preference in hiring in the State of Illinois. He stated that the only proclamation requiring 50% hire of eligible veterans when 2 or more job openings appear is with the Executive Departments that are regulated or controlled by the Executive branch of government. There has been no proclamation concerning this issue with the Legislative or Judiciary branches of government. The argument presented in Springfield is that the Governor's Executive Departments had only hired 22% last year as opposed to the 50% proclamation. In the since of fair play, I submit to you that if

the Legislative and Judiciary Departments would have hired 22%, then the veterans populous would have realized 66% hired. On the federal level we have no percentage requirements pertaining to veterans preference in public works jobs. For years I have argued that we should have a percentage, as do minorities and females. At least with a percentage we would be assured of a qualified veteran being hired. Even with as low as a 20% figure with a 100 jobs we would be assured 20 of our qualified veterans would be employed. As it currently stands out of 100 jobs the employer could justify no veterans hired. I further submit to you that President George Bush has recently signed into law that handicapped individuals cannot be denied employment. This is an attempt to prevent employers from discriminating against the physically handicapped of our nation.

We then went through our budget approvals for the fiscal year 1990. A motion was made by Ralph Adler, seconded by Bob Anderson, to accept the prepared budget of the VAC. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mike Shelton, seconded by Carl Kirar, that we adjourn.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235; Al Stozewski, American Legion Post 426; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Sam Maggio, Marine Corp League; Robert Anderson, American Legion Post 33; Carl Kirar, St. Mary's Catholic War Veterans Post 883; and Michael Shelton, Nam Vets

Alternates Bob Renz, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229 and John Sadowski, St. Mary's Catholic War Veterans Post 883

Chairman John R. Cawley and Superintendent Martin Rue

Saturday, August 26, 1989 35 Cents

# cemetery eyed

# LaSalle County chances slim

By Wendy M. Koch

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Times-Press Bureau
WASHINGTON — La Salle
County's plan to win a national
veterans cemetery may be dead on arrival.

on arrival.

The county lags behind other Illinois communities in bidding for a national cemetery for military veterans, officials say. A cemetery would bring jobs and

federal money.
"I know it's an uphill battle,"
says Martin Rue, chairman of the county's Veterans Assistance Commission. "They (other areas) are pushing hard. We'll be behind."

In the next six months, Rue says he and local veterans will be put-ting together a proposal to locate a national cemetery in the county. But the proposal may be too

Last September, the Department of Veterans Affairs asked communities within 50 miles of central Will County to submit bids for a Chicago-area cemetery. October was the deadline for sending

bids.
Rue says the county missed the deadline, because no one knew about the bidding process. "For some reason, this area was overlooked," he says annoyed. According to a VA news release last year, La Saile was one of 13 eligible counties.

The department has already winnowed the field to six sites, says VA spokeswoman Josephine Schuda, Schuda would not release

Please see Cemetery Page 9

# Lémetery

Continued from Page 1 the names, but acknowledged that the Fort Sheridan military base scheduled for closure is a leading

contender.
For La Salle County to jump into the contest now, "it doesn't look likely," says Schuda.
The VA operates 112 cemeteries nationwide for veterans and their spouses. But 45 are already filled to capacity, and new demand is expected with the aging population of World War II veterans.

As a result, Congress identified four metropolitan areas as having

four metropolitan areas as having particular need: Chicago, Cleveland, Seattle-Tacoma, Wash., and Albany, N.Y. It appropriated \$250,000 for an entire metal things for sikk after the company of the comp vironmental study of possible sites

Schuda says VA Secretary Ed-ward Derwinski will soon decide which of the six Chicago-area sites

which of the six Cincago at a stress will be chosen for the study. The study itself will take about a year, with the entire process taking four to six years, says Schuda. First-phase construction of a cemetery

phase construction of a cemetery would cost about \$8 million.
Even if a site is studied, Schuda says there is no quarantee it or any others in the area will get funds: But if a cemetery is built in 'Illinois, she says it most likely will be in the Chicago area.

Derwinski, a former conspecsman from a south Chicago

gressman from a south Chicago suburb, "is very interested personally in having a cemetery in the Chicago-area," according to

Schuda.
Rue says the possible sites probably include Fort Sheridan near Lake Forest, the Joliet Army Ammunition Plant, the Chanute Air Force Base at Rantoul, and the Schuda.

Manteno center.

Manteno center.

Schuda says the VA is asking the Army to transfer 162 acres on Fort. Sheridan to the department. If the land comes through, with possibly more later, Schuda says the base would be "a good possible choice." The VA is looking ideally the part of the St to 20 acres. for a site 265 to 320 acres.

Rue says he still plans to go ahead with a propopsal. If Fort Sheridan is not closed, as is planned, he says the situation could change.

"I never give up," says Rue, who pushed locally for the La Salle Veterans Nursing Facility now go-ing up in La Salle. "Time will tell.

Don't count us out yet."
Rue says he will see Derwinski
next month and will tell him
"there's more to Illinois than just
the border." He says La Salle County deserves a cemetery, because it is centrally located in the state, receives few federal funds and has relatively high unemployment.

unemployment.
The closest VA national cemeteries to the Chicago area that still have room for burial are in Danville, Ill., and Milwaukee.
The proposed cemetery would be the seventh in the state but the first in Northeast Illinaic. The

first in Northeast Illinois. The other six are in Alton, Camp Butler at Springfield, Danville, Mound City, Quincy and Rock Island.

September 13, 1989 meeting of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman John R. Cawley. Roll call of officers was taken showing Nick Pacetti, John Cawley, and Ralph Adler as present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Motion by Bob Anderson, seconded by Ralph Adler, to accept minutes as read. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue discussed his concern over denied admissions to VA hospitals for veterans in the Illinois Valley area. He also stated that the multi-millions of dollars that had been appropriated by the federal VA to our 172 VA medical facilities has been practically depleted. In fact, the monies received by some of our VA hospitals in our veterans care area has already been totally used. It is important that each and everyone of us and membership write posts request that our representatives in Washington and insist that they adequately fund our VA facilities. We must also insist that they introduce legislation to resend the "Means Test" as a gauge of eligibility The "Means Test" was only to be used to for health care. determine eligibility of welfare recipients for Public Aid entitlements. Our veterans are not welfare recipients.

The remainder of our time was spent on reviewing our budget for the 1990 fiscal year. We had gone over line item by line item of the proposed changes that the LaSalle County Board VAC Committee had made to the Commission's proposed budget. We further discussed a proposed deal that the LaSalle County Board VAC Committee offered to the Commission in regards to a Service Officer. They were willing to permit us to hire a Service Officer on December 1 of this year. The starting salary would be \$18,000 a year. They had also suggested that we not proceed with the van at this time. A motion by Bob Anderson, seconded by Al Strozewski, that we accept their offer due to the importance of our advocacy work in this office. Motion passed. A vote of six in favor and one nay.

Motion by Nick Pacetti, seconded by Mike Shelton, to adjourn meeting.

# MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates Mike Shelton, Nam Vets; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Al Strozewski, American Legion Post 426; Ralph Adler, VFW Post 5540; James Cappellini, American Legion Post 235; and Robert Anderson, American Legion Post 33

Chairman John R. Cawley and Superintendent Martin J. Rue

# Legislators Addresses

Sen. Patrick D. Welch, D-38, District Office Number (815) 223-3747, 105C State House, Springfield, Ill., 62706, Springfield Number IN SPRINGFIELD

Rep. Peg McDonnell Breslin, D-75, District Office Number (815) 433-5321, 312 State
House, Springfield, Ill., 62706, Springfield
Number (217) 782-5109. (217) 782-8287.

Number (217) 782-5109.

Rep. Ray A. Christensen, D-85, District Office Number (815) 942-1161, 2075 Section K Stratton Office Building, Springfield, Ill., 62706, Springfield Number (217) 782-8060.

Nep. Thomas W. Ewing, R-87, District Number (815) 844-7660, 300 State House, Springfield, Ill., 62706, Springfield Number (217) 782-8158.

WASHINGTON

Rep. J. Dennis Hastert, R-14, Illinois
Number (312) 406-1114 or (312) 697-6622 or
(815) 434-5666, 515 Cannon House Office
(816) Washington, D.C., 20515,
Washington Number (202) 225-2976.
Washington Office Building, Washington, D.C., 20516,
Washington Number (202) 225-2371.
Washington Number (202) 225-2371.
Washington Number (202) 225-5905.
Washington Number (202) 225-5905.
Washington Number (202) 225-5905.
Washington Number (202) 225-4126, Hart Building, Room 331, Washington, D.C., 20510,
Washington Number (202) 224-2854.
Washington Number (202) 224-2854.
Washington Number (201) 214-24960 or (619) 457-3653, 462 Dirksen Building, Washington Number (202) 224-2152.

Minutes from October 11, 1989 VAC meeting.

Chairman John R. Cawley opened meeting in due form. Roll call of officers showed all officers present or accounted for. Sam Maggio was excused due to an upper-respiratory virus.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Motion by Carl Kirar, seconded by Mike Gaynor, that minutes be accepted as read. Passed.

Those present reported who the delegates and alternates would be for the ensuing year.

- 1. Marseilles American Legion Post 235 Del. Ralph Adler Alternate James Cappellini
- 2. Nam Vets Delegate Ron Cummings, Alternate Mike Shelton
- 3. LaSalle VFW Post 4668 Delegate Nick Pacetti, Alternate Fran Perra
- 4. Sheridan American Legion Post 729 Delegate Mike Gaynor
- 5. Peru VFW Post 8232 Delegate Ed Wroblewski, Alternate Frank Rathbun
- 6. Oglesby American Legion Post 237 Alternate John Cawley
- 7. LaSalle American Legion Post 426 Delegate Al Strozewski
- 8. Amvets Post 78 Delegate Leonard Laws, Alternate Tony Karczewski

These are the only Posts who have submitted their Delegate and Alternate for 1990.

Our Superintendent discussed completion of our old business on the month before. All questions were answered.

New Business: A letter was read dated 10/5/89 pertaining to our concerns about a potential National Veterans Cemetery in the County of LaSalle. The letter in question was sent to the following:

- 1. Congressman Dennis Hastert Washington, DC
- 2. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Washington, DC
- 3. State of Illinois Governor James Thompson Springfield
- 4. Illinois Dept. of Veterans Affairs Springfield

A lengthy discussion ensued over the denial of in-patient and out-patient treatment in our VA facilities. Everyone present was given a copy of the VA cuts in the discretionary workload pertaining to the treatment, eligibility procedures for VA health care, and the new asset guidelines pertaining to "Means Test" category A, B, and C. All delegates and alternates present were asked to see that these are posted in their posts for their memberships easy accessibility for review.

Once again we discussed three articles that our Superintendent had written last year pertaining to the following subject matter:

- 1. "Will There Be Any VA Medical Entitlements By 1992?"
- 2. "Our Flag. May She Deserve Total Respect"
- 3. "Illinois Citizens Deserve Employment."

Copies of the above mentioned topics were given to the delegates and alternates present. These articles should be shared with their post membership in order to try to secure their support in our battle to prevent the plight of our comrades. Our Superintendent then informed those present that the federal VA is discussing their regionalization of the federal VA system. By doing this, it is our belief, that there will be drastic cutbacks in employees and branch offices. This would mean less services than we currently have in the health care field and greater difficulty in resolving the denial of entitlements. We must write our Congressional delegation and express our strong rejection of any such program.

We once again discussed Congressman Roland's HB 1730. We were informed that 40 plus Representatives have co-sponsored his legislation. We were also informed that at the National Convention of the American Legion, VFW, and Amvets resolutions were passed unanimously supporting HB 1730. People of the United States strongly feel that no person who has been taken by hostile forces should be forgotten by our great nation. We must constantly insist that they be returned or beyond reasonable doubt accounted for. Write your federal senators and representatives and encourage them to get their colleagues to support this legislation.

We then discussed the pros and cons of our Commission incorporating. It was the consensus of those present that we request the needed forms in order to incorporate the delegates and alternates.

Motion by Carl Kirar, seconded by Ralph Adler, to adjourn the meeting. Passed.

## Members present:

Delegates: Mike Gaynor, American Legion Post 729; Ron Cummings, Nam Vets; Ed Wroblewski, VFW Post 8232; Carl Kirar, Catholic War Vets Post 883; Ralph Adler, American Legion, Post 235; Al Strozewski, American Legion Post 426; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668

Alternates: John Sadowski, Catholic War. Veterans and Jim Cappellini, American Legion Post 235 Chairman John Cawley and Martin J. Rue Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of November 8, 1989

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman John Cawley. Roll call of officers showed all present or accounted for, Sam Maggio excused due to illness.

Minutes of previous meeting read. Motion by Carl Kirar, seconded by John Sadowski, to accept minutes as amended. Motion passed.

CWV Peru Post 883 stated Carl Kirar is delegate and John Sadowski is alternate.

CWV LaSalle Post 1224 stated Joe Iwaszek is delegate and Bob Renz is alternate.

New Business: A discussion on a service officer position for our VAC office. The consensus of the group, based on past experience, was for the Superintendent to wait until the County Board totally approves the 1990 budget.

Nick Pacetti asked if the new veterans care facility will be able to accept quadriplegic veterans as patients. He referred to a letter he received asking for this information. Our Superintendent stated he would check into this matter.

Ron Cummings discussed the POW/MIA issue. He stated that our government is stating that it will not release information to family members pertaining to possible POWs being held in Laos and Cambodia due to the fact it would let these Countries know that we know where their concentration camps are located. This could be life threatening to those held in captivity. Ron further stated that Laos has never released any live POWs. He alleged that our government knows they are there.

A discussion was once again held on the need to incorporate our VAC. Our Superintendent explained that the Attorney General's Office, State of Illinois has advised him that it is illegal and not necessary. He further state that the LaSalle County Board members had assured him that our Commission delegates and alternates would be protected by the Illinois Revised Statutes and the County Board Insurance Program. In fact, the County Board would intervene should there be a suit against the Commission delegates and alternates. Due to the total confusion and concern of who would assist the Commission in a suit after the fact, the Commission instructed the Superintendent to file for non-for-profit status. Motion by Ralph Adler, seconded by Carl Kirar, Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Carl Kirar, seconded by Ralph Adler, to adjourn meeting. Motion passed.

# Members present:

Delegates Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235; Al Strozewski, American Legion Post 426; Joe Iwaszek CWV Post 1224; Nick Pacetti VFW Post 4668; Ron Cummings Nam Vets; Carl Kirar CWV Post 883; Ed Wroblewski VFW Post 8232; Robert Anderson American Legion Post 33

Alternates Bob Renz CWV Post 1229; John Sadowski CWV Post 883; and Jim Cappellini American Legion Post 235

Chairman John R. Cawley and Supt. Martin Rue

Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of November 8, 1989

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Motion by Carl Kirar, seconded by Ralph Adler, to adjourn meeting. Motion passed.

# Members present:

Delegates Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235; Al Strozewski, American Legion Post 426; Joe Iwaszek CWV Post 1224; Nick Pacetti VFW Post 4668; Ron Cummings Nam Vets; Carl Kirar CWV Post 883; Ed Wroblewski VFW Post 8232; Robert Anderson American Legion Post 33

Alternates Bob Renz CWV Post 1229; John Sadowski CWV Post 883; and Jim Cappellini American Legion Post 235

Chairman John R. Cawley and Supt. Martin Rue

OCTOBER S M T W T F S I 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

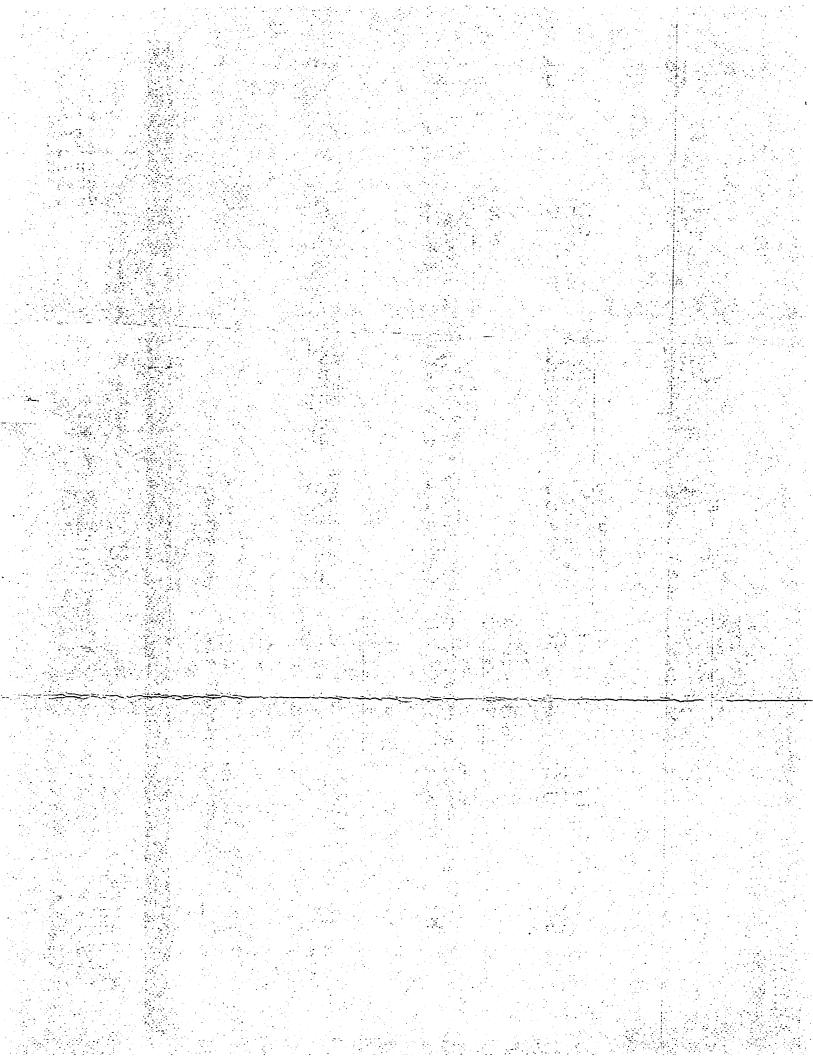
# NOVEMBER

1989

DECEMBER 8 M T W T F 8 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY MONDAY SUNDAY 2 Co Clerk & **County** School Service & Coroner 10:00 Supt of Schools Development rm 245 2:00 rm 245 10:00 rm 245 Nursing Home 5 Veteran's Day 1:30 rm 242 8 Fee & Salary 9 VAC & Data 1:00 rm 245 Processing 2:00 9:00 -NH-HOLIDAY rm 245 ESDA & Leg & Rules 3:00 rm 245 12 15 Detention Home 10:00 -DH-16 Judiciary, Circuit Clk & PD 2 Tax & **7**States 18 Attorney 10:00 SESSION 1:00 rm 245 rm 245 1:00 rm 250 Courthouse & Jail Circuit Wide 9:00 -DT-Probation 10:00 rm 245 20 Auditor & Recorder 1:00 Thanksgiving Day 19 77Bridge € 21 Animal Cont. 25 Top Roads 9:30 & Parks 10:00 HOLIDAY HOLIDAY rm 245 -Hwu-Insurance 1:30 rm 242 26 28 Sheriff & Co Radio 2:30 20 VAC & Data **7**Highway Processing 2:00 SESSION rm 245 rm 245 1:00 rm 250 Courthouse &

Jail 10:00 rm 242



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22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 Revised		10-24-89 1989			17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
			School Service & Coroner 10:00 rm 245	2Co Clerk & Supt of Schools 2:00 rm 245	3County Development 10:00 rm 245	4	
5	Finance 1:30 rm 242	Nursing Home 9:00 -NH-	8 Fee & Salary 1:00 rm 245	9VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245	10 HOLIDAY	11 Veteran's Day	
12	Treasurer 10:00 rm 245 Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	14 <sup>BOARD</sup> SESSION 1:00 rm 250	15 Detention Home 10:00 -DH- ESDA & Leg & Rules 3:00 rm 245	Judiciary, Circuit Clk & PD 1:00 rm 245 Circuit Wide Probation 10:00 rm 245	17States Attorney 10:00 rm 245	18	
19	20 Auditor & Recorder 1:00 rm 245	21Animal Cont. E Parks 10:00 rm 245 Insurance 1:30 rm 242	22Bridge & Twp Roads 9:30 -Hwy-	23 Thanksgiving Day HOLIDAY	<b>24</b> HOLIDAY	25	
26	<b>27</b> Highway 1:30 - Hwy-	28 Sheriff 8 Co Radio 2:30 rm 245	29 B O A R D S E S S I O N 1:00 rm 250	30 VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245 Courthouse & Jail 10:00			

rm 242

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DECEMBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			School Service & Coroner 10:00 rm 245	2Co Clerk & Supt of Schools 2:00 rm 245	3County Development 10:00 rm 245	4
5	Finance 1:30 rm 242	Nursing Home 9:00 -NH-	8 Fee & Salary 1:00 rm 245	<b>9</b> VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245	10 HOLIDAY	77 Veteran's Day
12	Treasurer 10:00 rm 245 Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	14 BOARD SESSION 1:00 rm 250	15 Detention Home 10:00 -DH- ESDA & Leg & Rules 3:00 rm 245	Jodiciary, Circuit Clk & PD 2:00 rm 245	17States Attorney 10:00 rm 245	18
19	Auditor & Recorder 1:00 rm 245	2 Animal Cont. & Parks 10:00 rm 245 Insurance 1:30 rm 242	<b>22</b> Bridge & Two Roads 9:30 -Hwy-	23 Thanksgiving Day HOLIDAY	<b>24</b> HOLIDAY	25
26	<b>27</b> Highway 1:30 - Hwy-	28 Sheriff & Co Radio 2:30 rm 245	29 BOARD SESSION 1:00 rm 250	NAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245 Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242		

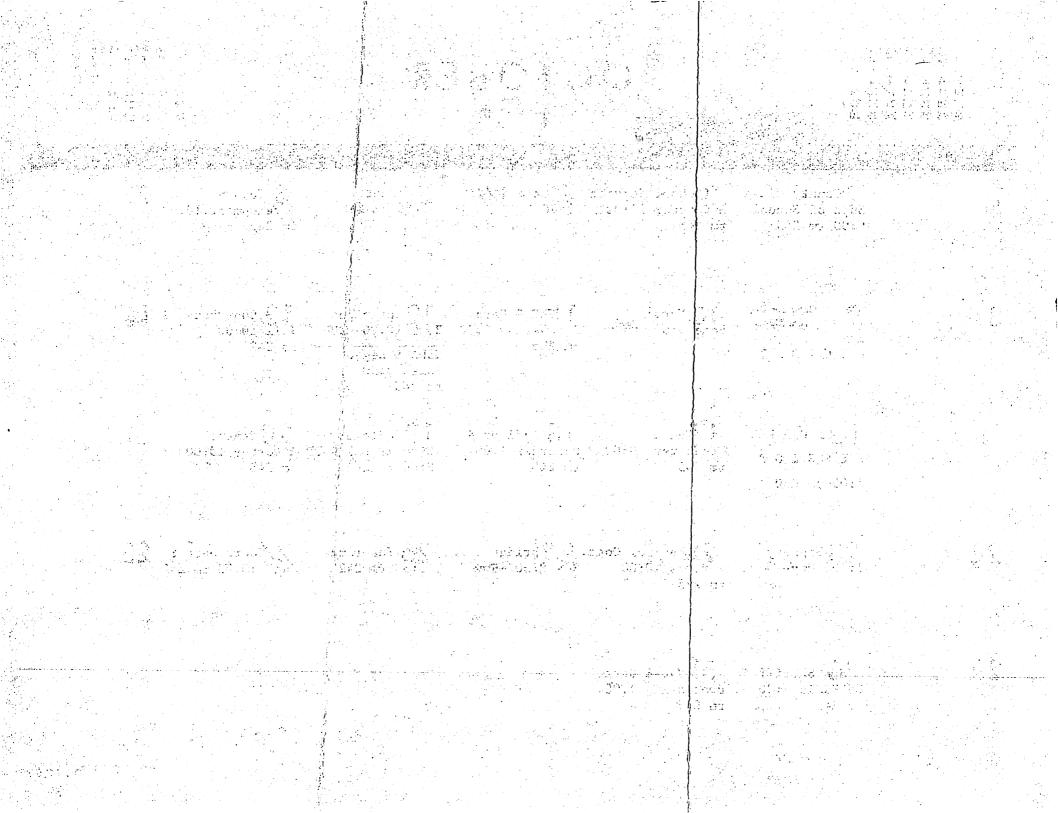
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	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
· .	1	2 County Clk & Supt of School 1:00 rm 245	School Service & Coroner 10:00 rm 245	A Fee & Salary 10:00 rm 242	5:30 rm 242	County Development 10:00 rm 245	<b>7</b>
					,		
	8	9 Columbus Day Yom Kippur HOLIDAY	10 Nursing Home 9:00 -NH-	1 VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245	12 Detention Home 10:00 -DH- ESDA & Leg & Rules 3:00 rm 245	13 Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	14
	15	16 BOARD SESSION 1:00 rm 250	17Tax & Treasurer 10:00 rm 245	18 Auditor & Recorder 1:00 rm 245	19 Judiciary, Circuit Clk & PD 2:00 rm 245	20 States Attorney 10:00 rm 245	21
	22	23 Highway 1:30 -Hwy-	Animal Cont. & Parks 10:00 rm 245	· 25 Bridge & Twp Rds 9:30 -Hwy-	26 Insurance 1:30 rm 242	27Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	28
	29	30 Sheriff & Co Radio 2:30 rm 245	31 VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245				

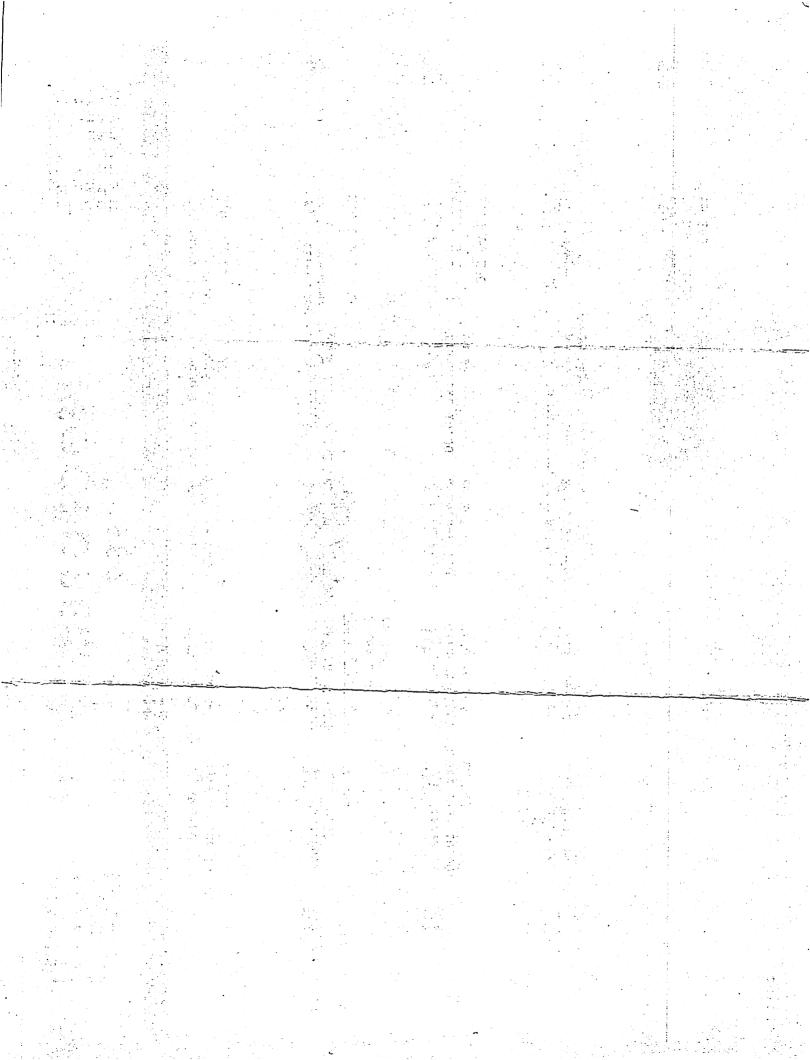


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SUNDAY	M:ONDAY.	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 County Clk & Supt of School 2:00 rm 245	School Service & Coroner 10:00 rm 245	A Finance 1:30 rm 242	5 Fee & Salary: 00 rm 245	County Development 10:00 rm 245	7
8	Columbus Day Yom Kippur HOLIDAY	Nursing Home 9:00 rm 242	rm 245	Detention Home 10:00 -DH-  ESDA & Leg & Rules 3:00 rm 245	13 Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	14
15	16 BOARD SESSION 1:00 rm 250	17Tax & Treasurer 10:00 rm 245	18 Auditor & Recorder 1:00 rm 245	19 Judiciary, Circuit Clk & PD 2:00 rm 245	20 States Attorney 10:00 rm 245	21
22	23 Highway 1:30 -Hwy-	Animal Cont. & Parks 10:00	. 25 Bridge & Twp Rds 9:30 -Hwy-	26 Insurance 1:30 rm 242	27Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	28
29	30 Sheriff & Co Radio 2:30 rm 245	31 VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245				



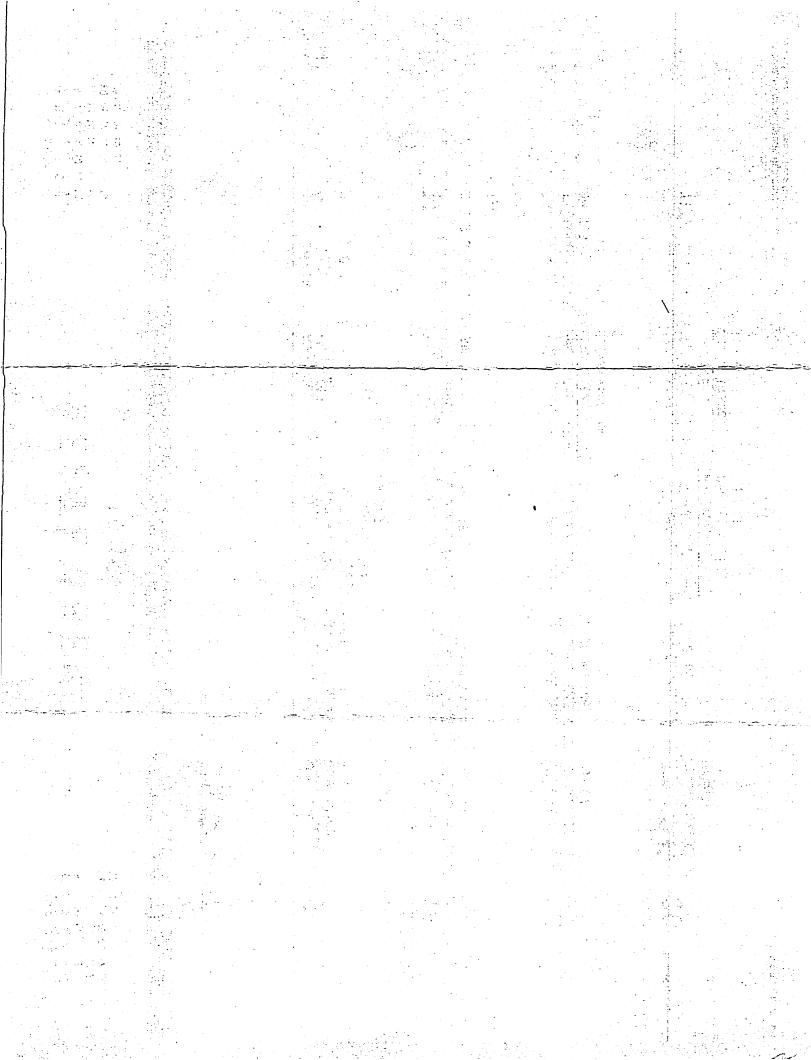
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					County Development 10:00 rm 245	2
		: :				i
3	A Labor Day HOLIDAY	5Finance 1:30 rm 242	Fee & Salary 1:00 rm 242 School Service & Coroner 10:00 rm 245	<b>7</b> County Clerk & Supt of Schools 2:00 rm 245	8Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	9
10	11 <sub>BOARD</sub> SESSION 1:00 rm 250	12 Nursing Home 9:00 rm 242	13 Animal Cont & Parks 10:00 rm 245	1 4 VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245	15 States Attorney 10:00 rm 245	16
17	18 Tax & Treasurer 10:00 rm 245	19 Detention Home 10:00 -DH- ESDA & Leg & Rules 3:00 rm 245	20 Printing 2:00 rm 242	21 Judiciary, Circuit Clk & PD 2:00 rm 245	22Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	23
24	25 Highway T:30 -Hwy-	26 Sheriff & Co Radio 2:30 rm 245 Solid Waste 10:00	27 Bridge & Twp Roads 9:30 Hwy Auditor & Recorder 1:00 rm 245	28 Insurance T:30 rm 242	29VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245	30 Rosh Hashana



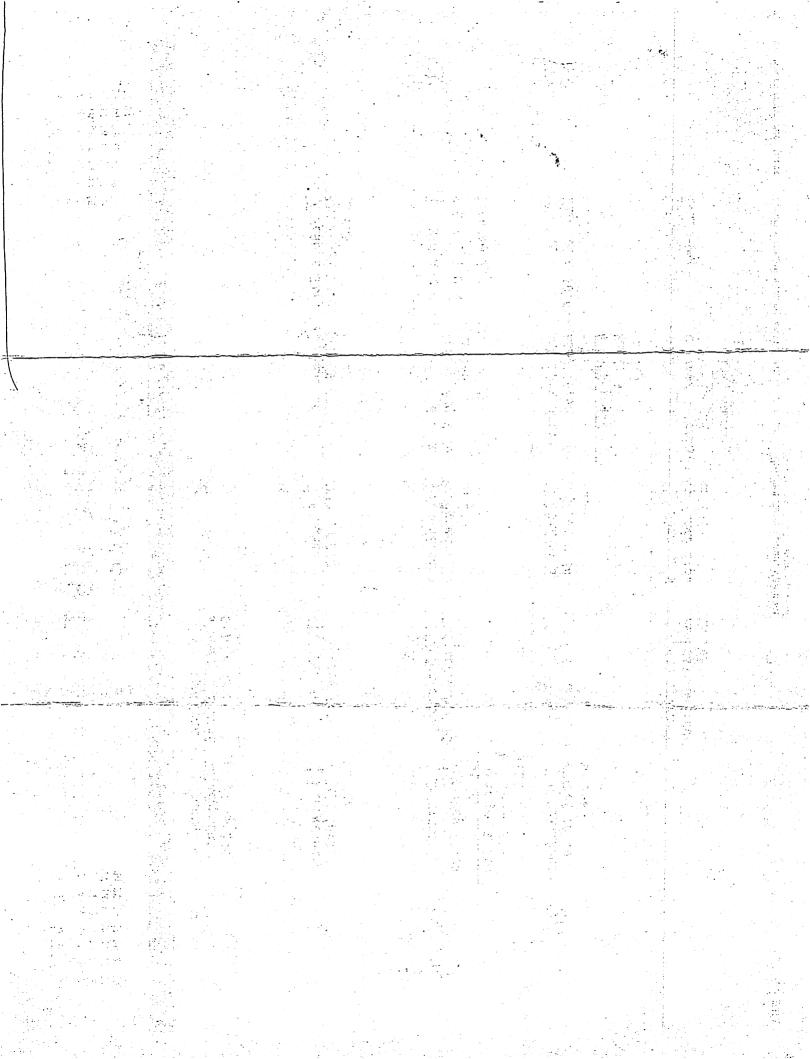
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## AUGUST

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Revised 7-25-89 1989

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDA
		1	2	3 County Clerk & Supt of School 2:00 rm 245	A County Development 10:00 rm 245	5
 6	7 School Service	e 8 Nursing	9 Finance	10 Fee 8	]] Courthouse	12
	å Coroner 10:00 rm 245	Hõme 9:00 rm 242	1:30 rm 242	* Salary 1:00 rm 242	6 Jail 10:00 rm 242	:
13	14BOARD SESSION 1:00 rm 250	15 VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245	16 Auditor & Recorder 1:00 rm 245	17 Judiciary, Circuit Clk & PD 1:00 rm 245	18States Attorney 10:00 rm 245 Bridge & Twp Roads - FT- 9:30	19
20	21 Tax & Treasurer 10:00 rm 245	22 Detention Home 10:00 -DH- ESDA & Leg & Rules 3:00 rm 245	23Bridge & Twp Rds 9:30 -Hwy-	24 Insurance 7:30 rm 242	25 Courthouse 5 Jail 10:00 rm 242	26
27	28 Highway 1:30 -Hwy-	29 Animal Control & Parks 10:00 rm 245 Solid Waste 10:00	30Sheriff & Co Radio 2:30 rm 245	31 VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245		



JULY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

## A U G U S T 1989

SEPTEMBER 8 M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :	1	2	3 County Clerk & Supt of School 2:00 rm 245	A County Development 10:00 rm 245	5
		•		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· •	
6	7 School Servic & Coroner 10:00 rm 245	e <b>8</b> Nursing Home 9:00 rm 242	9 Finance 1:30 rm 242	10 Fee 8 Salary 1:00 rm 242	l Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	12
**************************************					·	
13	14BOARD SESSION 1:00 rm 250	Processing 2:00 rm 245	Recorder 1:00 rm 245	7 Judiciary, Circuit Clk & PD 1:00 rm 245	18States Attorney 10:00 rm 245	19
20	21 Tax & Treasurer 10:00 rm 245	22 Detention Home 10:00 -DH- ESDA & Leg & Rules 3:00	23Bridge & Twp Rds 9:30 -Hwy-	24: Insurance 7: 30 rm 242	25 Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	26
		rm 245			, while the transfer of the second se	
27	28 Highway 1:30 -Hwy-	<b>29</b> Animal Control & Parks 10:00 rm 245	30Sheriff & Co Radio 2:30 rm 245	NAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245		

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## J U L Y 1989

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDA	Y
						Dominion D (Canada	lay }
2	3 Schools Serv & Coroner 10:00 rm 245	A Independence Day HOLIDAY	5 Finance 7:00 rm 242 County Clerk & Supt of Schools 2:00 rm 245	6 Fee & Salary 1:00 rm 245	7County Development 10:00 rm 245	8	
9	10 BOARD SESSION 1:00 rm 250	1 Nursing Home 10:00 rm 242	12 VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245	13 Judiciary, Circuit Clk & PD 1:00 rm 245 Circuit Wide Probation 10:00 rm 245	Courthouse fail 10:00 rm 242	15	
16	17Tax & Treasurer 10:00 rm 245	18 Detention Home 10:00 -DH-	19ESDA & Leg & Rules 3:00 rm 245	20 Animal Cont & Parks 10:00 rm 245	21States Attorney 10:00 rm 245	22	
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Highway 1:30 -Hwy-	25Sheriff & Co Radio 2:30	26 Bridge & Twp Roads 9:30	27 Insurance 1:30 rm 242	28 Courthouse & Jail 10:00	29	
30	31 VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245	rm 245	-Hwy- Auditor & Recorder 1:00 rm 245	,	rm 242 -		JUL'

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## J U N E 1989

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	<b>2</b> County Development 10:00 rm 245	3
4	<b>5</b> School Serv & Coroner 10:00 rm 245	6 Finance 1:30 rm 242	7 Fee & Salary 1:00 rm 245	8Co Clerk & Supt of Schools 2:00 rm 245	9 Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	10
11	12 BOARD SESSION 1:00 rm 250	13 Nursing Home 9:00 rm 242	14 VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245	15 Judiciary, Cir Clk & PD 1:00 rm 245 Circuit Wide Prob 10:00 rm 245	16 States Attorney 10:00 rm 245	17
18 Father's Day	19 Tax & Treasurer 10:00 rm 245	20 Detention Home 10:00 -DH-	21 ESDA & Leg & Rules 3:00 rm 245	<b>22</b> Insurance 1:30 rm 242	23 Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	24
25	<b>26</b> Highway 1:30 -Hwy-	27 Animal Cont & Parks 10:00 rm 245 Solid Waste	28 Bridge & Twp Roads 9:30 -Hwy- Auditor & Record	29 Sheriff & County Radio 2:30 rm 245	30 VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245	)

1:00 rm 245

S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

## M A Y 1989

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 School Serv &Coroner 10:00 rm 245	2 Finance 1:30 rm 242	3 Fee & Salary 1:00 rm 242	A Co Clerk & Supt of Schools 2:00 rm 245	5 County Development 10:00 rm 245	6
7	8 B O A R D S E S S I O N 1:00 rm 250	9 Nursing Home 9:00 rm 242	10 ESDA & Leg Rules 3:00 rm 245	11 Tax & Treasurer 10:00 rm 245	12 Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	13
14 Mother's Day Pentacost Sunday		16 Detention Home 10:00 -DH-	]7Auditor & Recorder 1:00 rm 245	18 Judiciary, Circuit Clk & PD 1:00 rm 245 Circuit Wide Probation 10:00 rm 242	19States Attorney 10:00 rm 245	20
21	22 Victoria Day (Canada) Highway 1:30 -Hwy-	23 Animal Cont & Parks 10:00 rm 245	<b>24</b> Bridge & Twp Roads 9:30 -Hwy-	25 Insurance 1:30 rm 242	26 Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	27
28	29 Memorial Day HOLIDAY .	Sheriff & Radio 2:30 rm 245 Solid Waste	31 VAC 8 Data Processing 2:00 Lam 245			

10:00

FEBRUARY
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 County Development 10:00 rm 245	3 County Clerk & Supt of Schools 2:00 rm 245	4
5	6 County Health & Coroner 10:00 rm 245	7 Finance 1:30 rm 242 -	8 Fee & Salary 1:00 rm 245	9 Nursing Home 10:00 -NH-	10 Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	11
12	13 BOARD SESSION 1:00 rm 250	14 ESDA & Leg & Rules 3:00 rm 245	15 VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245	16 Judiciary, Circuit Clk & PD 1:30 rm 245	17 St. Patrick's Day States Attorney 10:00 rm 245	18
19 Palm Sunday	20 Tax & Treasurer 10:00 rm 245	21 Detention Home 10:00 -DH-	22 Bridge & Twp Rds 9:30 -Hwy- Auditor & Recorder 1:30 rm 245	23 Insurance 1:30 rm 242	24 Good Friday HOLIDAY	25
26 Easter Sunday	<b>27</b> Highway 1:30 -Hwy-	28 Animal Control & Parks 10:00 rm 245	<b>29</b> Sheriff & Co Radio 2:30 rm 245	30 VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245	31 Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	

JANUARY

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## FEBRUARY

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	FULLEYI.	1=3C=391				_
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Co Health & Coroner 10:00 rm 245	2Co Clerk & Supt of Schools 2:00 rm 245	3 County Development 10:00 rm 245	4
5	6 Tax & Treasurer 10:00 rm 245	<b>7</b> Finance 1:00 rm 242	8 Fee & Salary 1:00 rm 245	<b>9</b> Nwrsing Home 10:00 -NH-	10 Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	11
					Circuit Wide Probation 1:30 rm 245	
12 Lincoln's Birthday	13 HOLIDAY	14. B O A R D S E S S I O N 1:00 rm 250	15 VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245	16 Judiciary, Circuit Clk & PD 1:30 rm 245 Sheriff & Co Radio 2:30 rm 245	17 States Attorney 10:00 rm 245	18
19	20 Washington's Birthday	21 Detention Home 10:00 -DH-	22Bridge & Twp Roads 9:30 -Hwy- Auditor & Recorder 1:30 rm 245	<b>23</b> Insurance 1:30 rm 242	21 Courthouse Fail 10:00 rm 242	25
26	27 Highway 1:30 -Hwy- Animal Control & Parks 10:00 rm 245	28 VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245 ESDA & Leg & Rules 3:00				

rm 245

JANUARY

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## FEBRUARY

1989

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			Co Health & Coroner 10:00 rm 245	2Co Clerk & Supt of Schools 2:00 rm 245	3 County Development 10:00 rm 245	4
5	6 Tax & Treasurer 10:00 rm 245	<b>7</b> Finance 1:00 rm 242	8 Fee & Salary 1:00 rm 245	9Nursing Home 10:00 -NH-	10 Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	11
12 Lincoln's Birthday	13 HOLIDAY	14 B 0 A R D S E S S I O N 1:00 rm 250	15 VAC & Data Processing 2:00 Im 245 — 1	16 Judiciary, Circuit Clk & PD 2:00 rm 245 Sheriff & Co Radio 2:30 rm 245	rm 245	18
19	20 Washington's Birthday HOLIDAY	21 Detention Home 10:00 -DH-	22Bridge & Two Roads 9:30 -Hwy- Auditor & Recorder 2:00 rm 245	23 Insurance 1:30 rm 242	21 Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	25
26	27 Highway 1:30 -Hwy- Animal Control 8 Parks 10:00 rm 245	28 VAG & Data Processing 2:001 Im 245 ESDA & Leg & Rules 3:00 rm 245				

DECEMBER \* M T W T 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

## JANUARY

1989

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
New Year's Day	2 HOLIDAY	County Health ECoroner 10:00 rm 245	ACounty Clerk & Supt of Schools 2:00 rm 245	5Finance 1:30 cm 242	6 County Development 10:00 rm 245	7
8	9 BOARD SESSION 1:00 rm 250	10 Fee & Salary 1:00 rm 245	1 TVAC & Data Processing 2:00 Jun 245	Nursing Home 10:00 -NH-	Jack 10:00 rm 242	14
15	16 Martin Luther King Day Tax & Treasurer 10:00 rm 245	17Detention Home 10:00 -DH-	18 Auditor & Recorder 2:00 rm 245	19 Judiciary, Circuit Clk & PD 2:00 rm 245	20States Attorney 10:00 rm 245	21
22	23 Highway 1:30 -Hwy- Animal Control & Parks 10:00 rm 245	<b>24</b> ESDA & Leg & Rules 3:00 rm 245	25 Bridge & Twp Roads 9:30 -Hwy-	26 Insurance 1:30 rm 242	27Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	28
29	30 Sheriff & Co Radio 7:00 rm 245	31 VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245				e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e

## DECEMBER

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY  Public Aid 9:00 rm 242	2 County Development 10:00 rm 245	3	
4. Hanukah	5 BOARD SESSION 1:00 rm 250	6 County Clerk 8 Supt of School 2:00 rm 245	County Health & Coroner 10:00 rm 245	8 Nursing Home 10:00 -NH- Circuit Wide Probation 1:30 rm 245	9Courthouse & Jail 10:00	10	
	12 Detention Home 10:00 -DH-	13 Fee & Salary 1:00 rm 245	1 4 VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245	15 Judiciary, Circuit Clk & PD 1:30 rm 245	States Actionney 10:00 rm 245 Finance 1:00 rm 242	17	
18	19Highway 1:30 -Hwy-	20 Tax & Treasurer 10:00 rm 245 ESDA & Leg & Rules 3:00 rm 245	21 Auditor & Recorder 1:30 rm 245	22 Insurance 1:30 rm 242	23 Courthouse & Jail 10:00 rm 242	24	
25 Christmas Day	26 HOLIDAY	27 Animal Cont & Parks 3:00 rm 245	28 Bridge & Twp Roads 9:30 -Hwy-	29Sheriff & Co Radio 7:00 rm 245	30 VAC & Data Processing 2:00 rm 245	31	

## COUNTY OF LA SALLE VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE Superintendent (815)433-1761 Room A 103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

### Advocacy Work

Pensions - 8 filed 4 awarded, 2 denied, and 2 pending
Widow's Pensions - 4 filed, 2 awarded and 2 pending
Compensation - 9 filed, 4 awarded and 5 pending
Aid and Attendance - 4 filed, 2 awarded and 2 pending
Appeals - 3 filed, 3 pending
Social Security Disability - 1 awarded
Hospital Admissions - 9 forced
Evictions - 2 assisted
Overpayments - 2 assisted
Funerals and burial benefits - 5 assisted
Ambulance transfers - 3
Transportation for out-of-state residents 1
Misc. - numerous cases

Veterans Assistance Commission minutes from August 9, 1989.

Meeting was opened by Chairman Cawley in due form. Roll call of officers was taken, all officers were present. Minutes of previous meeting were read. Al Strozewski made motion, seconded by Bob Anderson, to accept minutes as read. Motion passed.

New Business: A lengthy discussion involving the lack of activity by numerous veterans post in the Illinois Valley pertaining to attendance of the Concerned Veterans meeting. Commission delegates present requested that the VAC office send a letter to all veterans post informing them of the Concerned Veterans meeting on 8/31/89 at the Ottawa American Legion Hall. We should submit an agenda and ask for their participation.

We then discussed the possibility of making application for a National or State Veterans Cemetery. Superintendent Rue advised the Commission that the federal Department of Veterans Affairs office was looking to place a National Cemetery in the State of Illinois. He further informed the Commission that he felt that a former Congressman of a South Chicago suburb by the name of Edward Derwinski is probably interested in locating such a site in the Chicago area. Our Superintendent stated that he had first heard of Washington's desire to locate a National Veterans Cemetery in the State of Illinois the latter part of June of 1989. He found it strange that these bids had to be in by October of 1988. It is understood state wide that Fort Sheridan and Chenute Air Force Base are not scheduled for closing until Attorney General Hartigan has also stated that his office would proceed with litigation in an attempt to prevent the closing of these bases in the State of Illinois. With the previous mentioned premiss, our Superintendent cannot understand how Fort Sheridan could be the top contender for the National Veterans Cemetery when it will be approximately three years before Washington will even know if the land will be available. He further finds it hard to understand how Washington could insist that the bids had to be closed eight months prior to the public announcement calling for area bids on a federally funded Every area in the State of Illinois should be given an opportunity, if it chooses, to bid on federally funded projects. The VAC voted to proceed with the project in hopes of the possibility of the Illinois Valley receiving a National Veterans Cemetery.

The Superintendent then discussed veteran preference in hiring in the State of Illinois. He stated that the only proclamation requiring 50% hire of eligible veterans when 2 or more job openings appear is with the Executive Departments that are regulated or controlled by the Executive branch of government. There has been no proclamation concerning this issue with the Legislative or Judiciary branches of government. The argument presented in Springfield is that the Governor's Executive Departments had only hired 22% last year as opposed to the 50% proclamation. In the since of fair play, I submit to you that if

the Legislative and Judiciary Departments would have hired 22%, then the veterans populous would have realized 66% hired. On the federal level we have no percentage requirements pertaining to veterans preference in public works jobs. For years I have argued that we should have a percentage, as do minorities and females. At least with a percentage we would be assured of a qualified veteran being hired. Even with as low as a 20% figure with a 100 jobs we would be assured 20 of our qualified veterans would be employed. As it currently stands out of 100 jobs the employer could justify no veterans hired. I further submit to you that President George Bush has recently signed into law that handicapped individuals cannot be denied employment. This is an attempt to prevent employers from discriminating against the physically handicapped of our nation.

We then went through our budget approvals for the fiscal year 1990. A motion was made by Ralph Adler, seconded by Bob Anderson, to accept the prepared budget of the VAC. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mike Shelton, seconded by Carl Kirar, that we adjourn.

#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235; Al Stozewski, American Legion Post 426; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Sam Maggio, Marine Corp League; Robert Anderson, American Legion Post 33; Carl Kirar, St. Mary's Catholic War Veterans Post 883; and Michael Shelton, Nam Vets

Alternates Bob Renz, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229 and John Sadowski, St. Mary's Catholic War Veterans Post 883

Chairman John R. Cawley and Superintendent Martin Rue

Saturday, August 26, 1989 35 Cents

# cemetery eyed

### LaSalle County chances slim

By Wendy M. Koch

By Wendy M. Koch
Times-Press Bureau
WASHINGTON — La Salle County's plan to win a national veterans cemetery may be dead on arrival.

on arrival.

The county lags behind other Illinois communities in bidding for a national cemetery for military veterans, officials say. A

veterans, officials say. A cemetery would bring jobs and federal money.
"I know it's an uphill battle," says Martin Rue, chairman of the county's Veterans Assistance Commission. "They (other areas) are pushing hard, We'll be behind."

In the next six months, Bus cause.

In the next six months, Rue says he and local veterans will be puting together a proposal to locate a mational cemetery in the county. But the proposal may be too

late.

Last September, the Department of Veterans Affairs asked communities within 50 miles of central Will County to submit bids for a Chicago-area cemetery. October was the deadline for sending

Rue says the county missed the Rue says the county missed me deadline, because no one knew about the bidding process. "For some reason, this area was overlooked," he says annoyed. According to a VA news release last year, La Salle was one of 13 eligible counties." ble counties.

The department has already winnowed the field to six sites, says VA spokeswoman Josephine Schuda. Schuda would not release

Please see Cemetery Page 9

### **Lemetery**

Continued from Page 1 the names, but acknowledged that the Fort Sheridan military base scheduled for closure is a leading contender.

For La Salle County to jump into

the contest now, "it doesn't look likely," says Schuda. The VA operates 112 cemeteries nationwide for veterans and their spouses. But 45 are already filled to capacity, and new demand is expected with the aging popula-tion of World War II veterans.

As a result, Congress identified As a result, Congress technical four metropolitan areas as having particular need: Chicago, Cleveland, Seattle-Tacoma, Wash., and Albany, N.Y. It appropriated \$250,000 for an environmental study of possible sites in cosh

in each area.
- Schuda says VA Secretary Edward Derwinski will soon decide which of the six Chicago area sites will be chosen for the study. The study itself will take about a year, with the entire process taking four the study. to six years, says Schuda. Firstphase construction of a cemetery
would cost about \$8 million.
Even if a site is studied, Schuda
says there is no quarantee it or

any others in the area will get funds; But if a cemetery is built in Illinois, she says it most likely will

be in the Chicago area.

Derwinski, a former congressman from a south Chicago suburb, "is very interested per-sonally in having a cemetery in the Chicago-area," according to

Schuda.
Rue says the possible sites probably include Fort Sheridan near Lake Forest, the Joliet Army Ammunition Plant, the Chanute Air Force Base at Rantoul, and the Manters center.

Manteno center.

Schuda says the VA is asking the Army to transfer 162 acres on Fort Sheridan to the department. If the land comes through, with possibly more later, Schuda says the base would be "a good possible choice." The VA is looking ideally in the later is the second possible choice." The Second possible choice. for a site 265 to 320 acres.

tor a site 255 to 320 acres.
Rue says he still plans to go ahead with a propopsal. If Fort Sheridan is not closed, as is planned, he says the situation could the says the says the situation could the says the says

ed, he says the situation could change.
"I never give up," says Rue, who pushed locally for the La Salle Veterans Nursing Facility now going up in La Salle. "Time will tell Don't count us out yet."
Rue says he will see Derwinski next month and will tell him "there's more to Illinois than just the border." He says La Salle County deserves a cemetery, because it is centrally located in the state, receives few federal the state, receives few federal funds and has relatively high

unemployment.
The closest VA national cemeteries to the Chicago area that still have room for burial are in Danville, Ill., and Milwaukee.
The proposed cemetery would be the seventh in the state but the

first in Northeast Illinois. The other six are in Alton, Camp Butler at Springfield, Danville, Mound City, Quincy and Rock

August 31, 1989

Robert W. & Mary Reynolds Route #1 Marseilles, IL 61341

Martin Rue LaSalle County V.A. Officer Downtown Courthouse Ottawa, IL 61350

Dear Mr. Rue:

My wife and I are writing to thank you for looking into heart transplant proceedures at my son's request. We believe that you have done us a lot of good as this information on heart transplants was inquired into not only by you but also by Senator Simon's Office. I feel that not only I but probably you and Senator Simon gained some information on heart transplant proceedure through all of this. I feel that it let V.A. Hospitals realize that not only the patient but others are interested in this proceedure and this may help promote more transplants in the V.A. system.

Thank you, again, for going out of your way as much as you did. I realize that you looked into other offices and dug into other places on my behalf. Thanks for the job well done.

Sincerely,

RWR/klr

Robert W. & Mary Reynolds

Veterans Assistance Commission minutes from August 9, 1989.

Meeting was opened by Chairman Cawley in due form. Roll call of officers was taken, all officers were present. Minutes of previous meeting were read. Al Strozewski made motion, seconded by Bob Anderson, to accept minutes as read. Motion passed.

New Business: A lengthy discussion involving the lack of activity by numerous veterans post in the Illinois Valley pertaining to attendance of the Concerned Veterans meeting. Commission delegates present requested that the VAC office send a letter to all veterans post informing them of the Concerned Veterans meeting on 8/31/89 at the Ottawa American Legion Hall. We should submit an agenda and ask for their participation.

We then discussed the possibility of making application for a National or State Veterans Cemetery. Superintendent Rue advised the Commission that the federal Department of Veterans Affairs office was looking to place a National Cemetery in the State of Illinois. He further informed the Commission that he felt that a former Congressman of a South Chicago suburb by the name of Edward Derwinski is probably interested in locating such a site in the Chicago area. Our Superintendent stated that he had first heard of Washington's desire to locate a National Veterans Cemetery in the State of Illinois the latter part of June of He found it strange that these bids had to be It is understood state wide that Fort Sheridan October of 1988. and Chenute Air Force Base are not scheduled for closing until Attorney General Hartigan has also stated that his office would proceed with litigation in an attempt to prevent the closing of these bases in the State of Illinois. With the previous mentioned premiss, our Superintendent cannot understand how Fort Sheridan could be the top contender for the National Veterans Cemetery when it will be approximately three years before Washington will even know if the land will be available. He further finds it hard to understand how Washington could insist that the bids had to be closed eight months prior to the public announcement calling for area bids on a federally funded Every area in the State of Illinois should be given an opportunity, if it chooses, to bid on federally funded projects. The VAC voted to proceed with the project in hopes of the possibility of the Illinois Valley receiving a National Veterans Cemetery.

The Superintendent then discussed veteran preference in hiring in the State of Illinois. He stated that the only proclamation requiring 50% hire of eligible veterans when 2 or more job openings appear is with the Executive Departments that are regulated or controlled by the Executive branch of government. There has been no proclamation concerning this issue with the Legislative or Judiciary branches of government. The argument presented in Springfield is that the Governor's Executive Departments had only hired 22% last year as opposed to the 50% proclamation. In the since of fair play, I submit to you that if

the Legislative and Judiciary Departments would have hired 22%, then the veterans populous would have realized 66% hired. On the federal level we have no percentage requirements pertaining to veterans preference in public works jobs. For years I have argued that we should have a percentage, as do minorities and females. At least with a percentage we would be assured of a qualified veteran being hired. Even with as low as a 20% figure with a 100 jobs we would be assured 20 of our qualified veterans would be employed. As it currently stands out of 100 jobs the employer could justify no veterans hired. I further submit to you that President George Bush has recently signed into law that handicapped individuals cannot be denied employment. This is an attempt to prevent employers from discriminating against the physically handicapped of our nation.

We then went through our budget approvals for the fiscal year 1990. A motion was made by Ralph Adler, seconded by Bob Anderson, to accept the prepared budget of the VAC. Motion passed unanimously.

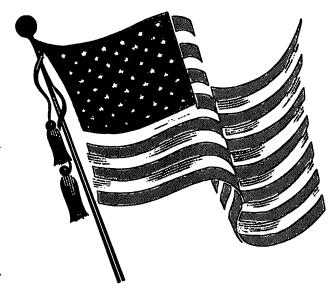
Motion by Mike Shelton, seconded by Carl Kirar, that we adjourn.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235; Al Stozewski, American Legion Post 426; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Sam Maggio, Marine Corp League; Robert Anderson, American Legion Post 33; Carl Kirar, St. Mary's Catholic War Veterans Post 883; and Michael Shelton, Nam Vets

Alternates Bob Renz, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229 and John Sadowski, St. Mary's Catholic War Veterans Post 883

Chairman John R. Cawley and Superintendent Martin Rue



I am your Flag

I was born on June 14th, 1777.

I am more than just cloth shaped into a design.

I am the refuge of the World's oppressed people.

I am the silent sentinel of Freedom.

I am the emblem of the greatest sovereign nation on earth.

I am the inspiration for which American Patriots gave their lives and fortunes.

I have led your sons into battle from Valley Forge to the bloody swamps of Viet Nam.

I walk in silence with each of your Honored Dead, to their final resting place beneath the silent White Crosses, row upon row.

I have flown through Peace and War, Strife and Prosperity, and amidst it all I have been respected.

My Red Stripes . . . symbolize the blood spilled in defense of this glorious nation.

My White Stripes . . . signify the burning tears shed by Americans who lost their sons.

My Blue Field . . . is indicative of God's heaven under which I fly.

My Stars . . . clustered together, unify 50 States as one, for God and Country.

"Old Glory" is my nickname, and proudly I wave on high.

Honor me, respect me, defend me with your lives and your fortunes.

Never let my enemies tear me down from my lofty position, lest I never return.

Keep alight the fires of patriotism, strive earnestly for the spirit of democracy.

Worship Eternal God and keep His commandments, and I shall remain the bulwark of peace and freedom for all mankind.

I am your Flag.

Compliments of:

The Illinois Army National Guard Recruiting Command

NEW VETERAN'S FACILITY - LASALLE COUNTY - LASALLE, ILLINOIS

**Bid Opening:** 

April 19, 1989, 1:30 p.m., Chicago (Mechanical) April 26, 1989, 1:30 p.m., Chicago (General)

Construct New Building CDB No. 040-050-001

MBE/FBE Targeted

Type of Work:

General - Under \$3,500,000
 Plumbing - Under \$400,000
 Heating - Under \$500,000

Ventilation - Under \$400,000
 Electrical - Under \$500,000
 Sprinkler - Under \$100,000

Plans Available From:

Heard & Associates, Ltd. 332 South Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60604 312-786-0770

Plan Deposit:

\$150.00

CDB Project Manager:

Lloyd Holldorf, 312-917-6000

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FACE

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### ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

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PAGE 1 OF 2

Veterans Assistance Commission minutes from the March 8. 1989 meeting.

Chairman Cawley opened the 3/8/89 meeting in due form. Roll call of officers was taken. All officers were present or accounted for.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Motion by Robert Anderson, seconded by Mike Gaynor, to accept the minutes as corrected. Add to the minutes that Vietnow has contracted a firm to solicit area donations which will benefit Vietnam Veteran Programs. A firm keeps 85% of the contributions and 15% goes to Vietnow. We strongly recommend telling the area businesses not to contribute. Motion passed.

We are still looking for a post to sponsor a fund raiser campaign so that Ottawa Nam Vets can put on a POW/MIA Symposium. Ron Cummings would be happy to chair this project. We must raise approximately \$2,000. Ron further stated that at the April VAC meeting he will bring declassified documents from the CIA pertaining to MIAs. He said there have been live sightings of American Veterans still being held hostage from the Korean War.

The Superintendent discussed a proposed Medical Intergovernmental Agreement between the Township Supervisors, LaSalle County Board, and our Veterans Assistance Commission Office. He informed us of the present status of the litigation between Osage Township and a LaSalle County Veteran. Should this case continue, a decision would rendered by the Court which will stipulate who is obligated to administer total General Assistance to a War Era Veteran. Because they are War Era Veterans, we have set our Standard Payment Schedule aside in order not to be a detriment to our people. I personally feel we are not only War Era Veterans, we are also a citizen of the United States of America. It appears many of our politicians do not feel this way.

It was announced that another rally would be held on Sunday. March 12, 1989 at the Chicago Art Institute. They are requesting bodies of concerned people. Let's remember that our Flag represents all citizens of the United States, not just veterans. We are also awaiting for the petitions to get back in requesting that Scott Tyler be expelled and Judge Tillis be removed from the bench. Get those in as soon as possible.

A motion was made by Carl Kirar, seconded by Mike Gaynor, that the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission Superintendent sign the Intergovernmental Agreements for medical expenditures as they come in. Motion passed.

Motion by Robert Anderson, seconded by Mike Shelton, that we adjourn. Motion passed.

### Members present:

Delegates Al Strozewski, Post 426; Joe Twaszek, Post 1229; Mike Gaynor, Post 729; Sam Masgio, Marine Corp League; Ed Wroblewski, Post 8232; Carl Kirar, Post 883; Mike Shelton, Nam Vets; Robert Anderson, Post 33; and Lenard Laws, Amvets.

Alternates Ron Cummings, Mam Vets; James Cappellini, Post 235; and John Sadowski, Post 883

Chairman John Cawley and Superintendent Martin Rue

We have State and Federal Laws covering veteran protection right for employment. These laws also direct corporations to hire veterans on jobs, if they are qualified, that are totally State or Federally These jobs are considered public works and funded. the State or Federal Government pays the contractors the prevailing wage governed by Federal Statute. We in LaSalle County have two such jobs. One is funded from the Federal Super Fund for toxic cleanup and the other is funded from the Federal Housing Department which governs construction of low to moderate income senior citizen housing. The sad thing is even though hundreds of millions of Federal dollars are being spent on such projects, no people from the State of Illinois are being hired. Practically all people hired are from out or state. In an area such as ours where unemployment is running about 15%, this practice is inexcusable. Another thing we must remember is about 60% of our union labor forces are veterans. Veterans are supposedly a priority group for hiring. It does no good to allege that our Congressional delegates from Illinois are bringing in hundreds of millions of dollars in public works if it is being pocketed by out of state contractors or out of state employees. Our State of Illinois Veterans need employment also.

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It is our obligation to write our Federal Representatives and Senators and insist that our people in this State be hired. Those are our Federal tax dollars coming back to the State of Illinois and should be used to hire our qualified veterans. Of the fifty States in the United States of America, we receive far less than our fair share of returned Federal Tax dollars. We should demand our fair share in accordance to our population. Our people deserve to work also.

Sincerely yours,

Martin J. Rue, Supt

VAC of LaSalle County

Commander and Comrades

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In fact, there are Federal and State Laws that command the manner in which she may be displayed. Violation of those laws is a criminal offense. Those violators should be dealt with in an expedient manner. The courts have no right to protect those who choose to violate and victimize our people, our nation, our Flag. We must now put up or shut up. This is not the 1960's. We are back whether you like it or not. We must protect our national "Emblem" at all cost. Talk will not prevent desecration. Action will once again free her so she can proudly wave, expressing her joy for our freedoms. Always remember, "One Country, One Flag, One Language", and if necessary, I will fight for those principles. \

In conclusion, I leave you with this:

"My Red Stripes...symbolize the blood spilled in defense of this glorious nation.

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My White Stripes...signify the burning tears shed by Americans who lost their sons.

My Blue Stripes...is indicative of God's heaven under which I fly.

My Stars...clustered together, unify 50 States as one, for God and Country.

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I am your Flag.

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I would now like to discuss the continuation of loss of medical entitlements through the VA due to the 1988 fiscal year budget shortfalls. I must state that there has been no improvement. In fact, the situation has greatly worsened. Our comrades are being denied inpatient and outpatient care for a sundry of reasons. Some of those reasons are as follows:

- 1.6 This VA facility is not located in the veterans region of residence, you must go to the VA facility in your catch basin.
- We no longer provide maintenance of care. It is your responsibility to pay for all your medication, even if you are a pension veteran, as long as your condition is determined to be chronic, but stable. The Means Test has no relevance as to whether or not you can afford to continue maintenance of care. It is the obligation of your personal physician to provide your \$700 worth of medication per month.
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#### NATIONAL VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION COMMISSION

1608 K STREET, N.W. ★ WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006

For God and Country

W. F. LENKER, Chairman

JOHN F. SOMMER, JR., Director

No. 6-89 (26-3)

March 2, 1989

STATEMENT OF JOHN F. SOMMER, JR., DIRECTOR
NATIONAL VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION COMMISSION
THE AMERICAN LEGION
BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS
UNITED STATES SENATE
MARCH 1, 1989

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

The American Legion thanks the Committee for this opportunity to offer comment on the President's nomination of Edward J. Derwinski to be the first Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

At the outset, Mr. Chairman, may we say that the achievement of the historic legislation - the Department of Veterans Affairs Act - which will elevate the Veterans Administration to the fourteenth Cabinet-level department in the Federal Government, effective March 15, was an American Legion objective for over two decades. Therefore, we look forward with a great deal of pride and anticipation to the transition of the agency from one of independent status to a full-fledged Executive Department.

Historically, The American Legion, as governed by its Congressionally-approved charter and its Constitution and By-Laws, has been and continues to be a non-political and non-partisan organization. As such, it has consistently refrained from endorsing candidates for public office.

At the same time we must say that it has also been the consistent policy of the Legion that the President of the United States has and should have, the prerogative of appointing officers of government in whom he has confidence. That is certainly true in the case of the Secretary, and on that basis, we formally state to the Committee that The American Legion has no objection to the appointment of Mr. Derwinski to be Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Having set forth those parameters, we should now like to briefly state what The American Legion expects of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. While we do not endorse candidates for Federal office, we do, as the nation's largest and fastest growing veterans organization, reserve the right to express our judgment on how well the individual in that position serves the needs of America's veterans and their dependents and survivors.

It is important that the Secretary be a veteran who has experienced military

service during wartime. Only then can be understand the needs and requirements of veterans.

It is our belief that three of the most significant attributes the nominee must bring to the office are understanding, compassion and administrative ability.

Veterans are men and women who have answered the call of the nation. They have dropped their own affairs to defend the national interest. Because veterans have performed this special service to the nation, we submit they are entitled to special consideration by the Government and the people they served.

So, for us who are veterans, we expect the Secretary to articulate our thoughts and feelings, our just needs, and our problems, in the highest councils of government. He must be a spokesman for veterans and an advocate for legitimate veterans programs.

Mr. Chairman, as it considers this nomination of the President, this Committee, in our judgment, must proceed with the knowledge that the Veterans Administration today is an agency replete with problems. The Secretary must be expected to address himself to these problems as soon as he is confirmed in office.

Suffice it to say that the single most critical concern that exists within the Agency today in our opinion, is the combination of inadequate funding, personnel shortages and management problems within the Department of Medicine and Surgery.

In early September, we advised the Committee that we were aware of serious budgetary shortfalls at <u>many</u> VA medical centers. Today, we can honestly say that it appears there are serious problems at <u>every</u> medical care facility - and they are getting worse.

As we stated at that time - prior to the commencement of the current fiscal year - the funding shortfall for the Department for FY 1989 may reach as high as \$1 billion, and unless a supplemental appropriation is provided even more draconian actions will be taken throughout the medical care system to reduce spending.

A myriad of factors are responsible for the current fiscal crisis, one of the most ominous being decremental budgeting over the past several years. Other elements contributing to the totally inadequate medical care funding are dollars withdrawn for the one percent productivity incentive, workload reductions, Gramm-Rudman-Hollings reductions, as well as escalating costs for drugs, supplies and medical technologies. Numerous times new programs have been legislated without the necessary funding, which has forced medical center directors to divert funds earmarked for equipment and non-recurring maintenance accounts, among others, to help save medical care programs and to support personnel salary costs. We just recently learned that new activation funds, which had been reduced already because of the lack of a supplemental appropriation, have been shifted to personnel accounts to hire additional medical care staff and pay existing salaries. This has delayed the opening of facilities that were scheduled for this fiscal year.

The American Legion is currently analyzing the findings of a survey of medical center directors, wherein we requested some pertinent information relating to funding and staffing issues at the individual facilities. As soon as that data is developed we will

share it with this Committee for its use in the budget deliberations for FY 1990, and, we trust, a supplemental appropriation for the current fiscal year.

We are aware, in general, that many nonservice-connected veterans are losing eligibility for medical care, the availability of prescription drugs is being greatly reduced, drastic reductions in the provision of contract community nursing home care are being reported by a majority of medical centers, and the list goes on and on. Mr. Chairman, as mentioned a moment ago, we will be pleased to share the results of our survey with you and the Committee, and will do so in the near future.

There are also other problems that need to be addressed in an open and objective manner. The Federal Government has not met its responsibility to Vietnam veterans and their families in attempting to determine the long-term health effects of Agent Orange on those who were exposed to it. The Veterans Administration – soon to be the Department of Veterans Affairs – should have taken a lead role in this subject when it first became an issue in the mid-1970s. However, it did not. Now that the Centers for Disease Control has arbitrarily declared this a dead issue, the Veterans Administration has apparently agreed with them and decided to do nothing.

The American Legion's position on this important subject is that the United States Armed Forces used the defoliant in Vietnam, therefore it is now the responsibility of the Federal Government to use all resources available to determine the effects of Agent Orange on those Vietnam veterans who were exposed to it, and to adequately compensate those who are determined to be suffering diseases or disabilities relating thereto. The study was mandated by PL 96-151 in 1979. It has yet to be carried out.

Additional problems continue to exist in the treatment and diagnosis of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder within the Veterans Administration. There is a need for improvements to be made in the availability of treatment in VA medical centers, particularly for veterans with severe cases of PTSD. The Chief Medical Director's Special Committee on PTSD has made some recommendations in this area that should be thoroughly reviewed. Recently completed research in the area of PTSD should also receive significant attention by the Agency.

These are genuine problems that should receive the attention of the new Secretary. Unfortunately to a large degree they have been neglected.

As we have mentioned in previous presentations before this Committee, the cost of war does not end when the shooting stops.

The amount of money spent on veterans benefits and medical care today is a declining percentage of total Federal expenditures. It is most certainly a debt of honor, and is money well spent. The compassion and concern that has historically been manifested by the American people as a whole toward this nation's returning warriors is one major reason why its young men and women respond when they are called to national service. This has served the United States well for more than 200 years and through numerous wars and campaigns. It represents an unwritten pact between the Government and the people which is the lifeblood of the continued existence of this nation.

The American Legion looks forward to working with the new Secretary. We pledge to him the cooperation and assistance of this organization, as we have to his

predecessors, so long as the agency is doing everything possible to work toward the good of America's veterans.

In meeting the obligations included in the mandates approved by its policy-making bodies, and encompassed in the Charter granted by the Congress in 1919, The American Legion will continue its mission of ensuring service to our veterans, and their dependents and survivors.

Once again Mr. Chairman, we thank you and the Members of the Committee for this opportunity to present our views.

#### 

We thank the Committee for this opportunity to offer comment on the President's nomination of Edward J. Derwinski to be the first Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Historically, The American Legion, has been and continues to be a non-political and non-partisan organization. As such, it has consistently refrained from endorsing candidates for public office.

Having said that, we must also say that it has been the consistent policy of the Legion that the President of the United States has and should have, the prerogative of appointing officers of government in whom he has confidence. That is certainly true in the case of the Secretary, and on that basis we formally state to the Committee that The American Legion has no objection to the appointment of Mr. Derwinski to be the first Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

We had the opportunity of having Mr. Derwinski address the Conferees of the 66th National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Conference this week, and we were pleased to hear several things that he had to say. As he said earlier today, he stated that his philosophy is to maximize cooperation and coordination with the veterans organizations.

He mentioned the problems in medical care funding and we are aware that he had expressed the need for a supplemental appropriation for medical care and general operating expenses for FY 1989 – and an amendment in the FY 1990 proposals in both these areas early last month. The American Legion applauds this as a step in the right direction.

The medical care funding shortfall is one of the genuine problems that will face the new Secretary, and require his immediate attention. Unfortunately, to a large degree they have been neglected, and now require drastic action. As we have mentioned in previous presentations before this Committee, the cost of war does not end when the shooting stops.

The American Legion looks forward to working with the new Secretary. We pledge to him our cooperation and assistance, so long as he and the agency are doing everything possible to work toward the good of America's veterans.

We also look forward with a great sense of pride to the transition from the Veterans Administration to Department of Veterans Affairs.

The achievement of this historic legislation has been a goal of The American Legion for over two decades.

To reiterate what our National Commander H.F. "Sparky" Gierke said in response to Mr. Derwinski's remarks to our Conference earlier this week, The American Legion's position is that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs should carry the water for America's veterans – as opposed to carrying the water for the Office of Management and Budget.

To that end, what we have heard here today from Mr. Derwinski is refreshing.

Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of February 8, 1989.

Chairman John Cawley opened meeting in due form. Roll call of officers taken, all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Motion by John Sadowski, seconded by Sam Maggio, that minutes be accepted as read.

Our Superintendent discussed the meeting January 17, 1989 with Congressmen Hastert pertaining to Haztech, Inc. It is our understanding that the Attorney General's Office was investigating the violations of state laws pertaining to this site. It was also mentioned that a public meeting with Representatives Breslin and Mautino and Senator Welch took place on 1/18/89. It is important that our legislature become actively involved in this legislation.

Our Superintendent again mentioned that the NamVets would be willing to sponsor an MIA/POW symposium if they could find \$2,000 to pay for costs of transportation and expenses of the invited speakers. Any veterans organizations wishing to chair this project is welcomed.

We were then informed that the States Attorney's Office had requested to see one of our clients files. They wanted to know the financial payment our office has made per month to this individual through General Assistance. Motion by Ralph Adler, seconded by Ed Wroblewski, that the only way our Superintendent will provide information to any agency pertaining to our indigent war era veterans will be if that agency fills out the proper request for information forms. Our war era veterans are entitled to confidentiality and we should protect their privacy. Motion passed unanimously.

We were then told about the countless denials from VA health care facilities by our veterans. Due to the VA budget shortfalls, our comrades are being denied inpatient as well as outpatient entitlements. increase as the months go on unless only Congress appropriates additional funding. providing the needed shortfalls they will be saving the federal government thousands of dollars and will losing hundreds of veterans due to premature deaths. It is up to our people to insist that human rights begin at home. It is inhumane, callous, and sadistic to make our aged veterans die in the street in order to prove that there is a shortage in VA funding. Contact

representatives and tell them of your anger at this treatment.

We then discussed the rededication hoax of our Illinois Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The monument is hallow ground and has already been dedicated in memory of our living and dead. There is no sane reason why it should be rededicated a year latter. We must never use our memorials for anything other than to pay tribute to those for whom it was meant to honor. Let us remember this from this day forth.

Motion by Carl Kirar, seconded by Ed Wroblewski, to adjourn.

#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates Tony Karczewski, Amvets Post 78; Nick Pacetti, Post 4668; Sam Maggio, Marine Corp League; Mike Shelton, Nam Vets; Carl Kirar, Post 883; Ed Wroblewski, Post 8232; John Cawley, Post 237; and Ralph Adler, Post 235

Alternates John Sadowski, Post 883: Lenord Laws, Post 78; and James Cappellini, Post 235

Chairman John R. Cawley and Superintendent Martin Rue



WALTER W. DUDYCZ (R)
Senator

#### 71h LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

5946 W. Lawrence Ave. Chicago, IL 60630 (312) 777-0077



ROBERT M. RAICA (R) Senator

#### 24th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

5550 S. Archer St. Chicago, IL 60638

(312) 585-2349

# Veterans lose suit to alter flag display

By William Recktenwald, and Charles Mount

A Cook County Circuit Court judge refused Thursday to order the School of the Art Institute of Chicago to alter a controversial work to prevent anyone from stepping on a United States flag spread on the floor.

Judge Kenneth Gillis acted in response to a lawsuit filed Wednesday by several veterans groups charging that the school allowed the flag, part of a work by a self-proclaimed communist student, to be desecrated by permitting viewers to stand on it.

The judge ruled that the school had not violated state and federal criminal laws that prohibit placing marks on the flag or mutilating, defacing or trampling it.

"Placing the flag on the floor is not mutilating, defacing or trampling it," the judge said.

"It seems to me that this country is large enough to permit this expression," Gillis said. "Expression is part of the equation that makes this country strong."

Gillis' ruling, however, was not the end of the controversy because:

- Christopher Hoggard, 24, who identified himself as a student at the school, said that so many student-visitors to the exhibit have stood on the flag that it is now smeared with grime.
- A lawyer for the veterans groups said he will not appeal Gillis' ruling, but will ask the state's attorney's office and U.S.

attorney's office to consider filing criminal complaints against those who stand on the flag.

In Springfield, State Senators Walter Dudycz and Robert Raica, both Chicago Republicans, introduced a resolution urging the school to remove the exhibit and asking the Illinois Arts Council to defer any funding to the school until the issue is resolved.

others who have objected to the display do not dispute an artist's right to free expression, but do object to the exhibit's implicit encouragement of desecration of the flag in violation of state and federal laws." Dudycz said.

federal laws," Dudycz said.

Meanwhile, Scott Tyler, the student artist who assembled the work, said "I am a revolutionary and a supporter of the Revolutionary Communist Party of the USA." He referred all other questions to his lawyer.

The display, part of a show that exhibits the work of 66 minority students, has been closed to the public though staff members and the school's 1,700 students may view it.

The school, at Columbus Drive and Jackson Boulevard adjacent to the Art Institute, remained under tight security.

At a rally Thursday some students demanded that the exhibit be reopened to public view.

The controversy is reminiscent of the uproar last May when a group of black aldermen, accompanied by police officers, stormed into the school to re-

See Flag, pg. 8

Chicagos Withhur 3/2/89

## Flag

Continued from page I

move a student's art work that depicted the late Mayor Harold Washington wearing women's underclothing.

The exhibit is constructed so that the title, "What Is the Proper Way to Display a U.S. Flag?" appears on the gallery wall. Below the title is a photo depicting images of the flag. Below the photograph is a book on a shelf.

On the floor, directly beneath the shelf is the United States flag extended outward toward the viewer, who is invited to write his thoughts in the book.

The veterans groups contend, and school officials deny, that it is impossible for anyone—except for those with very long legs—to write in the book without walking or standing on the fiag.

The exhibition of student works opened Feb. 17, but was closed to the public last Friday after the controversy arose. Peter Brown, school vice president, said the exhibit will remain closed to all but students and staff members.

"We are sad, but this is why we have courts," veterans' lawyers Joseph A. Morris said.

"We think the judge's decision ignored the fact that desecration has already occurred."

A tearful Thomas Stack, a member of the Windy City Veterans Association, one of the plaintiffs, said, "We urge all citizens to express their views to the Art Institute. This decision is painful. It is insensitive to pain in the hearts of veterans. The flag is a symbol of liberty and justice. It's sacred. Desecration should not be allowed."

Morris had emphasized in court that the veterans were opposed to the school's failure to keep viewers from stepping on the flag.

At the school, some students called for reopening the exhibition to the public. Others said that such a move would be dangerous because of threats against

the flag exhibit.

"Based on the right of freedom of expression, we demand that each piece be exhibited in its original form and demand that the show be open to public view," said Luis Browne, a student who addressed a rally of about 300 outside the school. Several students said they disapproved of the work, but defended the artist's right to display it.

Some students carried signs such as "Sad—but legal" and "Don't step on freedom."

"I don't think it should be open to the public," said student Roy Wright. "It could attract the wrong element, and it might be dangerous."



State Sen. Watter Dudycz (R., Chicago) talks to demon- Dudycz entered the riuseum with others and took a flag strators Sunday in front of the Art Institute of Chicago. displayed on the floor and put it on a wooden pole. A CONTRACT OF THE PROPERTY OF

Rally round the flag

More than 2,500 marchers, including politicians and veterans, rally Sunday at the Art Institute of Chicago to protest a controversial exhibit of an American flag. Story, Page 3.

# 2,500 rally against flag exhibit

## Vrdolyak, state senators join veterans groups at Art Institute

By William Recktenwald 3

More than 2,500 mostly peaceful demonstrators marched Sunday in opposition to a display in the School of the Art Institute of Chicago that includes a U.S. flag lying on the floor.

Two people were arrested on charges of disorderly conduct during the demonstra-

tion, police said.

Meanwhile, Republican mayoral candidate Edward Vrdolyak became the latest politician to interject himself into the swirling controversy, calling for a boycott of all companies that contribute to the Art Institute.

Officials of the school and institute were not available for comment about the proposed boycott

As Vrdolyak made his appearance, chants of "Eddiel Eddiel Eddiel" were quickly drowned out by other people

chanting, "One, two, three, four, get the flag up off the floor!"

The demonstrators, including representatives of a variety of veterans groups, braved windchills of minus-6 as they recited the Pledge of Allegiance and sang the National Anthem and "God Bless America," then listened to speakers denounce the institute and its administra-

"We are absolutely outraged by the insensitivity of the Art Institute," said Thomas Stack of the Windy City Veterans Association.

The controverial flag exhibit is part of a show of work by 66 minority students in a small gallery adjacent to the institute. It consists of the words on the gallery wall that read "What is the proper way to display a U.S. Flag?" and below the title

is a photograph that depicts images of the on the floor. flag. Under the photograph is a book on

On the floor beneath the shelf is a clean

U.S. flag spread neatly.

On Thursday, Cook County Circuit Judge Kenneth Gillis refused a request from veterans groups to stop the school from showing the flag exhibit.

"Placing a flag on the floor is not mutilating, defacing or trampling it," the judge said. Federal and state law prohibit

defiling of the flag.

State Sen. Walter Dudycz (R., Chicago), who is a Vietnam veteran, read from the judge's opinion as he addressed the protesters, who filled the sidewalks and spilled out on to Michigan Avenue in front of the institute.

"I am here to respond to the invitation to react to the display," Dudycz said. He told the crowd that he would pick up the flag, attach it to a wooden pole and then place the pole in a white plastic bucket

filled with sand.

Dudycz, accompanied by State Sen. Robert Raica (R., Chicago) and National Guard Maj. George Gottlieb, of the 33d Infantry Brigade, who carried the sand and bucket, then lead the demonstrators around the block to the east entrance of the institute.

Security officers would not allow reporters to accompany the senators into the gallery, but when they emerged, they told reporters they had indeed placed the

flag on the pole.

A reporter who entered the gallery after Dudycz and Raica observed a woman removing staples and cutting two plastic fasteners that held the flag to the pole. The woman then carefully spread the flag

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Within seconds, two veterans, Ronald Guranovich, 41, and Jim Canup, 42, stooped and picked up the flag, carefully folded it and placed it on the shelf near the book, in which visitors are invited to write comments.

Canup and Guranovich stood by and per said that other veterans waiting in line would take turns to see that the flag was not placed on the floor again.

After a few minutes, security officers asked those in the gallery to leave so that II others could enter. Just then, Monty Horne, picked up the folded flag and announced that he planned to take it from the gallery and give it, to a National Guard officer outside.

Chicago police officers told Horne that if he tried to leave he would be arrested. He handed the folded flag to the officer and placed his hands behind his back, was handcuffed, then 'led 'away.' Horne was freed within a few minutes after police took his name.

The institute remained open until 5 p.m., but the gallery with the controversial exhibit closed at 3 p.m. "

"We'll just say it is for everyone's safety." said a security supervisor who would not give his name.

Just before 3 p.m., Dudycz returned to the gallery, and after conferring with police told reporters that he would seek a criminal charges against the woman who removed the flag from his pole.

Dudycz lest but vowed to return Monday at noon and continue to demonstrate daily until the display is removed. The Control of the Co

#### ELEVENTH DISTRICT AMERICANISM....

All of you are probably well aware of the situation that has occured at the Chicago Art Institute School of Art.

The American Legion has expressed its concerns about the display of the American Flag and the resulting indifference that the School has taken.

The American Legion Department of Illinois has started an effort to collect 250,000 letters of concern.

If you would please write a letter expressing your thoughts on this event it would be appreciated.

Address your letters to

American Legion Department of Illinois 343 S. Dearborn Chicago, Il. 60604

The Eleventh District Americanism Committee thanks you very much for your effort on behalf of our FLAG.

John R. Anderson Americanism Chairman

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For God and Country

**★ WASHINGTON OFFICE ★ 1608 "K" STREET, N.W. ★ WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006 ★** (202) 861-2700 \*

March 13, 1989 (21)

Department Service Officers/Rehabilitation MEMORANDUM TO:

Directors

Department Rehabilitation Chairmen

Members of the National Veterans Affairs and

Rehabilitation Commission

Title 38, United States Code SUBJECT:

This office has been advised that title 38, United States Code, has been revised to reflect legislation enacted during the 2nd Session of the 100th Congress, and the revised copies are now available.

They may be ordered through the Superintendent of Documents, Congressional Sales Office, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402, or through your local GPO Branch Office. The cost of the subscription which includes the revised title 38 and one change which is to be issued later in the year is \$23.00. The order number is 552-070-05549-5.

SOMMER, JR.

birector

National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission





#### NATIONAL VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION COMMISSION

1608 K STREET, N.W. ★ WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006

JOHN F. SOMMER. JR.

For God and Country

W. F. LENKER, Chairman

JOHN F. SOMMER, JR., Director

No. 9-89 (19-2)

March 22, 1989

#### SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP ARTICLE

The following message by National Commander H.F. "Sparky" Gierke, is part of the campaign to top 3 million members in The American Legion by the National Convention in Baltimore.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE THROUGH MEMBERSHIP

Director

by H.F. "Sparky" Gierke National Commander

The future of The American Legion's Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation programs relies on you and your fellow Legionnaires! The American Legion was founded to provide service to this nation's veterans and their families. This effort is the cornerstone that creates opportunities for countless other programs, each depending on a strong, growing membership. Without members in The American Legion our Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation programs could not exist.

It takes men and women like you to help make a difference in America. Together, as members of The American Legion, we touch the lives of millions of our nation's citizens every day. Our Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation programs assist veterans and their families throughout the nation. But without a strong membership these programs would not be in place to provide help and understanding to the veterans who need that help the most.

As you know, The American Legion is making a special membership push to reach three million members. During the last four years we have experienced growth in membership not seen since just after World War II. This growth is no accident. We have worked long and hard to increase our membership strength.

During my travels I have been asked, "Why is the three million membership goal so important?" The answer to that question is simple, yet at the same time, complex. Membership growth means different things to different people within The American Legion. To some, the numbers are important to indicate growth and longevity. To

others, membership means increased strength on Capitol Hill and in Statehouses across this great land. To still others, more members means stronger programs for our nation's veterans.

All of these reasons, or any others you may find for increasing membership strength, are good ones. We each have our own reasons for wanting The American Legion to reach the three million mark in membership. And each of us is justified for applying those reasons to our membership recruiting efforts.

Each of us holds in our hearts the true reason why membership in The American Legion is so important. Membership is important not just to The American Legion, but to each community, state and the nation.

The American Legion was founded on the principle of service. That service extends to our fellow veterans, to our fellow citizens and to each other. The American Legion, through its programs of service, touches the lives of millions of Americans each day, from the disabled veteran seeking assistance with a claim, to a child seeking relief from drug abuse, to a mother asking for help to feed and clothe her children. In every case, The American Legion is there to help.

Why? Because Legionnaires care about people. We care enough to have sacrificed time, energy, and even our lives, to support the greatest nation on earth. Our service goes beyond wearing a uniform and serving the nation in far away places. Our service continues today, as we work to make America a better place to live for future generations.

Now is the time to act. You are part of The American Legion family. By making that extra effort to bring other family members into The American Legion, you will make an impact beyond our Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation programs. Membership is the key to the success of The American Legion. You can make a difference.

If everyone recruited just one new member into The American Legion, our programs of service, and our Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation activities, would benefit greatly. The good we do now would grow, touching even more lives.

The reason for reaching our goal of three million members is simple. The strength we gain through increased membership will benefit all of The American Legion's programs of service to the community, state and nation.

You made The American Legion what it is today. Now, I'm asking you to help make it what it will be tomorrow by signing up just one new member between now and June 1. Let's join together in Baltimore and celebrate a victory for America's citizens. Let's make The American Legion's goal of three million members a reality.



For God and Country

**★ WASHINGTON OFFICE ★ 1608 "K" STREET, N.W. ★ WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006 ★**(202) 861-2700 **★** 

March 23, 1989 (19)

MEMORANDUM TO:

Department Service Officers/Rehabilitation Directors

Department Rehabilitation Chairmen

Members of the National Veterans Affairs and

Rehabilitation Commission National Cemetery Committee

SUBJECT:

An Invitation for Comment on the 1989 Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Conference and on the

Department Service Officers Seminar

An invitation is herewith extended to all those who participated in the 66th Annual National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Conference to offer comment and observations regarding the value and effectiveness of the Conference and the Department Service Officers Seminar.

Our continuing effort is to arrange both the Conference and the Seminar in a manner that is interesting and informative to the Conferees. All interested Legionnaires are included in this planning.

To ensure the best possible meetings, we need and solicit comment and suggestions. Constructive criticism will be accepted in the spirit in which it is offered. We hope to have the benefit of the thoughts of the Conferees while the recently concluded Conference and Seminar are fresh in their minds. This will enable us to begin preliminary planning for next year's meetings.

PHN F. SOMMER, JR.

Director

National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission





#### NATIONAL VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION COMMISSION

1608 K STREET, N.W. ★ WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006

For God and Country

W. F. LENKER, Chairman

JOHN F. SOMMER, JR., Director

No. 7-89 (26-4)

March 10, 1989

#### TESTIMONY ON FY 1990 VETERANS ADMINISTRATION BUDGET

Very little in the way of definitive information is available with respect to President Bush's proposed budget for the Veterans Administration for FY 1990. Therefore, the full statement presented to the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs prior to its hearing on the budget of March 6th is identical to that presented to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs for its hearing on February 9, 1989. The full text of that statement was included in Bulletin No. 4-89 (26-2), dated February 13, 1989.

The Summary remarks presented during the Senate Committee on Veterans

Affairs hearing of March 6 follow.

Director

SUMMARY OF STATEMENT OF JOHN F. SOMMER, JR., DIRECTOR NATIONAL VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION COMMISSION THE AMERICAN LEGION

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS **UNITED STATES SENATE** MARCH 6, 1989

The American Legion will limit its remarks to a couple of areas of major concern. Unfortunately, we have not seen much in the way of specific, definitive figures emanating from President Bush's FY 1990 budget which relate to the VA. As we have heard this afternoon from previous witnesses, we are not the only ones experiencing this problem.

Our concerns relating to the funding shortfall in the Department of Medicine and Surgery were reported to this Committee on September 9, and reiterated last week during Secretary Derwinski's confirmation hearing. I am sure that it is obvious to everyone here today that the problems have compounded since that time.

Our concern led us to initiate a survey of every VA medical center director on the impact of the funding shortfall and staffing problems that plague the medical care system.

Preliminary review of our findings reflects that over 80 percent of the medical centers have severely curtailed or eliminated medical care to Category B and C veterans and some nonservice-connected Category A veterans. Funds have been diverted from supply, maintenance and new facility activation accounts to personnel accounts so that health care personnel can receive a paycheck.

Upwards of 75% of resources earmarked for the contract nursing home program have been diverted to cover other operating expenses in the medical centers. There is deterioration of academic and research activities; beds are being closed, and there are delays in obtaining specialty clinic appointments, just to name a few. This only describes the current situation. In FY 1990 it will be even worse, unless definitive action is taken.

We will provide the Committee with the results of our survey as soon as they are completely compiled and analyzed.

The American Legion is extremely pleased that Secretary Derwinski has appealed to OMB for a supplemental appropriation for medical care of \$314 million and 1,539 FTEE for the current fiscal year - happy to hear will be coming forward - and an amendment to the FY 1990 proposal for an additional \$512 million and 5,093 medical employees. Although this amount is not sufficient to cover the total problem, it is a step in the right direction.

We also appreciate the fact that you, Senator Cranston, and other members of this Committee were among those who met with Mr. Darman, Director of OMB, to illustrate the dire need for a supplemental. National Commander H.F. "Sparky" Gierke wrote to President Bush on February 13th, requesting his support in directing OMB to submit an FY 1989 supplemental request to Congress.

Another major concern of The American Legion is the current staffing situation in the Department of Veterans Benefits, and the proposed reduction in FY 1990 of 550 FTEE. This Committee is aware of our concerns about the effect that persistent personnel losses is having on the quality and timeliness of claims development and processing. The situation continues to deteriorate, and unless a supplemental appropriation is passed, in the neighborhood of \$20 million in the GOE account, it will get even worse. We urge the Committee to closely examine this critical situation.

In closing, there are a number of extremely critical budgetary decisions that must be made if the VA – soon to become the Department of Veterans Affairs – is to be able to adequately serve this nation's veterans. We trust that this Committee will be influential in deliberating this important issue.



**★ WASHINGTON OFFICE ★ 1608 "K" STREET, N.W. ★ WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006 ★** (202) 861-2700 **★** 

March 2, 1989 (9)

MEMORANDUM TO: Department Service Officers/Rehabilitation Directors

Department Rehabilitation Chairmen

Members of the National Veterans Affairs and

Rehabilitation Commission

SUBJECT: Update on Government Life Insurance

During 1989 and 1990, there will be a number of major changes to several of the government life insurance programs that will be of interest to veteran policyholders. The following is a discussion of these changes.

#### Premium Discount Increase

A provision of PL 100-687 authorizes an increase in the discount rate for the advance payment of premiums for the various government life insurance programs. Currently, the discount applied to advance premium payments has ranged from 2.5% to 3.5%. The VA will initially increase the discount rate to 7.5%. The basis for this increase is that all premiums, including those paid in advance, are primarily invested by the VA in U.S. Treasury securities which are producing an average yield of 9.64%. Furthermore, it is projected that the average yield on the VA's trust fund portfolio will remain at this rate or higher for at least the next eight years. Future adjustments to the discount rate will be made according to trust fund earnings. The current discount rates will be retained as guaranteed minimums.

This change will benefit policyholders by reducing their premiums and will also provide savings to the government, since the number of premium payments processed by the VA is expected to decline as more policyholders elect to pay premiums quarterly, semi-annually, or annually, rather than monthly, in order to take advantage of the discount. It will go into effect in Fiscal Year 1990.

#### Interest on Delayed Settlements

PL 100-687 also contains a provision which grants the Administrator the authority to pay interest on insurance settlements from the date of death (or date of maturity for endowment policies) to the date of payment to the beneficiary (or policyholder). Although claims in most cases are reportedly paid within 10 days, actions such as appeals to the Board of Veterans Appeals, litigation in the courts, and other procedural reasons may cause significant delays in the settlement of a claim. Such delays deny beneficiaries and policyholders the use of the proceeds during this period. Currently, settlement proceeds remain invested primarily in U.S. Treasury securities and any interest earned thereon serves to increase the amount of dividends paid to all policyholders rather than being paid to the individual beneficiary or policyholder. Once the necessary

modifications have been made to the VA's automatic data processing system, this change will be implemented. This is expected to occur sometime in Fiscal Year 1990 and will affect only those insurance policies which mature after an effective date to be determined by the Administrator. Such interest may only be paid if the Administrator determines that it is administratively and actuarily sound to a particular fund. The VA plans to pay 9.25% interest on "V", "RS", and "W" policies; 7.0% interest on "K" policies; and 9.75% on "J", "JR", and "JS" policies.

#### Acceptance of NSLI (RH) Applications by Non-Court Appointed Custodians/Conservators

The VA's Insurance Service has requested the General Counsel to determine whether or not federally appointed fiduciaries can conduct insurance transactions on behalf of incompetent veterans. If they decide that a federally appointed fiduciary can act on behalf of a veteran in such an instance, the VA will amend its procedures so as to allow such applications.

### Automation of the NSLI (RH) Application Process in Conjunction with Awards of Service Connection

By law, veterans separated from service on or after April 25, 1951, under other than dishonorable conditions, who are suffering from a service-connected disability are eligible for (RH) Service Disabled Veterans Insurance. Application for RH insurance must be made within one year from the date of notification to the veteran of the grant of service connection. Under current procedures, copies of initial or subsequent service-connected disability ratings are forwarded to the Insurance Centers from the various Regional Offices. Upon receipt of these ratings, invitation letters and application forms are sent to the veteran. These procedures are very labor intensive. New procedures have now been implemented which will automatically send RH applications and pamphlets to veterans receiving initial or new service-connected disability ratings.

This will ensure that veterans who may be eligible for RH insurance are informed of this potential benefit as soon as possible after a rating establishing a service-connected disability.

#### New Reinstatement Requirements for Lapsed Insurance Accounts

Currently, reinstatement requirements are divided into three categories. If an account has lapsed within 6 months of a request for reinstatement, the insured must submit a comparative health statement. If lapsed more than 6 months and the insured is under 50 years of age, a non-medical application (no physical examination required) is submitted. If the lapse is more than one year, or the insured is over age 50, a medical application and a physical examination are required.

Under the new procedures which became effective in January 1989, insureds that were lapsed more than one year or who are over age 50 will complete a non-medical application. However, a physical examination may be required after a review of the application, if additional information is needed.

#### "RS/W" Term Policy Caps

In order to provide some relief to older policyholders, all "RS" policyholders who have renewed their policies at age 71 or above will have their premiums reduced (rolled back) to the age 70 renewal rate. Policyholders under age 70 will have their premiums capped at the age 70 rate.

#### Increase in Payments to NSLI Annuitants

PL 100-322 authorizes an increase in payments to NSLI beneficiaries who are receiving insurance proceeds under one of the annuity options. The VA was able to increase the monthly installment payments being made to such annuitants by 50%. This action was possible because of the high yields on the invested reserves that have been held for payment of the NSLI "V" annuity settlements. Prior to this, the law required a 3% interest factor in determining the amount of each monthly annuity payment, while the annuity fund reserves were earning interest in the rate of 9.39%. Future adjustments in these payments will depend on interest earnings and mortality experience. Initially, 120,000 beneficiaries have benefited from this increase since it was enacted in August 1988.

#### Pre-Authorized Debit System

In July 1988, the VA introduced a new premium payment option called the <u>VA</u> Matic which is a pre-authorized debit payment system. Policyholders may elect to have their monthly insurance premium automatically deducted from their checking account through a wire transfer between their financial institution and the Federal Reserve Bank where all VA insurance premium payments are deposited. The 1.8 million policyholders currently making direct premium payments to the VA are being advised of this new option by a mailing which was to be completed in January 1989. Thus far, approximately 10% of eligible policyholders have elected this payment option.

#### Exclusion of Gender Differentiated Mortality Tables

The VA currently pays annuities to approximately 150,000 individuals under all of its insurance programs. Of these, almost 1,500 (1%) are calculated using gender (male v. female) differentiated mortality tables. Gender differentiated mortality tables provide for lower monthly payments to female annuitants based upon actuarial projections that female annuitants on average will live longer than their male counterparts and, therefore, will receive a greater number of monthly installments. Although this is true from an actuarial standpoint, as a matter of social policy the VA will change its annuity programs to pay male and female annuitants equally. Since there are relatively few female annuitants in the affected programs, the financial impact on the trust funds will be minimal. This change which will become effective in Fiscal Year 1990 will apply to all future annuity payments under the Veterans Special Life Insurance (VSLI), Veterans Reopened Insurance (VRI), Service Disabled Veterans Insurance (SDVI) and option 5 payments under both National Service Life Insurance (NSLI) and United States Government Life Insurance (USGLI) programs.

#### Administration of the Veterans Mortgage Life Insurance (VMLI) Program

This program provides up to \$40,000 in mortgage life insurance protection to disabled veterans who receive housing grants for specially adapted homes. Since the program's inception in 1971, VMLI has been supervised by the VA and administered by the Bankers Life Insurance Company of Nebraska. PL 100-322 authorized the VA to directly administer the VMLI program as of September 1, 1988. All VMLI cases are processed at the St. Paul Insurance Center.

#### SGLI and VGLI State Taxation

PL 100-322, effective July 1, 1988, exempts both Servicemen's Group Life Insurance (SGLI) and Veterans Group Life Insurance (VGLI) from state taxation. This will benefit both insured servicepersons and veterans by reducing the programs' expenses by about \$4.5 million per year. Both programs are self-supporting in that the insured pay all the costs of providing the insurance, including administrative expenses and taxes. Their exemption from state taxation will reduce expenses to the funds which will result in these savings being passed on to the insureds.

## Payment of Veterans Group Life Insurance (VGLI) Premiums by Allotment and Deduction from Benefits (DFB)

The VA has developed additional premium payment options which provide convenient payment alternatives to those insured under the Veterans Group Life Insurance (VGLI) program. Retirees from all branches of the service can now have their VGLI premiums automatically deducted from their service retirement pay. This option virtually eliminates the possibility of a policy lapsing for nonpayment of premiums. A similar option which will allow insureds to deduct their VGLI premiums from VA compensation or pension payments is being prepared for introduction later in 1989.

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