



American Legion

Centennial Post 209

P.O. Box 15461

Colorado Springs Colo. 80935

Newsletter: NOVEMBER 1981

Item 1: Our next meeting will be at 7:30 PM, Tuesday, November 17, 1981, at the Pete Field NCO Club. We met there in October and had a nice room to ourselves with bar service. Let's all get "kitchen passes" to make this a good meeting. Only you can make the Post work, grow, and prosper. Remember, the 3rd Tuesday of each month is our meeting night.

Item 2: Membership renewal and new member recruiting are not moving at any fantastic rate. We've all got to work on that. Remember that come 1 Jan. 82, National raises their dues by \$2.00 per year. This increase affects all renewals or new members signing up after 31 Dec. 1981. Let's get those renewals and new memberships in as early as possible.

Item 3: Permanent Membership Status. This is something all of us should consider. Our Post has done quite well in having some 5 permanent members. The thing that makes it convenient is the fee can be paid in installments over a one-year period. Detailed information is available from me.

Item 4: Bingo is going along but with fewer players these last two months. No one is quite sure why this is although the dog track seems to be the general opinion. Profits have not been the best this past quarter; however, we did not rack up huge losses. We do need help though. Again, even if you can only show up occasionally, do so and relieve one of the regulars. It's every Wednesday at the Germania Club at 6:30 PM. Normally, the games are finished by 10:30 PM.

Item 5: Oratory Contest. I haven't had time to do anything with this so far. I will have make a concerted effort to see what has taken place at the schools in response to my preliminary mailings to the schools. I'll keep you posted on any activity in this area.

Item 6: Veteran's (Armistice) Day. Services at Memorial Park on the 11th. Hope you made it. The eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month had a special significant as it occurred just as the International Year of Disabled Persons draws to a close. IYDP was designated to draw attention to disabled people everywhere. For us, of particular importance are disabled American war veterans.

Their burden of battle and sacrifice did not end on the remote battlefields in foreign lands, but has remained with them throughout the years.

They fought to preserve our American way of life. They fought to help others attain and enjoy the fruits of individual dignity. They fought valiantly to preserve a unique ideal which has made nations great. Many of them have also fought, and won, the battle which challenged their capability to deal with additional adversity.

Let us all salute, in our prayers, the American disabled war veterans as a special part of this IYDP.

Item 7: The Vietnam War--Another View. This is excerpted from a new book by the Consul General of the British Mission in Hanoi during 1966 and 1967:

"To attribute the surrender (in Vietnam) to a failure of will among the president's civilian advisors is to grant to those 'intellectuals' a will to victory which many of them did not claim, but rather rejected. A war directed by men who believed that it should not be waged at all was not one likely to be prosecuted with vigor nor one in which the military command--whom these 'intellectuals' in their arrogance despised anyway--would be permitted military decision. Some even main-

tained that South Vietnam, precisely because of her weakness, merited defeat, and that her interest lay in unity with her totalitarian neighbor anyway. Nor could a war be won by men familiar with computers and academic theory but not with the battlefield or the ageless facts of Southeast Asia. Nor, above all, could it be won by men ashamed of America."

Let us never be guilty of that again!

Item 8: Have a very happy Thanksgiving with those most beloved to you.

Max
Max Hoyer
Commander
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