

## **Resolution No. 308**

### **SUPPORT FOR WWI CENTENNIAL COMMISSION INITIATIVES**

WHEREAS, delegates at the 118<sup>th</sup> National Convention passed Resolution No. 301 to support the U.S. WWI Centennial Commission in its mission to honor, educate, and commemorate the Great War; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. WWI Centennial Commission has cited that Congress has authorized a systematic review into African Americans, and those of other minorities worthy of the Medal of Honor in WWII, but no such review has occurred for those who served in WWI; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. WWI Centennial Commission has also cited that although in 1978 Congress subsequently approved military veteran status and honorable discharges to the American female switchboard operators from the Signal Corps Female Telephone Operators Unit in WWI, these women's service has still not been recognized with a service medal; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. WWI Centennial Commission has requested the VFW's support in their respective initiatives to honor minority and female service members of WWI; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States supports the U.S. WWI Centennial Commission's efforts to authorize a systematic review of the valor medals awarded to African American service members, and those of other minorities, who were potentially denied medals due to racial bias; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States supports the U.S. WWI Centennial Commission's efforts in seeking the Congressional Gold Medal be awarded to the American female switchboard operators in WWI from the Signal Corps Female Telephone Operators unit known as the "Hello Girls."

Submitted by Commander-in-Chief  
To Committee on GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

**APPROVED AS AMENDED** by the 119<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.