**MILITARY SERVICE RECOGNITION BOOK**

**MARCH 5, 2022 P.A.C. REPORT**

Comrade Chairman, President Garry, Comrades All

As you know, monthly District MSRB Comparison Reports are sent out each month which gives everyone a monthly update on just where we stand regarding finances and Veteran submissions concerning our Military Service Recognition Book Program. So there is really no need for repeating that information in this report.

I would though like to reiterate the need for all of us to very actively promote our program and the great need for more Veteran submissions. As you all noted in the report for the period ending February 28, 2022 that has been circulated, we are in somewhat of a crisis situation regarding Veteran submissions to be published in our Volume IX book that is to be published in late September or early October of this year.

As indicated in my February report, with only three months remaining in year #9 of our program, we only have a total 118 submissions for publication in our Volume IX. This is a far cry from the 488 submissions that we had received during the same time-frame last year. This also only represents 39 pages of Veteran submissions for our Volume IX book which compares to a total of 526 pages of Veteran submissions that were published in our Volume VIII.

I believe that although we received a good number of submissions from Branches during the first two years of COVID, it was somewhat of a catch-up from the previous year. And with most Branches being closed over this past year, it certainly has affected Branches from recruiting new Veteran submissions.

So now that Branches are open again, we need to put a real push on for more Veteran submissions over these last three months of year #9 of our program. And with Zone Conventions and District Conventions taking place this month and next, we hopefully can get a last minute drive put together for us to receive a large quantity of Veteran Submissions. I am therefore asking each of you for your help in doing whatever you can to get our Branches on board again regarding the recruitment of Veteran submissions.

In a previous email, I had mentioned about Branches that have a Veteran Banner program. Perhaps these two programs could possibly be tied together in obtaining Veteran information and Veteran submissions for our MSRB program.

With this in mind, and since we have now included electronic submissions and digitized photographs into our program, I do ask that you also mention to the members in your Districts that they must follow the guidelines that are included in our updated Fact Sheet regarding electronic submissions and digitized photographs. Both Carolyn and Mary Ann have been receiving electronic submissions along with digitized photographs, only to have to return them because of the low resolution

We are receiving digitized photos that are both in a low resolution or very small size that cannot be re-produced or published. Photos should be sent in a large size that can be downsized by our publisher for printing purposes.  We are also receiving signed submission forms in a jpeg file that is a low resolution when the signed forms should be in a pdf or Word file.

We certainly do not want to be sending back submissions that require corrections as we need all the submissions that we can get. So it is important that everyone follows the guidelines laid out in our Fact Sheet so that we do not have to send any submissions back for corrections.

Also, in this regard, when submissions are being sent back for correction, the Branch should make any corrections that are necessary and get the submissions back to our Provincial Coordinators as quickly as possible. But in some cases, this is not happening as Carolyn and Mary Ann have several submissions that were sent back for correction that have not been re-submitted to them.

There are still several Branches who have never submitted any Veteran submissions for our books which I do not understand as I am sure that each and every Branch has Veterans as members as well as other citizens within their communities. So, with Branches holding elections soon, hopefully all information about our program will be passed onto the new Executive members.

To assist our Branches, we have now established Terms of Reference for Branch Coordinators which was sent out with the monthly District Comparison Report. These Terms of Reference will hopefully assist current Branch Coordinators as well as assist those Branches who do not have one in recruiting one. In turn, it will hopefully also assist us in the promotion of our program and the recruitment of Veteran submissions.

Again, a big thank you to all those who have been involved in our program to make it the success that it has been to date. Your support and dedication is truly appreciated.

Once again Comrades, we are asking for your full support in trying to get more Veteran submissions and for Branches to ensure that all proper procedures are being followed when sending in their submissions.

I want to thank all of you for your continued support to date and ask for your ongoing support in continually promoting this very important program of Remembrance.

This is my report and I so move it adoption.

Ron Goebel