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For God and Country

**OFFICE OF THE
NATIONAL COMMANDER**

August 3, 2020

Dear Commanders & Adjutants,

The target date for award recognition for Consolidated Post Reports (CPR) has come and gone. Please pass on my sincere thanks to your leadership team from department to post for the hard work and dedication during this very challenging period we are experiencing. Primary results show that our CPR numbers are about the same as the last two prior years with just over 68 percent of our 12,637 posts having submitted a CPR. I know we can do better.

The world changed early this year as did The American Legion. We responded to the nation's national emergency like the patriotic servants we are by conducting food drives, blood drives, establishing food pantries, establishing COVID-19 testing stations in our posts and assisting citizens in need. I am proud of our American Legion Family's accomplishments and we need to take credit for it.

Now we need to press on for Phase 2 of the data collection as we build our annual report to the U. S. Congress. As some of you are aware, our 1919 federal charter requires us to submit an annual report to Congress on our activities. I want to increase the number of posts submitting CPRs so we can truly report the full impact we have on the lives of our veterans, their families and communities across this nation. There is no reason we should not have 100 posts submitting CPRs. My fellow Legionnaires, we have a lot of information that is not being reported.

Knowing firsthand the impact our numbers and services have on Congress, I encourage you and your department, division, area, district, and county leaders continue to work with posts to submit their CPR. Call on your leaders to contact the posts in your respective departments that have not submitted a CPR and assist them in completing one. There is a myLegion.org report form for your leaders to use to easily identify posts that have not yet submitted this important report.

It may be too late for recognition but it is not too late to tell our story to Congress. Let us all pull together to meet the goal I set when I was elected. Help me announce to Congress that we have 100 percent participation. Think of the impact such a report will carry as we the halls of Congress looking for support from lawmakers on issues for our military, our veterans, their families and their communities.

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We have about 30 days to complete Phase Two. Let us all work together on this. I am counting on you to get the remaining posts to submit a report by August 28. Do not forget what your headquarters posts are also doing. Thanks for your support. Together we will build a Foundation for the Future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James W. 'Bill' Oxford". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "J" and "O".

James W. "Bill" Oxford
National Commander

Copy to:

National Vice Commanders
National Executive Committeemen
National Officers
Past National Commanders