



From the Commander

Greetings Comrades:

We are fast approaching the close of another outstanding year for the Department of Pacific Areas, and due to your efforts and dedication we have excelled in all areas. You can all be justifiably proud of our accomplishments, and for having well served our active duty, veterans, families and our communities. We have enhanced our solid reputation at VFW National Headquarters, and clearly shown the Department of Pacific Areas truly exemplifies, "VFW, No One Does More for Veterans".

Our membership challenges this year were obvious from the beginning, but we continue to move closer to 100% through your efforts. I thank you for the many recruiting drives, member events, and the personalized approach many of you have taken to renewing and lapsed members. The numbers attest to the hard work you have been doing, bringing us, as of 1 May, to needing 172 new and renewing members to reach our goal of 100%. We are closing fast on the objective.

Congratulations to the following three Districts and fourteen Posts for achieving All State status by 30 April 2018:

Districts

District 5 Thailand / Cambodia / Australia
District 6 Guam / Saipan CMNI
District 7 Philippines

Posts

10223 Camp Humphreys	2917 Agat
12147 Seongnam	3457 Saipan, CNMI
10217 Korat	124 Baguio
11575 Phnom Penh	2485 Angeles City
12146 Banchang	9892 Bauang
12163 Perth, WA	11447 Subic Bay
1509 Yigo	12130 Cebu City

Outstanding effort and I'm sure several more will complete all requirements by the 30 June 2018 cut off. Many of these will be subsequently selected for designation as All American Districts and Posts by VFW National Headquarters.

Thank you for entrusting me with the leadership of the Department this past year. I have been truly honored to serve as your Department Commander, and your support and dedication to our goals and objectives has made it a truly gratifying experience. My thanks for all your efforts to support our VFW National and Department programs and goals, and proving again that Department of Pacific Areas is a high performing organization. We are very fortunate to have Mike Verville as our next Department Commander, and I know you will give him and his team the same level of support I have enjoyed.

See you in Banchang!

Yours in Comradeship & Service,

John Gilbert
Commander
Department of Pacific Areas

VFW – Honoring Our Past, Securing Our Future