

volunteers, we can duly honor the lives of those who freely and selflessly served our country during WWI.

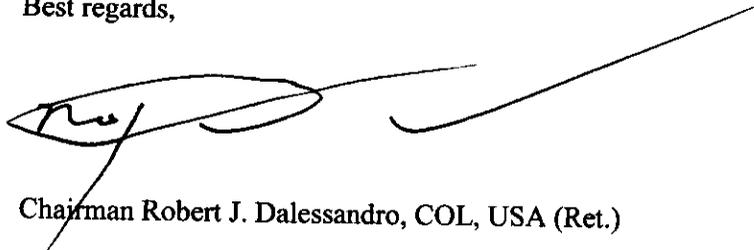
The WWICC can offer support and a variety of resources to aid South Carolina in this endeavor. The WWICC can promote coordination and communication among state committees, content providers, and stakeholders, serving as a clearinghouse for sharing program ideas and best practices. Furthermore, the WWICC can provide endorsement and advocacy on South Carolina's behalf to facilitate financial or political support, while also promoting state programs and using the WWICC's website to host or link to the state committee's site.

In addition to supporting your state's centennial committee, the WWICC will be reaching out to other stakeholders across the state to broaden and strengthen the commemorative community. To help coordination and cooperation with these stakeholders, the WWICC has designated Commissioner Jerry Hester as the representative for South Carolina. He can be reached at: jerryhester@worldwar1centennial.org or (336)750-0032.

Please find additional materials with this letter that outline the WWICC's national outreach to state leaders and commemorative community partners. More information is available online at www.worldwar1centennial.org.

We have much to remember and veterans to revere over the next four years, and I hope the WWICC can rely on you and your office to achieve our goals for this centennial. I will be in touch with your office in the coming weeks to discuss our joint centennial efforts further.

Best regards,



Chairman Robert J. Dalessandro, COL, USA (Ret.)

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Copy:
Commissioner Jerry L. Hester
jerryhester@worldwar1centennial.org

ENCL:
WWI Centennial Commission Planning Prospectus



THE UNITED STATES WORLD WAR ONE CENTENNIAL COMMISSION...

February 25, 2015

COMMISSIONERS AND APPOINTING AUTHORITY

Chair: Col. Robert J. Dalessandro, USA (Ret.)
(House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi)

Vice Chair: Edwin F. Fountain
(Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid)

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(National WWI Museum)

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Col. Thomas Moore, USAF (Ret.)
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Dr. Libby O'Connell
(President Barack Obama)

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(Speaker of the House John A. Boehner)

Major Gen. Alfred A. Valenzuela, USA (Ret.)
(President Barack Obama)

James S. Whitfield
(The House Majority)

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Governor of South Carolina
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

World War One (WWI) began 100 years ago, on July 28, 1914. More than four million American families saw their sons and daughters serve in uniform, and more Americans gave their lives during WWI than during the Korea and Vietnam wars combined. As our nation observes the centennial of the First World War, the United States World War One Centennial Commission (WWICC) seeks your leadership and participation to recognize and remember those who served our country in its time of need.

Each state and territory experienced the effects of the Great War. Farmers were called upon to feed the troops, and industry developed new technologies and innovations for building ships, vehicles, weapons, and supplies. South Carolina, specifically, sent more than 58,000 of its sons and daughters to war. Of these, 460 were killed in battle.

Over the next four years, the WWICC is collaborating with national, state, tribal, and local community leaders and volunteers on commemorative projects and activities that provide educational experiences across the United States about WWI. President Obama and the leaders of the Senate, the House of Representatives, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, and the World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial in Kansas City, have appointed twelve commissioners to plan, develop, and execute programs, projects, and activities to observe the WWI centennial.

The WWICC welcomes and requests your leadership and participation to establish state-level committees over the next six months with a goal to coordinate commemorative projects and activities in your state through 2019. Some states have created centennial committees via executive order from their governor, and other states have received legislative and statutory approval to use state funds for commemorative efforts. We aim to have each state and territory have its commemorative leaders and organizations in place by Armistice Day, November 11, 2015, in order to coordinate follow-on state and national centennial activities through 2019—symbolic of when the last of our troops returned home. Together, in collaboration with the WWICC's stakeholder networks, resources, and