

**EIGHTY-SECOND NATIONAL CONVENTION  
OF  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN  
September 5, 6, 7, 2000**

**Resolution No. 84: The American Legion Policy on the Use of Depleted Uranium**

Submitted By: National Security

WHEREAS, The military services have come to depend on depleted uranium, a toxic and radioactive heavy metal as a kinetic energy penetrator fired from tank and aircraft cannons against enemy armor; and

WHEREAS, Depleted uranium burns after hitting a target, releasing aerosolized uranium particles into the air, exposing troops who come in contact with the target; and

WHEREAS, The scientific community and the Armed Forces do not have adequate medical or exposure information to determine the exact health effects caused by exposure to aerosolized depleted uranium particles; and

WHEREAS, Depleted uranium munitions were fired at, and destroyed, thousands of Iraqi tanks and vehicles during the Gulf War, scattering tons of depleted uranium throughout the theater of operations; and

WHEREAS, A 1993 United States General Accounting Office report found that most American ground troops were inadequately informed about the use and danger of depleted uranium munitions, and as a result, entered destroyed Iraqi tanks and vehicles and were exposed to depleted uranium particles; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, September 5, 6, 7, 2000, That the Department of Defense require Commanders to adequately inform their subordinates about the dangers of approaching targets that have been destroyed by depleted uranium munitions; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That the Department of Defense immediately conduct peer-reviewed scientific studies to determine the extent of fallout near targets struck by depleted uranium munitions.