

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 111

**SUBJECT:** THE AMERICAN LEGION POLICY ON THE USE OF DEPLETED URANIUM

Origin: Maryland

Submitted By: National Security Committee

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 Salt Lake City, Utah, August 29, 30, 31, 2006, That the Department of Defense require commanders to institute proper protective measures for personnel working with or around depleted uranium munitions; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That the Department of Defense ensure that Commanders adequately inform their personnel 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.**