

VFW POST CONCERNED ABOUT APPARENT LACK OF RESPECT FOR AMERICAN FLAG

Commander Henry G. Quinn Releases Open Letter Urging Display of "Old Glory" Especially On National Holidays

No little concern has been aroused among members of the William H. Coffield Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, over the apparent disrespect for the American flag in Edenton. It is pointed out that when the colors pass on parade all too many people fail to uncover their head or place their hand over the breast. At the same time the veterans sense a growing unconcern about displaying Old Glory on national holidays. So much concerned are the veterans that Commander Henry G. Quinn this week sent out a letter which appears in the Herald and warrants reading to awaken the patriotism in some of our people.

Mr. Quinn's letter follows:
"We are very much disgusted and worried on national holidays when we see but a few American flags waving proudly in the breeze of the Albemarle. We are disgusted because we know that the precious right to live in America, alone, is well worth the respect of hoisting the banner on a national holiday. And we are worried because we, Veterans of Foreign Wars, who have suffered, bled and fought for the privilege of waving the Stars and Stripes, are yet responsible for keeping Old Glory in the air. We who have seen our comrades in the horrible struggles of death, we who have breathed the dust of the deserts, we who have slept in the cold mud of Italy, France and Germany, and we who have felt the bite of the tropical island mosquito, know why our flag should wave. We know, as only we who have seen can know, that Old Glory has a place in the air. She has a place in front of every business establishment and in front of every home. And we are worried because we feel that we have not painted, for the public, the picture that makes you know the value of freedom and the respect for the flag that should be in every heart of an American citizen.

"We who have been at the scenes of battle desperately hope to see on November 11 (Armistice Day) a flag in front of every Edenton business establishment and many homes. And we further hope to see respect shown to the colors. We also hope to see in the future a recognition of Old Glory as she waves in front of our marching High School Band. We can at least remove our hat or place our right hand over the heart as a symbol of respect to the flag and a gesture of gratitude and appreciation to

the boys who lie in Flanders Field and to those in the unmarked graves of the Pacific Islands, and to those who have been swallowed by the gigantic ocean waves.

"Please hoist your flag for Armistice Day! If you do not have a flag, please obtain one for this occasion. If you are in business and feel that you cannot afford the price of a flag, we, members of the VFW, will gladly donate one for this occasion. Our comrades could afford the blood that gave us a right to hoist 'Old Glory,' and we, members of the VFW, know that we owe these boys at least the respect of honoring our colors after they have so gallantly paid the supreme price for our rights to have such honor. Hereafter, a few days preceding each day upon which the flag should be displayed, you will receive a reminder from VFW in the form of a postcard. If you cannot afford a flag, see us. We will have it in front of your business place for Armistice Day. Just do us the honor of honoring our flag, for which we have suffered, for which we have died, for which we have paid."

JUANITA WAFF HOME
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