



*Veterans of Foreign Wars
Department of Washington*

*General Orders Number 1
July 2017*

1. Having been duly elected and installed as Department Commander – I, John Bradburn, hereby assume command of the Department of Washington, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, effective June 24, 2017.
2. It shall be noted, in accordance with the National By-Laws, Article V, Section 516: The Department Commander retains authority to remove appointed officers, committee chairman and members, or committees at any time.
3. In accordance with the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure, each elected officer is required to familiarize themselves with the duties and obligations assigned in Sections 218, 418 and 518.
4. It is with the utmost importance that each Post utilize the “Chain of Command” properly. Almost every problem encountered at the Post level can be handled internally. Start at the Post level using committees and if the problem cannot be resolved, request assistance from the District Commander. Department intervention shall be the last means of resolving the problem however, the officers and staff at Department are more than willing to assist as long as the appropriate chain of commands has been utilized first.
5. Congratulations to the following members for their hard work throughout the year to achieve the status of “All State Commander or Quartermaster”:

Commanders

Otis Wolfe, Post 921
Patrick Kelly, Post 2100

Carl Christopherson, Post 3348
Nester Tamayao, Post 3063

Paul Herrera, Post 2224
Terry Ray, Post 5580

Jack Chandler, Post 11401

Quartermasters

Elmer Johnson, Post 921
Don Wischman, Post 2100
Gerald Stackpole, Post 7511

Thom Fernstad, Post 3348
Harold Rodenberger, Post 3063
Jim Morrison, Post 4314
Jammie Tighe, Post 2224
Rebekah McGinnis, Post 5580

Robert Wellbacher, Post 11401 (Captain)
Doug Riggs, Post 9079

Commanders

Dennis Bringham, Post 239
Gary Heitmann, Post 4992

J W Grayson, Post 1694
Bo Brown, Post 1948 (Captain)

Walter Morgan, Post 11402

Dana Difford, Post 4278
Jim Vanderheiden, Post 7824

Ron Ness, Post 683

Ben Paramore, Post 2047

John Sentino, Post 1263
Craig Dougherty, Post 6785

Martin Arnold, Post 6787

Donn Dale, Post 10882 (Captain)

Jerry Peltier, Post 12018

District Commanders

Don Wischmann, District 1
Tiffany Bothell, District 2
John Brooks, District 3
Fritz Swyers, District 4
Orville Russell, District 5
Dale Rex, District 6
John Kent, District 14

Quartermasters

John Beck, Post 91

Doug Dutter, Post 239

Jim Doherty, Post 8956
Connie Kimmons, Post 11402

Debra Proctor, Post 4278
Terry Clark, Post 7824

Kathy Seureau, Post 6853

Paul Manley, Post 1474
Charles Noble, Post 10711

Dan Hansen, Post 1263 (Captain)
Richard Sample, Post 6785

Rod Lee, Post 6787
Delmar Sayer, Post 7498

Ron Mayfield, Post 10882
Ed Schmitz, Post 3721

DeLeesa Restucci, Post 3482

District Quartermasters

Elmer Johnson, District 1
Richard Morre, District 2
Robert Wellbacher, District 3

Connie Kimmons, District 5
James Vanderheiden, District 6

All State and All -American Department Commander

Elmer Clark, Post 91

It should be noted that becoming an All -American Department is a result of each individual member who worked hard all year long to achieve this status. Congratulations to every member for their support of veterans, the support of VFW Programs and the support of your communities.

6. Your newly elected Department Officers for the 2017 – 2018 elected term are:

Commander	John Bradburn, Post 11402, Lacey
Sr. Vice Commander	Linda Fairbank, Post 2289, Seattle
Jr. Vice Commander	John Rust, Post 2669, Port Orchard
Quartermaster	John Michael, Post 9430, Skyway
Chaplain	John Beam, Post 1040, Lynwood
Judge Advocate	Traci Williams, Post 1263, Renton
Surgeon	Chad Hassebroek, Post 9430, Skyway
Trustee 3 Year	Chuck Vitiritti, Post 9430 Skyway
Junior Past Commander	Elmer Clark, Post 91, Tacoma

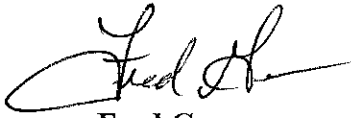
Appointed Positions

Chief of Staff	Jerry Herker, Post 3386, Airway Heights
State Inspector	Bo Brown, Post 1948, Elma
Service Officer	William Brown, Post 2669, Port Orchard
Officer of the Day	Bill Wynhoff, Post 3067 Deer Park

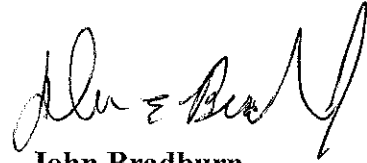
7. My theme for the year is **TEAM – Together Everyone Achieves More**. I need to remind every member of this great organization that when we were the young kid on the block, there were veterans in charge who led the way in the fight for our rights and benefits as veterans. We need to give them the respect they deserve and not forget what they have accomplished. We need to encourage the new younger veteran to join our organization, become a part of the team effort and someday be ready to take over the helm and keep this organization on track. Provide guidance, mentor and assist the new generation to be able to understand and accomplish what needs to be done.
8. I would like to Congratulate” all of the VFW, and Auxiliary members who have taken on new positions within the Department, Districts and Posts. I truly believe that you all support and believe in the VFW, Thank you very much for everything you do.
9. The Department Officers will be attending the National Convention being held in New Orleans, LA during the period July 22 through July 26. We will be hearing a lot of information, some new –

some old, and will be bringing it back to Washington for publication in the upcoming General Orders.

10. The Department School of Instruction will be held on August 12, 2017 at Everett Post 2100, starting @ 9:30 AM. There will also be a Council of Administration meeting on Friday evening, August 11, 2017 @ 7 PM. I will get information out for local hotels for members and families traveling long distances.



Fred Green
Department Adjutant



John Bradburn
Department Commander