United States General Accounting Office Washington, DC 20548

Accounting and Information Management Division

B-285744

July 28, 2000

The Honorable Henry J. Hyde Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary House of Representatives

Subject: Federally Chartered Corporation: Review of the Financial Statement Audit

Report for the American War Mothers for Fiscal Year 1999

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As requested, we reviewed the audit report covering the financial statements of the American War Mothers, a federally chartered corporation, for the fiscal year ended August 31, 1999. The corporation has a number of objectives, including assisting the men and women who served and were wounded or incapacitated in the World Wars or other conflicts of the United States. Corporation projects include publication of a newsletter and contributions to Veterans Administration hospitals.

Federally chartered corporations are required under 36 U.S.C. 10101 to

- present the corporation's assets and liabilities and reasonable detail on the corporation's income and expenses in annual financial statements,
- obtain an annual financial audit by an independent public accountant, and
- submit the auditor's report and the corporation's financial statements to the Congress.

The objective of our review was to determine whether the audit report complied with the financial reporting requirements of the law. In carrying out our work, we reviewed the corporation's financial statements and the accompanying notes, performed certain analytical procedures related to information presented in the financial statements, reviewed the auditor's report, and made inquiries to corporation officials or the auditor as we deemed necessary. We did not review the auditor's working papers. Our review disclosed no reportable instances of noncompliance.

The audit report included the auditor's opinion that the financial statements of the corporation were presented fairly in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. We are returning the audit report you sent with your letter.

Sincerely yours,

David L. Clark

Director, Audit Oversight and Liaison

Enclosure

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