1. It is with great pleasure and pride that I appoint the following Brothers as National Aides, in recognition of their membership recruiting efforts. All will receive a strip of National colored ribbon which they may wear, pinned behind their membership badge (for 12 months from the date of issue). Those who recruited five (5) or more new Brothers into the Order will also be presented with a Certificate of Recognition.

John M. Hart of Lt. Ezra Griffin Camp 8, Department of Pennsylvania, has recruited twenty-five (25) new Brothers into the SUVCW.

Those who've recruited nine (9) new Brothers are PDC Keith D. Ashley of Brooks - Grant Camp 7 and Craig W. Keller of Pvt. Valentin Keller Camp 8, both from the Department of Ohio.

Steven Hall of Gen. A. S. Diven Camp 77, Department of New York, has recruited seven (7) new Brothers.

PDC Todd A. Shillington of Abraham Lincoln Camp 6, Department of New York, has recruited five (5) new Brothers.

Those who've recruited four (4) new Brothers are Douglas E. Deuel of Sydney Camp 41 and William R. Parker of Philos Cook Camp 223 (both from the Department of New York) as well as Roger May of Captain John Bruck Camp 96, Department of Ohio.

Those who've recruited three (3) new Brothers are Michael H. Swartwood of Sydney Camp 41 and PDC Michael S. Bennett of Col. Augustus Van Horne Ellis Camp 124 (both from the Department of New York), John Clark of Captain John Bruck Camp 96 (Department of Ohio), and Dennis Shirk of Seven Shay's Camp 7 (Department of Pennsylvania).

- 2. Chairman Donald D. Palmer, Jr., PDC and his fellow members of the National Committee on Grand Army of the Republic Post Records are to be commended for their efforts. Departments are strongly urged to promote this work by appointing a Brother "to assist in collecting information for the Post Records database as well as review Post location listings and records location data prior to loading them onto the National Web site."
- 3. Brothers Barry L. Spink and PDC Charles H. Engle, Jr. are hereby recognized as National Aides in appreciation for representing our Order at the funeral of Mrs. Alberta Martin in Elba, Alabama. At the time of her passing, Mrs. Martin was believed to be the last widow of a Confederate veteran from the American Civil War. Many of us were able to meet Mrs. Martin at the special "Widows Reunion" at Gettysburg that PCinC David R. Medert helped arrange.

4. As we prepare to celebrate another anniversary of our nation's independence, let us pause to reflect on the symbolism of the patriotic trinity of red, white, and blue (see "Presentation of Badge" within the Initiation ceremony, described within our Order's *Ritual and Ceremonials*). Let us also remember that the freedoms and privileges that we enjoy today were first won (and have been protected since) by the sacrifices of American soldiers, sailors, and marines. Let us be mindful of - and thankful toward all who serve us in uniform, today. Many of them are far from home. Many of them are in *harm's way*. Many of them continue to make the ultimate sacrifice. Please think of them on this 4th of July.

Ordered this 2nd day of July, 2004.

By Order of: Kent L. Armstrong Commander-in-Chief

Attest: Edward Krieser, PCinC National Secretary

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KAP