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United States General Accounting Office
Washington, DC 20548

October 27, 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 Paralyzed Veterans of America for Fiscal Years 1999 and 1998

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As requested, we reviewed the audit report covering the financial statements of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, a federally chartered corporation, for the fiscal years ended September 30, 1999 and 1998. The corporation's purpose is to form a national association for the benefit of persons who have suffered injuries or diseases of the spinal cord, acquaint the public with the needs and problems of paraplegics, and promote medical research in the several fields connected with injuries and diseases of the spinal cord.

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 auditors' 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 auditors' report, and made inquiries to corporation officials or the auditors as we deemed necessary. We did not review the auditors' working papers. Our review disclosed no reportable instances of noncompliance.

The audit report included the auditors' 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey C. Steinhoff". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Jeffrey C. Steinhoff
Managing Director
Financial Management and Assurance

Enclosure

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