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United States General Accounting Office
Washington, DC 20548

June 5, 2003

The Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr.
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
House of Representatives

Subject: *Federally Chartered Corporation: Review of the Financial Statement Audit Report for the American Gold Star Mothers, Incorporated, for Fiscal Years 2002 and 2001*

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As requested, we reviewed the audit report covering the financial statements of the American Gold Star Mothers, Incorporated, a federally chartered corporation, for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2002 and 2001. The corporation was established in 1928 for the purpose of perpetuating the ideals of Americanism for which members' relatives fought and died.

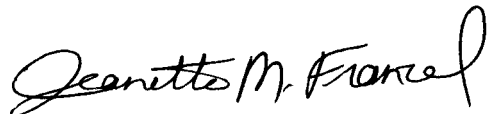
Federally chartered corporations are required under 36 U.S.C. 10101 to

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

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, and reviewed the auditors' report. However, we did not review the auditors' working papers, and we are not rendering an audit opinion. Our review disclosed no reportable instances of noncompliance with the financial reporting requirements of the law.

The audit report included the auditors' opinion that the financial statements of the corporation were presented fairly on a modified cash basis of accounting. We are returning the audit report you sent with your letter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeanette M. Franzel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and a long, sweeping underline.

Jeanette M. Franzel
Director
Financial Management and Assurance

Enclosure

(194223)

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