April 6, 2017

The Honorable Steven T. Mnuchin
Secretary of the Treasury
Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20220

Dear Secretary Mnuchin:

A public meeting of the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC) was held on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 to review proposed obverse and reverse designs for the 2018 World War I Armed Forces Silver Medals.

The Committee was presented with a large series of designs from which to choose and a motion was made and carried that the reverses of all the medals bear the emblems of each service branch. Phrases, slogans, names of battles and other verbiage were also placed on the reverse, where possible at the Mint’s discretion. This design decision unified the medals and allowed each service to be highlighted on the obverse.

Additionally, a unanimous motion was made to add a sixth medal to the series, emphasizing the contributions of women to the war effort.

The following designs were selected from each group.

Army obverse (ARM-O-04) portrays a doughboy with a 48-star flag behind him, each depicted as they were in photographs and posters. This received 18 of a possible 30 votes. Army reverse (ARM-R-03) features the current Army emblem, in use in World War I. This received 18 votes.

Navy obverse (NVY-O-01) depicts a four-piper destroyer targeting an enemy submarine by launching depth charges. This design received 8 votes, and was subject to a motion that the Mint take the highest score design for each pair of designs and then reconfigure them to the recommendation of the Committee. Navy reverse (NVY-R-03) showcases the World War I era Navy emblem. This design garnered 22 votes.

Air Service obverse was selected from a reverse design (AIR-R-06) which portrays a SPAD XIII, viewed from the top and side, with the inscription “SPAD XIII” identifying the aircraft. This design received 18 votes. Air Service reverse (AIR-R-08) features the Military Aviator insignia. Matching the vote count for obverse, this design also received 18 votes.
Marine Corps obverse was selected from a reverse design (MRC-R-01) emblematic of the Battle of Belleau Wood, showing a Marine standing guard while another Marine kneels to pay respect and honor to the fallen. Fifteen of a possible 30 votes led to this choice of design. Marine Corps reverse (MRC-R-06) features the World War I Eagle, Globe and Anchor. This design received 25 votes.

Coast Guard obverse (CGD-O-04) depicts a lifeboat from the cutter Seneca heading out in heavy seas to aid the torpedoed steamship Wellington. This design garnered 18 votes. Coast Guard reverse (CGD-R-04) features the World War I era Coast Guard Emblem. Twenty-two of a possible 30 votes led the Committee to recommend this design.

Best regards, I am

Mary N. Lannin
Chair