

The Jewish Veteran

Thank God for Peace



Armistice ★ Thanksgiving



NOVEMBER
1 9 3 9

ATTENTION!!

Dear Comrades:

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SUPPLY DEPARTMENT J. W. V.

276 Fifth Avenue, New York City

BEN. V. LEVIN, National Supply Officer



The Challenge To The American Army.....□

□..... By the Honorable LOUIS JOHNSON, Assistant Secretary of War

The challenge to the American Army is a distinctly modern problem. It is freely said in some quarters that a democracy cannot defend itself; that the process of modern defense is incompatible with democratic ideals. I have no use for this kind of defeatism. In this respect the challenge is especially a challenge to the American people. In our national life the Army is the servant and not the master of the body politic. By law it is under the command of the President and under control of the Congress. By tradition it limits its public appearances to occasions when the American people desire its presence. By experience it faithfully prepares for all contingencies. But it never knows in advance what its theater of operations will be, should it be called on to take up the burden of national defense.

Accordingly, before we challenge the American Army to prove its competence, we must clarify in our own minds the true military objective. What we all want is adequate national defense, and on this everyone agrees. The problem arises when we try to settle what is meant by the word "adequate." In this realm mere slogans will not do; for you will find that every slogan has concealed beneath it some assumption of a political, rather than a military, objective. You cannot define "adequate national defense" by talking about a navy strong enough to dominate both oceans; or by saying "two ships for one"; or by talking loosely about a standing army powerful enough to send an expedition of military crusaders across the seas to make the world safe for democracy. These attempts at definition are too extreme to be worthy of serious consideration as national policy.

Let me frankly confess that I know of no definition of "adequate national defense" which will cover every conceivable situation. Adequacy is a relative term. What was adequate yesterday we know is not enough today. What may be enough to protect us when the present armament program is realized may prove wholly insufficient in the future. Since the American object is defense, we do not have the privilege of the last word on our military needs. We have to meet world conditions and armament developments.

As a minimum today I think all Americans interested in adequate national defense will readily agree to this fundamental consideration:

Our Army and our Navy must be powerful enough to strike on land, on the sea, and in the air at a moment's notice in defense of our avowed policy to thwart all unfriendly efforts toward the establishment of hostile bases on the Western Hemisphere.

The safety of the United States and the safety of every republic in this hemisphere is predicated on the maintenance of American ideals. We are a happy family

of nations on this continent. We strive to understand each other. The American family of nations has kept a peace by that method. We have also within our membership a number of law-abiding colonies that belong to European nations—possessions of Great Britain, of France, of Holland—but these colonies have observed the ideal of the peace of the Americas. They have been good neighbors. We have no fear that any of them will try to dominate this hemisphere and we live with them in tranquillity, but we are committed, along with the other American republics, to the proposition that, aside from these recognized European colonies, no overseas power shall acquire territory or threaten the integrity of any nation within the New World. That is our understanding of the Monroe Doctrine, now made into a co-operative pact by the declaration of Lima and given immediate reality by the very recent declaration of Panama a few weeks ago.

Time and again, in the past, we have had to invoke the Monroe Doctrine against un-American influences on this continent and each time we successfully thwarted them. In 1866 we compelled Maximilian and the France of Napoleon III to drop their imperialistic designs in Mexico. In 1895 we checked Great Britain from venturing further into the Caribbean Sea. In 1902, when the German Fleet visited Venezuela to carry out the policy of its imperialistic Government, President Theodore Roosevelt forced it to withdraw.

In the future, as in the past, we must be ready to defend our American policy against hostile intervention. In these days of the long-range bomber and the protracted cruising submarine, the security that our oceans have afforded us against the traditional methods of attack has become less potent. Our armed forces must therefore be strong enough to defend America against the newer, as well as against the old, weapons of aggression.

To achieve adequate national defense for our Army today we need men. We need money. We need munitions. We need physical reserves of supplies to cover at least the first 6 months of any major emergency, or better, until our industry can go into mass production and mass delivery of war supplies. We need civilian factories trained in the art of producing munitions so as to be able to guarantee our fighting forces a flow of materials throughout a war of any proportions.

All these needs are cogent, but above them all is our greatest need, the element of time.

Time to enlist, train, and equip men; time to spend money wisely, so as to assure ourselves a maximum result for our investment, time to manufacture munitions, many of which have no counterpart in civilian life; time to train a civilian industry to shift from a peace to a

war basis with a minimum of waste, delay, and confusion; time to plan, time to experiment, time to perfect. Time! That is the challenge to the American people. That is the challenge to the American Army. Adequate national defense rests as much on adequate organization as on any other single factor; and organization takes time.

In 1917-18, time worked for our Army but only because our Navy and our Allies were able to overbalance our weakness on land. While we were selecting men and mobilizing resources, British Tommies and French poilus, backed by their peoples, were giving lives and pouring out treasure. While we were transporting soldiers to cantonments for training, our ships were convoying Allied troops to concentration points for battle. We declared war in April 1917 but it was May 1918 before we were able to put a full division in the front lines.

When our now famous First Division struck at Cantigny on May 28, 1918, in our first offensive, American doughboys went over the top wearing British helmets and carrying British gas masks. Our artillerymen in support came rolling along in caissons drawn by horses belonging to the French Government. They computed their ranges and their deflections with French aiming circles and French "scissors" instruments. They fired French 75's, using French ammunition.

In the World War the blunt fact was that the Allied armies in Europe gave us the luxury of 14 months to get ready. Will that be true again?

How vital this factor is was illustrated by the war now in progress. If the Poles could have had time to mobilize fully, the lightning speed might have been lost from the remarkable Blitzkrieg. If the Germans could have had time to build up complete reserves, the weapon of the British blockade would have given them little concern. If the British could have had time to complete their air forces, the threat from the skies would have caused them no terror. Time, now as always, plays a dominant role in the destiny of nations.

To meet the challenge of time we should, in my judgment, provide the Army right now with sufficient funds for the training, the organization, and the equipment of an initial protective force of Regulars and National Guardsmen of at least 600,000. Such a force, while larger than any before in our peacetime history, is commensurate with the grave responsibilities that we at this time hold toward the American Hemisphere.

You will notice that this is a force designed to be used on this hemisphere: it does not suggest in the slightest training for warfare overseas. As we see matters today adequate defense does not require

(Continued on page 19)

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Aims of "The Jewish Veteran"

To maintain "Peace through Preparedness."

To Promote Americanism.

To Preserve Democracy and to combat all foreign "isms" and anti-Semitism.

To rehabilitate disabled veterans and aid widows, orphans and dependents.

To foster "good-will" among all veteran organizations.

To compile military records of and preserve the memories of Jewish Veterans.

Their "True Colors"

In a speech made recently in Boston, Earl Browder, General Secretary of the Communist Party of America, indicated that the Communists would cast aside the false cloak of democracy, behind which they had been masquerading here for four years, and would come out in their true colors as a revolutionary group. This is the same Browder who admitted before the Dies Committee that he had traveled on a faked passport, for which offense he is now free under \$7,500 bond.

For many years the Jewish War Veterans have been combatting the Communists as an un-American group, and Browder but confirms our preaching of their intention to overthrow our Government. They have been able to make progress during the depression by boring into labor unions, fomenting strikes and sit-downs, into schools and colleges, and into what appeared on their surfaces as respectable organizations. We presage with this publication of the truth of Communist aims and the return of prosperity, those misguided Americans who were induced by Utopian promises to join, will soon desert the sinking Communist Party.

We look forward expectantly to the passage of legislation by the next Congress which will doom the activities of the Communists and the Nazi Bund who have already been permitted to spread their alien poisons too far. It is well that we know their true colors.

Thank God For Peace!

Such should be the prayer on every American's lips on Thanksgiving Day. In the United States, we have countless things to be thankful for.

America's blessings are many, for liberty brings many blessings. Tyranny and aggression bring only misery and death.

On Thanksgiving Day we can gather in our houses of worship to pray for Peace—not to avoid bombing planes dropping death. We will spend *our* Thanksgiving Day carving a turkey—not a map.

On Thanksgiving Day, America's ex-servicemen pledge themselves to wage unending combat against all the enemies of our country's peace and security—Communism, Fascism, Nazism and anti-Semitism.

Twenty-one years ago we laid down our arms, but not the armor of our devotion. On Thanksgiving Day, we join with every loyal American—regardless of race, creed or color—in renewing our fealty to the cherished free institutions of our country, and dedicate ourselves anew to the eternal struggle for "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness."

Elections in 1940

With Presidential, Gubernatorial and Congressional elections, 1940 is bound to be a very important year for our country. As much pressure will no doubt be exerted to influence veterans as organizations, a word of caution at this time may be appropriate.

Experience has taught veteran leaders that the organization of veterans into partisan groups is poor policy and detrimental to the general interest of veterans. The Constitutions of J.W.V. and other veteran organizations strictly prohibit the use of the organization "for the promotion or political candidates or partisan principles, and the use of its name, uniform or insignia, directly or indirectly, for such purposes..."

J.W.V. posts are urged to uphold this policy.

Another movement which may be promoted by anti-Semites is the myth of a so-called "Jewish vote." There is no such thing! Jews, like veterans, do not vote as a religion or an organization, but as American citizens. However, this is just one of the Hitler tactics of breeding racial and religious hatred, and aligning class against class. A survey would probably show that Jews vote no differently than do Protestants, or Scandinavians—as their consciences dictate, with votes almost evenly divided among the two major political parties.

If such libel should start in your community, be prepared to scotch it immediately.

Nazis Persecute Catholics

In recent months, Nazis have closed 687 monasteries and convents in Germany, according to statistics gathered by the Papal Nunciature. The Nazis have also forbidden requests for alms even of a religious nature. In some places the police have entered churches, even during mass, to prevent the collection of offerings.

BOSTON — 1940

J.W.V. NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

Armistice Day

On another page of this issue appears J.W.V.'s Armistice message. For the first time since Nov. 11, 1918, this Armistice will be a National Holiday.

This day was dearly purchased with the life blood of 126,000 Americans. Thousands more who helped buy it are spending their lives in hospital beds. Those citizens who were spared these sacrifices should be grateful enough to pause for one day to pay tribute to the significance of Armistice Day. With the second World War raging in Europe, this year we have more cause than usual to observe the day.

All J.W.V. posts, in cooperation with other veteran organizations, should arrange proper ceremonial observance in their communities. In addition they should urge that every public building and home should fly Old Glory. Let us also make a start this year in having merchants close their businesses. Obviously this is not much to ask of Americans in observing Armistice.

Civil Liberties

By now we all know that Communists and Nazis do not believe in Civil Liberties. Whenever given power, they destroy them. They are only vociferous for civil liberties within democratic countries as an issue behind which to operate in order to secure power to better destroy civil liberties.

Recently a conference on civil liberties was suggested, to which several Communist and Communist-front groups desired an invitation. Even though we may agree that we must protect the liberties even of those whom we detest, is no justification for uniting with Communists in such a conference. It was well said:

"It is just as logical to justify a united front conference with Communists to preserve civil liberties, as it would be to justify a united front conference of honest citizens and public figures and men like Dillinger, Dutch Schultz, Gerald Chapman and Lepke, in an anti-crime conference."

If the Communists or Nazis want to organize a conference for civil liberties under their own labels, let them go ahead. But they won't do it. Their "game" is to mislead the public and to practice deceit.

Veterans organizations must be on their guard against such phoney "patriotic" groups, who seek to do their evil work behind respectable auspices. Let us not be partners with any of them!

Tune In! Tune In!

NATIONAL J.W.V. ARMISTICE BROADCAST

Saturday, November 11th

7:00 to 7:15 P.M.

Mutual Coast-to-coast Network

SPEAKERS:

HON. CHARLES A. PLUMLEY,

Representative from Vermont

EDGAR BURMAN

Natl. Commander, J.W.V.

NOTE: After the broadcast send a card of thanks to your local station and to our Guest Speaker.