

DECEMBER, 1944

# The Jewish Veteran



**VETERAN COMES BACK**

Ben Kagan

**HELL OF A COUNTRY**

Lord Van Sittart

**LETTER TO A CHAPLAIN**

Joachim Prinz

**LET'S NOT FOOL OURSELVES**

William L. Shirer

**STUFF OF SOLDIERS' DREAMS**

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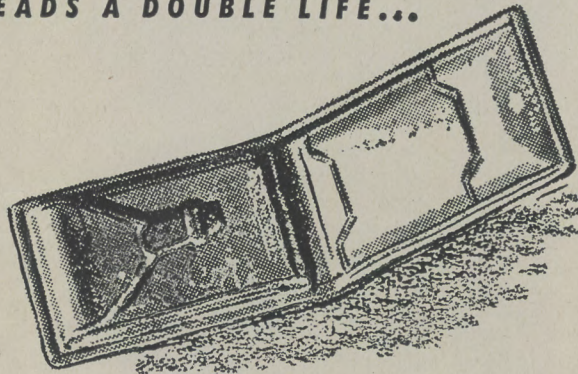
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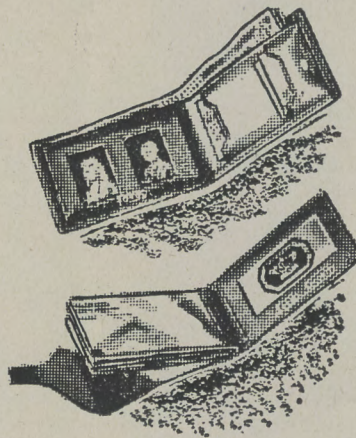
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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### WORLD AFFAIRS

Let's Not Fool Ourselves, by William L. Shirer .....	3
A Hell of a Country, by Lord Van Sittart .....	10

### VETERAN PROBLEMS

The Veteran Comes Back, by Ben Kagan .....	4
The Editor's Chair .....	12
The National Commander .....	12
Citation .....	13

### OF JEWISH INTEREST

Letter to a Chaplain, by Joachim Prinz .....	7
J. V. Capsule News.....	17

### THE ARMED FORCES

The Stuff of Soldiers' Dreams .....	8
Heroes of This War.....	16

### BOOKS

The Reviewing Stand .....	14
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### EDITORIAL

.....	13
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**COVER NOTE:** A bi-motored Martin Mariner Navy plane shoots up from its take-off point assisted by jet propulsion units at a base "somewhere in the Pacific."

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## Let's Not Fool Ourselves

By WILLIAM L. SHIRER

**T**HE question of whether or not American troops should occupy Germany after she surrenders is not merely academic.

In a recent Fortune poll, 73.2% of the American people stated that Germany should be occupied for several years after that country has surrendered. This is America's answer given while her sons are fighting and dying in every part of the world. This is one proof that we Americans are determined not to repeat the mistakes we made after World War I.

But let's not fool ourselves. A man fighting for his life answers a question differently from a man who is flushed with success and power and victory.

At one minute past Armistice Hour, the propagandists for a "soft" peace will

redouble their efforts. They will tell us that now that the Germans are rid of the Nazis, they no longer constitute a threat to world peace and that the "good" Germans can take care of any housecleaning that has to be done.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

Of course there are "Good" Germans. But when they took over after the last war they were too weak to control the militarist elements, who used the Weimar Republic as a cloak to hide their preparations for World War II. As a matter of fact, we should remember that the "good" Germans have not won a major political decision in their country in the last 75 years.

As for drawing a line of distinction between the Germans and the Nazis, let



CBS Photo

us remember this fact: the German people have never had a regime more typical of their dreams and character than that of the Nazis. For surely Hitler could not have overrun most of Europe, driven to the Volga and almost knocked Great Britain out of the war, if he had not had the whole-hearted, fanatical support of the overwhelming majority of the German people.

Nazism is not something foreign or un-German "put over" on the German people by a bunch of Nazi bandits. Rather, it is the climatic expression of German philosophy which glorifies war, which believes without reservation in the idea of the "Master Race" and is dedicated to German domination of the world.

If we are to arrive at any solution of the German problem, the Allies must stick together to teach Germany that wars do not pay, that going off to conquer your neighbors is an unprofitable business. If that lesson is not properly taught, the Germans will start another war in 25 years, and by the law of averages she might win that one.

After the last war, we made an attempt to disarm Germany, but we did not actually demilitarize her. We failed to remove those elements in the German population which will always lead Germany into war as long as they are alive, or at least as long as they are in power. These elements include the Junkers, mostly professional army men, the heavy industrialists and the Pan-German intellectuals. In the period following this war, the Allies will have to find a way to weaken the grip of these people on German life.

After the last war, the Allies finally  
(Continued on page 18)

# VETERAN COMES BACK

Will He Be a Threat to Society,

or Will He Build a Better

America? The Debate is Raging.

By BEN KAGAN



ONE of the most provocative books of the year is "Veteran Comes Back" by Willard Waller (Dryden Press). Here Prof. Waller's thesis on the veteran problem is set forth in dramatic form by Ben Kagan. It was presented as a broadcast by the Council on Books in Wartime over NBC and is published for the first time by the Jewish Veteran.

The veteran who comes home is a social problem, the major social problem of the post-war world. No man could have a better moral claim to the consideration of his fellows and no man

could have a better right to bitterness. How are we going to give G.I. Joe his rightful place in society? The discussion has already begun, the debate is raging. In Congress, the newspapers, over the radio, in union halls, chamber of commerce meetings, on street corners, a debate is going on to find a solution to the problem of G.I. Joe, when Joe comes home. . . .

*Politician:* I propose . . . I propose . . . that the boys coming back get every consideration. Absolutely and positively. I'm for it. Always have been, always will be. Look at my record. Nothing is too good for GI Joe.

*Voice I:* Motion seconded.

*Voice II:* Motion approved.

*Voice III:* Motion carried.

*Voices:* Dear Joe, GI Joe. Nothing's too good for GI Joe. He fought for us . . . he died for us . . . Now we'll fight for him. Yeah!

*GI Joe:* (Trying to make himself heard): Hey! Hey, fellows! Hey, fellows, listen to me!

*Orator:* There is no one closer to our

hearts than GI Joe. He is the one to whom everyone in the nation owes a debt of gratitude. He is the one who is making the sacrifices . . . his life if need be, on every battle front of the world. It is him we must honor, cherish, protect . . . our GI Joe.

*GI Joe:* Hey! Hey, fellows! Hey, fellows, wait a minute! I've got something to . . .

*Voice I:* Yes, siree, let's make it right with GI Joe.

*Voice II:* But how?

*Voice I:* By giving him a bonus.

*Voice II:* A hundred dollars!

*Voice IV:* Two hundred.

*Voice I:* Three hundred!

*Voice II:* Will a bonus be enough?

*Voice III:* We'll throw in a Bill of Rights.

*Voice I:* A voice in the government . . . (He is shushed) Oh, pardon me, I mean his rightful place in society.

*Voice III:* Five hundred dollars!

*Voice IV:* Six hundred dollars!

*Voices:* Seven hundred dollars. Eight hundred!