

THE JEWISH VETERAN

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JWV Joins In Probe Demand On Army Bias

NEW YORK, N. Y. . . . The national Jewish War Veterans joined with five other major Jewish organizations and 27 Jewish community councils which together comprise the National Community Relations Advisory Council to investigate alleged discriminations against Jewish workers by the U. S. Corps of Army Engineers.

The banded groups asked the Committee on Government Contract Compliance to give top priority to the investigation. Joining in the protest were the American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, and the Jewish Labor Committee, as well as the JWV.

The Jewish groups went on record against the statement by General G. J. Nold, Deputy Chief of Engineers, to the Senate Preparedness Committee, that New York construction workers were not being hired for jobs on American military bases in Arab countries. General Nold told the Senate group that a large number of New Yorkers might be Jewish and would be resented by the Arabs.

A telegram sent to Dwight R. G. Palmer, Chairman of the Committee on Compliance, stated in part:

"General Nold's testimony indicates that New York construction workers, both Jewish and non-Jewish, have been the victims of a discriminatory policy which runs completely counter to the provision requiring non-discrimination in government defense contracts and to the purposes for which the Committee on Government Contract Compliance was established.

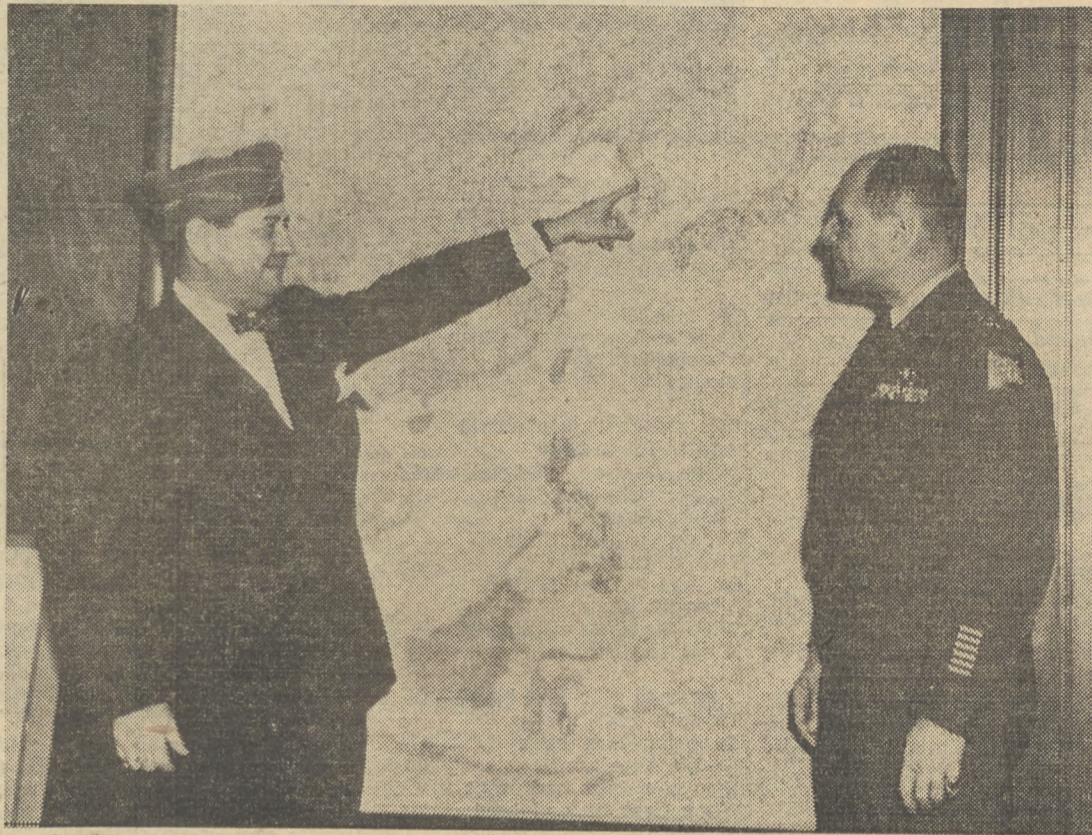
"We urge the committee to give top priority to an investigation of this discriminatory policy, to determine how widespread it is, and to end it at once."

The telegram was signed by: John Slawson, Executive Director, American Jewish Committee; Ben Kaufman, National Executive Director, JWV; Shad Polier, Chairman, Executive Committee, American Jewish Congress; Jacob Pat, Executive Director, Jewish Labor Committee; Jacob Grumet, Chairman, National Civil Rights Committee Anti-Defamation League; Rabbi Maurice Eisendrath, President, Union of American Hebrew Congregations, and Isaiah M. Minkoff, Executive Director, NCRAC.

The issue arose when Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, Democrat, of Texas, chairman of the Senate Preparedness subcommittee, asked General Nold why a pool of 20,000 unemployed construction workers in New York was not tapped for the overseas building program. The general then told Johnson of the decision not to employ Jewish workmen, and said that the contractors had been informed by the New York branch of the U. S. Employment Service, that it could not screen out Jewish applicants, because of state laws forbidding discrimination in employment.

General Nold said that the contractors had then recruited their force in Minnesota and in the Midwest.

Senator Johnson pointed out that added transportation costs were involved in bringing the men from the interior to the East coast for embarkation. These costs could have been avoided, he said, by employing idle workers in the New York area.



GENERAL MATTHEW B. RIDGWAY (right) confers with National Commander Paul Ginsberg at the Dai Ichi Building in Tokyo, during Ginsberg's stopoff in Japan. The National Commander conferred with other top U.S. military officials in Japan and Korea, and told them of the JWV's efforts on behalf of the blood donor program and for Universal Military Training. (U.S. Army photo by Capt. Edward W. Plummer)

First JWV Overseas Posts Organized In Tokyo, Manila, Says National Commander

TOKYO, Japan—Two Jewish War Veterans posts have been inaugurated overseas, according to correspondence received from National Commander Paul Ginsberg, who is currently on a tour of U. S. Military installations overseas. The two posts, first to be organized abroad, are located in Tokyo, Japan and Manila, P. I.

The Tokyo post has the honor of being the first overseas branch to be organized under a JWV charter. To be designated Post No. 1, Tokyo, the new unit will be commanded by Murray Gray, an officer in the legal section of SCAP Headquarters. Gray is a past post commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Commander Ginsberg reports that there are over four thousand G. I.'s of Jewish faith in the I Corps area of Korea alone. These men would be serviced by the new post, whose chief function will be to provide free entertainment for Jewish G. I.'s passing through Japan, to see to it that they meet Jewish families, and to permit them to gain access to kosher cooking when opportunity permits. Tokyo's Jewish community, Ginsberg said, is welcoming the opportunity to provide homes away from home for the soldiers.

'Stars and Stripes' Notified

A notice has been put into the Pacific edition of 'Stars and Stripes' telling of the formation of the post and of the fact that Jewish G. I.'s in the area may join without paying dues.

The American Legion in the Tokyo area helped to organize the new JWV post.

The Manila post will draw upon the Jewish service men in the surrounding area in the Philippines for its membership, as well as upon the immediate Manila vicinity.

H. M. Levine, President of the Jewish Community of the Philippines, is one of the organizers of the new post.

The National Commander, who

has been meeting with top U. S. military officials, has also found time to seek out Jewish servicemen in both combat zones and rear areas. The greetings of at least forty of these soldiers are being relayed to their families in the United States through National Headquarters of the Jewish War Veterans.

Attended Korean Services

The JWV leader attended services in both Japan and Korea, and

'Ginsberg a Spy'—Reds

It seems that Commander Paul Ginsberg's visit to the Far East was commented upon by the Communists, too.

An interpreter told the National Commander that the Reds had labelled him an "agent" sent to Asia by the United States to start a propaganda campaign against good government.

The Chinese article, said the interpreter, was not at all complimentary to Mr. Ginsberg. On hearing this, the National Commander's comment was: "That's good."

on one occasion met three boys from his home city of Atlanta. They are: Harvey Siegel, son of Mrs. Rose Siegel, 1078 Briarcliff Road; Captain Manuel Rosenthal, brother of Sam Rosenthal, Peters Street; and Corp. Morris Brown, son of Joseph Brown, Atlanta Federal Savings Building.

Commander Ginsberg attended religious services in a Korean area called "Jackson Rear." Twenty-five G. I.'s were present at the services held by Rabbi Scheiner. The soldiers remarked that Cardinal Spellman and leaders of other religious groups had visited the area, and they had been look-

ing forward to seeing some Jewish figure of national importance.

Upon returning from Korea, Commander Ginsberg donated a pint of blood to a blood bank in Japan. He said that over 22 per cent of the blood given to wounded G. I.'s comes from soldiers and civilians in Japan and Korea. People in the United States should be ashamed that this is so, said the Commander.

JWV Page In 'The Sentinel'

The Sentinel, Jewish weekly magazine published in Chicago, has added a special page to its makeup, comprising news from JWV posts throughout the Department of Illinois. The page will be a regular feature of the Sentinel from now on.

News items in the February 7 issue included notice of a Sports Night to be held on February 26 by the Allan-Dietch Post, at which Jesse Owen, former Olympic track star and now director of the So. Side Boys' Club, will be present.

Chicago JWV Post Mourns Al Kemp

CHICAGO, Ill.—The Pvt. Daniel Tunick Post, No. 347, of Illinois, is currently mourning the loss of one of its most beloved comrades, Al Kemp. Comrade Kemp, a former vaudeville performer and big game hunter, spent 22 years in activities with the Boy Scouts organization, and devoted much time and effort to JWV.

In line with the membership drive, the Tunick Post is planning an affair for March 4 at the Atlas Brewery. Post members have been urged to bring friends and relatives who are eligible for JWV.

JWV Auxiliary, Other Groups Quit 'Patriots'

The National Ladies Auxiliary of the Jewish War Veterans withdrew at the end of last month from the Women's Patriotic Conference on National Defense, a 26-year-old group which last year had entertained several pro-fascist speakers and pamphleteers.

Joining the JWV women in the walkout from the Washington meeting were representatives from the auxiliaries of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Catholic War Veterans. Withdrawal of the big veterans' auxiliary groups cracked the organization wide open and left only a hard core of right-wing stalwarts in the conference.

Touching off the mass walkout was a battle centered around rules and procedure, in which the veterans' groups had been trying for over a year to break control of the conference by a small group of reactionary organizations. The ruling coalition held the reins under regulations which allowed each delegate one vote, regardless of the membership represented.

Forum For Rightists

Last year some of the inter-conference friction came to a head when the group leadership provided platforms for Joseph P. Kamp, pro-Nazi, anti-Semitic tub-thumper; Allen Zoll, war-time apologist for Hitler, and founder of the National Council for American Education, a group dedicated to witchhunts in the schools; and Rabbi Benjamin Schultz, whose congregation ejected him for his indiscriminate attacks on prominent individuals and organizations in his capacity as director of the American Jewish League Against Communism.

The split occurred at this year's gathering when proposals for democratizing procedure were summarily rejected by the reigning clique.

Jessica Slatiss of Chicago, National President of the JWV Auxiliary, voiced the sentiments of the veterans' delegates when she charged that "Conference procedures have violated every accepted principle of representative government as we know it in the United States today."

Majority Disfranchised

On the one-organization, one-vote ruling, Mrs. Slatiss told the Conference that hundreds of thousands of women in the veterans' auxiliaries were being disfranchised and "stifled by procedures reminiscent of the worst political dictatorships we have known in our time."

"The veterans' auxiliaries had backed two proposals during the meeting. The first called for a change in voting procedures to allow for representation by membership numbers, and the second provided that the Conference issue courtesy resolutions only, and provide for press reports on other decisions which would reflect both majority and minority points of view.

The dissident veterans' groups, which represented in point of numbers for more women than did the ruling right-wingers, felt that their opinions on public resolutions were denied any voice whatever, and that the Conference was by inference linking their organizations with movements and resolutions on public affairs of which they did not approve.

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