

THE

# JEWISH VETERAN

JEWISH WAR VETERANS  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Vol. 22—No. 10



May, 1952

## JWV Sparks 'Baseball Blood Month'

### TEXT OF FRICK LETTER

The following is the text of the letter written by Ford Frick, baseball commissioner, to the President of the United States:

The Honorable Harry S. Truman  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Organized Baseball is contemplating a special project in support of the Armed Forces Blood Donor program of the American National Red Cross. During the thirty-day period from June 15 to July 15, we plan to use every mass appeal medium at our disposal, both in the baseball parks and in the general community to stress the blood needs of the Armed Forces and to enlist volunteer donors. We have every hope that the millions of baseball fans will respond to this call in substantial numbers.

The project is aimed at maintaining an adequate level of Red Cross blood receipts for the Armed Forces during the summer months, when collections normally tend to slacken off. It was suggested by the Jewish War Veterans of the United States after consultation with the Red Cross and the Department of Defense. These organizations, operating through the Blood Program Committees of the Red Cross, and utilizing facilities to be made available by Organized Baseball, will press home a coordinated effort in every community that has a major or minor league baseball club.

Your official designation of the June 15-July 15 period as "Baseball Blood Month" would be most helpful to our program, which will function under the slogan: "Play Ball With Your Armed Forces—Give That They May Live."

On behalf of the club managements and players who make up Organized Baseball, I am happy to inform you of this undertaking in the interests of our nation's defense program and to invite your support of our efforts.

Sincerely,  
Ford Frick



GOVERNOR OF OHIO Frank Lausche, second from right, discusses middle western blood bank and civil defense problems with JWV National Commander Paul Ginsberg, right, during commander's tour of posts throughout the country. Others present at Ohio meeting were, from left, Dr. Ben Gertner, post commander of Capitol Post 122, Columbus; and Les Schreiber, commander, Department of Ohio.

## NEC Asks Probe of U. S. Policy in Germany, Europe

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The National Executive Committee of the Jewish War Veterans adopted a resolution calling for the authorization of a commission to examine United States policy in Germany and throughout Europe.

The NEC resolution said that six years of United States occupation at a cost of billions of dollars had failed to check "a reviving and virulent Nazi movement" in Germany, and cited as a danger symptom the entrusting of hundreds of key government jobs to former Nazi members.

The resolution called on Congress to authorize the President to appoint an investigating commission to look into the German situation. The NEC said that such a commission should keep in mind that United States policy in Germany has an influence upon our relations with other Western European democracies and also affects our national security.

### Legislative Decisions

In a series of other decisions, the NEC re-affirmed its stands supporting an extension of the Defense Production Act for another two years; continuation of rent control; public housing to approve 75,000 units; increases in payments to disabled veterans and their dependents to meet higher living costs; extension of veterans' rights to cover Korean war vets. These resolutions, presented by Bernard Weitzer, national legislative representative, objected to that part of the Hoover report dealing with V.A. medical facilities, and to the decentralization of Civil Service and the cutting down of veterans' preference.

Paul J. Robin (cq), national recruiting officer, reported that the membership figure was 23,000 as of March 31, 1952, as compared with 16,000 the same time last year.

A school of instruction for sen-

ior and junior vice commanders to be set up at national and department conventions was advocated by Norman Berkeley, chairman of the membership and post program committee.

### Hershenson's Report

The national Americanism chairman, Harry Hershenson, elaborated on suggestions in the Americanism bulletin, which proposed launching contests in the schools in support of a "Get-out-the-Vote" campaign. Comrade Hershenson explained that the \$25 defense bonds to be awarded to the winners of school essay contests will be made by either the local communities or by the posts.

For the coming convention in Atlantic City, said Comrade Harrison, national encampment chairman, the Chelsea Hotel will be headquarters for the men's organization, while the Ritz Carlton Hotel will be the headquarters for the Ladies' Auxiliary. This year, said Mr. Harrison, the national organization will take full responsibility for the convention and will not share costs with the posts.

### Harrison Voted Award

A motion was carried that Harry Harrison be given an award for his services as convention chairman and that a plaque be presented to Atlanta Post 112, for its outstanding job as host.

The policy committee granted approval to the Department of California to appear as amicus curiae in an action charging the Southern Pacific railway with the practice of racial segregation of passengers. In another issue involving civil rights, the California JWV department censured the Professional Golf Association for permitting discrimination in sporting events.

Date of the next NEC meeting was set for July 5-6, in New York City.

## Ford Frick Asks President's Support Of JWV Plan To Solicit Blood in Ball Parks

The familiar American spring-time cry "Play ball!" will be given a deeper meaning in the service of our country beginning June 15, when the Jewish War Veterans will begin soliciting blood donations at ball parks in 102 cities throughout the United States.

The program, initiated by JWV and its Ladies Auxiliary, in cooperation with the American Red Cross and the Department of Defense, will extend until July 15, it was announced by President Jessica Slatis, National Commander Paul Ginsberg and William Levin, national blood donor chairman. The President has been asked to proclaim the program as National Baseball Blood Month, they said.

Commissioner of Baseball Ford Frick asked for the President's support for the project in a letter to the White House on April 22. Wrote Mr. Frick:

"During the thirty-day period from June 15 to July 15, we plan to use every mass appeal medium at our disposal, both in the baseball parks and in the general community to stress the blood needs of the Armed Forces and to enlist volunteer donors. We have every hope that the millions of baseball fans will respond to this call in substantial numbers."

### Official Support Helpful

Commissioner Frick said that the President's official designation of the period as "Baseball Blood Month" will be most helpful to the program, which is to be rallied under the slogans "Play Ball

With Your Armed Forces—Give That They May Live."

The setup provides for the local Red Cross chapter in each locale to deal directly with the major or minor league baseball club in that area. JWV and JWVA officials are to approach the Red Cross chapters to outline the program, according to the plan, but are not to deal directly with the ball clubs.

JWV post and auxiliary responsibilities, once the program is under way, will include: Attendance in uniform at ball parks to sign up donors; compiling lists, for publicity purposes, of veterans saved or helped by blood donations; and cooperation with the Red Cross and the baseball clubs in campaign to get blood donors to the parks.

To coordinate these activities, posts have been asked to appoint local JWV advisory committees or the blood program. To broaden their appeal, these committees will include non-members as well as members of JWV and JWVA.

Mass communications media will be used fully to bring the drive to public attention. Loudspeaker announcements at the parks and between-inning radio flashes will remind the fans of the program. These appeals will be localized in each community—the overall slogan, "Play Ball, With Your Armed Forces," will be altered to "Play Ball, Chicago," "Play Ball, Atlanta," etc., depending on where it's used.

## National Commander Cautions JWV Membership on Politics

NEW YORK, N. Y.—With nationwide elections impending next November and the political ring already crowded with head-wear, National Commander Paul Ginsberg reminded members of the Jewish War Veterans that they may not lend the name of the JWV to partisan political activity of any kind.

In issuing the reminder, Commander Ginsberg called attention to the text of Article 2 of the National Constitution and Bylaws, which reads:

"This organization is civilian and shall not be used for the promotion of political candidates or partisan politics, and the use of its name, uniform or insignia, directly or indirectly for such purposes is expressly forbidden."

The JWV national commander also quoted Section 1, Article 8 of the Bylaws, which lists offenses subject to organization discipline. Item 13 of this section notes as an offense: "Promotion of partisan politics by any act while at a meeting of any units of the organization, or in any manner using this organization for partisan political purposes."

### Warns of Attempts

Commander Ginsberg warned that there will be attempts to win endorsement of JWV by indivi-

duals or political groups.

"Past experience has demonstrated that candidates seeking political office can be expected to make every effort to win adherence to their cause among the ranks of veterans organizations," he said. "A common device is the formation of veterans committees for the election of persons seeking public office," the national commander added.

Spelling out the restrictions on JWV political activity, Commander Ginsberg said that nothing in the organization's constitution prevents members from supporting any candidate of his choice or working in the interest of any recognized political organization as wishes to support. It does, however, enjoin them from participating, as members or officials, past or present, of JWV, in any type of political rally or meeting, or of making statements in support of political parties or candidates in the press, on radio or television.

In conclusion, the national commander said: "Strict adherence to the letter and spirit of Article 2 of the Constitution and Bylaws is essential if we are to maintain the dignity of our organization and its reputation for complete impartiality in political campaigns."

### A Four-Ply Swat

A clever idea for building good-will by providing handy baseball schedules is being used by the Fred Wiesen-Greenwich Village Post 352.

The post has issued wallet-sized folding cards with 1952 official home baseball schedules of the three local New York big-league baseball teams, the Yankees, the Giants and the Brooklyn Dodgers.

Three sides of the folder contain the ball teams' home-game slates, while the cover has the name and address of the JWV post, and the place, dates and times it meets.

Besides bringing JWV to the favorable attention of non-eligible baseball fans, the idea is a potential membership builder, national JWV officials said. One national executive suggested a slogan for such cards—"Take Me Out to the Ball Game—But Stop at (name of post) on Your Way Home."

# THE JEWISH VETERAN

Organized



1896

Official Monthly Publication of the Jewish War Veterans  
of the United States of America

MARTIN FREYER ..... Editor  
Publication Office ..... 535 Northampton St.  
Easton, Pa.  
Editorial Offices ..... 50 West 77th Street  
New York 24, N. Y.

POSTMASTER: If undeliverable for any reason, please return to sender at 50 West 77th Street, New York 24, N. Y., postage guaranteed.  
The Jewish Veteran is published monthly by the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America at 535 Northampton St., Easton, Pa. Entered as second class matter at the Postoffice, Easton, Pa., under the Act of March 3, 1897. Subscription price in the United States \$2.00 per year, payable in advance.

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## Editorial

### May—A Time for Dedication

The month of May, bringing with it the first long and warm days of the year, has traditionally been a time of festivals and holidays. Ironically, the mild weather of late Spring has also been a backdrop, too often, for the ugly drama of war.

In America, in recent years, May has become a month for parades and patriotic ceremonies, a time for reasserting our belief in a way of life for which men have struggled from the slopes of Breed's Hill in Boston to the shores of Hungnam Reservoir, half-way around the world.

Two holidays in this month link the past and the present of the American story. They are Armed Forces Day, on May 17, and Memorial Day, on the 30th.

In the space of two weeks, these two days should bring to the minds of 160 million Americans the continuity of the whole sweeping tale of American history—the dedication of our nation to the single ideal of human rights.

#### Founded After Civil War

Memorial Day, founded to commemorate the dead of the blue-clad legions of Sherman and Grant who broke the back of a great slave empire on the American continent, has for us, the survivors of two world wars, become of even greater moment than it was to the contemporaries of Shiloh and Gettysburg.

In our annual pause for reflection on the sacrifice of those who gave "the last full measure of devotion" in the cause of freedom, do we sometimes think what would have happened if they had not? It would have been easy for General Washington's shivering volunteers to flee the frozen Hell of Valley Forge; our doughboys might have broken at Chateau-Thierry and allowed the Kaiser's field-gray colossus to sweep across the Marne and into Paris; the G. I.'s of another generation could have quit the fight on Omaha Beach or before the craggy fastnesses of Shuri Castle, Okinawa. Again in Korea, suppose our armies had melted away in the face of the Red onslaught from the North?

At each of these junctures of history Americans stood firm, and liberty was preserved for themselves and the era to come.

That our defenders held fast each time is due, we think, to three things: their courage, their love of freedom, and to the strength of their hastily-wrought arms.

The first factor was due in no small measure to the second. Today that belief in the democratic principle, though attached as perhaps never before by political extremists of the left and right, remains firm. The courage of American youth, doubted by some, has proved itself once more in bitter battles in the hills of Asia.

#### Dedicated to Strength of Arms

It is to the last factor, the strength of our arms, that Armed Forces Day is dedicated. May 17, 1952 will witness the third annual celebration of this day since its founding by President Truman.

Under the official slogan "Unity-Strength-Freedom," the theme for Armed Forces Day this year will be two-fold: (1) a demonstration of the teamwork of the armed forces in the new defense set-up, and (2) to give the public a broad view of the nation's defense strength and its dedication to the democratic ideal.

Community-level programs are expected to be built around the three-year-old holiday, to bring it into clearer public focus.

It is proper and fitting that this be done. To realize the age-old dream of peace and freedom, freedom must be backed by strength. That strength, and the world's consciousness of it, may be the elixir which will for all time make May the month in which only the hounds of Spring, and not the dogs of war, are unleashed.

## Post Scripts

In a letter which appeared in the April issue of The Jewish Veterans, Harold G. Tucker, a Real Estate Broker of Bayonne, N. J., complained about the way in which the Hillery Bill was opposed by the Department of New Jersey, JWV. He also pointed out, on his own, that this viewpoint does not represent the views of the individual members.

These statements made by Comrade Tucker are absolutely incorrect on every point. Perhaps if Mr. Tucker attended his own Post's meetings and Department meeting he would know how ridiculous his statements are.

The Department of New Jersey, JWV, discussed this Bill on three different occasions, pro and con; at two regular Department meetings and at one Executive meeting. The Bill was opposed unanimously, including by Bayonne Post No. 18, Mr. Tucker's own Post.

Yours truly,  
Matthew Feldman, Commander  
Department of New Jersey

### To Our Readers

#### Dear Comrades:

Your "Jewish Veteran" staff and the National Editorial Board are pooling their efforts to give you a more stimulating, informative and appealing newspaper.

This is your paper and it needs your help. Let's get to know one another. Let's tell our comrades who and where we are.

What better way is there to do that than by publishing an ad in the national paper, showing the name, address, phone number and meeting night of your post?

Let's make this a regular feature—cost is only three dollars.

Address ads to: David Sidman, Business Manager, The Jewish Veteran, 50 West 77 Street, New York 24, N. Y.

Yours in comradeship,  
The Staff

## On Memorial Day

Participation of local Jewish War Veterans posts and auxiliaries in Memorial Day celebrations or parades has been left to the discretion of post officers this year, it has been announced by National Executive Director Ben Kaufman, chairman of the policy committee of the NEC.

Memorial Day, May 30, this year falls on the same day as the Jewish religious holiday of Shevuth. The policy committee decision was that there is no restriction on the part of the national organization against participation in Memorial Day observances. The decision, it was felt, should be made by each post on the local level, after consultation with local Rabbis concerning the sentiment of the Jewish community.

The national executive committee's "hands-off" policy was arrived at after an exchange of letters between Mr. Kaufman and Lt. Commander H. Elihu Rinkel, USN, JWV national chaplain. Lt. Commander Rinkel's letter said, in part:

"I do not think it would be advisable to pronounce a national policy on this matter. I would suggest that every post work the schedule out with their respective Rabbis in their community. Action on a national level would evoke unnecessary criticism, no matter in which direction the decision is made."

### Correction

The wording of the Jewish Veteran editorial in April, "The Battle Is Here," may have conveyed the impression that the American Labor Party has been listed as subversive by the United States Attorney General.

The ALP is not so listed.

For American Unity  
BUY UNITY STAMPS



Victory is sweet but the lessons learned from defeat can be profitable if we study the causes. In that way we can plan and undertake efforts which will minimize the faults which lead to defeat and focus seriously on the practices which will lead to victory.

The foregoing thought is suggested by the licking which JWV and a score of other liberal groups took on the Walter Immigration Bill (HR 5678) which passed the House by 206 ayes against 68 noes. By a parliamentary maneuver, the members voting were not recorded. In spite of the objections for the most part by Mr. Walter, a few good amendments were introduced by a doughty, little group of representatives led by Congressmen Celler, Javits and Roosevelt. It is unfortunate that the lack of a printed record of the vote makes it impossible to give credit to all the 68 members who voted right on this issue.

The bill now goes to the Senate where there is a similar bill (S 2550) which is even worse than the Walter bill. Fortunately, a bill (S 2842) known as the Humphrey-Lehman Bill which is co-sponsored by eleven other Senators—Benton, Langer, Kilgore, Douglas, McMahon, Morse, Green, Pastore, Murray, Kefauver and Moody—deals with immigration in a manner which protects the interests of the United States and at the same time humanizes our immigration laws. S 2842 furnishes a specific substitute for which every senator can vote and for which many senators will vote if you will let them know your wishes. There is no time to lose. WRITE YOUR TWO SENATORS RIGHT NOW. Address them, Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.

As you were reminded in the last issue of The Jewish Veteran, Veterans Preference and our whole Civil Service System is endangered by S 1135 which passed the Senate and is currently being considered by the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee. Your National Legislative Director testified before the Committee this week in opposition to S 1135. In concluding his testimony, he said, "To summarize, therefore, our opposition is based on the fact that this bill will probably increase the cost of recruiting government employees, will not with certainty improve the caliber of government employees, will probably weaken the Civil Service System by breaching the safeguards which insure objective measurement of applicants' qualifications and will directly diminish Veterans Preference and weaken the assurance that Veterans' Preference to whatever degree Veterans' Preference is continued, will be adequately protected. On behalf of the Jew-

## REUNIONS

### 5TH ARMY TO INVADE ITALY

On September 12, five hundred to one thousand veterans of the Italian campaign will sail on the Conte Biancamano from New York to take part in a Fifth Army reunion pilgrimage to Italy and North Africa. Many of the veterans will be accompanied by their wives, and in some cases, children.

Further details may be obtained from: 5th Army Reunion Pilgrimage Committee, 38 E. 57 St., New York 22, N. Y.

### RETREADS TO MEET

A reunion of all Retreads (veterans of both World War I and II) will be held in Boston, Mass., August 1-3, 1952.

Contact: Chairman Ross H. Currier, 108 Massachusetts Ave., Boston 15, Mass.

ish War Veterans of the United States of America, I hope your Committee will reject this bill."

On this bill, write to the member of the House who represents your district urging him to oppose S 1135 if it comes to the floor for a vote. Address your House member at House Office Building, Washington, D. C.

The House voted on the Defense Appropriations bill and cut the amount by more than \$4,000,000 which in itself endangers the Defense Program which is so essential if we are to deter and if necessary, overcome Communist aggression. Even worse, the House limited the defense spending for the fiscal year 1952-1953 to \$46,000,000. This limitation is like placing a time bomb in the whole defense program. According to the testimony of the Controller General of the United States, this limitation does not mean a penny of savings. The Defense Appropriations Bill is now before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee. It will probably go to the Senate floor sometime in May. Write to your senators asking them to knock out the \$46,000,000 spending limitation and to restore the full budget request.

Universal Military Training legislation is still stuck in the Armed Services Committee of the House and the Senate. Write to your Congressman and to your two senators to get action on UMT. Failure to get favorable action condemns veteran reservists to continual recalls to active service.

Still under unfinished business in the Senate Appropriations Committee, is the appropriation for the construction of 75,000 low rent housing units in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1952, as well as the appropriation for the office of the Administrator of the Housing and Home Finance Agency. Besides, there is the House-passed Gwinn Amendment which would prohibit the payment of annual contributions and projects where a tenant belongs to an organization listed by the Attorney General as subversive. Gwinn, an outspoken opponent of Public Housing has with his amendment precluded the investment value of Public Housing Authority Bonds in a manner which may block the whole Public Housing program. There must be some better way than the Gwinn amendment to prevent the use of low rent housing by members of subversive organizations. Of course, so far as Mr. Gwinn is concerned, he is probably happy to deliver a body blow at Public Housing along with making life tough for Fascists and especially Communists.

The Public Housing appropriation was fully covered in the LegisLetter of the April issue of The Jewish Veteran. However, it is well to remember that by raising the appropriation to cover 75,000 low rent housing units, it will be possible to move 70,000 additional families from the degradation of slum dwellings.

The cut in the appropriation for the office of the Administrator of the Housing and Home Finance Agency will just about kill the program for slum clearance and redevelopment, defense housing and other essential programs. The full appropriation asked must be restored if these important programs are to be maintained.

### Set Dep't Conventions

Two JWV departments have announced the dates of their forthcoming conventions. The Department of Missouri convention will be held at Kansas City, Mo., on June 14; Rhode Island's will be at the Narragansett Hotel in Providence, R. I., on May 25.