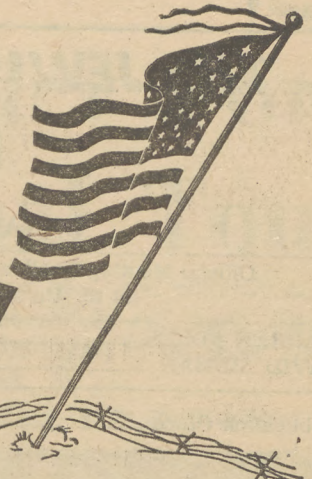




The JEWISH VETERAN



JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND LADIES' AUXILIARY
THE OLDEST VETERANS' ORGANIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES

Vol. 26—No. 5



January, 1955

JWV Protests Stir Action

Triple "R" Increases Average

The results of the Triple "R" Program indicate that JWV membership has nearly doubled its national average of paid up membership over last year's figure, it has been announced by William Carmen, National Recruiting Officer.

The goal as originally set was a national average paid up membership by December 31, 1954 for 1955 of 40% of the 1954 total membership. This expectation was surpassed when the National average paid up membership on December 1954 was 51.3% representing 187% of the comparable figure of the same period last year when the national average was 27.6%.

The winner of the 1955 Ford will be announced in the Feb-
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PRESIDENTIAL PRESENTATION: National Commander Joseph F. Barr of Washington, D. C. presents a copy of "Jews in American Wars" by J. George Fredman and Louis Falk to President Dwight D. Eisenhower during a visit to the White House. Commander Barr discussed with the President the administration's Legislative Program and the goals JWV is trying to achieve.

Barr Condemns Anti-Semitic Tone

Swift action by the Jewish War Veterans last month emerged as one of the prime factors in getting the White House to intervene in the case of Wolf Ladejinsky.

National Commander Joseph F. Barr of Washington, D. C., acting immediately upon the revelation that anti-

Semitism was involved in the Ladejinsky case, in a public statement on New Year's Day to the press, radio and television, angrily protested the "injection of anti-Semitism into the Ladejinsky case" and deplored the implication that the Vitt letter expressed the thinking of the Department of Agriculture in declaring that Mr. Ladejinsky was a security risk.

George Vitt of Wilton, Connecticut, had written the Department of Agriculture commending its action in removing Ladejinsky. The letter was an eight-page, single-spaced document containing certain statements of an anti-Semitic nature. Secretary Benson has since admitted that he does not read such letters since they are "obviously written by crackpots."

JWV's action was as follows: Commander Barr used the fact that he had a scheduled appointment in the White House with the President as a spring-board to focus attention on the case and impress upon the White House the need for immediate action.

On the day before Commander Barr's visit, two telegrams were received by him from Secretary Benson. The Secretary announced that he had released to the press the following information: "I ACCEPT NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY OF THE STATEMENTS OR CONCLUSIONS IN THE VITT OR ANY OTHER LETTER RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE LADEJINSKY MATTER. IT WAS A MISTAKE TO SHOW THE LETTER TO REPORTERS, AND BY SO DOING IMPLY THE DEPART-
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Post Action Outdates Congress

Swift and decisive action by the Keller-Litman-Frank Post 382, New York City, was responsible for outdating a report by the House Committee on Un-American Activities by at least two months.

The Post was instrumental in having the National Renaissance Party thrown off the streets of Yorkville. This was accomplished after an intensive campaign sponsored by the Post which enlisted the aid of other community groups.

Up until the Post took action, the National Renaissance Party was holding regular street meetings, featuring speakers who would offer their listeners long anti-Semitic diatribes. Among the participants in these meetings were NRP members in uniforms patterned after Nazi Storm troopers.

The Preliminary Report on Neo-Fascists and Hate Groups just published by the House Committee on Un-American Activities reported that in Yorkville, "in seasonable weather, Madole may be seen haranguing some two dozen followers with a mixture of praises for Hitler and Mussolini and vituperation against minority groups. Hecklers at times swell the audience to almost 100 persons, and the meeting occasionally ends in a stone-throwing bout."

This, of course, is no longer the
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Senator Barkley Will Address Award Dinner

Senator Alben W. Barkley (D-Ky.) will be the principal speaker at the Gold Medal of Merit Award Dinner sponsored by the Jewish War Veterans to be held in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York on Monday evening, January 31st, it has been announced by Milton Weill of New York, Dinner Chairman.

The former Vice-President will head the list of distinguished guests set to honor Col. Harry D. Henshel, of New York, Vice-President and Director of the Bulova Watch Company. Col Henshel has been selected by the Jewish War Veterans to receive the 1954 Gold Medal of Merit Award.

General Omar N. Bradley, honorary chairman of the dinner, and a former recipient of the award will make the presentation.

Other past recipients of the award are former Secretary of State Dean Acheson, Senator Herbert H. Lehman, and Lt. Gen. James H. Doolittle.

The former Vice-President, known affectionately as the "Veep", will be making his first official visit to New York since his recent election to the Senate, to attend the dinner.

The JWV Award is given for distinguished service in the furtherance of democratic ideals.

Col. Henshel was rejected in World War I for physical disabilities but volunteered for serv-

ice in World War II at the age of 52. While in Europe with General Bradley's famed Twelfth Army Group, he was instrumental in organizing the evacuation of combat wounded by air. For this meritorious service he was awarded the Bronze Star.

He has been one of the principal leaders behind Amateur Sports through his participation on the U. S. Olympic Committee, the Amateur Athletic Union and the U. S. Committee for Sports in Israel.

He has been prominent among the leadership of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York and the United Jewish Appeal and has fostered the needs of the men in the service and hospitalized veterans through his role as Chairman of the Armed Services Committee of the National Jewish Welfare Board and as a National Officer of the Jewish War Veterans.

He was also instrumental in creating the Bulova Watch Company's School of Watchmaking for Disabled Veterans and is Chairman of the committee on Military Participation of the American Jewish Tercentenary.

1955 Quotas Announced

A new assigned membership percentage quota has been announced by William Carmen, National Recruiting Officer. Under this new system, the three divisions used in 1954 have been reduced to two (2) and the assigned quotas are as follows:

Division 1—	Post under 15	75%
	Post under 20	60%
	Post under 30	50%
	Post under 50	45%
Division 2—	Post under 75	40%
	Post under 100	35%
	Post under 150	30%
	Post under 200	25%
	Post under 300	20%
	Post under 500	15%
	Post over 500	10%

Awards will again be granted to posts in both divisions for showing the greatest percentage increase as well as the traditional Ben Kaufman Trophy for the Post obtaining the greatest numerical increase and the large felt wall panel to the Post with the largest membership in the country. Certificates of achievement will also be awarded to each Post which reaches its assigned quota. Recruiting awards will continue to be given to individuals who bring in the most members.

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THE JEWISH VETERAN



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The Heart of the Matter

It is important that the residual clouds of recrimination do not obscure the real issue behind the Ladejinsky case, namely the alarming inadequacy and misdirection of the Government's security program.

Perhaps it would, therefore, not be amiss to suggest that the errors in the program lie in a profound ignorance of semantics, the science of word meanings, by those who administer security procedures.

Do they, for example, know the meaning of the word "loyalty"; the meaning of the word "risk"; the meaning of the word "security?" One wonders, too, if they have a firm grasp of the subtleties and nuances of these meanings.

Available evidence would seem to indicate that they have not even the slightest understanding of these words, for if they did a standard would long ago have been established regarding the exact nature of loyalty, security and risk.

The unhappy result of all this monumental ignorance is that there is no proper yardstick upon which one can gauge a man's "reliability" in terms of his service to our country. In the case of Ladejinsky, one agency had measured him as a risk, while another had used a different gauge and measured him "not a risk." This is a matter that cannot be left unresolved.

Secretary Benson has stated that honest men can sometimes come to different conclusions. If he were speaking of a close play at second base the Secretary might be correct. Unfortunately, the stakes in the game of security do not permit of such differences of opinion. A man can either be loyal or disloyal. He cannot be both. Nor can any man of sound and honest conscience predict nor pass judgment on the proneness or capacity to disloyalty of another man.

It is essential that this government, especially in dealing with its citizens, does not disregard the code of ethics and morality which are the foundation stones of its heritage. Once, through ignorance or carelessness or both, the Government endorses an amoral attitude toward the individual we had all better stand up and take sharp notice.

The security program as it exists today, in its well-meaning and plodding way is unfortunately taking such an attitude. But the picture is by no means one of complete gloom, for Americans from all walks of life are indeed standing up and taking notice. Here are just a few things that have happened:

1. Congress is considering taking steps to investigate security procedures in Government.
2. A broad study of the existing program is to be made by a select committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York under a \$100,000 grant from the Fund for the Republic, Inc., a Ford Foundation subsidiary.
3. The American Legion in the January 1955 issue of its magazine has taken issue with the present program.
4. There is rising grass roots support urging adequate steps be taken to safeguard the rights of the individual in the security set-up.
5. A special legal aid committee has been formed in Washington to give free legal assistance to Federal employees charged as risks.
6. Harry P. Cain, a member of the subversive Activities Control Board has publicly called for a basic reform of our security risk program.

If in its participation of the Ladejinsky uproar JWV was instrumental in helping to create a sense of awareness that the present security set-up was inadequate, then we can consider our mission of tremendous value. If, however, we have simply called attention to a single case where anti-Semitism was injected as an extraneous issue then we cannot consider our success complete.

Readers Forum

Barr Column

Sirs:
My congratulations to National Commander Joseph F. Barr and the Jewish War Veterans on his excellent article (Nov. issue).
Sincerely yours,
Mrs. Herman Shulman
National President
Hadassah
New York, N. Y.

Sirs:
I read Joe Barr's column in the November issue of the JEWISH VETERAN with a great deal of interest, and I want to commend him on the clarity of his vision as well as his expression.
Cordially,
Philip M. Klutznick
B'nai B'rith

December 20, 1954

Sirs:
I find much to commend in this column (Commander Joseph F. Barr's) which has also a very realistic bit of advice in the final paragraph which it seems to me is the significant factor in the situation.

I was happy to read this.
Sincerely,
MORTIMER MAY
Zionist Organization of America
New York City

December 29, 1954

Sirs:
I have had the pleasure of making Mr. Barr's acquaintance only a short time ago, and have indeed, enjoyed reading his column which states clearly and vigorously his viewpoint on those questions which are of paramount importance to our people, as well as to America, although American leadership may not realize it.

Sincerely yours,
Rabbi Mordecai Kirshblum,
President
Mizrachi Organization of America
New York City

December 16, 1954

Sirs:
Dr. Emanuel Neumann has asked me to acknowledge Mr. Barr's Editorial. He read it with great interest and, needless to say, shares its sentiments.

Sincerely yours,
J. L. TELLER
Director of Information
The Jewish Agency for Palestine
New York City

December 16, 1954

Sirs:
I like our Commander's spirit. United Synagogue of America
Sincerely,
Chas. Rosengarten
(Member of JWV)

Tercentenary

December 27, 1954

Sirs:
In the December 1954 JEWISH VETERAN appears a picture of "America . . . yesterday and today, 300 years of American Jewish Service."

To us Jews this should rank with the raising of our flag on Mt. Surabachi at Iwo Jima and far too few people saw it or know of our glorious part in the wars. I positively think this should be done in color, either by Bakersfield Post 602, Calif. or by Headquarters and should be in every home of each JWV member, as well as in the windows of places of business of every JWV member.

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National Commander's Column

By Joseph F. Barr
National Commander



I Propose

I propose and urge that the President or the Congress, in the interest of our American freedom for which so much blood has been shed and so many lives sacrificed, provide immediately for the establishment of a Commission to review the operations of the Federal Security policy as administered under Executive Order No. 10450.

This proposal I make because I am of the sincere and firm belief that the current Security policy under this program is leading us down the road to totalitarianism through conformity.

As I conceive it, such a Commission should properly be patterned along the lines of the Hoover Commission on Government Reorganization. It should include among its members jurists, scientists, educators, public officials, and newspapermen. I suggest representatives of the Press for I believe that they represent the most sensitive barometer in our country for the gauging of public opinion with regard to infringements of freedom of expression and thought.

It is, I believe, axiomatic that to have a security program which will not destroy the innocent liberal along with the true subversive, we must discover the difference between disloyalty and non-conformity, between treason and what some consider heresy or liberality of thought and expression.

Unless those charged with administering the Security program either have, or acquire, insight and understanding of such a differentiation, all the Security program can mean, if administered along the lines of the Chasanow and Ladejinsky cases, is an insistence upon conformity or orthodoxy, until we wake up one morning and discover that the very things the Security programs were designed to make secure, are no longer with us.

Harry Cain Comment

When one considers that a man like Harry Cain, former Senator from the State of Washington, who is now a member of the Subversive Activities Control Board, says: "The Ladejinsky case points up practically every weakness which we can find or trace in our prevailing security system. . . . It includes evidences of the short-sightedness, ruthlessness, smugness and brutality of bureaucracy at its worst."

And when one remembers that the Chasanow case was admittedly one of anti-Semitic prejudice, we can learn that men who are chosen to administer the Security program must be among the best, and not among the average or below the average; that such a program must devise ways and means to administer justice even-handedly and not blindly.

I believe that a Commission created either by Executive Order or by the Congress is the only possible step to find a way out of the morass in which the Security program is presently bogged down.

I suggest that the members of this Commission be given the opportunity to analyze the unfortunate incidents of the Ft. Monmouth case and its implications, the unfortunate incidents in connection with the Radulovitch case and what that implies, and I furthermore believe that particular attention should be paid to what I consider to be the equation of either race, or color, or creed, with subversion, which equation, I believe, to be more subversive than the very subversions which are presently under attack.

As I recently stated in my remarks to the Council of Administration of the Department of Connecticut of Disabled War Veterans: "What shall it profit a man if he gain the world and lose his soul?" In that sense, I ask, "What shall it profit America to defeat subversives abroad and lose to another brand of subversive thought over here?"

Comment of Note

The following is comment of note on JWV's participation in Ladejinsky case.

January 11, 1955

Dear Mr. Barr:

I am grateful to you for your very generous letter about the coverage of the Ladejinsky case by Mr. Graves and my other colleagues and your congratulations. May I also send you and your colleagues my congratulations for the very effective work you did to see that this regrettable situation was reasonably concluded.

Sincerely,
Philip L. Graham
Publisher
The Washington Post and Times Herald
Washington 5, D. C.