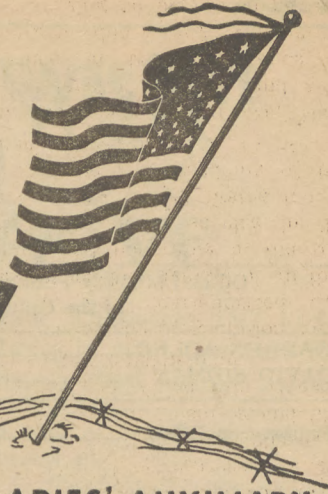




The JEWISH VETERAN



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

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8

February, 1955

Dedicate Shrine in May

Plan Celebrations Marking Occasion

The National Shrine for the Jewish War Dead will be officially dedicated at special ceremonies during the weekend of May 20th through 22nd, it has been announced by Myer Dorfman, Chairman of the Building Fund.

The dedication coincides with the meeting of the National Executive Committee which will be held during the same weekend at the Dupont Plaza Hotel in Washington, D. C. Headquarters for the dedication will also be in the Dupont Plaza Hotel.

Pays Tribute To JWV Shrine

Milton Herskowitz, a life member of Pittsburg Post 299, after visiting the new National Shrine for Jewish War Dead paid the greatest tribute that it could ever hope to receive. He declared the Shrine beneficiary on a \$5,000 life insurance policy.

A Program Committee has been chosen. Chairman is Julius Rosenbaum, Department Commander of the District of Columbia; Co-Chairman is Arthur Schiller, Past National Vice Commander. Serving on the committee will be David Greenberg, Past Department Commander, Jerry Jablow, Past Department Commander, and

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NEC Approves Formosa Stand Of President

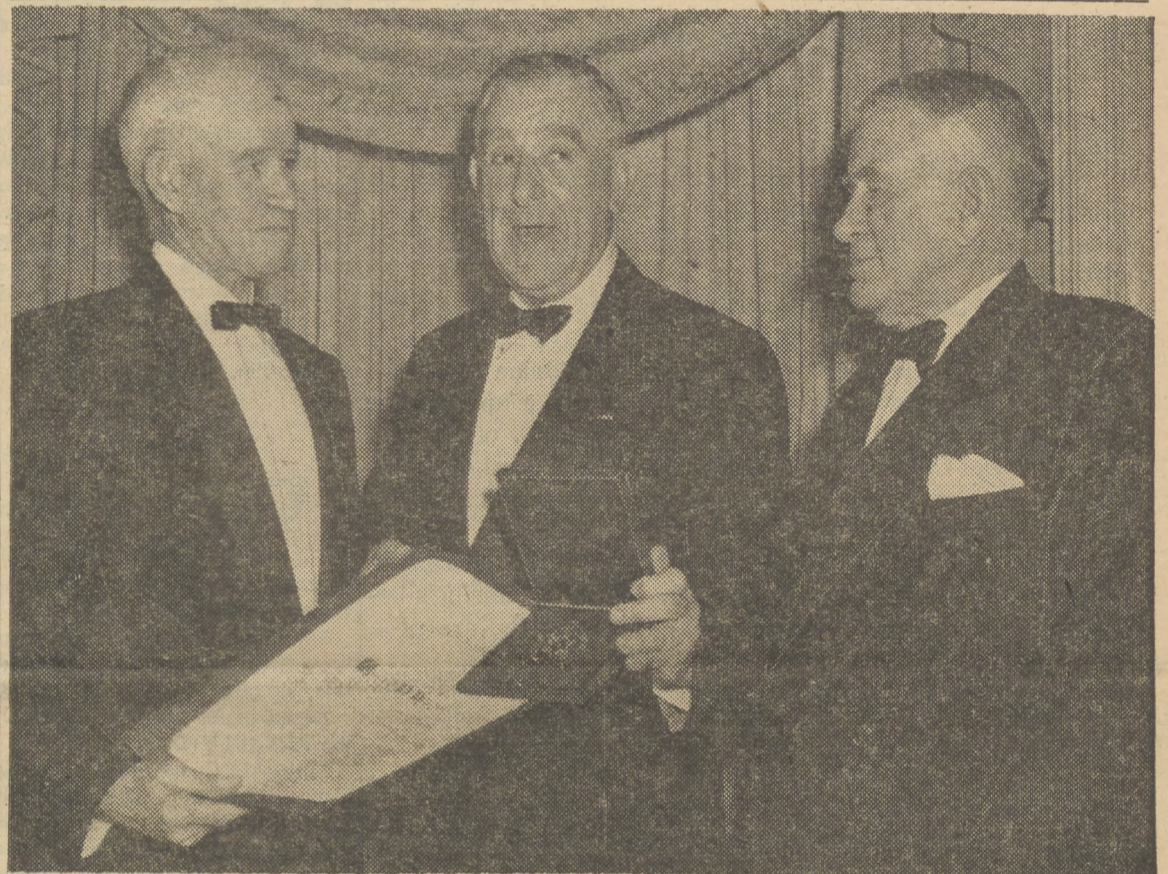
The National Executive Committee meeting at the Roosevelt Hotel in New York on the eve of the Gold Medal of Merit Award dinner voted to stand squarely behind the President in his action with respect to Formosa and the Pescadores.

The National Executive Committee passed a resolution indicating that JWV was "of the conviction that the course pursued by the President of the United States is most conducive to the preservation of peace and the maintenance of the security of the United States, and fully supports the position he has taken."

In addition the NEC picked 20 delegates to attend the March meeting of Jewish organizations in Washington, D. C. to discuss problems with respect to Israel and the Arabs.

The NEC also, by approving the National Commander's report,

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MEDAL PRESENTATION: General Omar N. Bradley presents the JWV 1954 Gold Medal of Merit to Col. Harry D. Henshel, Vice-President and Director of the Bulova Watch Company, as Senator Alben W. Barkley (D.Ky.) looks on.

Post 72 Member Wins Car

Charles F. Naylor, a member of Brookline Post 72, Brookline, Massachusetts, has won the Triple "R" program's Grand Prize of a 1955 Ford.

Drawing for the Triple "R" winners were held at the National Executive Committee meeting in New York.

Comrade Naylor had paid his dues in October thereby getting three chances at the Grand Prize. A veteran of World War II, he was so thrilled with his good fortune, he immediately put in his application for Life Membership.

Triple "R" chances were based on the month in which a member paid his dues. If he paid in October, he received three chances; if he paid in November, he received two; and in December one chance.

Ten Post Quartermasters were the recipients respectively of Benrus wrist watches. Eligibility for drawing was based on the fact that their Posts had reached 100% paid-up membership by December 31st, 1954. The winners were:

Albert Taskin of Sherman-Gitelson-Pindick Post 121, North Adams, Massachusetts; Isadore

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Award Col. Henshel JWV Medal of Merit

Col. Harry D. Henshel, Vice-President and Director of the Bulova Watch Company received last month the 1954 JWV Gold Medal of Merit at the annual dinner held in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria.

Announce All-Star N.Y. Show

Stanley R. Bookstein, Department of New York Commander, has announced that the Jewish War Veterans' 10th annual All Star Show, dedicated to the American Jewish Tercentary, will take place May 18th in Madison Square Garden in New York.

A host of stars from stage, screen, radio and television will once again appear in the affair.

As a special added feature there will be a historical pageant depicting the military participation of Jews in the wars of the United States.

With prominent narrators, scenes and professional casts, the Pageant will depict a complete history since 1654, when Asser Levy stood

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General Omar N. Bradley, a past recipient of JWV's coveted medal presented the award to Col. Henshel. Senator Alben W. Barkley (D. Ky.) was the principal speaker of the evening.

The dinner, was a star-studded event attended by high ranking generals and dignitaries from all over the United States. A large delegation from General Bradley's famed Twelfth Army Group, in which Col. Henshel served during World War II, were present as well as representatives of all phases of amateur sports, business and philanthropy, in which Col. Henshel was an active participant.

In making the presentation, General Bradley characterized Col. Henshel as the "symbol of all that is fine and honorable in the traditions of Jewish service in the wars of the United States fought to preserve the freedoms of the American way of life."

He pointed out that Col. Henshel's devotion to duty and self-sacrifice in the furtherance of American democracy is "merely the carrying on of Jewish partici-

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Miami Convention Plans Completed

Harry Cohen, President of JWV's 1955 Convention Corporation has announced that plans have been completed for accommodations at a number of hotels for the 60th Annual JWV Convention in Miami Beach, October 24th to 30th.

He urged that members and their families make every effort to attend the convention and pointed out that special arrangements could be made for family groups. He suggested postponement of summer vacations so that availability to attend the convention will be assured. Every detail to make for family comfort has been arranged, including baby sitters and many other features.

Also announced was a special group plan with Eastern Airlines, whereby rates could be arranged for those who are traveling in large groups. For additional information write to Martin Horowitz, Convention Co-Chairman, c/o National Headquarters. Considerable saving on transportation can

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Harry Harrison
Convention Chairman

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Dedication

The official dedication of the National Shrine for the Jewish War Dead will be held during the week-end of May 20th through May 22nd.

In this simple announcement lies the culmination of incredible efforts by a multitude of men and women who believed in the meaning and motivation behind this National Shrine.

By the time the dedication ceremonies begin the building will have been fully paid for. All that remains now is the furnishing, the tangible creation of the Shrine itself, the accoutrements and accessories which will make up the Museum of Jewish military participation, the Hall of Heroes, the Memorial Chapel, the Library. A tentative goal of \$100,000 has been set as the sum which is needed to fulfill the job of furnishing the interior.

Great effort, time and sacrifice will go into the raising of this sum. But those who have labored in the Shrine's behalf will be the first to admit that the rewards, are of a value upon which there can be no price.

Nor can one measure the satisfaction one can receive by the tribute of those great military leaders under whom so many Jews served so valiantly.

A case in point is a recent letter received at National Headquarters written by a retired Major General who had just returned from the Annual Gold Medal of Merit Award Dinner in New York at which time he had read the pamphlet entitled "Reminiscences of the Early Days of the Jewish War Veterans," by Harry Raymond.

The General wrote:

"The JWV is doing a commendable job in dispelling the bigotry which so long has surrounded your people's part in building and maintaining our country. I wish I had seen Mr. Raymond's pamphlet much sooner; it would have helped me many times in the past."

The National Shrine will help mold the conscience of our nation.

Support American Red Cross

None of us know when a family emergency may demand that human blood be made available for treatment of shock, wounds, blood diseases, or for use in childbirth. Without this blood, thousands of sick and injured Americans would die each year. The blood that saves their lives is secured by the American Red Cross from volunteer donors including members of the Jewish War Veterans and its Ladies Auxiliary.

Were it not for the non-profit services rendered by American Red Cross in collecting and processing the blood for civilian and military use, there would be even greater profiteering by private individuals running commercial blood banks and charging exorbitant fees, sometimes as high as \$35.00 a pint for blood. When the American Red Cross blood bank program is permitted to serve a community, it discourages the use of blood from skid row vagrants and derelicts who are often an important source of blood for commercial banks.

Jewish War Veterans is proud of its support of the American Red Cross blood program and has joined in the struggle to bring about an elimination of profiteering which has become synonymous with the operation of some private commercial blood banks.

The budget goal for 1955 in a campaign that starts during March, is a modest 85 million dollars. All of us should renew our membership started during school days in the Junior Red Cross. Experience has proven that American Red Cross merits our support.

Shrine Dedication

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Henrietta Zoltrow, Past Commander of the All-Women's Post of the District of Columbia.

The Ladies Auxiliary Program Committee will consist of Ethel Novak, Past National President, Frances Brams, Past National President; Jesse Gneslin, National Secretary-treasurer; Ethel Cohen, Building Fund Chairman and Frances Fogel, Department President of District of Columbia.

Posts and Auxiliaries have been urged to attend the dedication ceremonies in groups, bringing their colors with them so that an imposing delegation of JWV and JWVA will be present.

Special accommodation arrangements can be made by writing directly to the Dupont Plaza Hotel.

A number of events have been scheduled for the three day week-end. Details will be announced in forthcoming editions of the JEWISH VETERAN.

Comrade Dorfman, in making the announcement of the dedication, pointed out that \$100,000 was still needed to furnish the building. He emphasized that the goal could be reached if all members will fulfill their quota of \$3.00 per member, based on the rolls of JWV as of its '54 membership.

He personally urged every member to meet this quota as quickly as possible.

Miami Convention

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be affected in this way, Comrade Cohen said.

A number of spectacular events have been planned for the Convention, details of which will be announced in forthcoming editions of the JEWISH VETERAN.

National Convention Chairman Harry Harrison of Atlanta, Georgia, has indicated that he expects the 1955 Convention to "surpass in attendance, activities, and splendor all conventions ever held by the Jewish War Veterans in their 60-year history."

Additional information, such as rates, hotels and accommodations, will be announced in the March issue of the JEWISH VETERAN. Posts are urged to adopt some savings plan whereby members and their families will be assured of attendance.

Award Dinner

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pation which began when Asser Levy first petitioned for the right to bear arms with his fellow citizens in New Amsterdam 300 years ago.

Senator Barkley told the more than 1,000 guests at the dinner that "as exemplified in Col. Henshel's life, Jews have enriched America's society by bringing it the fullness of their 2,000 years of achievement and experience."

Among the other features of the dinner were humorous monologues by Sam Levinson and Al Kelly and the singing of a number of songs by Everett Morris, YNSN, U. S. Navy.

It was also announced at the dinner that the recipient of the 1955 medal will be Capt. Joshua L. Goldberg, Chaplain, Third Naval District, United States Navy.

Reunion Possibility

Former members interested in a reunion dinner of Company I, 71st Infantry in the spring should write to Company I, 71st Infantry, Park Avenue and 34th St., New York City.

National Commander's Column

By Joseph F. Barr
National Commander



Change of Approach

I would like to call attention to evidences of a change in the approach hitherto manifested by the American Legion to some of the problems which have concerned JWV.

The American Legion Magazine for the month of July, last year, carried an article by Alfred Lillenthal which was a bitter attack on Israel and on the American Jewish community for the part that it had played in helping Israel.

The February, 1955 issue of the American Legion Magazine has an article written by the Reverend Dan Poling, editor of the Christian Herald, Chaplain of the Chapel of Four Chaplains, and father of Chaplain Poling who was one of the four chaplains in the Dorchester sinking, which, although not specifically an answer to the Lillenthal article, does point out, in eloquent terms, what Israel means and why Israel should be supported.

The third paragraph of this article reads, in part: "I am one of those who maintain that God's will has been done through the miracle of Israel's restoration, and I have pride in the fact that our country was the first of the nations to recognize His purpose in the renewal of Zion."

Another item of interest in the American Legion Magazine for January, 1955, appears on page 37. The first sentence reads: "American Legion is handling some fantastic cases for veterans who have been fired from Federal Civil Service." The examples that follow are of extreme interest and the criticism of the Federal Security program, in the light of the Ladejinsky case and our part therein, is illuminating.

Commending New York

The Department of New York JWV deserves special commendation for its handling of an extremely delicate matter which involved the broadcast of a jazz record which was of an anti-Semitic nature. The Department was able to secure apologies for the playing of the record; assurances that it would never again be played on the broadcasting system; assurances from the distributors that all records in stock and in possession of distributors and retailers would be called in and destroyed, and that the master record would also be destroyed. Because of the intervention of the Department of New York and its action the Department was assured that the record would not be sold in this country.

Bamboo Prison

The Columbia Studio motion picture entitled, "Bamboo prison" resulted in a reviewer charging that the film slandered a heroic Catholic chaplain who died in a North Korean prison camp. This bitter criticism received some support from a post of the American Legion.

A national representative of JWV suggested arrangements whereby American Legion representatives would be able to see a private exhibition of the picture. Their report concluded that the "Bamboo Prison" is a powerful anti-Communist document with absolutely no offense against any member of any clergy.

The final result is that the picture has been given a high rating by the Catholic Legion of Decency and the critic has apologized for his criticism, as unfounded.

Lincoln Day Pilgrimage

Heretofore, I have abstained in these columns from discussing my peregrinations, but I would be derelict if I failed to make mention of the Lincoln Day Pilgrimage to Springfield, Illinois, in order to participate on February 13th in homage to the saviour of the Union, Abraham Lincoln.

I wish to congratulate the Department of Illinois, its Senior Vice Commander and its Junior Vice Commander and the members from Chicago, Springfield and St. Louis who participated in this occasion. May I express my thanks in particular to the Regional Vice Commander Samuel Shaikewitz, of St. Louis, Missouri, who, notwithstanding the weather, the ice and the sleet, came to Springfield to participate in the program.

I wish I could find the words which would adequately express the feeling which the visit to the Tomb of Lincoln evoked. There are emotions which can be felt, but cannot be described. That is the way I felt about this visit.

Death Sentence

I must call attention to the death sentence and the executions which followed the recent trial of alleged Jewish spies in Egypt. Our organization asked our Government to intercede with the Government of Egypt to the end that the death sentences would not be carried into execution. The fact that the executions took place, notwithstanding the Egyptian Premier's specific promise that no death sentences would be carried out, shows a flouting of world opinion that can be compared only with similar overtones by the Nazis and Communists.

I would urge JWV Posts throughout the United States to give serious consideration to voicing protests against actions which can have no effect other than to create a situation which puts the possibilities of peace in the Near East further off.

I suggest that the administrative members of the House and of the Senate be informed of our feeling of outrage that men were tried by police methods without being given an opportunity for adequate defense; were brutally treated, and tortured during the course of the trial to the point where one man died of torture, and another committed suicide and finally, that, in disregard of the pleas of the civilized world for decency, notwithstanding the specific pledge that the death sentence would not be inflicted, the men were executed in what appears to be and is a contemptuous disregard of world opinion.