



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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March, 1955

JWV Asks Weakness Proven Sachs Testifies

National Judge Advocate Leon Sachs, of Philadelphia, testifying on behalf of JWV, on Senate Joint Resolution 21 characterized Executive Order 10450 as "a good example of how sober and public-spirited men can delude themselves into action encouraging violations of fundamental liberties" when they act in "an induced atmosphere of fear."

The former Congressman from the first district of Pennsylvania urged that the Commission proposed by SJ 21 be established to consider proposed changes to the Federal Security System in the atmosphere of the present day when "the tide of hysteria has been pushed back to reasonable bounds."

JWV's National Judge Advocate pointed out that "in our democracy with its long traditions of freedom, there can be no short cut to establishing the guilt or innocence of a human being on a charge as serious as being a security risk. This fact, whatever may be the consequence, is the cornerstone of American Liberty."

"We have seen in recent months," Comrade Sachs said, "enough proof of the weaknesses of the security program, to ask, to demand that changes be forthcoming." He cited the Chasanow, Wolf Ladejinsky and Ft. Monmouth Cases as prime examples of the fact "that proper safeguards for protecting the individual" are lacking in Executive Order 10450.

Government employees "should not become victims of the capricious operation of a security system which gives them no chance

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Barr Questions Karajan Visit

National Commander Joseph F. Barr last month urged the State Department to reconsider the admittance of Herbert Von Karajan, conductor of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra "in the interests of decency and democracy."

In a telegram to Herbert Hoover, Jr., Acting Secretary of State, Commander Barr pointed out that the Jewish War Veterans of the United States "representing hundreds of thousands of the Jewish faith who fought the totalitarian concepts of Nazism on the field of battle is shocked and disturbed by the State Department approval given to the tour of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra headed by H. Von Karajan, whose Nazi affiliations have been fully identified."

Commander Barr, also wrote that while "cultural interchange between nations have our approval, how can one who endorsed a philosophy that led to the destruction of so many million innocent persons represent a force for good on the American scene?"

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Strive For Peace Leaders Tell U.S.

An American program designed to "faithfully serve the highest interests of the security and welfare of the people of the United States and the free world" in the attainment of peace, development and defense in the Near East was urged this month in a resolution adopted at the two day conference of Jewish leaders representing 20 major Jewish organizations.

The resolution urged determined U. S. efforts to bring about direct peace talks between Israel and the Arab states; the suspension of arms shipments to the Near East until there has been a peace settlement with Israel and the inclusion of Israel in Mid-East regional defense plans.

The conference pledged itself to "continue to promote friendship between our democracy and the democracy of Israel," and counseled continued economic and technical assistance to Israel and the Arab peoples with a view to rais-

ing standards of living, facilitating resettlement of refugees and stabilizing democratic institutions.

Principal speakers at the parley were two high State Department officials George V. Allen, Assistant Secretary of State and John D. Jernigen, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State.

Mr. Jernigen had told the gathering that there was no place for Israel in the Mid-East Defense Pact until peace had been effected between her and her Arab neighbors.

Commander Barr, one of the principal speakers at the Luncheon Session on Sunday, March 5th, presented to the audience the Jewish War Veterans position with respect to Israel.

Security Revision

JWV Set to Sponsor American Jewish Hour

Completing Plans For Convention

As a result of last minute changes, the schedule of rates for the 1955 convention in Miami Beach to be held October 24th to 30th will be published in the April issue instead of the March issue as previously announced.

Harry Cohen, President of JWV's 1955 Convention Corporation has indicated that the rate changes are the result of a desire to make the best possible rate arrangement to attract the widest possible number of JWV members.

**Policy Committee
The National Policy
Committee Meeting will be
held on April 10th, in the
Dupont Plaza Hotel in
Washington, D. C.**

An extensive all-round program for men and women is being planned, with arrangements in the works for some spectacular events.

Among the major attractions, aside from the beauty and relaxing comfort of the Beach itself, and the important deliberations scheduled to be discussed at the meeting, there will be an early bird golf tournament for golfers who feel ready for tough competition. Only members of JWV are eligible to enter.

Harry Harrison, Convention Chairman, has made a special appeal to all members to postpone their summer vacations so that they can attend the convention. He also reported that many convention savings plans have been instituted in various Posts throughout the country.

Also announced was a special group plan with Eastern Airlines whereby special 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.

Space limitations have made it impossible to publish all the news and pictures submitted during the month. All material that does not appear in this issue will be in the April issue.

The Jewish War Veterans have undertaken the sponsorship of the "American Jewish Hour" now being broadcast in St. Louis under the auspices of St. Louis JWV Posts and Auxiliaries.

With the full endorsement and encouragement of National Commander Joseph F. Barr, the program will be offered to Posts and Auxiliaries and all communities throughout the United States.

Under the able direction of Robert Lurie, the program, a non-commercial, non-profit public service, is designed as a magazine of the air, directed expressly to the Jewish community, but prepared in such a way that it will be of interest to the community at large.

Posts will shortly receive a "Blueprint for Action" which will acquaint them with the ways in which they may have the program on a continuing weekly basis in their community.

The Blueprint will call for the establishment of a committee in each community charged with the responsibility to carry through all details.

The committees will be responsible for procuring time in each community on radio stations. The time, of course, will be public service time allotted free for the general welfare of the community.

The cost of getting the show into a community, under JWV

auspices, is minimal, especially since it will have enormous possibilities as far as membership potential is concerned.

The actual cost of the show including production, mailing, equipment and administration can be obtained for as low as \$15 a week. The cost will be based on the population of the community.

For cities up to 200,000 population, the cost will be \$15 a week; for cities of 200,000 to 500,000 the cost will be \$20 a week; for cities of 500,000 to 1,000,000, the cost will be \$25 a week; for cities over 1,000,000 population, the cost will be \$30 per week.

Commander Barr, in making the announcement, called the undertaking "the most important project of my administration as your National Commander". Commander Barr has appointed National Executive Director Ben Kaufman National Chairman of the project, in addition to his other duties.

The American Jewish Hour was created in St. Louis in 1946 by Robert Lurie, noted radio commentator and Jewish civic leader. It has won a number of national

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Dedication Plans Going Forward

The Program Committee for the Dedication of the National Shrine for the Jewish War Dead is completing plans for a series of events to mark this historic occasion, it has been announced by Myer Dorfman, and Ethel Cohen, respective Chairman of the Building Fund.

Many Posts and Auxiliaries throughout the country have already booked special buses to be sure of a large representation at the affair. All Posts have been urged to bring their colors for participation in the ceremonies.

The dedication coincides with the meeting of the National Executive Committee which will be held during the same week end in the Dupont Plaza Hotel. Special accommodation arrangements can be made by writing directly to the Dupont Plaza Hotel.

A number of events are in the planning stage, such as planned excursions and various forms of entertainment.

The Program Committee is as

follows:

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 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.

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We Oppose

If the Congress of the United States sees fit to carry into law the recommendations of the Hoover Commission affecting veterans, it will constitute a drastic chipping away at the foundations upon which veteran's benefits and services are built.

It must be remembered that five years ago the first Hoover Commission recommended dismemberment of the Veteran's Administration and the merging of V.A. hospitals into a gigantic Federal medical system with accompanying watering down of Veteran Preference in Federal Employment.

The idea behind the report then, and it was so stated, was to give the veterans more for less. **It is a primary law of economics that for less one gets less.**

The report of the Hoover Commission on this same subject constitutes, in its way, a repeat performance. It would, for example, set up a Federal Advisory Council on Health which would impose its authority over the VA medical and hospital system.

It recommends closing down 20 VA Hospitals, notwithstanding the fact that there are, at this moment 20,000 eligibles waiting for hospital treatment.

It recommends curtailing non-service connected hospitalization by making a thorough check to determine if the veteran cannot afford it. This might mean that a veteran who needs hospitalization might conceivably wait several weeks before being admitted while a check is being made.

It also recommends that if a "broke" veteran ever scratches together enough money to recompense the Federal Government for its services it should do so.

One can see quite clearly that the strategy behind these recommendations is aimed at the complete elimination of non-service connected hospitalization.

Topping the ridiculous with the sublime, the commission recommends that the term "compensation" for war service wounds, injury or disease is too strong. It recommends that such be called "Disability Allowance." This would do away with a concept that Congress has recognized for more than 40 years—of the relation between disabilities incurred in employment with those incurred in military service.

We endorse the statement of the National Commander of the American Legion Seaborn Collins which follows:

"Veterans have earned the help and care which a grateful nation-through the Congress has provided. We believe that the principle of adequate medical care for-disabled and sick and indigent veterans . . . compensation for service-connected disabilities . . . job opportunities . . . and modest pensions to enable aged and totally disabled veterans to live out their lives as dignified, decent human beings, is right and just and necessary.

"This principle is as sound as the sense of justice and morality which gave it birth. It is above compromise."

We will oppose these recommendations not because we believe in the philosophy of Veteran's first and citizens second, but rather because we believe that a grateful America must allow, within its economy and structure, for some recognition of the sacrifices of those who risk their lives so that this nation remains secure and prosperous.

We know that we can count on the support of all members and their families to back up this concept with action.

Readers Forum

Dear Sir:

I am attempting to contact friends who were in the service with me in order to have V.A. Claim Service connected. If you would run the following notice in your paper I would be very appreciative:

WAR TIME CREW MEMBERS OF THE PC 1178 USS HECTOR (AR7) AND FORMER MEMBERS OF HEADQUARTERS CO., FIRST BATTALION 351 INFT. REGIMENT DURING 1946-1948, PLEASE WRITE TO GEORGE W. MCKENNEY, ROUTE 1, BOX 307, VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI. I NEED HELP WITH A PENSION CLAIM.

Thanking you for your assistance.

Yours very truly,
GEORGE W. MCKENNEY
Route 1, Box 307,
Vicksburg, Mississippi

Dear Sir:

I am a veteran from San Francisco, California, but my home was New York. I have been away in California for 32 years. Now I am back in New York and I would like to locate my friends with whom I was together in World War I.

My name is Henry Pesken. I was in the 31st Division. I was with friends in France, but they weren't in my Co. I would like to get in touch with them. Can you help me in any way to find them or give me any information? They must still belong to the J.W.V. if not them, their sons.

I. Sol Weiss; II. Resnick.
Please help me locate these two men. If not them, their closest relatives.

Thanking you very much,
HENRY PESKEN
c/o Lester Weinberg
1450 Rosedale Ave.,
Bronx, N. Y.

Massachusetts Wins Medal

The Department of Massachusetts has been awarded the Freedom Foundation's George Washington Medal of Honor for their High School Brotherhood Project "Classmates Today—Neighbors Tomorrow."

This represent the first time in the history of the Jewish War Veterans that any echelon has won the coveted medal. In previous years, both the Department of Wisconsin and The Sgt. Milton Louis Zelmyer Post won certificates of Commendation from Freedom's Foundation.

William Carmen, Department Commander, every officer in his administration, and all members of the Jewish War Veterans in the State of Massachusetts deserve the heartiest congratulations from all members.

Receives Award

Navy Chaplain, Samuel Sobel, Lt. USN, was the Navy Chaplain awarded recognition by the Reserve Officers Association of the United States at the "Four Chaplains" memorial dedicated recently.

The honor was made to the chaplain who outstandingly embodied the spirit of the famous "Four Chaplains" who gave their lives on the USS DORCHESTER in World War II. One Chaplain from the three branches of service were chosen. A memorial was dedicated at this ceremony in the National Memorial Park, Falls Church, Va.

National Commander's Column

By Joseph F. Barr
National Commander



Meeting on Israel

Elsewhere in this issue there is covered, from a factual point of view, the meeting which took place at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D. C. on March 5th and 6th. The purpose of this meeting was two-fold; first, to have the representatives of our Government inform the assembled delegates of the major Jewish National Organizations of the Government's present attitude with regard to the participation by Israel in the defense system in the Near East, and, second, to explain to the representatives of our Government the feeling of the American Jewish Community on this same question.

Actually, this meeting, which followed several meetings of the National Presidents who met on an informal basis over the past year to discuss questions relating to Israel-American Jewish Community relationships, was in line with my column which appeared in the December, 1954 issue of The Jewish Veteran.

The idea was advanced that the National Jewish Organizations should get together for the purpose of deciding among themselves the matters on which they would agree and on which they would disagree, so that the Community could present a united, rather than a dissonant front.

Value of Conference

I am firmly convinced that if this Conference had no value other than to acquaint the representatives of our Government of the fact that the American Jewish Community, as a whole, looks with disfavor upon the furnishing of arms to the Arab States, to the disadvantage of Israel, it would have been sufficient.

However, there were several specific advantages attained as a result of the Conference, not the least of which was to make public the position of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. on this very question.

It will be recalled that since the meeting of the National Policy Committee meeting in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York our position has been that our interest in Israel stems primarily from the fact that, as an organization of American Veterans, we are concerned with Israel as an outpost of democracy in the Near East, as well as that the history of the past forty years shows that Israel has been, and will be a true and tried friend of democratic forces in that area.

Very recently, our National Executive Committee at its January, 1955 meeting, approved a recommendation based upon General Julius Klein's Report to the Senate Committee on Appropriations, the principal portions of which, as concerns Israel, read as follows, the quotation being taken from the January, 1955 issue of The Jewish Veteran:

1. That the United States policy in the Middle East be directed toward integrating this area in the total structure of Western European Defense.
2. That United States aid to states in the Middle East be predicated on the readiness of recipient countries to join in the free world's defense system.
3. That in no case should we extend aid to any bases that will bring about an imbalance of military power between the Arab States and the State of Israel, thus discouraging any revival of Armed hostilities in the area.
4. That in no case should we extend aid to any country in the area unless a recipient state effectively guarantees that the United States' aid will not be used for aggressive purposes.

A Generic Whole

It is important that each of the points mentioned in the foregoing statement of policy be maintained and kept in mind. They are parts of one generic whole, and no part should be emphasized to the disregard of the remaining portion.

I think it is important to bear in mind particularly a statement made by one of the representatives of the State Department to this meeting. He said, that so long as a state of peace did not exist between Israel and the Arab States, Israel could not be included in any pact of security in that area, nor could arms be furnished her by this country.

At the same time, he justified the furnishing of arms to the Arab States, notwithstanding the fact that peace did not exist, his justification being merely that the Arab States in question were nearer to the position of Soviet power than Israel, and that Israel's armed forces were inadequate to cope with any emergency. One could almost characterize this kind of an explanation as sophistry.

The Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. must manage to keep in the forefront of the Veterans Councils the importance of peace in the Middle East. Our Government was a powerful factor in bringing about peace between Italy and Yugoslavia. If sufficient pressure were to be exerted upon the Arab States, it is not too difficult to imagine that such pressure could result in peace being attained in the Near East.

One-Sided View

I think it is important, also to call attention to the fact that the reports of the incidents taking place between Jordan and Israel and Egypt and Israel, seem to be predicated upon a rather one-sided point of view. In very few of the dailies, or on the news services, or in the magazines dealing with the reporting of facts on a news basis, is there any attempt to point out that over the period of the last four months, Israel has been found to have been guilty of fifteen infractions of the truce terms, or of border violations, and Egypt, during the same period was found guilty of twenty-seven incidents of this character.

The reporting of the incident of the Gaza strip is an apt illustration. The Israel argument that the incident began on the basis of an invasion of Israel by an Egyptian band, and that the incident on the Egyptian side was a result of a hot pursuit by Israel forces, has received very little, if any publicity.

It might be well if members of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. were to write objective letters to the editors of the papers serving their communities, asking for a more objective treatment of these incidents and a more complete report of the essential details thereof.