

MARCH 1957



# *The* JEWISH VETERAN

JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



*In this issue ...*

**THE RUSSIAN NEAR-EAST ROLE**  
*by Thomas K. Finletter*

**CRISIS and DECISION**  
*by Sen. Jacob K. Javits*

**HANK GREENSPUN — THE LIONHEARTED**  
*JWV Profile*



One of the great sights to be enjoyed by JWV members attending the National Convention in Boston, August 13th-18th, will be "Old Ironsides," residing once again in the Charleston Navy Yard in Boston. The ship has been restored to the exact condition when it fought in the War of 1812.

**William Carmen**  
National Commander

**Naton Hollender**  
National Editor

**Martin Apfelbaum**  
National Co-Editor

**Edward Charnovits**  
National Co-Editor

**Ben Kaufman**  
National Executive Director

**Joseph F. Barr**  
National Administrator

**Warren Adler**  
Editor-in-Chief

**Bernard Weitzer**  
Legislative Editor

**Charles Drescher**  
Veteran's Service Editor

**Gloria Opack**  
Editorial Assistant

**Arthur Schwartz**  
Business Manager

THE JEWISH VETERAN, the official publication of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. is published bi-monthly, January, March, May, July, September, and November by the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. at 324 East 24th Street, New York 10, N. Y. Second Class mail privileges authorized at New York, N. Y. Subscription price in the United States \$2 per year payable in advance.

# THE JEWISH VETERAN

Organized 1896

March, 1957

Vol. 14 No. 1

## IN THIS ISSUE

	<i>Page</i>
Tele-Letter .....	3
The Russian Mid-East Role .....	5
by Thomas K. Finletter	
Crisis and Decision .....	7
by Sen. Jacob K. Javits	
Congressional Report .....	8
by Bernard Weitzer	
Index of Pending Legislation .....	11
Hank Greenspun .....	13
The Lionhearted	
Question Box .....	15
Rehab Corner .....	19
by Charles Drescher	
Aspects of the Campaign .....	16
by Harry E. Brager	
Around the Posts .....	17
Convention Details .....	20
Editorial .....	22
Commander's Column .....	23
by William Carmen, National Commander	

This is your copy of The Jewish Veteran in its new format. The concept of this magazine was overwhelmingly endorsed by your National Executive Committee at its meeting in New York in January. The organization is determined to make this magazine the very best in its field, in an effort to keep the membership of JWV informed and aware of the problems of the day and how they affect the organization. An open forum is always essential to the understanding of the issues. The opinions expressed by the authors of the various articles are their own and not necessarily those expressed in the policies of JWV.



## TELE-LETTER

**JWV**

WHILE ISRAEL PULL-OUT FROM GAZA AND GULF OF AQABA MAY NOT BE DECISIVE IN TERMS OF SHAKEUP IN ISRAELI TOP ECHELON . . . INFORMED PROGNOSTICATORS ARE WILLING TO WAGER THERE WILL BE A CHANGE IN TOP LEADERSHIP IN ISRAELI CABINET IN NEAR FUTURE . . . ALTHOUGH PULL-OUT MAY BRING ADDITIONAL SUPPORT TO MENACHIM BEIGIN AND HIS SUPPORTERS IT IS EXPECTED THAT BEN-GURION'S PARTY (MAPAM) WILL EASILY RETAIN CONTROL OF KNESSET . . . THE CHANGE COULD VERY WELL BE SHARETT AGAIN AS PREMIER WITH ABBA EBAN AS FOREIGN MINISTER.

RECENT CORDINER REPORT RE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL TALKS OF SERIOUS PROBLEM BEING CREATED BY PRIVATE INDUSTRY WOOING TOP TECHNICAL PERSONNEL BOTH MILITARY AND CIVILIAN FROM GOVERNMENT SERVICE . . . HIGHER SALARIES PLUS ADDITIONAL BENEFITS ARE THE GREAT LURE . . . IF SITUATION CONTINUES THE CIVIL SERVICE IN PARTICULAR WILL BECOME A CENTER OF MEDIOCRITY WITH THE BEST BRAINS GOING ELSEWHERE . . . ANOTHER FACTOR IS ALLEGED DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICE OF BIG BUSINESS WHICH MIGHT EXCLUDE OUTSTANDING JEWS AND NEGROES . . . RESULT: HIGHER PERCENTAGE OF JEWS AND NEGROES IN TOP POSITIONS IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE WITH THE BIG BUSINESS "PLUMS" GOING TO THE MAJORITY GROUPS—COULD IT BE THAT THIS IS A FACTOR IN SUPPORT OF HIGHER SALARIES FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES?

AMERICAN JEWS GREATLY ALARMED OVER "HUSH-UP" OF DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES OF EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT AGAINST ITS JEWISH POPULATION . . . REPORTS FILTERING OUT OF EGYPT INDICATE THAT CONFISCATIONS AND HOSTAGE HOLDING STILL CONTINUING . . . SOME JEWISH GROUPS, INCLUDING JWV, PRESSING FOR IMMEDIATE ADMITTANCE BY U. S. OF EGYPTIAN REFUGEES . . . PRESSURE APPARENTLY NOT ENOUGH AT THIS POINT TO INDUCE U.S. TO ACT . . . MANY REFUGEES ARE CHOOSING TO GO TO ISRAEL WHICH HAS ALWAYS HAD ITS GATES OPEN TO THEM.

STORIES FILTERING OUT OF HUNGARY AND REFUGEE CAMPS IN AUSTRIA AS WELL AS CAMP KILMER, NEW JERSEY, SUPPORT RUMORS

THAT HUNGARIAN REFUGEES OF JEWISH FAITH BEING MISTREATED BY THEIR FELLOW REFUGEES . . . ONE REPORT BY LETTER TO A RELATIVE IN THIS COUNTRY INDICATED THAT JEWISH REFUGEES IN AUSTRIAN CAMPS ARE IN FEAR OF THEIR LIVES WITH NON-JEWISH REFUGEES BLAMING THE JEW FOR THEIR PRESENT DIFFICULTIES . . . ONE CLANDESTINE REPORT FROM AUSTRIA INDICATES THAT SOME "INCIDENTS" HAVE RESULTED IN BLOODSHED AND HINTS AT EVEN MORE SERIOUS TROUBLE.

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR BERNARD WEITZER AND THE ORGANIZATION RECEIVED PLAUDITS LAST MONTH FROM GEN. MAXWELL TAYLOR, CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMY, REGARDING COMRADE WEITZER'S TESTIMONY ON BEHALF OF THE ORGANIZATION ON THE SIX MONTHS ACTIVE DUTY TRAINING PLAN . . . " . . . YOUR ENDORSEMENT OF THE PROPOSAL WAS OF SIGNIFICANT BENEFIT TO THE ARMY AND YOUR REMARKS UNDOUBTEDLY SERVED TO CLARIFY THE REAL ISSUES OF THE MATTER . . . I FEEL THAT YOUR SUPPORT OF THE ARMY'S PLAN IS AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO OUR NATIONAL DEFENSE", WROTE GENERAL TAYLOR.

ON THE CONGRESSIONAL FRONT, JWV'S TESTIMONY AS WELL AS SPEECHES DELIVERED BY NATIONAL COMMANDER CARMEN RECEIVING WIDE DISSEMINATION THROUGH INSERTIONS IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD . . . JWV'S VIEWS ARE UTILIZED BY CONGRESSMEN IN REPORTING THE REACTION OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMUNITY, ESPECIALLY ON THE MIDDLE EAST QUESTION.

WATCH FOR DRAMATIC CHANGE IN DRAFT SET-UP WITHIN THE NEXT SIX MONTHS . . . ARMED FORCES WANT SIX MONTH TRAINING PLAN FOR ALL DRAFTEES WHEN ASSURED THAT THEY WILL HAVE A CONTINUING HARD CORE PROFESSIONAL CADRE OF TOP CALIBRE . . . JWV WILL SUPPORT PROPOSALS FOR RAISE IN SERVICE PAY TO KEEP THE MILITARY WELL-STOCKED WITH TOP TECHNICAL PERSONNEL.

WATCH ALSO FOR SHAKE-UP IN ORGANIZATION KNOWN AS "AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE MIDDLE EAST" . . . OIL INTERESTS WHICH PUT UP MONEY TO KEEP THE ORGANIZATION GOING GREATLY DISTURBED OVER SUEZ DEBACLE . . . AFME CURRENTLY UNDERGOING "CONCEPTUAL REAPPRAISAL."

ARAB PROPAGANDA MACHINE DISMAYED OVER SWING OF PUBLIC OPINION PENDULUM TO ISRAEL . . . NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES TALK OF "TOUGH, COURAGEOUS, BRILLIANT" BEN GURION . . . AMERICANS OF ALL FAITHS HAVE ALWAYS ADMIRER THIS KIND OF RUGGED RESOURCEFULNESS . . . ARAB PROPAGANDISTS MISSED THE BOAT ON THIS ONE . . . LOOK FOR EVEN GREATER SWING OF PUBLIC OPINION TO THE SIDE OF ISRAEL.

# THE RUSSIAN MID-EAST ROLE

by THOMAS K. FINLETTER  
*Former Secretary of the Air Force*

---

THE danger in the Middle East is far from over. Most of the basic causes of the recent tragedy still remain.

There still remains the hostility of the Arab states toward Israel. Indeed Egypt has never yet recognized the Armistice of 1949. Egypt has insisted that the war was still on despite the fact that she signed an armistice with Israel. Also, the Russians apparently have not given up their plan of supplying arms to Egypt and the other Arab states for the purpose of enabling the Arabs to realize their ambition to destroy the state of Israel.

I do not think we in the United States have sufficiently understood the Russian role in all of this. I imagine that the Israelis, though greatly outnumbered, would be quite able to defend themselves against any attack by the Arab states, if these latter were not helped by Russia.

But they were helped by Russia. And apparently they still are being helped by Russia. Huge quantities of arms, including the most modern ground equipment and the best jet fighter planes and jet bombers were sent to Egypt, and "technicians" with them. Now much of this equipment was captured by the Israelis during the recent fighting, but still a good deal remains and apparently more of it is being shipped in.

Also, there are increasing newspaper reports of Russian aviators piling into Cairo.

American opinion was too much inclined to treat this Near Eastern crisis as merely a question of which side you were on. Were you for the Israelis or for the Arabs? There was a tendency among large segments of American opinion to take the Arab side because the Arabs had the oil, the Canal and the air bases, and were more numerous than the Israelis.

This attitude was wholly wrong. For it was the Arabs who were making the preparations for aggression and that should have aligned the U.S. on the side of the Israelis, for that was the side of peace.

But beyond that was the fear that the Russians were on the side of the Arabs. The Russians were using Arab nationalism and antagonism to Israel as a device to penetrate and to expand their Mid-East influence. In terms of our national interest and the prevention of the spread of Communism it was up to us to see to it that this Russian-dominated venture was blocked.

This problem is still with us. I do not know what is going to happen in the Gulf of Aqaba and the Gaza Strip. I do not know whether the United Nations Emergency Force is going to stay there and prevent new interferences with Israeli ship-

ping and new preparations for attack on Israel. But even if the UNEF were to stay there there would still be a threat of Russian arms being shipped to the area.

I see a special threat from the Russian airplanes. Even if the United Nations force is there on the ground it will not be able to stop airplanes from flying over it. And as far as I can see, no effort has been made in the present settlement to prevent new shipments of Russian aircraft and other war material to Egypt and the other neighbors of Israel. Nor have I seen any efforts to prevent the influx of Russian technicians and airmen to the Arab states.

And so, unfortunately, we cannot say that even the most immediately urgent problems in the Near East are solved.

What should be done about this? In my opinion United States policy from here on out should have two immediate purposes. Of course there are more problems, beyond these two, which must be solved before there is peace in the Near East. But these two are the urgent ones.

First we must take a stand against any further discriminations or acts of aggression by the Arab states against Israel, whether this be in the form of interfering with shipping destined for Israel, or of raids across the border, or any other evidences of Arab refusal to abide by the armistice agreements with Israel.

Second, we must be particularly alert to stop any further effort by the Russians to capitalize on Arab antagonism against Israel so as to increase Russian penetra-

tion in and domination of the Near East. Specifically, we must not allow another build-up of Russian arms and Russian airmen and other technicians for purposes of an attack of extermination on Israel.

I fear that mere "guarantees" of the armistice lines between Israel and her neighbors, like those we made in the 1950 Tripartite Declaration between the U.S., Great Britain and France, will not do much good. There is an understandable lack of confidence in commitments of this kind after the events of the recent past.

I do not know what the arms situation is today in the area. I do not know how much Russian arms are now in the hands of the Egyptians and the Syrians. If the Israelis now have enough equipment to defend themselves against the Russian equipment which is already there, then the thing to do would be for the United States to call for a ban on any further shipments of arms to the area by anyone; and then to marshal world opinion in the United Nations against these Russian plans for the destruction of Israel.

However, if the Russian arms already there are greater in quantity and power than the corresponding equipment in the Israel armed forces, then something will have to be done about that. The balance will have to be restored, either by a reduction in the Russo-Arab forces or by an increase in the Israeli equipment. For, unfortunately, as matters now are, the best reliance for peace must be the ability of the Israelis to defend themselves •