

The Jewish Veteran

"The Patriotic Voice of American Jewry"

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JWV OPPOSES CHARTER TO ROCKWELL PARTY

Baltimore Gets Set For Big Convention

Members, wives and friends of the Jewish War Veterans are getting ready for the "best yet" National Convention, to take place in Baltimore, August 13 to 20, 1961. Indications are that advance reservations will literally pour in to National Headquarters, resulting in one of the largest attendances at a JWV National Convention.

Dave Kaiser, Joseph Lapidus and Sol Levin, Convention Corporation co-chairmen, this week, announced the final confirmation of arrangements for the 66th Annual JWV Convention.

Serving as headquarters will be the Lord Baltimore Hotel, the city's largest and finest air-conditioned hotel, located in the very center of downtown Baltimore.

A special rate of \$6.50 per person, two in a room, has been arranged and includes many packaged extras. The single rate per person is \$8.50. Among the extras are the following:

- Early Bird Night, Sunday, August 13, free refreshments, dancing and entertainment.
- Maryland Cabaret Nite, Midnight snack, floor show, famous national entertainer and dancing.
- Moonlight Excursion Dance, on the "Port of Welcome" Excursion Boat. Play cards, dance or simply relax.
- Interfaith Friday Night Services in the beautiful and spacious War Memorial. Participation and special massing of colors by allied veterans groups.
- Tours to Annapolis and Naval Academy. Many, many more surprises.
- Watch the Veteran for subsequent announcements.

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Feuer Asks French Aid

French Ambassador Herve Alphan, predicting difficult new negotiations with the Algerian Nationalist Movement (F.L.N.), on the independence issue, has made known in a letter to the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. that France will safeguard the rights of Algeria's Jewish population.

Ambassador Alphan wrote JWV National Commander I. L. Feuer pertaining to concern in America lest the F.L.N. continue its insistence that Jews in Algeria be denied citizenship options

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Protests to Virginia On Official's Letter

A letter by the Virginia State Corporation Commission, defending the issuance of a charter to the American Nazi Party and equating, in effect, the Nazis with the B'nai B'rith, a respected Jewish organization, was challenged recently by the Jewish War Veterans.

JWV's National Executive Director Joseph F. Barr wrote Gov. J.

Lindsay Almond, Jr., protesting the equation of "B'nai B'rith with its distinguished record of more than 110 years" devoted to "the betterment of men, irrespective of race, color, or creed, with a group professing and propagating Nazi ideals" (George Lincoln Rockwell's so-called "American Nazi Party" of Arlington, Va.).

Ralph R. Catterall, a Commissioner of the Virginia Corporation Commission, in a letter from Richmond, Va., to Mr. Barr, dated March 29, had indicated conviction that Nazism is not illegal and asked: "What would you say if B'nai B'rith applied for a charter and we turned it down until evidence was presented that none of the incorporators entertained any opinions that we did not agree with?"

Mr. Catterall had written in reply to a request by the Jewish veterans to Governor Almond to "review" the charter issued to the Nazi organization, authorizing the Nazis to act as a lawful company in Virginia. Mr. Catterall replied instead of the Governor.

In his new letter to the Governor, Mr. Barr charged that Mr. Catterall "missed what our organization found objectionable . . . ignoring the issue of public policy implicit in incorporating a 'Nazi' party."

Mr. Barr said Mr. Catterall's statement that "we could no more refuse to issue a charter to people who call themselves Nazis than we could to anybody else" was "an insult to anyone's intelligence."

Termed "most regrettable" in the Catterall letter, however, was his equation of the B'nai B'rith, which promotes racial brotherhood, with Nazism. Mr. Barr told the Governor: "I write this letter to you rather than to Mr. Catterall because what is involved is a matter of public policy, which is for the chief executive of the State to decide and not for Catterall, who apparently does not appreciate what the term 'public policy' means."

The Jewish War Veterans believe Nazism to be a "foreign, subversive ideology" which waged aggressive warfare against America and which was adjudged criminal by subsequent international legal tribunals and U. S. Military Courts. Recognition of Nazism as "legal," according to the Veterans, is

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Suggestion Brings Action



VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

April 27, 1961

Mr. Joseph F. Barr
National Executive Director
Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America
1712 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington 9, D.C.

Dear Mr. Barr:

The President has asked me to convey his regret at the delay in replying to your letter of February 2. The mail received by the President after inauguration was extremely heavy and it is taking some doing to dig out.

This delay has had one favorable result: I can now tell you that a dividend distribution along the line of your suggestion will be made. After careful analysis of the United States Government Life Insurance and National Service Life Insurance Funds by our own actuarial staff, and with the concurrence of our Actuarial Advisory Committee, I have declared special dividends totalling \$230 million on both United States Government Life Insurance and National Service Life Insurance. Of this total, \$37 million will go to United States Government Life Insurance policyholders. Checks for these dividends will go out commencing early in July.

Thank you for offering suggestions which are helpful to our country and veterans.

Sincerely,

J. S. GLEASON, Jr.
Administrator

The above letter illustrates the effectiveness of JWV action on a national level. Mr. Barr had written to the President urging that the above action be taken in the interest of national welfare and the veteran. The importance of the suggestion to thousands of Americans can be attested to by Mr. Gleason's reply to the JWVs suggestion.

Editorial Comment

ADOLPH EICHMANN

JWV views the Eichmann case as providing a possibility by a portrayal from life itself what genocide means and thereby perhaps prevent future genocide. Yet the trial of the foremost exponent of genocide as the "final solution" of the Jewish problem is being mis-interpreted by spurious legalistic hair-splitting and, sad to say, may be a spur to regeneration of anti-semitism.

At a time when efforts to sweep the Nazi's and their inhumanities under the carpet of history are being made by eminently respectable powers, the Eichmann trial represents a challenge to mankind. It's greatest service will be to dissolve the amnesia that obscures the enormous crimes of Nazism and the murder of 6,000,000 human beings merely because of their religion and murders of many more millions because they were not of the "Aryan" race. In the face of evidence to flow from Jerusalem, the terrible and undeniable truth will make it impossible for people to maintain that a "Nazi" party is just another "legal"—although perhaps naughty—political movement.

Those who fear the aftermath apparently feel that the Jewish people are on trial—not the monstrous theory sponsored and spouted in the name of a racial superiority.

Some argue about jurisdiction of the Israeli court because Eichmann was "kidnapped" and transported illegally to Israel. Yet British law, upon which Israeli law is based, holds that the method of obtaining the accused does not concern the court. The only real issue is guilt or innocence.

There is much talk of trying Eichmann under an "ex Post facto" law. Such a law is one which did not apply to an action not defined as criminal at the time of the offense. Certainly Eichmann knew murder was illegal. By the same token, the Nuremberg trial, despite its approval by the United National General Assembly, becomes legally questionable if this argument holds water.

Succinctly—JWV holds that the legal questions raised are not the concern of the American Jewish community. Jurisdiction is for the Israelis, and their courts and authorities, to determine.

The General Assembly of the UN is the forum, in which the questions above suggested may be determined. JWV is certain that if the General Assembly speaks on this issue its voice will not be ignored.

In the meantime the world, mankind, must make the record show what happened. If this trial serves only that purpose, and that alone, its validity and value will be established beyond question.

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

At a time when responsible Republicans and Democrats have rallied to support the national Administration's attempts to deal with Laos, Cuba, the Congo, and other areas of Communist penetration, an extreme right-wing group—the John Birch Society—is seeking to undermine the American democracy.

The organizer of the society, Robert Welch, has alleged that Dwight D. Eisenhower is a partner in the international Communist conspiracy and that the late John Foster Dulles was "a Communist agent." Other charges, against Chief Justice Warren and CIA Chief Allen Dulles, among others, are equal nonsense and slander. The supreme nonsense of the Birchites is that both Republican and Democratic leadership which holds views which are either moderate or liberal is selling America down the Volga. Like the Communists, the Birchites operate on semi-secret authoritarian lines and infiltrate "front" groups. All who disagree are "traitors." Dissent from the John Birch party line is not tolerated; agree or get out is the rule.

Some of the most conservative newspapers of the Midwest have editorially described the Birch group as subversive. Decent conservatives cannot buy the line that the end justifies the means and that fascism is the only remedy to Communism.

That Americans, of affluence and influence, can be attracted to such a Society is noteworthy. It illustrates an urge to find scapegoats for national frustration and external threats. Fears exploited by the late Senator McCarthy have found new exploiters.

Robert Welch, the Society's organizer, maintains he is "as good a friend as the Jewish people ever had in America" and boasts of his "Jewish friends." Yet one of the Society's leaders is Merwin K. Hart whose "Economic Council Letter" is openly anti-Jewish. The Society has also used the material of Joseph Kamp as well as Russell Maguire's anti-Jewish "American Mercury." Mr. Kamp, a speaker before Coughlinites and Christian Front groups during World War Two, wrote a pamphlet entitled "Hitler Was A Liberal." He was praised by the Nazi "World Service" in Berlin.

JWV does not charge the Society with being Anti-Jewish. Yet the fact that the Society cites Hart and Kamp and quotes from sources such as these and the American Mercury, cannot be ignored.

JWV does, however, condemn any "fuehrer" dominated group—which sees virtue only in condemning social advances and in a return to what it calls "The American Way of Life" without defining what it means. Shall we make automobiles unlawful because some people do get hurt or killed in them? Shall electric power be outlawed because of its potential in harm? These questions answer themselves.

In our view the Society is dangerous in many ways—but the most dangerous lies in the attempt to cast doubt and suspicion on the leaders of our nation, solely on the basis of their adherence to a principle advanced by one who helped to formulate the American way of life—the late Chief Justice Marshall who said of the Constitution.

"We must not forget it is a living breathing document we are examining."

However, the American public and press together with leaders of both parties, have branded the John Birch Society for what it is: subversion of the right. Widely exposed, the wind is being deflated from the Society's sails. Responsible groups are rallying to fight this rightist threat with the same diligence applied in the struggle against Communism.

THE JEWISH VETERAN

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The Commander Reports

By

I. L. Feuer

National Commander

JWV has had one of the most active periods in its history, and what we have done has inspired those who believe in forthright, militant action.

We have, for example, gone on record against the position taken by the State of Virginia granting a corporate charter to the American Nazi Party. We realize ramifications to this issue, but our action was motivated by a sense of deep moral outrage that laws of the State could be interpreted to the advantage of these hoodlums and cutthroats, whose published aims are to destroy American Jewry.

You will note, too, that we expressed deep concern to the French Ambassador about the ultimate fate of Algerian Jewry. Here again we were motivated by moral considerations and are indeed rejoiced that the French Ambassador shares our concern and looks forward to a hopeful solution.

Another issue that warmed the hearts of all those who believe fervently in civil rights was the action taken by JWV's representative, as a member

of the Advisory Council of the U. S. Civil War Centennial Commission. The decision not to attend the celebration in Charleston, South Carolina, because of racial discrimination was in keeping with our organizational position and the moral integrity of all those who believe in equal justice for all men.

Our editorials in the current issue of the VETERAN discuss our position on the Adolph Eichmann Trial and the John Birch Society, which it would be well to study.

But while there is this fervent activity on the national level, we still have not met the challenges of membership procurement. Our strength is in direct proportion with the numbers in our membership. We must have sufficient members to make our voice heard, particularly in the communities throughout the country. I urge all of our members to acquaint those in the community who are not aware of this of what we are doing. The facts speak for themselves. The organization will survive only if our membership understands the things we are doing.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

The February issue of THE JEWISH VETERAN carried an article by S. And-hil Fineberg, headed "Quarantine Treatment is Explored in Depth."

The Action Committee of the Department of New York and New Jersey express its complete revulsion, not only over the philosophy and tone of this article, but the manner in which it was served up to the JWV membership.

If the editors haven't heard of Dr. Fineberg before he is an old hand on the professional staff of the American Jewish Committee. He and his organization have never been loath to consign anyone who disagrees with them on the treatment of anti-Semites to that limbo where only boobs and misfits dwell.

It will forever baffle the Committee why the editors of THE JEWISH VETERAN found it expedient not to identify Dr. Fineberg or the source of the philosophy he was permitted to expound in the JWV's newspaper. Lacking this minimal attention to labeling, a casual reader could only have assumed that Dr. Fineberg was voicing a philosophy that is acceptable to the Jewish War Veterans.

Nothing, of course, could be further from the truth.

The quarantine theory of dealing with anti-Semitism has been the refrain of Dr. Fineberg and the American Jewish Committee for at least the last thirty to

forty years. Argument over the validity of this concept has raged in the Jewish Community throughout that entire period and continues to seethe today.

The opening gambit of Dr. Fineberg's visiting lecture to the JWV—"There is an American method for defeating anti-Semitic agitators. It is called 'the Quarantine Treatment.'"—is at once a definitive self-estimate by the American Jewish Committee of the ultimate wisdom of its own dogma and a judgment of the values held by anyone brash enough to hold a contrary view. The inference of Dr. Fineberg's manifesto is that there is something un-American about speaking out against one who advocates the dispatch of Jews to the nearest gas oven.

Apart from Dr. Fineberg's striking prose style, we in the Action Committee were intrigued by the VETERAN's editorial decision to give unqualified currency to such judgments as:

"Any ignorant illiterate bum can get into a brawl when someone says something to provoke him."

It has been the impression of those of us who have been in the JWV for many years—and those who have joined JWV in the days after World War II and Korea—that if the JWV stood for anything, it stood for militant and outspoken resistance to anyone who, as the preamble of our constitution puts it, "would assail the fair name of the Jew."

We don't propose in this letter to venture into a detailed dissection of the murky reasoning pervading Dr. Fineberg's sermon in your February issue. But as both the Departments of New York and New Jersey have been dealing

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