

The Jewish Veteran

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CONVENTION IN DETROIT RESERVE IMMEDIATELY!

'62 Pilgrimage Plans To Israel Completed

The Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. will join with other Jewish war veteran organizations of the free world in an International Pilgrimage to Israel starting the week of September 15th and ending Sep-

tember 26, 1962. It will be the first meeting of organizations of Jewish War Veterans of the Free World since 1936.

Plans for the Pilgrimage were completed in Israel last month at a meeting attended by Moshe Shilo, representing the host organization, the Israel War Veterans League, and Chaplain Joshua L. Goldberg, Captain, U.S.N. (Ret.), representing the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. The program includes a reception and address by Israeli Premier David Ben-Gurion on September 15th at the opening session in Tel-Aviv and a meeting at the home of Israel's President Itzhak Ben Zvi in Jerusalem on September 17th.

Chaplain Goldberg, a past national Chaplain of the Jewish War Veterans and holder of its Gold Medal of Merit, will head the U. S. delegation. His co-leader will be Dr. Seymour S. Weisman, JWV's National Program Consultant.

The U. S. delegation will leave New York on September 4th by El Al jet and will make four-day stopovers in London, Paris, and Rome. Arrangements have been made for the delegation to be received by Jewish leaders in these countries and for receptions by United States diplomatic officials. The group will arrive in Israel on September 15th.

The delegation's tour of the country will include a visit to the Galilee, and a reception in their honor tendered by the Mayor of Haifa. While in Haifa, the group will meet with educational leaders at the internationally-known Technion Institute. They will stop at the famous Bahai Temple and will continue on to Tel-Aviv via Caesarea, a site of many interesting antiquities. The group is also scheduled to take a bus trip into the Negev, stopping at Beersheba to see the Wells of Abraham. On the return trip to Tel-Aviv, they will be received at the Weitzman Institute of Science. Before departing, they will also spend a day at Kibbutz Givat Brenner, one of the largest in the country.

In a special tribute to the war dead of the Allied nations and the defenders of Israel's independence, the assembled Jewish War Veterans will hold memorial services in the Chamber of Destruction, and at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in the military cemetery on Mount Herzl. The group plans special thanksgiving prayers at Yeshorum Synagogue. At the closing session on Sep-

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Convention Plans To Include Entire Family

Detroit JWV is preparing itself for the 67th Annual Convention, which promises—in excitement, festivities, thought-provoking events, famous speakers—to outdo the efforts of any previous confab. "Welcome JWV" banners and a giant, colorful parade, heralding the first JWV convention in 14 years, will greet the thousands of delegates, who plan

to attend the event, from August 26 to September 2.

The biggest "first" among many of the first-time events being planned is the giveaway of a 1962 automobile to a lucky registered delegate. No tickets to buy . . . no tickets to sell. No catch . . . someone will drive away with a brand new 1962 automobile. It can be you!

A special low package deal rate will include a host of extras that will keep delegates happily busy from morning to night. Those who stay at the convention hotels, air-conditioned Sheraton-Cadillac and Statler-Hilton (JWV Headquarters), will receive the following special extras, free of charge.

Early Bird Night and refreshments
"Las Vegas Nite"

Detroit-Chicago night Baseball game
(1st 500 plan registrants only)

Special movie and/or Dance

National President's Luncheon (for all women registrants who are not members of Posts)

National Commander's Banquet (for Post members)

Moonlight Cruise to Bob-Lo Island, Canada

Tour No. 1—Canada and Detroit Area

Tour No. 2—Ford Motor Co.; Greenfield Village and JWV Memorial Home

Tour No. 3—Detroit Arsenal and Chrysler Missile Plant

Visit to Michigan State Fair

Free chance to win a 1962 Automobile
1962 National Convention Souvenir Book

Plus many other extras to be announced!

The theme of this year's convention is "Bring the family". An all-out effort is being made to make this truly a family convention. In order to encourage members to plan the trip as a vacation, arrangements have been made for:

Children under 14 years of age in same room with parents—free!

A supervised Children's Program, jam-packed with events for the entire week including swimming, trips to zoo, tours, picnics, etc.

Baby sitters at a nominal fee.

Meetings will be informative and interesting thought-provoking. Plans are under way to feature a prominent nationally-known guest speaker for the

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Veteran Groups Urge Passage Of H.R. 10743

Under the Chairmanship of Robert Hansen, Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, a group representing the Blinded Veterans' Association, the Catholic War Veterans, the Paralyzed Veterans of America, the Disabled American Veterans, the Amvets, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, and the Jewish War Veterans met to consider representations to be made to the Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Senate, Senator Harry F. Byrd, Virginia, and to members of his Committee as to the necessity of expediting passage and enactment of H.R. 10743, a Bill raising rates for service connected disabilities, which had been approved by the House of Representatives and is now pending in the Senate.

A similar compensation Bill had been enacted by the House of Representatives last year. When it came before the Senate Finance Committee, an amendment was attached thereto by Senator Russell Long of Louisiana to provide for reinstatement of National Service Life Insurance by those who had dropped the said insurance, as well as for an application for National Service Life Insurance by men who originally had declined to take advantage of their right to apply.

This Bill was approved in the Senate but when it was returned to the House of Representatives, that House refused to consider the Bill, as amended, and also refused to appoint Conferees to meet with Senate Conferees. The result has been a stalemate because of the disagreement between Senator Long and Congressman Teague, the Chairman of the House Veterans Committee. Neither one has budged from his position since last year. The result is that there have been no adjustments in service-connected compensation rates, and these rates are obviously inadequate.

Following the meeting, the group adjourned to Senator Byrd's office. The

Senator declared his sympathy with the purpose for which the meeting was called but confessed his complete inability to do anything to bring about a compromise or some other settlement which would permit consideration of the two provisions separately. He said that he could guarantee enactment of the compensation measure on any date in which that measure could be brought before the Senate but that would not assure enactment of the Bill unless the insurance feature was cleared up. He also stated that he and other members of the Senate Committee were irritated with Congressman Teague's refusal to appoint conferees and that this was the first time in his 29 years in the Senate that such a situation had arisen.

There was a lot of discussion between the Senator and the members of the delegation but, in the end, the situation remained as it was when the delegation came to see the Senator.

The delegation then went to see Senator Long. His reception of the Committee was not enthusiastic. He wanted to know why the members of the delegation were approaching him and asking him to compromise his views and not approaching Congressman Teague. When he was told that we were to approach Congressman Teague as well, and that it was wrong to deny the increase in compensation to those who certainly were entitled to it, he pointed out that the delay, in his judgment, had not done any harm to the disabled veterans because the Bill passed by the House of Representatives in its last action carried approximately ten million dollars more in benefits annually than the earlier bill. It was obviously of no earthly use to point out to the Senator that no matter what the later Bill provided in the way of increases, amounting to about ten million a year, it would take nine years of the additional benefits to make up for one year's

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Capitol Corridors



by Felix Putterman
National Legislative Director

"All form and very little substance" is a typical criticism of that involved and slow moving Washington performance referred to as the Legislative Process. While more often than not this huge complex of public servants, their personal staffs, their party leaders, Committee chairmen and expert assistants, hallowed rules and regulations, attitudes and attachments will coordinate in Rube Goldberg fashion to bring forth a tiny pigeon egg in the form of new legislation; there are matters of considerable import that never quite get through the network of machinery and are crushed in the process. For the second time in two years this is the fate that seems to be in store for the desperately needed increase in Veterans compensation for service incurred disabilities.

Unless the united effort by JWV and seven other veterans' groups achieves a measure of success, compensation increases will once again be the casualty of crossfire between Chairman Olin E. Teague of the House Veteran Affairs Committee, and Senator Russell Long of Louisiana, a member of the Senate Finance Committee, which handles veterans bills in the Senate. While both gentlemen profess to have the best interests of service-connected veterans uppermost in their consideration, each is reluctant to make the necessary gestures that would insure the successful passage of H.R. 10743 into law, as well as provide an opportunity for each house of Congress to exercise its will on the matter of reopening National Service Life Insurance.

Congressman Teague, a knowledgeable and skilled Committee Chairman, has now twice successfully steered a substantial increase in disability compensation through the House of Representatives. H.R. 10743 is now in the hands of the Senate Finance Committee. It is Chairman Teague's contention that it is now up to the Senate to consider this bill on its own merits without attaching extraneous matter such as an insurance rider before approving it. In the past he has been reluctant to consider, in his committee, proposed measures to reopen NSLI. While he may be willing to re-examine his position on the possibilities for insurance legislation in the House (he has introduced an insurance bill reopening NSLI insurance for a period of one year), he will not agree to do so in one package with compensation.

Senator Long, a powerful member of the Senate Finance Committee to which most veterans legislation is referred in the Senate, is the leading Congressional advocate, a persuasive and courageous one, for the reopening of GI insurance. He has not been the least bit reluctant to tangle with the organized insurance industry and has been supported by his Senate colleagues. While he is an unhesitating supporter for compensation

increases, the Louisiana Senator feels that insurance is not getting a fair shake in the House; i.e., Congressman Teague has been unwilling to bring full pressure on his committee so that the entire House of Representatives could have the same opportunity as the Senate to vote insurance reopening up or down. Long will once again attach the insurance rider unless he is assured that the House will hold hearings on a suitable insurance bill, and the Chairman of the Senate Committee, Sen. Byrd, has indicated full support of Sen. Long.

Two million veterans are caught in the middle just as they were a year ago when this charade was played in the first session of the 87th Congress. Since then a House-passed Compensation bill and a Senate-passed Compensation bill with an insurance rider lie side by side never to meet on speaking terms in conference. A majority of the members of this Congress have indicated their desire to adjust upward the admittedly inadequate compensation rates currently in effect for disabled veterans. A number of members have gone on record in favor of reopening NSLI; certainly the Senate has done so by formal vote. Statements are made. Press releases ground out. Crocodile tears threaten to drown all of us.

In an effort to reverse this deadly drift all the major veterans organizations with the exception of the American Legion have united in a last ditch effort to see that reason prevails. The National Commanders called on Senator Harry Byrd, Finance Committee Chairman, as well as Senator Long in order to impress on them the need for Senate approval of H.R. 10743 without the crippling insurance rider. The American Legion, while not acting jointly, has independently taken the same position. Concurrently a new clean NSLI reopening bill has been drafted which will be introduced in both the Senate and the House about the time this is being read. It is hoped that Senator Long and Congressman Teague, both veterans' friends, will see the wisdom and charity in accommodating themselves to the overriding need of disabled veterans for prompt help as well as the manifest justice in permitting many veterans to avail themselves of the National Service Life Insurance program.

Anything less than such an accommodation would give credence to the currently prevailing attitude among many despondent vets that the mood of Congress is "I feel for you but I can't reach you." One thing for sure; all the amenities may be adhered to and all the proper and duly authorized legislative mechanisms exhausted without achieving a single positive aim in terms of law. The old machine can grunt, grind and make the most impressive sounds but it takes at least a little bit of statesmanship to produce that one little necessary egg.

Chaplain Resigns League

Captain (Chaplain) Joshua L. Goldberg, U.S.N. (Ret.), today informed the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America that he had requested that his name be removed as an officer or member of the American Jewish League Against Communism.

According to Theodore Brooks of New York, JWV National Commander, Chaplain Goldberg wired his wishes to Marvin Liebman, Executive Secretary of the American Jewish League Against Communism, from Istanbul, Turkey, where he is currently on a fact-finding tour of Europe and the Middle East.

Chaplain Goldberg will be leading the JWV tour to Israel this fall.

The full text of the cablegram sent by Chaplain Goldberg is as follows:

"Following cable dispatched Liebman today quote remove without delay my name as vice president Jewish League Against Communism and obliterate name from all printed material. Corroborating letter follows unquote."

Attend The "Family Convention" In Detroit, Michigan Aug. 26 To Sept. 2

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Going Down But Not Out

By THEODORE BROOKS
JWV National Commander

Early this month before a special session of the National Executive Committee, NEC members were treated to a remarkable exposition on the Radical Right by one of the nations' top authorities in the field, Prof. Alan F. Westin, Associate Professor of Public Law at Columbia University.

His hour long talk was one of the most dynamic ever heard by a JWV audience in my recollection. And best of all, it was informative, to the point . . . and encouraging.

Professor Westin told us that the labors of our organization and those of others fighting the radical right in our midst were beginning to pay off. He did say that we should not let down our guard, but continue to expose the rightists at every level. It is gratifying to know that much of our work has not, after all, been in vain.

We have made Professor Westin's talk available to Posts throughout the country, but feel that it is appropriate to reprint here a small portion of his talk:

An Excerpt of Prof. Westin's Remarks

There was a time when many serious observers thought that the Radical Right might become a large powerful political movement, able to exercise a balance of power perhaps, in many states and perhaps within one of the great national parties. This kind of threat by the Radical Right has clearly not materialized. The Radical Right, at this moment, is not within shouting distance of controlling the Republican Party and certainly not the Democratic Party. It does not have adherents, in office, that senators and governors, people elected or even office holders, are willing to associate themselves openly with, with the exception of two congressmen, Congressman Rousselot and Congressman Heistand of California.

The top leadership in the Republican Party and the Democratic Party has repudiated the extremism of the Radical Right, President Kennedy, Attorney General Kennedy and many spokesmen for the Administration have made unequivocal and clear statements indicating that these are the voices of gloom, of doom, of insanity, in their approach to the difficulties of day to day problems in fighting a Cold War and managing a social welfare state.

In addition, the Radical Right has been repudiated by most, in fact I might say probably all, the civic organizations that defend the traditions of liberal and conservative dialogue in which 50 or 60 national organizations have come together in planning strategy to deal with the Radical Right.

After the tremendous alarms about our position in Berlin, in Laos, in bomb testing, and so forth, there was a kind of taking hold by both the Administration, by the Congress and in many ways by the American public; the realization that a great nation does not let itself run around like a chicken with its head cut off in the face of danger, but instead buckles down to the hard task of diplomacy, of force, of politics and international relations and so on.

And I think that this sobering up, this tightening up of the public has been one of the major things which has cut the ground from under the Radical Right in comparison with the state of volatility on the part of public opinion a year ago, last spring, when the John Birch Society, the Christian Crusade, We the People, and all these other organizations tried to convince the public that there was something absolutely rotten in the governing structure of America. I would suggest then that while we have come quite a substantial way since last spring, it seems to me that we still face a very substantial problem.