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HELLER ELECTED CMDR.; WALDOR NEW JUDGE ADV.

Harriman Opens Confab. Speaks On Test Ban

W. Averell Harriman, Undersecretary of State, who negotiated the power nuclear test ban agreement, making his keynote address at the opening session of the 68th annual convention, expressed hope that the test ban pact might eliminate sophisticated weapons in the Middle East.

The opening session was also marked by the submission (and later adoption) of a resolution calling upon President Kennedy to remain consistent with the spirit of the treaty, by halting steps to proliferate the rocket race in the Near East which would build Egypt's missile potential.

While strongly supporting President Kennedy's nuclear safeguard concept, Waldor, in resolution, questioned the wisdom of a pending agreement between the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration or a U.S. military agency with Egypt to build up the country's military power. It was reported that Harriman has opened secret talks with American officials for the training of Egyptian scientists in aerospace and electronic technology and for other steps to improve Egypt's rocket potential.

The resolution said that the nuclear test ban treaty would be "undermined and doomed before the signatories' ink dried if the United States collaborates with Nasser, along with Soviet Russia and the ex-Nazis of Germany in contributing to a Near Eastern rocket race."

If Nasser is sincerely devoted to the test-ban aims, said the resolution, "let him first show good faith by keeping his word on Yemen and other unkept pledges. Let him talk peace with Israel and comply with United Nations resolutions."

Mr. Harriman, thus, found himself cheered by a convention stirred by this year Award when he delivered his address. He said that it would be against Israel's interest to diminish its support of the United Arab Republic, because such support gave America "influence" with President Nasser's regime.

Members Urged To Write Congressmen

Members are urged to contact their Senators and Congressmen and voice their strong support in favor of positions taken at the National Convention. Of primary importance are JVV's stand for civil rights and the ratification of the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

He declared that the elimination of sophisticated weapons in the Middle East, which would come out of the general disarmament discussions would be "a very important step." He said that "as far as I am concerned, the army that I respect is the Israeli Army. I think they can take care of themselves."

"If the Egyptians are going to get whatever weapons they are after, if we help them or not, it is perfectly possible for Israel to match them if there is an arms race, and I hope they would do it. But I don't believe that it is in the interests of Israel for the United States to stop having any influence in the Middle East."

The Undersecretary of State also touched on the situation of the Jews in Russia, stating that America was trying to get the Soviet authorities to permit Jews to leave Russia, but did not know if these efforts would be successful.

Daniel Neal Heller, Miami attorney and immediate past National Judge Advocate, has been elected National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. Milton A. Waldor, of Newark, N.J., was elected National Judge Advocate, defeating Theodore R. Pickard, who in 1961 was the Department of Illinois "Man of the Year."

The 68th Annual National Convention saw more than 5000 delegates



Outgoing National Commander Morton L. London gives the victory sign for new National Commander Daniel Neal Heller.

4 to 11, where they heard spirited debates on many issues and listened to the messages of many distinguished guests.

Speaking before a capacity joint audience of delegates from JVV and JWVA, Under Secretary of State W. Averell Harriman in his first public appearance since his return from Moscow and the treaty negotiations, keynoted the convention when he raised and answered questions which he said were essential to an understanding of the treaty. (See story on this page.)

In acknowledging his election, National Commander Heller stated he will seek a more active role for JVV posts in implementing civil rights objectives. He stressed the commitment of his organization in the racial integration crisis, calling for more activity by posts to (Continued on Page 8)

JVV Adopts Resolutions

Among the significant resolutions passed by the 68th Annual National Convention were those dealing with the Nuclear test ban treaty, immigration, the Middle East, Anti-Semitism, the

John Birch Society, school dropouts, nursing care, and civil rights.

Among the more important resolutions of the more than 100 passed by the convention were resolutions:

- supporting and endorsing the nuclear test ban treaty and calling upon the United States Senate to ratify the treaty.
- calling upon members of Congress from both parties to fulfill their platform commitments to liberalize and rectify the inequities in our immigration laws.
- urging the U.S. Government to coordinate with other world powers in the implementation of a constructive program for the entire Middle East, including the demilitarization of the entire area as a working pilot model for world disarmament, continued implementation of the development of the Jordan River Valley and resettlement of Arab refugees under conditions that will resolve the present conditions and situations.
- urging the U.S. Government to insist upon guarantees from beneficiary countries in the Alliance for Progress program that the rights of religion and racial minorities should be protected.
- combating anti-semitism by demanding a Congressional investigation of hate literature as well as source of funds for hate groups, prohibiting and punishing the mailing of libelous material, requiring registration of George L. (Continued on Page 3)

לשנה טובה תכתבו



Newly elected National Commander Daniel Neal Heller and his family—Lisa, aged 8 years; his charming wife, Diane; Douglas Paul, aged 1 year and Mona, aged 7 years—extend to all of the members of JVV and their families the most heartiest of New Year's greetings.

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Thinking Out Loud

By Albert Schlossberg, National Editor

As the dust of the 1963 Convention settles into the horizon I can't help taking off my glasses, cleaning them and then examining in retrospect my impressions of another National Convention.

Cutting away the obvious excuses and obfuscations I stand aghast at the fact that the tally sheets at election time indicated that close to fifty percent of our posts were NOT represented at the National Convention. Half of our members were disenfranchised because for various reason they did not send A SINGLE REPRESENTATIVE to the Convention, to speak and VOTE for their Post. The Constitution was amended, resolutions were passed, officers were elected and business was transacted that can be done only at a National Convention. Just thinking out loud, what would happen if the posts were told, "You can NOT be represented at the National Convention." Do you think that they would continue to shirk their responsibility?

As often as I get to Washington, D. C., I somehow never fail to be thrilled by the fact that Washington is our Nation's Capitol. I watched the faces of the delegation from Massachusetts as we had lunch with our Senators and got a strong feeling that they felt that "Only in America" could this happen. The Lincoln Memorial, the Washington Monument, a tour of the White House, a stroll down Pennsylvania or Constitution Avenue and I am enveloped in a sensation that this IS America, this IS the bastion of the free world and I am proud to be here and be a part of it. How much you missed by not attending the 1963 Convention. To greet old comrades from all over the U.S.A., to bask in the glory of important addresses by people who are making the news of the world, to help shape the destinies of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. and then to return to our home communities convinced that we are doing a worth-while task. This is the National Convention, why not make an effort, a strong one, to attend the 1964 Convention.

The press, radio and television has been saturated with coverage of the struggle for equal rights for all people without regard for the color of their skin or their religious beliefs. How does this matter effect us as Jews. What are our attitudes towards the Negro? Do we affect an attitude of liberalism as an organization and find that by the time it has filtered down to the individual the picture has changed and we are just as bigoted as some of those who we excoriate. All over the U.S.A wherever there is a Jewish community this problem is coming to the foreground. We have to face up to our responsibility, recognize our shortcomings as well as our merits and work for justice for all. On September 8th and 9th the NCRAC will hold one of the most important meetings in its history and the problem of Jewish-Negro relations will be examined in every detail. We hope to bring a report of this coming meeting to you in the next issue of the Veteran.

The Administration, with all of the prestige of the President behind it, is supporting a revised bill to amend the McCarran-Walter Act. This new bill goes beyond the Hart Bill of last year and if successful will go a long way towards wiping out the shame of a National Origin Quota System that has been the core of the McCarran-Walter Act. How about it, take a minute and let your Congressman or Senator know that you'd like to see him support the Administration in enacting this new immigration bill.

London Meets With President

President Kennedy, at a White House meeting with Morton London, shortly before his retirement as National Commander, was reported to have indicated consideration of possible intervention with the Soviet Union.

The President was reported to have said that he was concerned about the situation and that he would give it further thought. Mr. London suggested that the time might be opportune for the President to intercede on behalf of Soviet Jews because of the new area of agreement reached on nuclear testing between the two countries.

At the same time the President indicated that he was observing the Egyptian rocket build-up with an appreciation of Israel's concern. The National Commander lauded Mr. Kennedy for his proposal of a liberal immigration bill doing away with the national origins quota system.

The Commander Reports

By Daniel Neal Heller National Commander

Thank you for electing me, unanimously, as your National Commander. Diane and I are extremely grateful to you for your vote and confidence.

This can be the most momentous year in JWV's long and glorious history. We are being given the opportunity of a lifetime to assert positive, dynamic leadership for the freedom of all mankind. The entire universe is in a state of revolution—seeking freedom—from want, suffering, deprivation, subjugation, disease, misery. The chance for America and Americans to assume the leadership of the Free World and to give two billion fellow human beings is now. By the examples we set our children reap the rewards of a life with peace, dignity and accomplishment.

At home we must stand up and be counted for Constitutional Government with civil rights legislation at the forefront of our goal. Unless a revolution for equality exists within our own communities.

With these history-making events in proper perspective it is no wonder that I most humbly and respectfully suggest that there is no room in our organization for petty political bickering, for sectionalism.

Will the sacrifice of our fallen comrades be in vain? Are we capable of standing in peace, as we were in war of answering the challenge?

If we do not today unite, harmoniously, for the common good, we are not worthy of our proud heritage—we shall have missed our opportunity to write a glorious page in history.

An Open Letter From The National Commander

As your newly-elected National Commander, I have already received several requests from posts, counties and departments to attend various affairs which they will hold in the future.

I have in the past several years made certain observations and formed very definite opinions about the visitations of a National Commander.

At the outset, let me make it clear that I have no interest in any personal tributes. However flattering it may be to the National Commander, being met with a motorcycle cordon is not my idea of enhancing the prestige of the Jewish War Veterans. In short, I consider myself your spokesman and where you will allow it to be so: your Ambassador of Good Will.

Therefore, if you see fit to honor me by extending an invitation, I would respectfully ask that you plan ahead for any such visit. For example, unless the entire community is made aware of the meeting and proper publicity obtained for JWV there will be no real benefit in my coming. Then, too, for me to be simply a figurehead or window dressing on the dais demeans the office of National Commander.

Therefore, before any visit is planned it is imperative that the following steps be taken:

- 1. At least two weeks before the actual visit every newspaper, radio and television station must be contacted to be sure there will be adequate publicity. Be specific in giving meeting dates and places.

- 2. National headquarters staff furnish you with biographical material and photographs which you should send to the local press.

- 3. Try to obtain and arrange for interviews with all news media following your arrival.

- 4. Our relationship with your local Jewish War Veterans Federation is critical to the future expansion of JWV. Arrange with the executive director to have me meet with his staff. Try to arrange a meeting with the leaders of your community who determine allocation of welfare funds to JWV.

- 5. Be sure that all JWV units in your state and county are mobilized so that they don't find out "at the last minute" of the meetings.

- 6. Do a real recruitment job. Be sure that a large group of potential members as well as regular members are present at the various meetings. Expansion and retention of membership is a major goal of mine.

- 7. If you want any specialized publicity phone or write me directly: 810 A Building, Miami, Florida 33132, code 305, FR 1-6496.

- 8. Please, on the points mentioned above, write to me, at least one week before the visit to let me know progress has been made.

If you will assist me as I have requested above, we will have a great glorious year for a bigger and grander JWV.

DANIEL NEAL HELLER



In last official act of office, National Commander Morton L. London, left, accompanied by Felix Putterman, National Legislative Director, discuss civil rights and other issues with President Kennedy.