



The Jewish Veteran

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Plofsky Elected Commander Waldor Re-Elected Judge Adv.

Dem Platform Committee Hears J.W.V.

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.—Ralph Plofsky of White Plains, New York, National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A., urged the Platform Committee of the Democratic National Convention to adopt a strong and specific stand against extremism—"... the haters, the night riders, the rioters."

Mr. Plofsky, presenting the views of JWV, also asked a plank guaranteeing that the Government will explore every possibility toward alleviating the persecution of 3 million Jews in the Soviet Union.

He also urged a strong stand in support of the Supreme Court's role as interpreter of the Constitution and of its decisions on school prayers. In addition, he asked for a statement of policy for the Middle East to include support for the independence and integrity of Israel, as well as the Arab states, free navigation through the Suez Canal, and the resettlement of Arab refugees in Arab countries with manpower shortages.

Discussing extremism, Mr. Plofsky asked a statement condemning "those who feed and fuel the fires of ignorance." He characterized it as "a retreat from responsibility" for those unfortunates who, for lack of courage, fall into oversimplified and irrational attitudes in facing the complex, often frustrating problems of the real world.

"In their fantasy, time is stopped by merely holding the hands of the clock," he concluded.

Urging steps to ease the burden of Russian Jewry, Mr. Plofsky said the campaign in the Soviet Union to suffocate three million Jews takes the form of denying them the right to practice their faith, limiting their access to all phases of Soviet life,

(Continued on Page 2)



Daniel Neal Heller, right, immediate Past National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. congratulates Ralph Plofsky, left, of White Plains, New York, on his election to JWV's highest office.

EDITORIAL Reaction to an Editorial

It is unique in journalistic history that a newspaper publishes an editorial about an editorial. Nevertheless, that is our purpose here.

In the July-August issue of "The Jewish Veteran," we published an editorial on the subject of extremism as we know and understand its meaning. It was not our intent, nor has it ever been, to raise or pursue political partisan issues. We do not, as an organization, engage in politics.

We call them as we see them and let the chips fall where they may. In our editorial we came out forthrightly against extremism, including "extremism in defense of liberty!"

This was nothing new for us. We have been fighting extremism of both the left and right for sixty-nine years. Historically, those who march under the banner of extremism turn out to be the enemy of all we hold dear.

In any event, the publication of our editorial raised a thunderhead of applause... as if we had come out against this menace for the very first time.

Civil Rights leaders wired us their congratulations. Liberal Republicans warmly welcomed it. Democrats sent it out over their news and radio services.

News coverage in Florida centered around it. The Miami Herald reprinted it.

Other newspapers wrote editorials about it.

A number of ultra-right groups privately condemned it.

Letters of praise to the Editor of the Jewish Veteran have never been so bountiful.

One of the most interesting reactions to the editorial came from Dan Foley, National Commander of the Amer-

(Continued on Page 6)

Pope Visit Cancels Soviet Trip

Past National Commander Daniel Neal Heller announced at the 69th National JWV convention in Hollywood, Florida, last month that the Soviet Union had barred him from seeing Premier Khrushchev because he had successfully enlisted the aid of Pope Paul VI in exposing before the world the virulence of Soviet anti-semitism.

Mr. Heller, speaking before a banquet in his honor at the Diplomat Hotel revealed that his private audience with Pope Paul VI at which the Pope expressed himself against Soviet anti-semitic terror had made him "persona non grata among high Soviet officials who are cynically seeking to persuade the world that anti-semitism is not state policy.

"The Soviets also sought without success to prevent us from joining with 23 other Jewish organizations in the Conference on Soviet Jewry which exposed the official Soviet attitude on the Jews as the worst outbreak of national anti-semitism since Adolph Hitler."

Mr. Heller reiterated that "the Jews of America cannot and will not be divided on this issue—we will not be mousetrapped."

"Using the old-Nazi tactic of divide and conquer" Heller said, "The Soviets attempted to convince us in the face of overwhelming evidence to the contrary, that their campaign against their 3,300,000 Jewish citizens was merely an action against black marketeering and crimes against the State."

Mr. Heller cited his private audience with Pope Paul VI as "tremendously significant for it gave the Pope an opportunity for the first time to publicly condemn Soviet anti-Semitism and to illustrate to the Soviets that world opinion on this matter was

(Continued on Page 7)

Drive Against Extremism Urged By JWV Chief

Ralph Plofsky, 50, a native of White Plains, New York, was elected National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans at the 69th Annual National Convention held in Hollywood, Florida.

An infantry officer during World War II, Commander Plofsky was recalled to active duty during the Korean conflict. He served in Korea with the Eighth Army.

Commander Plofsky, a graduate of New York University and New York University Law School, is a practicing attorney in White Plains, where he resides with his wife Tillie and their two children, Linda, 19, and Alan, 15.

In his election address, Commander Plofsky expressed his concern over the growing strength of ultra-right groups who are attempting to divide American citizens. He pledged a stepped-up drive to expose these groups.

Milton A. Waldor, 39, of Newark, New Jersey, was elected to the office of National Judge Advocate for a second consecutive term, unprecedented in the 69-year history of JWV.



Milton A. Waldor

An Air Force veteran of World War II, Mr. Waldor was a bom-

(Continued on Page 3)