



# The Jewish VETERAN

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## FEUEREISEN NEW COMMANDER DIRENFELD IS ELECTED NJA



"It fits perfectly," seems to be what outgoing National Commander Samuel Samuels is saying to the new National Commander of Jewish War Veterans Charles Feuereisen at the wind-up of JWV's exciting 73rd Convention in Hollywood, Florida the week of August 18-25 where Commander Feuereisen was elected.

### JWV Wraps Up Convention Plans for Outstanding Year

Charles Feuereisen of New Jersey was elected National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America at the close of the organization's 73rd Annual Convention which had been meeting in Hollywood, Florida, the week of August 18th through the 25th.

In the most hotly contested election of any year in the history of the 73 year old organization, Commander Feuereisen defeated his opponent, Paul Ribner of Philadelphia, Pa., the former National Judge Advocate of JWV.

The new National Commander, who is a partner in the Service Brokerage Company of Rahway, New Jersey, is a veteran of World War II. He distinguished himself with the 511th Paratroop Infantry Regiment of the 11th Airborne Division in the Pacific theatre of operation and was awarded the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart and a unit citation.

In the post war years, Commander Feuereisen was elected President of the 11th Airborne Division Association, attesting to his popularity with former comrades-in-arms.

He comes to the highest JWV office with an organization background as distinguished as his war record. He has represented JWV at both national and international levels in a manner that brought honor to the organization.

Commander Feuereisen succeeds Samuel Samuels, of Massachusetts, to this high office. He lives in the city of Oradell, New Jersey, with his wife, Helene, and their two children, Patti and Henry.

In an equally spirited contested election, Bernard B. Direnfeld, NEC man from Cleveland, Ohio, upset Jerome D. Cohen from the State of N.Y. to win the office of National Judge Advocate of JWV.

To the thousands who attended the 73rd Convention it was one that was noted for its vigorous approach to the serious problems that confront this country both at home and abroad. Its concern was reflected in the organization's stand on a memorable list of Resolutions

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**"L'shono Tova"**  
from the  
JWV of the USA  
May the Coming New Year  
Bring to You and Yours,  
All the Blessings of Peace,  
Health, and Happiness.  
**Charles Feuereisen**  
National Commander  
**Monroe R. Sheinberg**  
National Executive Director

### Former Ambassador Gronouski Keynotes Opening Session

The Honorable John A. Gronouski, former Ambassador to Poland, was the keynote speaker at the opening session of the Jewish War Veterans Convention on August 21st in Hollywood, Florida.

The Ambassador, who was the last U.S. Ambassador to Poland, came to the Convention fully qualified to speak on the events that were taking place in Eastern Europe right at the time of the Convention, namely the invasion of Czechoslovakia by Soviet Russia and her Warsaw Pact Allies.

In his position as United States Ambassador to Poland, Mr. Gronouski was in the unique position to observe the tactics and actions of the Soviet Union in Eastern Europe.

He also had ample opportunity to have a first row seat as an observer of the anti-Semitic actions practiced by the officials of the Polish government.

The Ambassador's speech to the JWV delegates pointed out

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### Israel Ambassador Rabin Speaks at The JWV Banquet

In a moving speech at the National Commander's Banquet at JWV's 73rd Annual National Convention, Israeli Ambassador General Yitzhak Rabin verbally took the delegates "behind the curtain" for a down-to-earth look at the Middle East today.

It was the blunt speech of a soldier-diplomat and the theme that played through it was the fact that the Soviet Union is the dark influence in the muddle that is so explosive in the Mid-East today.

Ambassador Rabin sharply took Russia to task for its behind-the-scenes manipulation of the affairs of the Arab countries.

His speech pointed out that it is this very role of the Soviets, and this dangerous manipulation that keeps the Arabs from understanding the facts of life about the country of Israel.

The Ambassador said that:

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### Bernard B. Direnfeld New NJA



National Judge Advocate Bernard B. Direnfeld (left), and Ohio Congressman Charles Vanik exchange greetings on the steps of the United States Capitol. Direnfeld commended Congressman Vanik on his aid to Israel proposals and the Congressman congratulated Direnfeld on his election to the second highest office of Jewish War Veterans.

## Editorially Speaking

### Listen! The Wind From Czechoslovakia

Russia heard it and some said indulgently, "It is just a playful breeze, so quiet it will never be heard away from Wenceslas Square."

But other Russians heard it and said, "Ah! But the winds of change start with just such a rebel little breeze. Everyone thinks it is so gentle, but it drifts! It drifts across borders, across cities, and across countries. And, who knows? One day it could become a full-blown gale blowing the seeds of democracy across Red Square itself!"

So, like the foolish lad in the Aesop fable, the mighty Soviet Union decided to tame the wind using the only persuasion it is capable of when frightened—force!

It sent screaming jets, tanks, and soldiers streaming across the border of one of its own satellite countries. The soldiers included a token force from its Warsaw Pact Allies—East Germany, Poland, Bulgaria, and Hungary. **THIS BEGAN THE SECOND RAPE OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA!**

To the Czechs who had suffered under the goose-stepping heels of Hitler's hordes, the worst blow of the invasion had to be the fact that these invaders this time were from fellow communist countries.

Russian tanks still rumble through the haunted streets of Prague, and the little wind of "democratization" that Alexander Dubcek had been nurturing whispers for all the world to hear the truth that: **DESPITE** the supposed "new maturity" of Russian leaders; **DESPITE** the supposed "liberalization" of Soviet society; **DESPITE** the wishful thinking that "the Russians are getting to be like us"; **DESPITE ALL THIS THE SOVIET UNION WILL NEVER RISK THE CONTAGION OF FREEDOM FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA, OR ANY OTHER COUNTRY, SPREADING ACROSS EASTERN EUROPE AND INTO RUSSIA ITSELF!"**

**The Wind Whispers—We Would Do Well to Listen!**

### Don't Let Them Become Political Dropouts

In this "never anything like it" political year when this country is in the throes of electing a new President, one of the phenomena of the times has been the deep involvement of the young in United States politics.

Nothing like it had ever been seen in the history of this country. Here were thousands of young people, from all walks of life . . . some old enough to vote in this election, some not, but all vigorously campaigning for favorite candidates from the hustings and the primaries right up to the doors of the convention amphitheatre itself.

For the first time in American politics an articulate young society was speaking out on issues. It was speaking out against "the establishment." It was speaking out against its country's involvement in Vietnam. And it was saying loud and clear that youth had at long last found candidates in both political parties with which it could identify.

Now—because of fate and the fortunes of politics, these young politicians will not see their favorite candidates on the ballot this Fall. Disenchanted, many of them have already expressed the feeling that the whole process of politics has defrauded them. With no candidate they feel can "tell it like it is" they speak darkly of abandoning the whole scene and becoming dropouts from their country's political arena.

Both major parties in this country must make sure that this does not happen. America can ill afford to toss aside this vast reservoir of youth and talent that has brought a fresh note to the smoke filled rooms of power politics. Both parties owe these youthful workers a great deal because never have the young in this country invested so much of themselves in American politics.

### The Grass Roots Are Really Growing

And nowhere was this better manifested than at the recent 73rd JWV Annual National Convention in Hollywood, Florida.

This was without a doubt one of the best attended conventions in the long history of the Jewish War Veterans. It saw thousands of delegates from Posts all over the country pouring into the Hotel Diplomat for the week-long meeting.

It was good to see the great enthusiasm . . . to hear delegates express opinions on issues involving the organization. It was good to see them hustling to "get out the vote" for the men they wanted to see in the highest offices.

But now the election is over and all this enthusiasm must be channeled into the "esprit de corps" that is part of JWV.

### Agenda Wrap-up Features Vigorous JWV Resolutions

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that were passed.

National Editor Albert Schlossberg, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, commenting in a review of the resolutions said: "Some of the most important resolutions that were passed were the following:

• **POLAND**—JWV denounced the bigots in the Polish government who are determined to make scapegoats of its Jewish citizens by the bullying methods employed by the Nazis themselves. By no means does JWV cast a blanket condemnation over the Polish people who, by their public support of Israel during the Six Day War, plainly showed they do not share the anti-Semitic views of their ill advised officials. However, JWV feels now that steps must be considered that would lead to economic sanctions against the bigots of Poland. JWV is further determined to offer its services, both on a high echelon and on a community basis, so that the bigots in the Polish government can be demonstrated and protested against, in programs that should include both other veteran groups and non-Jewish participants.

• **HATCHETT APPOINTMENT**—was vigorously denounced by JWV. It passed a sharply worded resolution calling the appointment of John F. Hatchett (an anti-Semitic black racist) to the post of Director of the new Afro-American Student Center at New York University, "an affront to Americans, black and white, who strive to erase bigotry from our national existence." JWV also formally criticized former U.N. Ambassador Arthur Goldberg for his "casual whitewash" of the appointment. The Ambassador acknowledged Hatchett's known anti-Semitism but still approved the appointment.

• **LAW—ORDER—JUSTICE**—once again JWV reiterated its stand that to defy the law is to appeal to violence. Its resolution found the organization firmly on the side of a strong but enlightened police force with special knowledge in the field of community relations.

• **CZECHOSLOVAKIA**—JWV considers the Soviet Union's brutal transgression into the independent nation of Czechoslovakia a direct challenge to independent nations, free or communist. (see Editorially Speaking above). JWV is mindful that this Russian act of aggression reflects accu-

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## Thinking Out Loud



By Albert Schlossberg  
National Editor

### Tell It Like It Is . . .

A press release describing a study initiated by the Kerner Commission designed to "profile" the various groups involved in the urban crisis seems to have blown up a storm in many quarters.

The salt in the wound in this case is not only what was said, but equally important, what was left out. Let's look at a quote.

"Jews are proportionately overrepresented in ghetto business."

If Jews are overrepresented, how did they get there in the first place and why are they still there? What the Kerner Commission report didn't say, and should have said, is that the Jews were there long before the districts became Black ghettos. In most urban areas the Jews were the single ethnic group that didn't rush to the neighborhood border to meet the Black man with threats and venom intended to deny him access to better housing and decent living conditions. As affluence caught up with the Jews in post-war America they joined the trek to the green grass of suburbia, Blacks who were also enjoying the benefits of a full economy, were able to move up the ladder and into the Jewish districts. It was a gradual transition, a slow trickle for many years. The shopkeepers, merchants, service station operators, professional people and sundry tradesmen remained to service the now-mixed community. The neighborhoods woke up one morning to find that change had crept up on them as old age does to people. Suddenly both face the same question, where did the years go? So too the neighborhoods, what was once Jewish and White is now Black. The study by the Kerner Commission shows that the merchants are not wealthy shylocks, but average people. Their problems are the same as the trials most of us face, how to make ends meet, how to provide their families with the creature comforts that have become the accepted norm in affluent America. Un-noticed in the transition, and rarely spoken of in conversations about the ghettos is the fact that many of the Black clients that these same shopkeepers serviced in the earlier days no longer live in the now all-Black communities. Like the Jews they replaced, they have moved to other neighborhoods, higher up on the socio-economic ladder.

Racism, black or white, is

racism. Should Black extremists be judged, when they cry, "Whitey, get out." by different standards than those we used as a measure of the immorality of the Nazis when they shouted, "Juden, heraus." In both instances individuals are denied their individuality. The innocent are lumped with the guilty and persecution becomes a way of life.

Another troublesome item in the press release on the Kerner Commission study said, ". . . a minimal number of white social workers in the ghettos were Jews."

What is minimal? What is the norm, what is the median? The report, or at least the press release, said that about 6% of the social workers in the ghettos are Jews. Considering that Jews constitute about 3% of the nation's population we find that on a percentage basis Jews are overrepresented. But even more important than this numbers game is a fact that seems to have been overlooked in this very incomplete press release. For many years, long before civil rights and moral justice became a status symbol for many Americans, the Jews were there. Look at the record, name a cause, "open housing," "school desegregation," "equal employment opportunity," and on and on. Jews were in the front ranks of the firing line in the struggle to enact legislation and to press for implementation once the laws were on the books, so that all citizens could look forward to a better life without regard for the color of their skin or religion.

Yes, "tell it like it is" is a two way street. No matter how you look at it, if the job is to be done, if the Black community is to become a viable grouping in the American mosaic, Blacks alone will have to do the job. But where the Black extremists err in their thinking is to believe that the road to success depends upon driving all white men out of what they have decided is "their community." The Jewish War Veterans is an all-Jewish organization, but the members do not segregate themselves from non-Jews in their day to day living and working. Driving the white man out of the ghetto is like an ostrich with its head in the sand, neither tactic is wise or successful. The time has come for the leaders of the Black community to tell this truth "like it is."