



The Jewish VETERAN

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May, 1970

Soviet Pilots Indicate Need For Jet Sale Now: CMDR.



JWV MEETS WITH ISRAELI CONSUL GENERAL. During the Fifth Regional Biannual meeting held in South Bend, Indiana, JWV leaders had the opportunity to meet with Saul Ramafi, Consul General for Israel (seated right) who briefed them on the current Israel situation against the background of new Soviet developments. Pictured here are (l-r) seated, Robert Lainof, National Judge Advocate; Bernard B. Drenfeld, National Commander; and standing, Jacob E. Burke, General Chairman of the meeting; and Morris Lusk, Commander of the 5th Region.

Legion Passes Strong Pro-Israel Resolution

The National Executive Committee of the American Legion meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana earlier this month, has passed one of the strongest resolutions on the Middle East in its history.

The resolution urges the United States to "allow Israel to obtain F-4 Phantom jet fighter aircraft, Skyhawk fighter-bombers, and other sophisticated equipment it has requested or

may need in order to insure its own defense".

Commander J. Milton Patrick of the American Legion had visited Israel during the JWV Convocation in February. He was reported "much impressed" and completely sympathetic with the Israeli position.

In acknowledging the resolution, JWV Commander Drenfeld indicated that "once again, the

The Top Ten

(As of April 30, 1970)

Drizen-Weiss Post 215	959
Philadelphia, Pa.	
Lt. Milton Kelkey	
Post 575	794
Abe Cohen-Lehman	
Memorial Post 50	783
Brooklyn, N.Y.	
Kaplan Post 165	530
Scranton, Pa.	
Lt. Robert Grover	
Post 10	519
Jersey City, N.J.	
Onandaga Post 131	510
Syracuse, N.Y.	
David J. Kauffman	
Post 41	503
Rochester, N.Y.	
Pittsburgh Post 49	490
Pittsburgh, Pa.	
Irving R. Rutstein	
Post 212	486
Wilkes Barre, Pa.	
Cpl. Larry Muss	
Post 415	485
Whitstone, N.Y.	

American Legion has expressed itself favorable in terms of the young democratic state of Israel. As brother veterans, we are grateful for this support".

The full text of the resolution is as follows:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, While world attention is focused on the struggle for freedom in Southeast Asia, the threat to peace, freedom, and representative government in the Middle East is grow-

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The Jewish War Veterans appealed to President Nixon to immediately announce the "release of additional Phantom Jets and other equipment to Israel to insure the security of that beleaguered democracy."

In a telegram to President Nixon, signed by the National Commander, JWV indicated reports that Russian pilots are manning MIG 21's over the United Arab Republic and scrambling to meet Israeli planes reveals the Soviet Union has made its determination to provide a shield for its Arab allies.

"It has become increasingly apparent", Commander Drenfeld said, "the United States must indicate to the Soviet Union that it will not stand idly by and allow such arrogance and duplicity to shake world peace and endanger Israel. The announcement of additional jets would transmit to Moscow the message that the

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Commander Meets With Rogers

National Commander Drenfeld was one of the delegates that met this month with Secretary of State Rogers, to discuss the Middle East situation. He was part of a select delegation from the President's Club. The delegates commended the Secretary for public recognition of the enormous threat to American interests by the sudden emergence of Soviet pilots and troops in Egypt. The group expressed the hope that the reevaluation process would result in the immediate sale of jet planes to Israel to protect the interests of the free world in the Middle East.

Reservation Demand Heavy For Atlanta Convention

Reservations were beginning to reach national headquarters, and the convention hotel, the Regency-Hyatt House in Atlanta, indicated that JWV was about to have the most impressive convention in its 75-year history. According to Isaac J. Murov, National Convention Chairman, the early response indicates that JWV members prefer first-class accommodations. He pointed out that the Regency-Hyatt House was one of the finest hotels in the world, with unique architecture that provides a festive air rarely duplicated. He pointed out

that the city of Atlanta was rolling out the red carpet and that the side trips were turning out to be especially attractive.

JWV has arranged trips, for example, to Six Flags Over Georgia, a family entertainment center not unlike Disneyland; to Georgia's Stone Mountain, a 3,800 acre park; to Carling's Brewery, a famous Atlanta institution; to the Atlanta Braves baseball game; to Lake Spivey, a water wonderland great for picnicking and family fun.

Delegates will also enjoy other

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75 Years of Service to U.S.A.

Editorially Speaking

The Soviet Threat

The presence of Soviet pilots flying operational missions in Egypt is, indeed, a threat to world peace for this marks the first time since World War II that Russian pilots are publicly involved in the military operations of one of its "clients."

By the injection of experienced Soviet pilots into the Egyptian military apparatus, the Soviet Union has drastically altered the balance of power in the Middle East. At this moment, there are approximately 6,000 Soviet troops in Egypt. Soviet crews operate missile sites around Egyptian cities and are strategically placed as advisors, especially where sophisticated weapon systems have been integrated into the Egyptian arsenal.

There are between 700-800 artillery guns arranged in a solid wall on the west bank of the Suez Canal. They lob into Israel positions as much as 20,000 rounds a day, equal to and exceeding the largest military barrages of World War II. The only weapon that the Israelis have against these guns are jet planes, a kind of flying artillery that at best can only disperse the personnel firing the guns. With the Soviet Union protecting Egypt against any penetration in and around its major cities, releasing Egyptian pilots to fly in the Soviet combat zone, the Israelis find themselves in an extraordinarily dangerous position.

Economic considerations aside, their military needs are for the immediate acquisition of approximately 125 new Phantom jets which might restore some balance to this aggravated situation. These jets are not needed two years from now, but immediately.

The history of the last sixty days has shown that the failure of the Nixon Administration to promise additional jets resulted in a display of weakness that prompted additional Soviet moves in the Middle East, culminating in the authorization of Soviet pilots to fly combat missions. But while the military situation could be brought into over the short run by granting additional jets to Israel, the dire political consequences of the Soviet action jeopardizes the peace of the world. It is quite obvious that the credibility of the State Department's strategy has been challenged. It is now up to the Nixon Administration to show the world that Soviet intimidation will not affect America's staunch resolve to commit itself diplomatically and militarily to Israel short of American troops which Israel does not—and will not—require.

A Cause For Alarm

The sad spectacle of young students and a confrontation between police and national guardsmen on the campuses of America is certainly cause for national alarm. It is true that radical extremist students represent a very tiny minority of the total student body, but when they are activist and recalcitrant and committed to destroy the governing apparatus of this country, they become a serious threat not to be exaggerated or swept under the rug.

We fully understand the dilemma of the law enforcement authorities and college administrators in dealing with this problem, but, in our opinion, we have passed the time when we can indulge in philosophical argument as to why these students act the way they do. Obviously, something in our society, whether it be misguided parental permissiveness or the overwhelming complexities of modern life itself, becomes immaterial when faced with the immediate danger of bombs and bloodshed. Given the angers generated by these confrontations, "non violent" becomes a myth and law enforcement authorities suddenly find themselves with all of their options gone. The result—as we recently witnessed at Kent University—is bloodshed.

It is difficult in situations like these to fix blame, for in a way, we all are to blame. But the thinking is apparent that college administrators cannot simply say what is politic and soothingly accede time and again to student demands. There is really no end to student demands because their idealism prompts them to wish to create a world—especially on their campuses—where only goodness prevails and all that is bad in life disappears. Idealism without practicality is always doomed to failure, but somehow, somewhere along the line, our children must learn this fact of life.

Jet Sale

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United States intends to stand by Israel in the face of this grave act of defiance on the part of the Soviet Union".

"Indeed", the message continued, "the credibility of the United States position with respect to the Middle East is now in jeopardy. A strong Israel, with all the weapons she needs, is the only deterrent to war in that area".

"As an organization that has observed your warm interest in Israel over the years, we implore you to act without delay to assure not only Israel, but the rest of the free world, that America understands that moral commitments must be backed up by materiel supplies in the face of the harsh realities of the Soviet Union's cynical actions in the Middle East."

Reservations

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historic Atlanta landmarks like the Cyclorama in Grant Park and Atlanta's famous underground shopping center.

Mr. Murov urged that potential delegates make reservations as early as possible as all rooms will be allocated on a first-come, first-serve basis. Hotel reservations will be honored only up to 6:00 p.m. on the night of arrival. Reservation forms appear on pages 8-9 of this issue of the Veteran.

The Convention will be held from August 16-August 23. Principal speakers for each event will be announced shortly, but it is contemplated that the array of speakers for the present Convention will provide a most stimulating and interesting week.

Scouting Sponsors Best Ever

Leonard Fuchs, National Boy Scout Chairman, today announced that for the season ending June 1st, 1970 JWV will show the greatest number of Departments and Counties with Scouting Activities in the history of JWV.

This is based on the Questionnaires returned by the posts and departments to the Chairman.

With the addition of Scouting to the Departments of Maryland and Florida as of this date 10 out of 22 Departments have posts either reporting Scouting Activities or starting to work on Sponsorship. Departments missing include Conn., Rhode Island, Delaware, D.C., Georgia-South Caro-

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Thinking Out Loud



By Albert Schlossberg
National Editor

Tell It To Chaplain

Cliché and butt for many jokes that it may have been, the expression, "Tell it to the Chaplain" actually was a tower of strength for millions of G.I.s from W.W. 2 to and through all of the conflicts since then in which the bulk of the U.S. armed services were composed of civilians-in-mufti.

Whatever the need, the Chaplain was there. A homesick youngster, a problem with superior officers, bad news from home, a fight with a buddy, a "Dear John" letter, a prayer of thanks for recovery from battlefield wounds; in good times—a corned beef sandwich after religious services, in bad times a minyon for a Kaddish prayer or Yahrzeit; holiday services in the remote corners of the world and weekly services at the many Stateside bases, a tie to the religion of our forefathers through the Chaplain.

This is how it was, but now let's tell it how it is. For the last three years our young men and women have at times been hard pressed to find a Chaplain to "Tell it to." This is not due to any government decree, rather to a predicated action by the Rabbinic bodies of organized Judaism, the Central Conference of Rabbis, the Rabbinical Association of America and the Rabbinical Conference of America.

Until three years ago the Armed Forces required about twenty five new Jewish Chaplains a year. This need was filled by a self-directed volunteer draft of seminarians from the three branches of Judaism, Orthodox, Conservative and Reform, on a 1-3 each basis. The Conservative and Reform groups withdrew from this arrangement first and were then followed by the Orthodox Rabbis. This resulted in an immediate shortage of candidates for the Jewish Chaplaincy, for the students were exempt from the draft by virtue of their 4-D status that even followed them after graduation from the seminaries, even in fact to positions not directly associated with active pulpits. This year, as an example, only about five Jewish seminarians have volunteered for the Chaplaincy Corps.

Even the Rabbis acknowledged that it was important to have Chaplains with the Armed Forces. They said, "Let CIVIL-

IAN RABBIS act as part time chaplains."

Well, as Jack Benny would say, how could a part-time Chaplain, without any real rapport with the troops fill the need that existed. Who would these part-time Chaplains be, would they be retired, elderly men? Would they be young graduates involved in other part-time jobs? Would they be circuit-riders with a brief hello and good-bye to the men and women they were to serve? And most important, what about the overseas and combat stations, who would fill those pulpits?

The response came back quick and clear to that question, "The career men, the Military Chaplains can handle that problem. "Yes., assure the Rabbis in uniform that they could count on spending all of their time in service in the far corners of the world.

Obviously, this could not and would not work out to the advantage of the most important piece of this puzzle, the guys and gals in uniform who need the Chaplains. This was recognized by the lay bodies of organized Judaism, Reform and Conservative, and they adopted resolutions calling upon their respective Rabbinic leaders to reverse their position on the matter of Jewish Chaplains. Despite heated debate in the Rabbinic halls, the result was the same, a refusal to change their position. The vote was not unanimous or even lop-sided, but just as effective, for the losers again are the men and women of our Armed Forces.

But the story should not end here. You my friends, the Rabbis who favor a return to the voluntary draft and the lay-leaders of the synagogues and temples have an avenue open to you, the Vox Populi, the voice of the people. Write letters, make telephone calls and spell it out loud and clear at your board meetings where your Shul members will know that it is their sons who will find it hard to find a Chaplain when the need arises. Remind the Rabbinic bodies that 1970 is no different from 1918, 1941, 1952 or any other year or war, that we have an obligation to see to it that when the fighting is toughest, in the States or overseas, the guys and gals are entitled to have a Chaplain to "Tell it to."