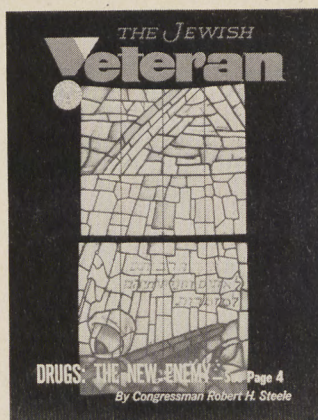


THE JEWISH Veteran



DRUGS: THE NEW ENEMY — See Page 4

By Congressman Robert H. Steele



The National Shrine For the Jewish War Dead was created as an entity by an Act of Congress in 1958 to preserve the memories and records of patriotic service performed by men and women of the Jewish Faith while in the Armed Services of the United States in time of war. This stained glass window in the Chapel was designed by Dr. Kaiser of the Jewish Regime in New York. The quotation in Hebrew reads "... and they shall beat their swords into plowshares."

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JEROME D. COHEN

National Commander

66 Court Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201

PAUL RIBNER

National Editor

2009 Penn Center House, Phila., Pa. 19103

FELIX M. PUTTERMAN

National Executive Director

1712 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.,

Washington, D. C. 20009

Phone: 202-265-6280

WARREN ADLER

Managing Editor

5225 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.,

Washington, D. C. 20015

ROLLY GIBBS

Administrative Editor

5225 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.,

Washington, D. C. 20015

JIMMY MIDGETT

Art Director

5225 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.,

Washington, D. C. 20015

JEROME M. NISMAN

Advertising Director

3086 Avenue X, Brooklyn, New York 11235

Phone: 212-646-7649 or 212-891-4661

EDITORIAL OFFICES

5225 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.,

Washington, D. C. 20015

Phone: 202-362-2257

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commander-at-large

by: Jerry Cohen, *National Commander*

A SHROUD OF INDECISIVENESS

The United States has taken positions in the past covering the Middle East which have reflected consistent inconsistencies, as a result of which the national interest of the United States of America has been placed in jeopardy.

We hear only that Israel is the target of the Soviet Union in the Middle East. That is far from the truth. The real target is the Arabian peninsula. That area is virtually defenseless and sovereignty over it would give the Soviets a pincer on Iran and an opening into East Africa. Unfortunately for Israel, she lies in this direct route.

The Soviet domination of the Arabian peninsula, East Africa, and the Persian Gulf will throttle the flow of oil and shipping to the West and obliterate both American bases and influence. Every American must be made aware of this position and must not be fooled by those who say the defense of Israel is merely the defense of a Jewish state.

The Egyptian mobilization against Israel in 1967 was instigated by the Soviets in their desire to control that peninsula. They felt that it could be picked up cheaply by using Egyptian forces and not their own, a pattern similarly used by the Russians against East Germany, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. These implications seem never to have been understood by the United States State Department, dominated as it is by Arabist thinking. They apparently still believe that we could follow the Dulles policy of trying to contain Russia with a ring of nuclear bases.

Analysis by the State Department led President Eisenhower in 1957 to tell Israel: "Restore the original

borders. The United States will guarantee their safety and no one will invade you."

Pious words, but no muscle.

Secretary of State Rogers now says that in order to re-open the Suez Canal and to begin negotiations, Israel must give up land necessary for her security. He says: "go back to your original borders". But who will guarantee those borders? The Suez Canal, the Jordan, and the Golan Heights are the only natural barriers to a mass invasion of Israel.



Rogers also piously intones that any new boundaries must not reflect the weight of conquest, that Israel must return to her pre-1967 borders and, at the same time, he agrees that Israel must have secure boundaries. He says, too, that there must be no return to the kind of settlement reached in 1957 which led to a renewed explosion. All these words add up to the same thing: procrastination, indecisiveness and contradiction.

What Israel wants is a peace treaty, a genuine peace treaty negotiated directly with the participants.

In the Fall of 1969, Golda Meir came to Washington and attempted to purchase Phantom Jets and Skyhawks. She left Washington confident and jubilant. Weeks went by and there

was no response from Washington. After some pressure, the Administration indicated that an answer would be forthcoming in 30 days. After thirty days, a new announcement that our government was awaiting the results of a study of the balance of power in the Middle East was received.

With the installation of surface to air missiles and other sophisticated weaponry and planes supplied by the Soviets, as well as 20,000 Russian "advisors" who man the missile sites and fly the aircraft, the military power of Egypt has now reached a four-to-one ratio over Israel. And still the Soviets send more weapons.

Yet once again comes the inference from the State Department that the Phantoms will be released . . . after new studies. Indecisiveness again, and that old familiar hollow ring.

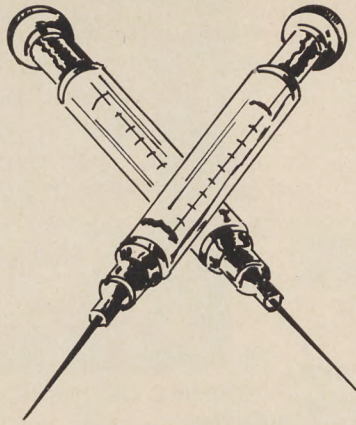
On December 2nd, Golda Meir again met with the President and renewed her plea for the Phantoms. Israel is still waiting for an answer while there is still more talk of studies.

It is obvious that the influence of the Arabists in the State Department is still being felt. The big question is: Will the President assert his power over State Department thinking? And if the State Department prevails, we believe it will have serious implications, not only to the security of Israel but particularly to the security of the United States.

The people of America speak through their elected representatives. When 82 members of the Senate and 259 members of the House of Representatives urge immediate delivery of Phantom Jets and other military assistance, along with economic aid, in order to prevent war in the Middle East, it should be "perfectly clear" to the President of the United States that it is the voice of the people he must listen to and not to that small clique of Arabists in our State Department.

We do not question the intentions of the President, but we do ask for something definitive in terms of the Middle East posture.

Prolonged darkness and vacillation instill fear, not confidence. □



The Crossed Swords and the Fight... ..

Burma, Laos, and Thailand produced an estimated 700 tons of raw opium in 1969. The great majority of this opium was refined into smoking opium or #3 purple smoking heroin for Asian users and addicts. Relatively few American servicemen in Southeast Asia used either product.

In the spring of 1969, however, U.S. intelligence agents began to notice that a number of opium refineries in Burma, Laos, and Thailand were converting to the production of #4 white heroin, which can be smoked, snorted, or injected directly into the veins.

By December 1969, officials of the Defense Department and the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs were reporting a sharp and alarming increase in the availability of white heroin in South Vietnam and in its use by American troops. By the beginning of 1970, cheap, 94-97% pure white heroin was being sold almost openly by Vietnamese vendors in front of the huge U.S. military base at Long Binh and in the vicinity of virtually every other major U.S. military installation in Vietnam.

Boredom, fear, youthful willingness to experiment, the prevailing attitudes of young people toward drugs, and, until recently, lax military supervision and discipline, have resulted in tens of thousands of American servicemen taking advantage of this ready availability of heroin.

Following our visit to Southeast Asia last April, Rep. Morgan Murphy of Illinois and I reported that an estimated 10-15% of our troops in Vietnam were using heroin at that time. Our report was based on estimates supplied to us by responsible U.S. military authorities, including the U.S. Army Provost Marshal in Saigon, and on the results of three separate surveys conducted by the Army among 3,102 men of an infantry division, 482 men of an engineer battalion, and 1,100 men selected at random from a variety of units.

As a first step toward combatting the heroin prob-



Testifying before a Senate Committee, Congressman Steele holds a vial of heroin that he purchased on the streets of Vietnam. With Steele is Rep. Morgan Murphy who also made the inspection trip to Vietnam.

lem, Rep. Murphy and I recommended that the military institute a massive urine testing program to identify heroin users, provide clinical data on the exact size of the problem, and discourage heroin use.

On June 18, President Nixon ordered that urinalysis testing be begun for all U.S. servicemen concluding their tour of duty in Vietnam. Between that date and September 10, 1971, 86,082 servicemen took urine tests and 4,440 or 5.15% showed positive reactions toward opiates. The 5.15% figure is regarded as representing primarily hard core users, since almost every man tested knew exactly what day he would be tested and that he could escape detection by abstaining from heroin for 24-72 hours prior to the test. Responsible U.S. officials, including Dr. Jerome Jaffe, the Director of the new White House Office of Drug Abuse Prevention, believe that another 10% of the men tested probably used heroin "intermittently" while in Vietnam.

Thus, our best estimates are that 15% of all U.S. troops in Vietnam were using heroin with some degree of frequency when the urinalysis tests were begun in June 1971. Assuming this percentage held true for the