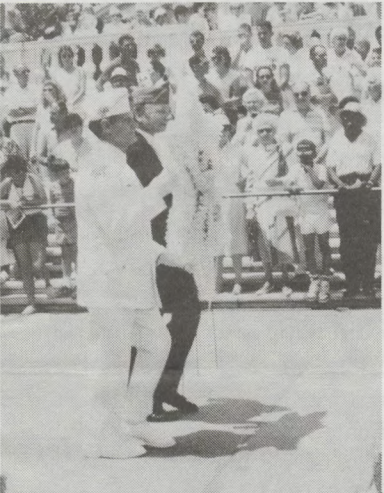


The Jewish Veteran[®]



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National Commander Litz (right) presenting a Star of David wreath with uniformed escort at Arlington National Cemetery on Memorial Day.



JWV/VVA members Dave Epstein, D.C.H.V. member Thomas Gant, JWV National Vietnam Veterans Chairman, Robert Sherman, Chaplain (Rabbi) Harold Axelrod of Ft. Belvoir, and John McCrum founder of D.C. Homeless Vets.

JWV Sponsors Homeless on Memorial Day

by Michelle Spivak Kelley

It was a first for veterans' service organizations, a first the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A., and a first for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., when thirty-eight homeless veterans took part in Memorial Day ceremonies at the Wall.

Through the efforts of National Vietnam Veterans Chairman, Robert Sherman, and the generosity of JWV Post #589 and VVA chapters #227 and #43, a picnic lunch was provided for the thirty-seven homeless men and one homeless woman.

Two decorated Vietnam vets, Thomas A. Gant and Woodrow Baker, placed the wreath, purchased by JWV, against the Wall. On the ribbon of the wreath were the letters D.C.H.V., which stand for D.C. Homeless Vets, a newly established organization whose membership consists of homeless veterans living in our nation's capital. D.C. Homeless Vets was founded by John McCrum.

As he introduced the homeless vets, Jan Scruggs—the man who made the Vietnam Veterans Memorial a reality—noted that it was through the kindness of JWV that the homeless were participating. He said it was about time America took notice of homeless veterans, at which time the crowd of 15,000 burst into applause.

The JWV Homeless Project was designed by your staff at National Headquarters as a model program for all the veterans' service organizations and their echelons. The project's goal is to mainstream homeless veterans into national and local veterans' organization events. By associating with national veterans' groups, the homeless will have increased self-esteem and improved opportunities to educate themselves and take advantage of the various services available to them.

If your echelon would like more information about the JWV Homeless Project, contact the program department at National Headquarters.

National JWV sponsored the homeless group, in an effort to give dignity and show appreciation to these veterans who are far too often forgotten. National arranged for bus transportation for the homeless vets from their shelter in northwest Washington, D.C. to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. A wreath was purchased for representatives of the group to place at the Wall, just as do AMVETS, Vietnam Veterans of America, VFW, and, this year for the first time, Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A.



A picnic lunch for homeless veterans of the Nation's Capital. Sponsored by JWV Post 589 and VVA Chapters 227 and 43.

Las Vegas: Getting a Handle on the Jewel of the Desert

by Scott P. Zucker

This year the 93rd Annual National Convention of the Jewish War Veterans of the USA is being held at the Riviera Hotel in exciting Las Vegas, Nevada. Las Vegas offers a variety of exhilarating entertainment possibilities, as well as cultural and sports activities.

Las Vegas is a city of over 190,000 people. The city contains forty-eight major hotels, which house 38,682 hotel rooms. For your dining pleasure there are over 700 restaurants, varying in price and cuisine. At the Riviera itself there are eating establishments to fit every budget, from pizza and burgers to gourmet dining, plus a Hebrew National hot-dog stand on the casino floor.

Las Vegas has long been known as a home for major sporting events. From boxing to tennis to car racing, Las Vegas has presented a wide spectrum of sporting events, much to the thrill of visiting sporting fans. The city hosts the highly acclaimed National Finals Rodeo, which features the world's most daring cowboys competing for the richest purse in the world of rodeo. All summer long, you can grab a hot dog and a beer, as you take in a Las Vegas Stars baseball game at Cashman Field. The Stars are the Triple A farm team of the National League's San Diego Padres.

Some of the areas geographic points of interest include the Hoover Dam, which is located 25 miles outside the city. It is the tallest concrete dam in the Western Hemisphere. Glorious Lake Mead is also located only 25 miles away from the downtown strip. Finally, only 15 miles from downtown you will find lovely Bonnie Springs. Bonnie Springs is a desert oasis which includes a petting zoo and authentic western architecture.

Superstar entertainment has long been the trademark of Las Vegas. Considered by many to be the "Entertainment Capital of the World," Vegas brings you the best the entertainment world has to offer, be it a top-name superstar or a multi-million dollar production extravaganza.

The Riviera is no exception to the rule. Top names and live entertain-

continued on page 3

Commander's Corner

The following editorial appeared in The Richmond News-Leader on May 18, 1988. JWV's response appears at bottom:

Pearl Harbor's Cross

The relentless march to free American society from the shackles of any religious symbolism goes on. The strangest aspect of the continuing struggle comes from those who assume an air of moral superiority in opposing nativity scenes, silent prayer, any mention of God, or other references to a religious faith from which moral values derive.

The latest target of moral outrage is a 65-foot cross at Pearl Harbor, built by the Marine Corps for an Easter sunrise service 22 years ago. At night the cross is lit, and the Corps refers to it as a "beacon of hope" that shines for Americans still missing in Southeast Asia. It thus seems a simple, eloquent, and innocent tribute to servicemen lost in hostile lands.

But not to the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A., which takes the cross as a personal affront to the First

Amendment. The JWV is suing to have the cross demolished, contending that it shows a preference for a particular religion. The Marine Corps wants to retain the cross, and many Hawaiians side with the Marines.

A federal judge recently heard opposing sides on the issue, and no doubt he soon will issue a finding that the cross is unconstitutional and must be removed. Few remnants of the nation's Christian heritage remain in public life—official chaplains, some phrases on the currency and in the pledge of Allegiance, and other odds and ends that probably will vanish in time. If Hawaiians want to maintain their cross, they would do well to buy a spot of land, pay the Marines a fair market price for the cross, and move it to a private location. Then they could keep it lit in memory of missing

servicemen.

If, as Karl Marx said, religion is the opiate of the masses, then America is well on its way to going cold turkey. Oh, there are lofty arguments about pluralism and protecting the sensitivities of anyone eager to take offense, as well as about First Amendment protections against violations of religious freedom.

Question No. 1: *Whose* religious freedom? Question No. 2: Does the only way to satisfy the morally superior lie in declaring atheism the sole "faith" recognized by the state? Questions No. 3: If all religious symbolism is banished as an insult to private and public sensibilities, then what will the moral arbiters seize upon to feed their frenzies? If we're lucky, maybe one another.

May 20, 1988

Our Reply

Mr. Ross MacKenzie
Editorial Department
Richmond News Leader
P.O. Box C32333
Richmond, VA 23293

Dear Editor:

Your editorial "Pearl Harbor's Cross" (Wednesday, May 18, 1988) is replete with factual errors, and the anti-Semitic catch phrases this organization has been forced to deal with throughout its ninety-two year history.

Know of whom you speak. The Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. (JWV), represents men and women who put their lives on the line in each and every conflict of this nation. This organization vigorously defends the rights of all American citizens and the U.S. Constitution. Our membership makes no claim of "moral superiority" as you accuse, rather we defend religious equality.

Know the facts of the case. The cross you refer to is not located at Pearl Harbor. It is at Camp H.M. Smith, a Marine base on the island of Oahu. The 65-foot tall, 35-foot wide, illuminated cross was erected for a religious ceremony (an Easter sunrise service) and is maintained by the tax dollars of every American.

The Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A., brought suit against the U.S. Marines and Commandant P.X. Kelley, asking that the cross be removed, after the Navy's Judge Advocate, Admiral T. Flynn, had already determined that the placement of the cross was unconstitutional.

Although the cross continues to be the centerpiece for the Easter service,

government attorneys say it is not a religious symbol anymore. Now, they say, the cross is a memorial to POWs and MIAs in Southeast Asia.

By suggesting the cross is not a religious symbol, its proponents deny the historical significance of the cross and demean its spiritual meaning to millions of Christians worldwide. By declaring the cross a war memorial, they ignore the fact that there are Jewish and non-Christian POWs and MIAs whose families find no comfort in the cross as a beacon of hope.

JWV is not opposed to a non-sectarian memorial on Camp Smith. To date, alternative suggestions have been ignored.

Know your history. Throughout your editorial you repeat the theme of this nation's "Christian heritage" struggling to survive against atheism. Your analogy is wrong and misguided. This nation's heritage is *Judeo-Christian*, and the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. is not an organization of atheists, or are you implying all non-Christians are atheists?

Clearly, it is you who are claiming moral superiority. We simply claim our right to bring court action on what is a clear violation of the rights of all Americans to the protection of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. This is the principle our members fought, bled and died for in defense of this country.

Your reference to the "Christian heritage" of America is something we cannot and will not tolerate since it implies second-class status to America's Jewish and non-Christian communities. The founders of this nation came to our shores with the express purpose of freely practicing their religious beliefs—you would deny all Americans that heritage.

Your article's final suggestion exposes your bigotry. You seek our destruction saying you would be "lucky," if we, who defend the Constitutional separation of church and state, would "feed" on "one another." I ask you sir, who would be left to defend *your* Constitutional rights?

Continue to quote Karl Marx, if you like, Mr. Editor. The Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. prefers Thomas Jefferson—"Difference of opinion is advantageous in religion. The several sects perform the office of censor morum over each other. Millions of men, women and children, since the introduction of Christianity, have been burned, tortured, fined, imprisoned; yet we have not advanced one inch toward uniformity."

Sincerely,
Jack Litz
National Commander



Korea 1950

A letter of thanks

From Mr. Tibor Rubin to the members of Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A.

Dear Jewish War Veterans or my Jewish Brothers & Sisters,

Thanks to the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. for their help in my case about getting the *Congressional Medal of Honor* reborn again. Many articles been written about me in the JWV national magazine, so, you know a lot about the Tibor Rubin story. I need you and your family's help and my Jewish brothers and sisters help, or I don't have a chance to get the medal. Our politicians only listen to numbers. Your support and our synagogues, religious schools or our organizations like Hadassah, B'nai B'rith are vital to my case. Without your help, I can't go anywhere.

Now why I really want that Big Medal? Well, many reasons. Even though I am 58-years old, and have a lot of health problems. Well, not for myself anymore. If I got it when I was young well it would be different, but now I am happy that I can live one more day.

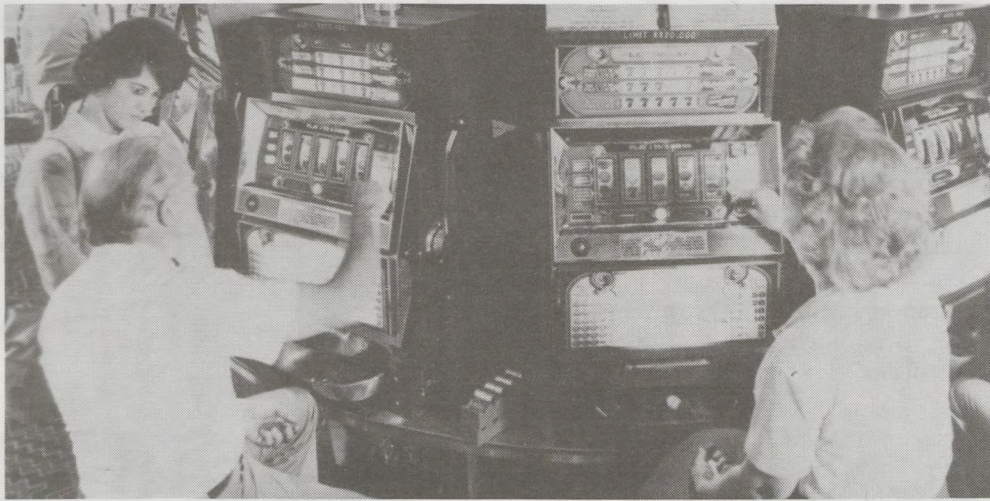
But if I ever get that Medal I'd like it dedicated to all veterans who died in our wars. I'd like it dedicated to all of our Ex-P.O.W.s who died in the P.O.W. camps. I'd like it dedicated to 90% of my family plus our 6-million beautiful brothers and sisters who died in the Nazi death camps—plus the Jewish War Veterans headquarters building, a new museum where some day our children and grandchildren will visit and they will be proud of our heritage, our history. You can imagine one day 100 or 200 years from now, they will be looking in Washington D.C. in our Jewish War Veterans Museum—a *Congressional Medal of Honor* was issued to a little Jewish fellow from the old country, Hungary, and they will read the sad but beautiful story—the story of our people—the story of some part of your family—the story which will be known, because you Jewish brothers and sisters cared with your help—some day you—your children or grandchildren could be proud that you cared and helped me.

You know the Jewish War Veterans is working so hard in my behalf. They spend so much time, because they care. They believe in our future, our heritage, and in my case.

Dear brothers and sisters in the U.S.A., would you please take a few minutes and help me with your petitions, and letters and help the JWV to carry on the fight till victory comes for us Jewish people. Nothing comes easy.

Thank you for helping me—God Bless all of you.

Tibor Rubin



Las Vegas *continued from page 1*

ment are offered in the three hotel showrooms, including the fabulous extravaganza "Splash," for which your Convention Committee has secured discount tickets.

Of course, the one thing Las Vegas is most famous for is its gambling. Legalized gambling was established by the Nevada Legislature in 1931, and has flourished there ever since. Gaming revenues in the city today total over \$2 billion annually. Virtually all of the city's 15 million annual visitors indulge in some form of gambling. Many stick to playing some of the thousands of slot machines. The cost of these "one-armed bandits" ranges from \$.01 to \$5.00.

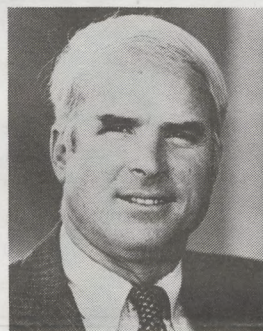
Others try their luck at a myriad of other casino games, including blackjack of "21", craps, keno, bingo, poker, baccarat, and roulette. In addition, many casinos offer sports book betting. Several casinos also give free gambling instructions so that the patron has a good working knowledge of the game before risking their money. All the casinos are regulated by the state, county and city governments.

JWVers please enjoy all the fun and excitement that Las Vegas has to offer, but do not forget to attend the interesting and informative workshops and activities offered by the Jewish War Veterans of the USA at your National Convention.

Convention Speakers



HIS EXCELLENCY MOSHE ARAD



SENATOR JOHN MCCAIN



THOMAS K. TURNAGE
VA ADMINISTRATOR

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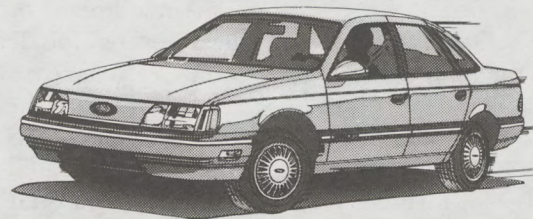
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NEW MEMBERS

Name	Post#	Name	Post#	Name	Post#	Name	Post#
Steven L. Abrams, NJ	972	Leo Brissman, NY	258	Jack A. Ehleiter, FL	400	Morris Gabel, NY	100
Frank Ackerson, PA	212	Sanford Bunning, FL	400	Morris Eiser, NJ	273	Joshua S. Galitzer, FL	682
Joseph E. Albert, MA	26	Oscar Burstein, FL	100	Samuel Ellison, OH	587	Matthew Jay Gallon, OH	153
Aaron Altman, FL	400	Aaron Caplan, PA	100	Stanley Robert Epstein, NY	783	Howard Dwight Ganz, OH	587
Stanley L. Aronoff, NY	769	Robert E. Cetlin, NY	100	Samuel Erlick, NJ	100	Allen M. Garf, MA	735
Joseph Balin, NJ	100	Leon T. Chaskes, FL	100	Sam Federman, FL	519	Max Geisinger, NY	080
Bernard Robert Barry, NJ	972	Abraham A. Cheplowitz, NY	25	Nathan Feinstein, NJ	395	Philip F. Gelfand, NY	100
Justin R. Baum, OH	044	Irving Cherney, FL	542	Harry Feinstein, NY	108	Israel J. Ginsburg, CO	344
Marc Evan Bay, CA	786	Morris Chudnofsky, DE	525	Carl Feldhamer, CO	344	Philip Ginsberg, NY	206
Benjamin J. Beck, TN	121	Albert Cohen, FL	400	Ralph Feuerstein, NY	80	Lewis Glasner, MD	292
Harold C. Becker, MA	26	Jack Cohen, NY	793	Joe Field, IL	328	Rudy Gold, NV	711
George Bedor, NY	100	Jacob S. Cohen, NM	203	Solomon S. Fishkin, NY	107	Steven Goldberg, NJ	763
Al Beigel, FL	266	David R. Corey, FL	440	George Fleischer, NJ	972	Robert Goldman, MA	26
Samuel Beloff, VA	579	David A. Crown, VA	589	Max Flom, NJ	395	Martin Goldman, NJ	100
Robert G. Bernstein, CA	797	Daniel M. Davis, FL	400	David Frank, FL	505	Eilias J. Goldsmith, TN	121
Dennis E. Berry, CA	603	Sidney Davis, FL	400	Elias Clinton Frank, MD	180	Irving Goldstein, FL	451
Sam Betzkin, NY	108	Manuel E. Delgadillo, NE	260	Stanley Franz, FL	400	Percy Goldstein, CO	344
Joseph A. Biber, NJ	36	Jerome Deutsch, NY	068	Harvey Arthur Freedman, NV	972	A. L. Golwb, IL	700
Eugene N. Bilenker, NJ	100	Jack A. Devor, FL	400	Solomon J. Freedman, NY	100	Steven Alan Goodman, NY	258
Mel Birnbaum, NY	100	Edward F. Dierden, FL	400	Paul Marc Freedman, NY	415	David Henry Goodman, MD	100
Isaac Bitton, IL	100	Irving Distenfeld, MD	100	Nathaniel Freedman, NY	415	Sol Goodman, IL	700
Robert Francis Bloomer, NV	711	Arnie Dobbs, FL	730	Richard Gabriel Freeman, PA	148	Allen David Goodman, TX	749
Maurice Bluefield, NJ	395	Charles Dorfman, OH	587	Phillip G. Friedman, MA	735	Paul R. Gordon, NY	100
George Blustein, MA	100	Ronald E. Doyle, VA	579	Isadore Friedman, NJ	39	Alfred Gezd Graf, DC	058
Leo Boyar, NJ	972	Charles Dreyfuss, NY	209	Arnold S. Friedman, NY	206	Robert Green, NV	711
Sidney Brickel, NJ	213	William Eatman, IL	100	Albert Friedman, MO	346	Marvin Greenberg, NY	100