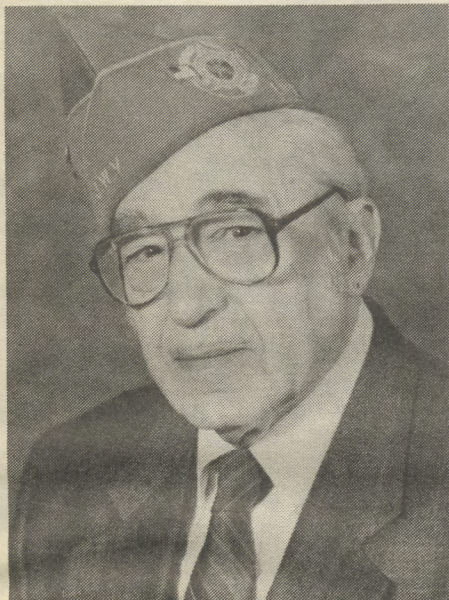


The Jewish® Veteran



Alfred Schwartz of Georgia Elected National Commander of JWV

by Michelle Spivak Kelley, National Director of Communications and Programs



National Commander Alfred Schwartz

Delegates of the 95th Annual National Convention of Jewish War Veterans, meeting at the Town and Country Hotel in San Diego, California, have chosen Alfred Schwartz of Mack Frankel Atlanta Post 112, Department of the Southeast, as National Commander of JWV. Commander Schwartz's election highlighted an exciting and informative convention for delegates and guests.

Commander Schwartz has dedicated his life to serving the American veteran. Over the course of forty three years, Al Schwartz has held every elected office in JWV. Among the many honors bestowed upon Commander Schwartz was Department Commander of the Year in 1960. His service to veterans has included organizing blood drives, visiting and caring for hospitalized veterans, and providing recreation for disabled and needy veterans.

Commander Schwartz has been a leader in organizing allied veterans' organizations in cooperative programs which assist all veterans from every walk of life. He currently serves as a member of the Georgia Department Commanders' Conference and the Selective Service Board of Georgia.

Al Schwartz, a veteran of World War II, enlisted in the Army in 1941 and served with the 4th and 84th Divisions. Following his discharge he enlisted in the Reserves, serving until 1953.

Responding to the needs of America's aging veteran population is a vital concern of the new National Commander. "The majority of veterans served by the Department of Veterans Affairs are senior citizens, with an average age of 68 years old. The DVA must continue to be responsive to their needs, by expanding and updating facilities in the Sun Belt and in the Western region where many of our vets are migrating and by responding to the specific medical needs of this age group."

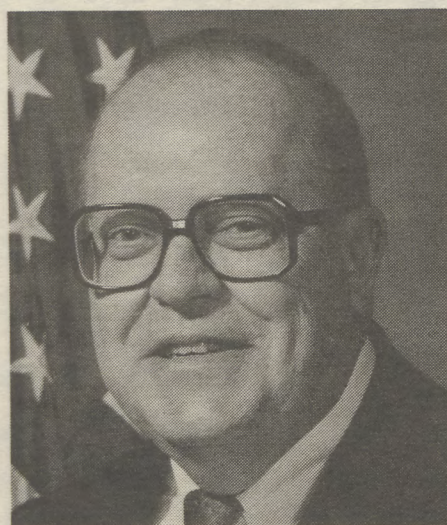
In his first remarks as National Commander, Mr. Schwartz said,

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Speakers of the 95th Annual National Convention of JWV

Secretary Derwinski Briefs JWV on Current Status of the DVA

by Howard Metzger



Honorable Edward Derwinski

Delegates at the 95th Annual National Convention of the Jewish War Veterans of the USA (JWV), convening in San Diego, California, were briefed by Edward Derwinski, Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), on the current status of the DVA, as fiscal year 1991 approaches.

In his remarks before the general convention session of August 16, the Secretary commended JWV for its work at VA medical facilities. Mr. Derwinski also complimented JWV on its continued diligence in

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General Ran Ronen Tells Jewish War Veterans Israeli Security Threatened by Iraqi Invasion

by Michelle Spivak Kelley

San Diego, CA. . . . Addressing Jewish War Veterans of the USA (JWV), convening in San Diego, Consul General of the Israel Consulate in Los Angeles, Gen. Ran Ronen, said Israel fears it may become the scapegoat in Iraqi President Hussein's power play in the Middle East.

Ronen, formerly the commander of Israel's largest air force base said

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General Ran Ronen, I.A.F.

Hussein Seeks Holy War, West Guilty of Silence Declares Jewish Leader

by Howard Metzger, Associate Editor

Warning that Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein is starting a worldwide Holy War, Malcolm Hoenlein, Executive Director of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, cautioned that this Jihad will challenge the fundamentals of Western democracies, and bring chaos to the world.

Addressing his remarks to the Jewish War Veterans of the USA (JWV) National Convention, meeting in San Diego, Mr. Hoenlein alerted the United States

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Malcolm Hoenlein

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Jewish GI POW's of WWII
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Atlanta
NOW

Convention Registration
Form Inside
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FORUM

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor,

I had to drop you this note to tell you how much I enjoyed reading *The Jewish Veteran*. It was easy to read, very informative and presented JWV's position on many current issues.

The *Veteran* is not a one time reading. It should be read more than once in order to digest and remember its contents. One of the programs I found to be of particular interest is the JWV Descendants program. I hope to get more information on this group to send to members of our Post. We already participate in the stamp program chaired by Mr. Herman Russell.

We are small group, but we try to do our share of service to veterans, senior citizens, and other members of our community.

Again, your paper is great and I love receiving it.

Sincerely,

Lester and Lillian Klein
Weissman-Busch Post 742

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the excellent Summer, 1990 edition of *The Jewish Veteran*. As usual, each edition gives me something new to think about and thoroughly enjoy.

Past National Commander Rosen's letter to Senator Dole really surprised me. It certainly opened my eyes. Additionally, I receive helpful information from the "Veterans' Affairs" column. It is very informative. Please keep us up to date on those concerns addressed in that column.

Again, thank you for your fine publication.

Sincerely,

Henrietta Miller
Hartford-Laurel Post 45

Dear Editor,

I am writing to you to bring to your attention the exemplar activism of Post Commander **Harold Mann** of Kansas City.

Some months ago, when Senator Bob Dole proposed to cut foreign aid, I contacted Harold. He took action. He not only wrote to Senator Dole himself, but also provided sample letters to all Kansas City Post and Auxiliary members at their annual dinner. Due to his leadership, over 40 letters were generated to Senator Dole.

I must praise Harold for his leadership. He has proven that one person can impact the system. He is truly a model of grassroots political activism to be emulated by all Jewish war veterans.

Harold's action and leadership also demonstrated to my colleagues how important and strong the Jewish War Veterans can be to our cause. I look forward to working

together with him and others from the Kansas City Post and Auxiliary, as well as other members of JWV in the future.

Sincerely,

Jill Pupa,
Plains States Field Coordinator
American-Israel Public Affairs
Committee (AIPAC)

Editor's Note: This letter, written to Natl. Leg. Dir. Herb Rosenbleeth, reminds us of the importance of making our collective voices heard on behalf of JWV.

Dear Editor,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you again for your support of the 1990 U.S. Air Force Academy Awards Banquet. Again this year, cadet award winners were extremely pleased to receive the eagle and fledgling sculpture piece as a memento of their years at the Academy, and as a reward for their success in the area of intercollegiate athletics.

It is only because of your gracious generosity that these awards are possible. The spirit of competition and the desire for excellence that these awards encourage is most important. These cadet winners, and those who follow, will continue to strive to develop their abilities as the future leaders of the Air Force.

Cadet First Class Stephen M. Plescha was the recipient of your award. On behalf of everyone at the Air Force Academy, and particularly from the members of the Department of Athletics, I would like to thank you for your support of the U.S. Air Force Academy Intercollegiate Athletic Program.

Sincerely,

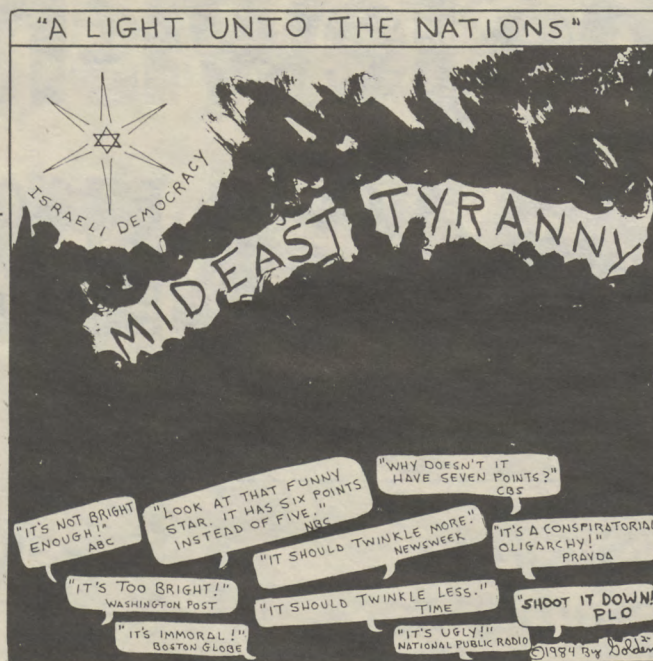
John J. Clune, Colonel, USAF
Director of Athletics

Dear Sirs,

We were happy to receive a copy of the Summer, 1990 issue of *The Jewish Veteran* from the members of Israel Post 180, when they visited our office recently. We enjoyed reading about the various activities

The Editorial Board of The Jewish Veteran welcomes your comments regarding our publication. This space is reserved for your observations, exchanges and candid comments on issues of concern to you.

Your give and take with the staff of The Jewish Veteran will enable us to better serve you. All your comments and suggestions are welcome. Mail your letters, to Forum, The Jewish Veteran, 1811 R Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20009.



Where We Stand

by Albert Schlossberg, National Editor

Magen David and Desert Shield

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof;"

Sadly, from 1946 to 1962, U.S. military personnel serving with the U.S. Air Force at the U.S. base at Daharahn, Saudi Arabia were denied the protection so explicitly defined above.

Then, Jewish members of the Air Force were excluded from service at Daharahn because they were Jewish.

Christian Air Force chaplains, there, then, were prohibited from wearing the insignia of their chaplaincy, the cross, and were only able to surreptitiously hold church services for their Air Force flock.

The Jewish War Veterans of the USA commends the Department of Defense for its forthright resolve not to repeat that sad chapter in U.S. military history, by immediately establishing a clear cut policy which is now providing free exercise of religion for the men and women of our armed forces in Saudi Arabia, participating in "Operation Desert Shield".

Unlike that prior policy, the Department of Defense is now operating in a clear, unambiguous manner. In a letter to JWV's National Commander, Alfred Schwartz, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Daniel J. Kalinger, said, "... religious services are being conducted for all religious denominations by U.S. military chaplains. As of this writing (21 August, 1990), there are three Jewish chaplains presently on their way to the Mideast." (On 30 August, 1990, JWV was informed that the 3 Jewish chaplains were in Saudi Arabia.)

"Service members of the Jewish faith assigned to Saudi Arabia have not been advised to cover or alter their dog tags and they may wear their yarmulke with their uniform according to DoD policy."

Regrettably, because repeated queries to the Saudi Arabian embassy were fruitless, JWV was unable to confirm Saudi acquiescence to the U.S. DoD's resolute decision.

It is truly fascinating that the Magen David, Shield of David, is now present in Saudi Arabia in the persona of the Jewish chaplains and the hundreds of Jewish military persons there to defend the nation, as participants in Operation Desert Shield.

Just as Asser Levy and Jacob Barsimson insisted to Peter Stuyvesant that they had the right to help defend the colony of New Amsterdam, JWV welcomes the Department of Defense's resolve to include Jewish military personnel and Jewish chaplains in the forces operating in the deserts of Saudi Arabia. ■