

The Jewish® Veteran



David Hymes Elected National Commander Of JWV

by Howard Metzger, Assistant National Director of Communications



National Commander David H. Hymes.

The Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. (JWV), announces the unanimous election of David H. Hymes of Lincolnwood, Illinois, as National Commander. The election took place at the organization's 99th annual national convention in Dallas, Texas. Following his election, the new national commander commented, "I am honored to be elected National Commander of this great organization, and I pledge to work for you, the members of JWV, to the best of my ability."

Born in Chicago in 1917, Commander Hymes entered the Army in 1941, prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor. He saw his first overseas duty in Panama in 1942. After attaining the rank of Sergeant, Mr. Hymes returned to the United States in late 1942 to attend Officers Candidate School, and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Quartermaster Corps in 1943. After serving with a Transportation Battalion for six months, he was transferred to the Adjutant General Department.

continued on page 3

INDEX

Forum	2
View From the Top	3
Director's Perspective	5
Award Winners	9
Keeping Posted	16
In Search Of	20
Reunions	20

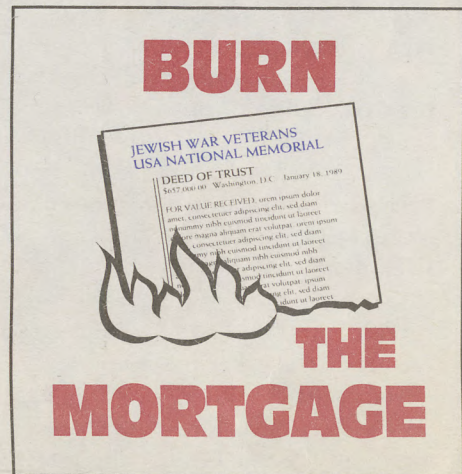
National Museum Burns Mortgage; One year campaign successful in paying off half-million dollar debt

by Howard Metzger

In an extraordinary display of support and commitment to the National Museum of American Jewish Military History (NMA-JMH), the membership of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. (JWV) has raised over half a million dollars to settle the Museum's mortgage.

"People said it could not be done, but it was done," said an obviously happy PNC Nathan M. Goldberg, Museum President. "In one year, our members committed themselves to relieving this Museum of its most pressing debt, and now allows the Museum to spend its entire resources on spreading its message to the American people."

PNC Harvey S. Friedman, Chairman of the Burn the Mortgage Campaign, was equally pleased with this accomplishment. "This campaign was successful largely to the determination of every member of JWV to promote a legacy of accomplishments in the



United States armed forces. Our Museum will grow because the membership it was formed to honor is committed to its legacy to Jewish patriotism and bravery."

The National Museum of American Jewish Military History, located at JWV National Headquarters in Washington, D.C., is charged to

continued on page 12

General John Shalikashvili Addresses JWV Convention;

"Can't stand still on freedoms," Chairman tells JWV

by Howard Metzger, Assistant National Director of Communications

Declaring, "America can't stand still on its freedoms, it must maintain a viable armed forces," General John M. Shalikashvili, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, urged the United States to continue to support full funding of the U.S. armed forces.

Speaking before the 99th annual convention of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. (JWV) in Dallas, Texas, the General commended veterans, in general, and the membership of JWV, in particular, for their service in defense of this nation. The General commented that it was the veterans of this nation who laid the groundwork for the riches American enjoys today.

General Shalikashvili was emphatic when he declared that the men and women serving today in America's armed forces are ready to protect America's interests, whether it be a



General John M. Shalikashvili.

military mission or a humanitarian mission, such as Rwanda, with high morale and confidence that they can emerge victorious from any conflict.

continued on page 10

Centennial
See page 6

Convention Gallery
See page 14

Programs
See page 11

FORUM

Letters To
The Editor

"Health Beat" Objection

Dear Editor,

The Summer 1994 issue of *The Jewish Veteran* contained a section called "Health Beat". The section listed "10 Foods You Should Never Eat", as taken from the Nutrition Action Newsletter. I don't think you should have published this list.

Although I agree that the foods listed are not healthy for most people, except for those individuals who are high risk, I don't think any food should be banned because of high fat content. Very few people would have increased cholesterol from eating a scoop or two of Hagen Dais Ice Cream once a month.

Except for Item 1, which discussed cereals and Item 7 which discussed ice cream, all the other items are not kosher, and should not be eaten by JWV members anyway. A more meaningful list of kosher items with unacceptable high fat or high sodium levels would have been more appropriate.

Sincerely,

Howard Luken
Brown-Sutton Hollywood Post 113
Beverly Hills, CA

Thoughts on the Nation of Islam and
Jewish Responses

Dear Editor,

Like practically all of your readers, I find the statements made by Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan and his ilk to be appalling. However, it is most important to realize that Farrakhan is a demagogue.

The job of a demagogue is to take an ounce of truth, mold it into a pound of lies, and then shove it down the throat of the unsuspecting. He touts his words as food for thought, the kind that will nourish the mind. But actually, what he says is the making of poisonous gruel.

Unfortunately, in a democratic society as the one in which we live, we must accept some abuse of free speech in the defense of the First Amendment. But the bottom line is that free speech is no threat - it is the means to keep ideas alive.

If we curb free speech that promotes a hostile and intimidating climate, our constitutional right to freedom of speech would be meaningless. To suppress speech that promotes hate and bigotry would chip away at First Amendment freedoms.

The solution is open debate. If those of us who believe in equal rights for all cannot prevail over those who express contemptuous views based on ethnicity, religion or race, we might just as well throw in the towel and surrender hope for a just and humane democratic society.



Voltaire was right when he said, "I may disapprove of what you say, but I will defend your right to say it."

Sincerely,

Hy Rosenfeld, PC
Valley of the Sun Post 194
Phoenix, AZ

Dear Editor,

As a member of the Democratic Executive Committee of Palm Beach (DEC), I attended an April meeting. To my surprise, there were 25-30 members of the Nation of Islam in attendance. They were there to intimidate the group, since a resolution was being proposed which would condemn Maude A. Lee, a County Commissioner, for her praise of Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan. The vote did not pass.

An attempt to have a resolution condemning this action by the JWV District Council failed due to several members of JWV, who were also members of the DEC.

It seems that we Jews are afraid to take action if it affects our politicians.

Sincerely,

Len Fuchs
Greenacres, FL

Israel-PLO Peace?

Dear Editor,

In considering the present Israeli-PLO "peace process" - more properly, a "surrender process," we often hear mention of the approaching "secure peace." Woodrow Wilson once said,

"Only a peace between equals can last." Where is the equality in exchanging land for peace? Has any war ended with the winner offering land for peace?

The world is not different today. All nations depend on their military to defend its boundaries. Yielding vital elements of land can only weaken military preparedness. If land is not a problem, why not give up the Galilee, which is mostly Arab? If land is not a problem, why has Israel claimed a portion of Lebanon as a security zone?

Land is a determinant of sovereignty and must be given up only when the military can no longer defend a nation's sovereignty. Israel has been in danger for 46 years, and the current PLO posturing does nothing to assuage this danger. [Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak] Rabin uses the slogan that giving up land will produce peace, but it is a false slogan, used so Rabin can keep his office.

I fear for the future of Israel. Recent reports show that despite offers of land, the PLO is maintaining its war rhetoric. Jordan and Egypt are the only two nations to have a peace accord with Israel.

I am very concerned. Many people supported the Soviet Union and peace in our time. They were wrong. Having obtained land with an unauthentic promise of peace, what does the PLO have in mind? Does Rabin actually think that sacrificing more

continued on page 26

Evaline Hymes, wife of National Commander David Hymes wishes to thank all those who sent cards and good wishes to her during her recent illness. She thanks you all for your kindness.

Where
We
Stand

by Albert Schlossberg, National Editor

Fair-minded observers of the "organized Jewish community" in the United States find it difficult to challenge a truism: the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. (JWV) develops its official positions and policies in a manner which has led most community leaders to conclude that JWV's resolution process is exemplary; democracy in action.

Months before JWV's national convention is held, individual members, posts, county and district councils and departments of JWV, at local meetings and conventions, debate issues pertinent to their concerns as Americans, veterans and Jews. At the local conventions the proposals are deliberated and voted upon. Those philosophic conclusions are then transmitted to JWV's National Resolutions Committee. At the national convention, all submissions are debated by a sub-committee of the National Resolutions Committee. The sub-committee, after reasoned consideration, then passes on to the full Resolutions Committee all position and policy papers which it has determined merit further consideration.

In the full committee, again with deliberate, reasoned discussion, proposed resolutions are put to a vote. Those receiving majority support in its Resolutions Committee then are presented to the full convention for further discussion, explanation, support and/or opposition. In an open meeting, all delegates to the convention are given a chance to participate in decisions which result in the adoption of policy statements which become the *raison d'être* of JWV. Between national conventions, JWV policy positions may be reviewed by JWV's National Policy Committee.

The following synopsis of a selection of JWV's resolutions will spotlight issues which evoked exceptional interest within and outside the JWV community.

1. Prior to JWV's national convention, Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA) announced that she would sponsor a bill in the House of Representatives which would, if adopted into law, "automatically upgrade their (veterans who had received) bad paper (dishonorable and/or bad conduct) discharges." JWV opposed this concept, and passed a resolution that stated, in part,

"We (JWV) join with our fellow veteran organizations in a call on the members of Congress of the United States to resist such legislation because it would, in effect, dishonor all of the millions of men and women who served our nation and received honorable discharges."

2. Israel's Foreign Minister, Shimon Peres, speaking at the 40th anniversary of the dedication of the Japanese Peace Bell at the United Nations in New York, said, "in a way (the bell and its Jerusalemite stone foundation) are symbolic of two holocausts - the Jewish Holocaust and the Japanese

continued on page 4