

The Jewish Veteran®



JWV Participates in Veterans Forum with President Clinton

special to *The Jewish Veteran*

In a White House meeting with President Clinton, representatives of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. (JWV) and The Military Coalition sat down to discuss a wide range of issues of concern to the veterans' community. Howard Metzger, JWV National Director of Public Relations, represented the organization.

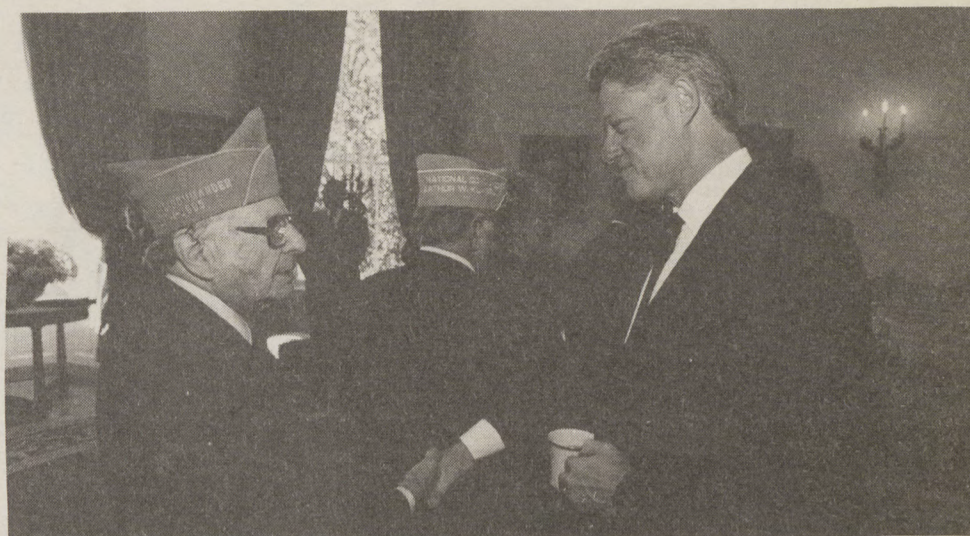
Media Relations professionals from JWV and The Military Coalition met President Clinton with the specter of continuing congressional deliberations on the federal budget act, with many veterans' programs slated for reduction and the continuing controversy surrounding the Smithsonian Institution's World War II exhibit, which was to feature the *Enola Gay*. The Military Coalition, which JWV is a member, is a consortium of nationally prominent military and veterans' associations, representing 3.75 million members - active, reserve, and retired

- plus their families and survivors.

Discussions with the President ranged from the proposed federal budget, to proposed changes in medicare, national defense issues, POW/MIA updates and other issues of concern to the veterans' community. In response to a question posed by the Vietnam Veterans of America on the issue of POW/MIA's, the President stated that the United States has received over 100 new documents from Vietnam on the status of unresolved cases, and that the increased cooperation between the U.S. and Vietnam, is a hopeful sign that all outstanding cases can be resolved.

Several organizations questioned the President as to the continued strength of the armed services. The President admitted that the services may not be an attractive career as it once was, but he attributed this to a

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NC Hymes meets President Clinton at the Oval Office, the White House.

JWV Opposes Presidential Nomination for National Archivist

by Howard Metzger

In a letter to President Bill Clinton, David H. Hymes, National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. (JWV) opposed the nomination of former Governor John W. Carlin as National Archivist, and asked the President to reconsider the nomination.

Mr. Carlin, a campaign advisor to the 1992 Clinton presidential effort, was tapped as head of the National Archives, the agency responsible for the chronicling and displaying of American historical documentation.

"In our [JWV] letter to you of November 1994, JWV, the first American veterans' organization to do so, called for the cancellation of the controversial Smithsonian Institution's exhibit on the end of World War II, which was going to feature the *Enola Gay*," Commander Hymes said. "This was based on it being a revisionist, biased and historically corrupt interpretation of the use of atomic weapons against Japan."

According to JWV officials, the

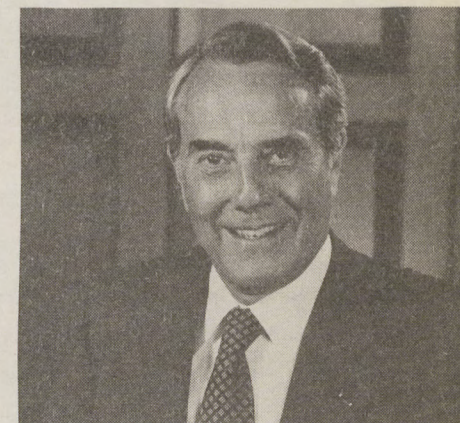
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JWV Supports Dole Legislation Relocating Embassy to Jerusalem;

Questions tepid Israeli government and American-Jewish reaction

by Howard Metzger
National Director of Public Relations

The Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. (JWV) has expressed support for the Jerusalem Embassy Relocation Implementation Act of 1995, introduced by Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole (R-KS), calling for the transfer of the United States embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, Israel's undivided capital and seat of government. Mr. Dole made his announcement at the annual meeting of the American-Israel Public



Senator Robert Dole (R-KS)

Affairs Committee (AIPAC) in Washington, D.C.

"For many years, JWV has been strongly advocating the immediate

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FORUM

Letters To
The Editor

Moving the American Embassy to Jerusalem

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following letter was sent to Sen. Jon Kyl (R-AZ), regarding the Senator's proposed legislation providing funding for the U.S. Embassy in Israel, only if the embassy is re-located to Jerusalem, and that the U.S. recognize Jerusalem as the undivided capital of Israel.

Dear Senator Kyl,

I received a copy of your letter to [U.S. Secretary of State] Warren Christopher and hasten to let you know how moved I was to learn of your efforts to pass legislation for the transfer of the United States Embassy to Jerusalem. I certainly agree with you that the United States "is more likely to influence a settlement if Arab countries understand they cannot play off the U.S. against Israel." We need to make it very clear as soon as possible that the status of Jerusalem is not negotiable and, most important, that Jerusalem will remain the eternal, united capital of the State of Israel.

It is most symbolic that you gave as your target date - 1996, marking the 3,000th anniversary since King David made Jerusalem the capital of his kingdom. Preparations are already in high gear for the Trimillennium, with an exciting year-long calendar of cultural, artistic and educational events and activities. The Trimillennium will also enable us to give expression to our efforts to preserve and protect the unique historic and religious character of Jerusalem, while developing it as a modern city for the benefit of all its residence and its many visitors, and our firm commitment to keep Jerusalem a place where all people are welcome to freely practice their faiths and visit the shrines holy to their religions.

Sincerely,

Ehud Olmert
Mayor of Jerusalem

Dear Commander Hymes,

I am responding to your letter of March 7 to Secretary of State Warren Christopher in which you expressed concern regarding United States policy with respect to the relocation of our Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

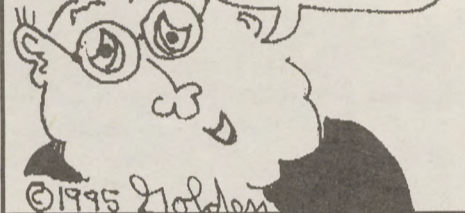
The status of Jerusalem is a sensitive issue. Israel and the Palestinians agreed in the historic Declaration of Principles signed in September 1993 that this should be covered in permanent status negotiations.

It is the President's view that we should do nothing to undermine or preempt those negotiations, or harm the pursuit of Arab-Israeli peace. That is why this is not the time to raise such

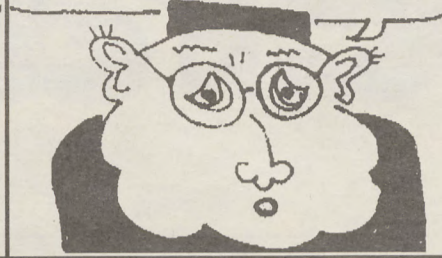
ISRAEL'S INTELLECTUAL LEFT HAS COME UP WITH SOMETHING CALLED POST-ZIONISM



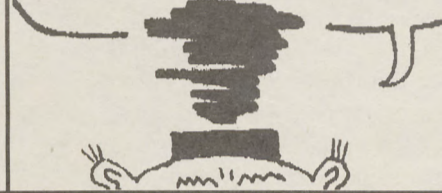
POST-ZIONISM MUST MEAN ANTI-SEMITISM IS OVER! RIGHT?



AND SINCE ZIONISM WAS FOUNDED BY HERTZL TO END ANTI-SEMITISM...



WRONG! IT MEANS POST-ZIONISM IS AN IDEA SO STUPID ONLY AN INTELLECTUAL COULD THINK OF IT!



an emotionally charged issue as Jerusalem to the fore, especially since the parties have agreed that this is an issue to be covered during final status negotiations.

Sincerely,

Deborah Jones
Acting Public Affairs Advisor
Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs
U.S. Department of State

"Enola Gay" Controversy Continued

Dear Editor,

The preponderant opinion on the Smithsonian Institution's canceled exhibit on the end of World War II, which was to have featured the *Enola Gay*, among my comrades in the JWV as evidenced in the "Forum" section of the Spring 1995 issue of *The Jewish Veteran*, appalled and saddened me. Of course, the dropping of the bomb did hasten the end of the war and no doubt saved American lives. But was that the main focus of the entire exhibition? Did it not seek rather to put the event into an accurate historical perspective, so that controversial opinion, from the military to the scientists involved, could be aired and clarified fifty years later? Knowledge of the event, as accurately as we can determine, in no way denigrates the bravery of the men and women who fought against Japanese tyranny, just as, most recently in the revelations of former Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, cannot dim the sacrifices and contributions of our servicemen in Vietnam.

I daresay that most of the outrage against the exhibit and the panel of historians who prepared the commentary has been made without comprehensive knowledge of what was actually recorded by the authorities. That it was revised, as the President indicated, to present it more in the nature of a celebration of victory rather than an exposition of the *Enola Gay*, seemed wise in view of the uproar.

But to suggest downright cancella-

tion of the exhibit appeared to smack of a belief that we should close our minds to judgements that may contradict longheld opinions of our own. Denial of historical facts, in whatever context, is not in our best tradition.

Sincerely,

Joseph Opperman
Post 100
Addison, ME

Jacoby Distorts First Amendment

EDITOR'S NOTE: The opinions of Mr. Jacoby are his own, as are those who are responding to his column, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A.

Dear Editor,

Many thanks for carrying Jeff Jacoby's article, "Mangling the First Amendment" in the Spring 1995 edition of *The Jewish Veteran*.

For too long, we have been held hostage by the re-interpretation of the First Amendment's "Establishment Clause." This has occurred because of a lawsuit brought over two decades ago by two atheists from Long Island, New York.

One has to be blind to see that we have religion in government, from the swearing-in of presidents in the name of G-d to the inter-faith invocations at the start of each day's session of Congress. Throughout this country, courts swear-in individuals on a bible, a bible originally given to the Jews on Mount Sinai.

It is most urgent that interfaith prayer return to our schools. It would help to counter the continuing disintegration of the nation's public school system.

As the First Amendment states, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..." The purpose of the Establishment Clause was to prohibit the establish-

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Where
We
Stand

by Albert Schlossberg, National Editor

We, the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. (JWV), are outraged. The President of the United States and his Secretary of State have been derelict in their responsibility. So, too, has the Congress and the media!

Suddenly, after tragic terrorism devastated innocents in Oklahoma City, Americans now have a sense of the debilitating effect with which such brutal misdeeds also damage the psyche of survivors, there and across the land. For the families, co-workers and friends of the innocent victims—those who died and those who survived—the trauma is long-lasting. For all Americans, our minds have now been seared into comprehension of what evil truly lurks in the poisonous hearts and sick minds of the perpetrators.

Public awareness of the callous, calculated evil orchestrated by the bombers of the World Trade Center in New York did not seem to be long lasting. Yes, there was outrage. Yes some of the *mamzerim* who planned and carried out the actual terrorist acts have been, and continue to be, prosecuted. But, attention and concern of too many Americans was soon turned off by legalities and manipulations of our justice system.

One would think that the Oklahoma City tragedy would be a wake-up call to the terrorist world—and to countries which continue to harbor and protect such scum—that the United States will not abide by any actions which impede bringing perpetrators of terrorism to justice.

Apparently, in the Arab world, the message has not gotten through. A devastating example of unwillingness to cooperate in the elimination of the terrorists and their cells occurred on April 7, 1995. Saudi Arabia's rulers double-crossed and frustrated the United States. A ten-year pursuit of Imad Mughniyah, described by the FBI as the "single most dangerous terrorist at large today" was foiled by Saudi Arabia's decision to prevent his capture.

FBI operatives finally located Mughniyah in Khartoum, Sudan. They confirmed that he would be flying to Beirut on a Middle East Airlines flight, which was scheduled to make a stopover in Saudi Arabia.

Obviously, our Department of State and the FBI forgot that Saudi Arabia is now, and has always been, unwilling to help rid the world of Arab terrorists. As the plane with Mughniyah approached the Saudi airport, the Saudi's sabotaged the FBI's operation, refusing to allow the plane to land, knowing that Mughniyah would find sanctuary in Beirut.

Mughniyah is no small-time operator in terrorism. He planned and ordered the bombing of the U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut. His victims, 241 U.S. Marines, were killed in that bombing. He also engineered the hijacking of the TWA flight to Lebanon. How can we ever forget the television photos of the terrorists who, after murdering

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