

The Florida Veteran



***Jewish War Veterans of the United States
Department of Florida***

The Voice of the Department of Florida Jewish War
Veterans of the USA • Volume 2023, Issue 4

**DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY MEETING
SUNDAY, October 22, 2023
Poppleton Creek Clubhouse #2
950 S. Kanner Hwy., Stuart, FL 34994**

We will begin at 9:00 am with Breakfast. Meeting to follow. Zoom will begin at 9:30 am.

Directions:

From 

Take I-95 to Exit 101 (SR 76) and head EAST onto SR 76. At the traffic circle, take the 4th exit staying on S. Colorado Avenue (SR 76). Shortly past the traffic circle, turn RIGHT onto S. Kanner Hwy. Make your next RIGHT turn, and the destination will be on the LEFT.

From 

Take Florida's Turnpike to Exit 133 (SR 714 - Stuart) onto Martin Downs Blvd. Head EAST on SR 714, then turn LEFT on SR 76, and at the traffic circle, take the 4th exit staying on S. Colorado Avenue (SR 76). Shortly past the traffic circle, turn RIGHT onto S. Kanner Hwy. Make your next RIGHT turn, and the destination will be on the LEFT.

9:30 Meeting Instructions via Zoom

To join the online meeting,
click the link below:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82860193760?pwd=zodY9YnGRJ8dzMJyoB05LlE5g06xD2.1>

Online Meeting and Passcode:

Meeting ID: 828 6019 3760

Passcode: 653643

If you plan on joining by phone (not recommended), you can find a phone number by clicking the link below:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82860193760>

Telephonic Meeting and Passcode:

Meeting ID: 828 6019 3760

Passcode: 653643

There are also apps you can download for your phone or tablet in the Google Play or Apple App Stores, if you prefer.

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FROM THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

I would like to thank the members that have placed me in the position to serve as commander of the Department of Florida for 2023 through 2024. We have a lot of work to do to ensure that all the work done by my predecessor, Larry Jasper, continues to flourish.

I would also like to thank the comrades that have volunteered to serve as department officers with me. It is my hope that their support and aid will be able to increase our membership going forward. I have taken the initiative to assign each vice commander posts in their area to oversee and then report to their senior vice commander to ensure that each and every post has coverage.

My goal is to have the members of the state of Florida become more active and to solicit members in our great organization. Our roles have been shrinking over the last decade, and it will be up to each and every member to help bolster our membership and make their own posts be a model for all.

In my first three months, I have learned that the position was eye-opening. I did not realize that it is not just running meetings. It is a daily task of responding to members' emails and phone calls and delegating my vice commanders to solve and/or help the members' requests.

I am privileged to attend monthly meetings with our national department commanders. It is a learning experience and chance to work with our national commander and vice commander.

My goal is to solve members problems, to ensure their request are acted on and make their experience with JWV enjoyable. Thank you.

Steve Jockers

Media Outreach Efforts

Please ask the leader of your local Shul/ Temple/Congregation/Synagogue/Chabad/ Jewish Community Center (JCC) or your Jewish community partners if they can add the The Jewish Veteran link on their organization website, newsletter, or on their electronic bulletin board.

Click here to access the latest issue of The Jewish Veteran.

Important Links

(Click on the links below:)



- [The Jewish Veteran, Vol. 77, No. 3 — 2023](#)
- [JWV Online Membership Application](#)
- [JWV Online Store](#)
- [Dept of Florida Online Donation Page](#)
- [Post Management/Forms](#)

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who is struggling,
call the
Veteran Crisis Line
at
988
Press 1**



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Ike Heller z"l (June 11, 1945 — September 12, 2023)



It is with great sadness to inform you that on September 12th Ike Heller suddenly passed away. He was laid to rest on September 13th at Menorah Gardens in Southwest Ranches, Florida, and Shiva followed at the Heller residence. Ike is survived by his wife Cynthia, children and grandchildren.

Ike was a quiet man and a powerful figure, a true gentle giant. Ike embodied the qualities that are truly remarkable. His unwavering commitment to service, both to people in general and the Jewish population worldwide is a testament to his generous and compassionate nature.

His dedication to the South Florida Dade Jewish Federation, the United States Coast Guard Jewish War Veterans, and his family was truly inspiring.

What set Ike apart was his selflessness. He had a rare ability to maintain a positive and joyful spirit in every situation. He approached life without judgement, always seeking to find greatness in others and empowering them to discover it for themselves.

Ike was a teacher in everything he did, not always through words, but through his actions and examples.

Ike was undeniably a giant, not in size, but in stature. What truly made him special was his ability to elevate those around him. He never sought credit for himself but shared his knowledge, time, and resources for the greater good. Ike's humility and genuine desire to make the world a better place have left an indelible mark on everyone fortunate enough to know him.

His wish was that we celebrate the embodiment of service, positivity, selflessness, and the belief that greatness lies within all of us.

Ike's contributions were immeasurable and his spirit was truly extraordinary. Ike was, and will be, an inspiration to us all. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Jewish War Veterans of the USA
Department of Florida Quarterly Meeting
October 22nd, 2023



0900	Breakfast	
0930	Official opening of Department Meeting	DC Steve Jockers
	Opening Prayer	Rabbi Mark Golub
	Introduction of Officers and Guests & Thank Post 549 for hosting meeting	DC Steve Jockers
0944	Moment of Silence in Memory of Ike Heller	DC Steve Jockers
0945	Business Session Convenes	
	A. Roll Call of Posts and members on conference call	COS Jules M. Golombik
	B. Quartermaster's Report	PNC Alan Paley
	C. Committee Reports	
	National Policy Committee	PNC Ainslee Ferdie
	Trustees	PNC Jerry Blum
	National Stamp Program	PDC Mike Corbett
	D. Officer Reports	
	Department Commander	Steve Jockers
	Chief of Staff	Jules M. Golombik
	Senior Vice Commander	Harvey Charter
	1 st Jr. Vice Commander	Bernard Nachimson
	2 nd Jr. Vice Commander	Bruce Shur
	3 rd Jr. Vice Commander	Donn Kilburg
1015	Old and Unfinished Business	
	1. Merger of Posts 459	DC Steve Jockers
	2. National Convention	PNC Alan Paley
	3. NEC	PNC David Magidson
	4. Any Additional Old and Unfinished Business	
1030	New Business	
	1. Memorial brick/donation for Ike Heller	DC Steve Jockers
	a. Open discussion and memories	
	2. Post not in Good Standing	DC Steve Jockers
	3. Veterans Day [November 11, 2023]	DC Steve Jockers
	4. NEC and Washington DC visit	PNC David Magidson
	5. Briefing on the National Convention	PNC Alan Paley
	6. Quarterly Meeting February 11, 2024 Meeting	DC Steve Jockers
	a. Looking at new venue	
	b. National Commander's visit	
	c. National Auxiliary President's visit	
	7. Certificates for NC and NP	DC Steve Jockers
	8. Future meeting Naples area	DC Steve Jockers
	9. JWV-FL.org the importance of this Newsletter	
	10. Any Additional New Business	
1100	Memorial Service	Rabbi Mark Golub
1115	Good and Welfare	DC Steve Jockers
1145	Closing Ritual	DC Steve Jockers

Russian Lawmakers Will Consider Rescinding Ratification of Global Nuclear Test Ban, Speaker Says

6 Oct 2023 | Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russian lawmakers will consider revoking the ratification of a global nuclear test ban, the parliament speaker said Friday.

The statement from Vyacheslav Volodin, the speaker of the lower house, the State Duma, followed Russian President Vladimir Putin's warning that Moscow could consider rescinding the ratification of the international pact banning nuclear tests since the United States has never ratified it.

There are widespread concerns that Russia could move to resume nuclear tests to try to discourage the West from continuing to offer military support to Ukraine. Many Russian hawks have spoken in favor of resuming the tests.

Volodin reaffirmed Moscow's claim that Western military support for Ukraine means the U.S. and its allies are engaged in the conflict.

"Washington and Brussels have unleashed a war against our country," Volodin said. "Today's challenges require new decisions."

He said that senior lawmakers will discuss recalling the 2000 ratification of the nuclear test ban at the next meeting of the agenda-setting house council.

"It conforms with our national interests," Volodin said. "And it will come as a quid pro quo response to the United States, which has still failed to ratify the treaty."

Speaking Thursday at a forum with foreign affairs experts, Putin noted the United States has signed but not ratified the 1996 Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban, while Russia has signed and ratified it. He argued that Russia could act in kind.

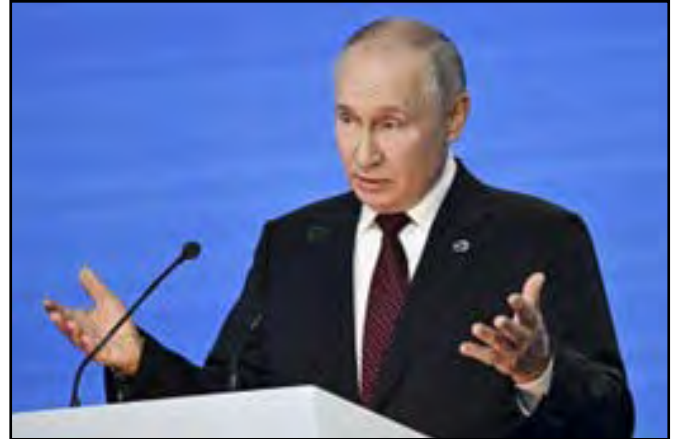
"Theoretically, we may revoke the ratification," he said. "It's up to the State Duma members."

Putin said that while some experts have talked about the need to conduct nuclear tests, he hasn't yet formed an opinion on the issue.

"I'm not ready to say yet whether it's necessary for us to conduct tests or not," he said.

Asked Friday if rescinding the ban could pave the way for the resumption of tests, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters that "it doesn't mean a statement about the intention to resume nuclear tests."

He noted that a possible move to revoke Russia's ratification of the ban would "bring the situation to a common denominator" with the U.S.



Russian President Vladimir Putin gestures while speaking at the annual meeting of the Valdai Discussion Club in the Black Sea resort of Sochi, Russia, Thursday, Oct. 5, 2023. (Grigory Sysoyev, Sputnik, Kremlin Pool Photo via AP)

Russia's defense doctrine envisages a nuclear response to an atomic strike or even to an attack with conventional weapons that "threatens the very existence of the Russian state." That vague wording has led some Russian hawks to urge the Kremlin to sharpen it, in order to force the West to take the warnings more seriously.

Responding to a question from an expert who suggested rewriting the nuclear doctrine to lower the threshold of nuclear weapons use to force the West to stop backing Ukraine, Putin said he sees no need to change the document.

"There is no situation in which anything would threaten Russian statehood and the existence of the Russian state," he said. "I think that no person of sober mind and clear memory could have an idea to use nuclear weapons against Russia."

Putin also announced Thursday that Russia has effectively completed the development of the Burevestnik nuclear-powered cruise missile and the Sarmat heavy intercontinental ballistic missile and will work on putting them into production.

Putin didn't elaborate on his statement, and Peskov refused to say when the test of the Burevestnik was conducted or offer any other details.

Little is known about the Burevestnik, which could carry a nuclear or a conventional warhead and potentially stay aloft for a much longer time and cover a longer distance than other missiles thanks to nuclear propulsion.

When Putin first revealed that Russia was working on the weapon in 2018, he claimed it would have an unlimited range, allowing it to circle the globe undetected by missile defense systems. Many Western experts have been skeptical about that, noting that a nuclear engine could be highly unreliable.

North Korean Leader Urges Greater Nuclear Weapons Production in Response to a ‘New Cold War’

28 Sep 2023 | Associated Press | By Kim Tong-Hyung

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korean leader Kim Jong Un called for an exponential increase in production of nuclear weapons and for his country to play a larger role in a coalition of nations confronting the United States in a “new Cold War,” state media said Thursday.

The Korean Central News Agency said Kim made the comments during a two-day session of the country’s rubber-stamp parliament which amended the constitution to include his policy of expanding the country’s nuclear weapons program.

The Supreme People’s Assembly’s session came after Kim traveled to Russia’s Far East this month to meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin and visit military and technology sites.

The trip sparked Western concerns about a possible arms alliance in which North Korea would supply Putin with badly needed munitions to fuel his war on Ukraine in exchange for economic aid and advanced Russian technologies to enhance North Korea’s nuclear and missile systems.

As North Korea slowly ends its pandemic lockdown, Kim has been actively boosting his partnerships with Moscow and Beijing as he attempts to break out of diplomatic isolation and join a united front against Washington. He has described the world as entering a “new Cold War” and that North Korea should advance its nuclear capabilities in response.

Kim’s comments came a day after North Korea confirmed the release of U.S. Army Pvt. Travis King, who is now being flown back to America, two months after he sprinted across the heavily fortified border into the North.

King’s relatively swift expulsion defied speculation that North Korea might drag out his detention to squeeze concessions from the United States, and possibly reflected the North’s disinterest in diplomacy with Washington.

KCNA said members of the assembly gave unanimous approval to a new clause in the constitution to “ensure the country’s right to existence and development, deter war and protect regional and global peace by rapidly developing nuclear weapons to a higher level.”

North Korea’s “nuclear force-building policy has been made permanent as the basic law of the state, which no one is allowed to flout with anything,” Kim said in a speech at the assembly. He stressed the need to “push ahead with the work for exponentially boosting the production of nuclear weapons and diversifying the nuclear strike means,” KCNA said.

Kim pointed to what he described as a growing threat posed by a hostile United States and its expanding military cooperation

In this photo taken during a two-day session on Sept. 26-27, 2023 and provided by the North Korean government, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un speaks at a meeting of the country’s parliament in Pyongyang, North Korea. Independent journalists were not given access to cover the event depicted in this image distributed by the North Korean government. *(Korean Central News Agency/Korea News Service via AP)*



with South Korea and Japan, accusing them of creating the “Asian version of NATO, the root cause of war and aggression.”

Kim urged his diplomats to “further promote solidarity with the nations standing against the U.S. and the West’s strategy for hegemony.”

South Korea’s Unification Ministry, which handles relations with North Korea, said the North Korean constitutional amendment confirms Kim’s unwillingness to relinquish his nuclear weapons program and his unwavering commitment to advancing that arsenal. It said in a statement that South Korea will continue to expand its military cooperation with the U.S. and Japan and work closer with other international partners to increase pressure on North Korea to abandon its nuclear ambitions.

Tensions on the Korean Peninsula are at their highest level in years as North Korea has test-fired more than 100 missiles since the start of 2022 and the U.S. has expanded its military exercises with its Asian allies, in tit-for-tat responses.

Last year, the assembly passed a new nuclear doctrine into law which authorizes pre-emptive nuclear strikes if North Korea’s leadership is perceived as under threat.

Turkish Warplanes Hit Kurdish Militia Targets in North Syria After US Downes Turkish Armed Drone

6 Oct 2023 | Associated Press | By Suzan Fraser

ANKARA, Turkey — Turkish warplanes have carried out airstrikes on sites believed to be used by U.S.-backed Kurdish militant groups in northern Syria after the U.S. military shot down an armed Turkish drone that came within 500 meters (yards) of American troops.

A Turkish defense ministry statement said the Turkish jets targeted some 30 sites in the Tal Rifat, Jazeera and Derik regions, destroying caves, bunkers, shelters and warehouses used by Kurdistan Workers' Party, PKK, or its affiliated Kurdish militia group in Syria, which is known as People's Defense Units, or YPG.

Turkey has been carrying out strikes on Kurdish militant targets in Iraq and Syria following a suicide attack outside the Interior Ministry building in the Turkish capital earlier this week.

The PKK claimed the attack in which one attacker blew himself up and another would-be bomber was killed in a shootout with police. Two police officers were wounded.

Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan said the two assailants had arrived from Syria, where they had been trained. He said PKK and YPG positions in Iraq and Syria had now become legitimate targets.

Kurdish authorities in northeast Syria said Thursday evening that Turkish bombing had struck 21 sites and 11 people were killed by the "Turkish aggression" — five civilians and six members of the local government's Internal Security Forces.

The U.S.-backed and Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces in northeast Syria have denied any relationship to the Ankara attack and accused Turkey of using the attack as a pretext for a new military incursion.

In Washington, the Pentagon said Thursday that the Turkish drone bombed targets near the U.S. troops in Syria, forcing them to go to bunkers for safety. Air Force Brig. Gen. Patrick Ryder, the Pentagon press secretary, said the decision to shoot down the drone of a NATO ally "was made out of due diligence and the inherent right of self-defense to take appropriate action to protect U.S. forces." There was no indication that Turkey was intentionally targeting U.S. forces, he said.

Turkey's Foreign Ministry on Friday blamed the downing of the drone on conflicting evaluations of what it called a "de-escalation mechanism" operated between the sides. Necessary measures were being taken to ensure a "more effective operation" of the mechanism, the ministry said without elaborating.



Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan attends a joint press conference with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov in Moscow, Russia, on Aug. 31, 2023. (Maxim Shemetov/Pool Photo via AP)

"The incident did in no way affect the execution of the ongoing operation and the strikes against targets that were identified," the ministry said.

The U.S. has about 900 troops in Syria conducting missions to counter Islamic State group militants.

The incident occurred on the same day as a drone attack killed at least 89 people in the Syrian government-controlled city of Homs, where explosive-laden drones were detonated during a military graduation ceremony attended by young officers and their families. An additional 277 people were injured, according to Syria's health ministry.

Syria's military blamed insurgents "backed by known international forces," without naming any particular group, and threatened to respond with "full force."

The Turkish defense ministry said Thursday's aerial operation in Syria was aimed at securing Turkey's borders from threats from the PKK and YPG.

Separately, the ministry said Turkey had retaliated to an attack by militants on a Turkish base in the Dabik region late on Thursday, "neutralizing" 26 militants.

The PKK has led a decades-long insurgency in Turkey and is considered a terror organization by Turkey's Western allies, including the United States. Tens of thousands of people have died since the start of the conflict in 1984.

The U.S., however, regards the YPG as a key partner in the fight against the Islamic State group in northern Syria and does not believe the group presents a threat to Turkey.

which authorizes pre-emptive nuclear strikes if North Korea's leadership is perceived as under threat.

US Fears Canada-India Row Over Sikh Activist's Killing Could Upend Strategy for Countering China

8 Oct 2023 | Associated Press | By MATTHEW LEE

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Biden administration is nervously watching a dispute between Canada and India, with some officials concerned it could upend the U.S. strategy toward the Indo-Pacific that is directed at blunting China's influence there and elsewhere.

Publicly, the administration has maintained that Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's allegations that the Indian government may have been involved in the killing of a Sikh separatist near Vancouver are a matter between the two countries.

But U.S. officials have also repeatedly urged India to cooperate in the investigation. Those calls have been ignored thus far by India, which denies the allegations.

Behind the scenes, U.S. officials say they believe Trudeau's claims are true. And they are worried that Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi may be adopting tactics to silence opposition figures on foreign soil akin to those used by Russia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and North Korea, all of which have faced similar accusations.

Perhaps of more concern, though, is that the Canada-India dispute could have major implications for one of the administration's main foreign policy priorities: the Indo-Pacific strategy, which seeks to counter China's increasing assertiveness in the region, according to numerous U.S. officials who spoke on condition of anonymity due to the extreme sensitivity of the matter.

Both Canada, a Pacific country and key NATO ally that shares with the United States the longest undefended border in the world, and India are critical to U.S.-led efforts to present a united and democratic front against growing Chinese assertiveness.

Aside from countering Russia's war in Ukraine, the administration has been most focused on dealing with China as a competitor and the potential international threat it poses. To that end it has boosted its diplomatic efforts in the Indo-Pacific, including by creating a leaders group that brings together Australia, Japan, India and the United States. President Joe Biden has hailed the formation of the so-called Quad as a key part of that effort.

Shortly after Trudeau made public his allegations last month and expelled a senior Indian diplomat, U.S. officials began to fret over the possibility that Canada might decide to go "full Skripal" with mass diplomatic expulsions and make requests, as the British did in 2018, of its allies to do the same.

If asked by Canada to expel a large number of Indian diplomats, these officials said, the U.S. would have little choice but to



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau takes part in a bilateral meeting with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the G20 Summit in New Delhi, India on Sunday, Sept. 10, 2023. (Sean Kilpatrick/The Canadian Press via AP)

comply. That, in turn, could lead to a rupture in U.S.-Indian relations and the possibility that India might either narrow its cooperation with the Quad or drop out entirely.

At the moment, there's relief it hasn't escalated to that point yet — but that could still change.

The allegation of Indian involvement in the murder was supported by intelligence from the "Five Eyes" grouping of Australia, Britain, Canada, New Zealand and the U.S.

Even before Canada made the accusations public, Trudeau had frosty encounters with Modi during last month's Group of 20 meeting in New Delhi, and a few days later, Canada canceled a trade mission to India planned for the fall.

This week, India told Canada to remove 41 of its 62 diplomats in the country, ramping up the confrontation. Trudeau and other Canadian officials, including Foreign Minister Melanie Joly, have hinted that Canada won't take reciprocal measures.

Trudeau has appeared to try to calm the diplomatic clash, saying that Canada is "not looking to provoke or escalate," but officials said the concern in Washington persists.

A Surge in Rail Traffic on North Korea-Russia Border Suggests Arms Supply to Russia, Think Tank Says

8 Oct 2023 | Associated Press | By HYUNG-JIN KIM

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Recent satellite photos show a sharp increase in rail traffic along the North Korea-Russia border, indicating the North is supplying munitions to Russia, according to a U.S. think tank.

Speculation about a possible North Korean plan to refill Russia's munition stores drained in its protracted war with Ukraine flared last month, when North Korean leader Kim Jong Un traveled to Russia to meet President Vladimir Putin and visit key military sites. Foreign officials suspect Kim is seeking sophisticated Russian weapons technologies in return for the munition to boost his nuclear program.

“Given that Kim and Putin discussed some military exchanges and cooperation at their recent summit, the dramatic increase in rail traffic likely indicates North Korea's supply of arms and munitions to Russia,” Beyond Parallel, a website run by the Washington-based Center for Strategic and International Studies think tank, said in a report Friday.

“However, the extensive use of tarps to cover the shipping crates/containers and equipment makes it impossible to conclusively identify what is seen at the Tumangang Rail Facility” on the border, it said.

The report said satellite images as of Oct. 5 captured “a dramatic and unprecedented level of freight railcar traffic” at the Tumangang Rail Facility. It said images show approximately 73 railcars while a review of previous satellite images over the past five years shows about 20 railcars at this facility at most.

U.S. and South Korean officials have warned that North Korea and Russia would face consequences if they went ahead with the reported weapons transfer deal in violation with U.N. Security Council resolutions that ban all weapons trade involving North Korea.

Since last year, the U.S. has accused North Korea of providing ammunition, artillery shells and rockets to Russia, likely much of them copies of Soviet-era munitions. South Korean officials said North Korean weapons provided to Russia had already been used in Ukraine.

Joly, have hinted that Canada won't take reciprocal measures.

Trudeau has appeared to try to calm the diplomatic clash, saying that Canada is “not looking to provoke or escalate,” but officials said the concern in Washington persists.



Russian President Vladimir Putin, right, and North Korea's leader Kim Jong Un shake hands during their meeting at the Vostochny cosmodrome outside the city of Tsiolkovsky, about 200 kilometers (125 miles) from the city of Blagoveshchensk in the far eastern Amur region, Russia, on Sept. 13, 2023. North Korea on Monday, Sept. 25 called South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol “a guy with a trash-like brain” and “a diplomatic idiot” as it slammed him for using a U.N. speech to issue a warning over the North's deepening military ties with Russia. (Vladimir Smirnov, Sputnik, Kremlin Pool Photo via AP)

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VA Leaning in on Molly, Mushrooms as Psychedelics Show Promise for Treating Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

5 Oct 2023 | Military.com | By Patricia Kime

For eight years, Marine and Army veteran Jonathan Lubecky suffered flashbacks and nightmares, got rip-roaring drunk to quell his troubled mind, took 42 pills a day to address various medical conditions, and attempted suicide multiple times.

An emergency visit to the Department of Veterans Affairs hospital in Charleston, South Carolina, in 2014 changed his life, not because he was able to get treatment -- no inpatient psychiatric beds were available that day -- but because an intern slipped him a note.

It said, “Google MDMA/PTSD.”

The intern knew that in Charleston, a researcher for the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies, or MAPS, was conducting a safety trial on the use of MDMA -- 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine, also known as ecstasy or molly -- for treatment-resistant post-traumatic stress disorder.

Nine years later, having enrolled in the study and received three MDMA-assisted therapy sessions, Lubecky has no thoughts of suicide. He has founded his own company, traveled to Ukraine three times for humanitarian work, and lived through several personal traumas without recurrence of his PTSD.

MDMA and the psychotherapy he underwent while using the drug have led him to where he is today.

“I’m now PTSD-free longer than I had it,” said Lubecky during the VA’s inaugural New Horizons in Health podcast. “It’s like doing therapy while being hugged by everyone who loves you with a basketful of puppies licking your face.”

Since 2011, MAPS has studied the potential of MDMA to put PTSD in remission, most recently releasing the results of Phase 3 clinical trials in the journal *Nature* that confirmed its safety and efficacy in patients with PTSD.

With those promising results and the organization preparing to file a new drug application with the Food and Drug Administration later this year, the VA is exploring ways to expand research into psychedelic drugs like MDMA and psilocybin -- the active drug in psychedelic mushrooms -- to treat PTSD, depression, substance use disorder and more across the veteran population.

The VA is restricted from conducting large-scale studies of these medications because MDMA and psilocybin are illegal in most states and at the federal level, where they are listed as Schedule 1 drugs by the Drug Enforcement Agency.



In this photo made with a long exposure, a man is silhouetted against lights reflected in the waters off Cape Neddick in Maine on Dec. 11, 2017. A study published Thursday, Sept. 14, 2023, in the journal *Nature Medicine* has found that the psychedelic drug MDMA, combined with talk therapy, can reduce PTSD symptoms. (*Robert F. Bukaty/AP File Photo*)

But according to VA Under Secretary for Health Dr. Shereef Elnahal, department researchers have received waivers to support ongoing studies and have conducted research funded with private donations rather than federal money.

VA scientists are interested in exploring the protocols for psychedelics-assisted therapy and how the department can support the research nationwide, as well as build the infrastructure needed for larger clinical trials, according to Elnahal.

The VA is invested in novel approaches to treat mental health conditions in former service members because such conditions can be debilitating or even life-threatening. Studies show that PTSD, either alone or when diagnosed with other mental health conditions, is associated with suicide.

Data released last year showed 6,146 veterans took their own lives in 2020, 342 fewer deaths than 2019 and 650 fewer deaths than in 2018. Data for 2021 is expected in the coming weeks.

According to the VA, of the 6 million veterans enrolled in VA health care in 2021, 10% of male veterans and 19% of female veterans were diagnosed with PTSD.

Standard treatments for PTSD include cognitive processing therapy, prolonged exposure therapy, and eye

See PTSD Treatments — page 12

4 Shipwrecks Found in New Jersey River Tell Tale of Epic Revolutionary War Battle

6 Oct 2023 | nj.com | By Nyah Marshall

Beneath an unassuming Garden State Parkway bridge over the Mullica River is a hidden piece of history -- the remnants of an epic battle launched by the British in October 1778 in one of the first South Jersey attacks from the water during the Revolutionary War.

Today, the remains of the historic battle -- fought 245 years ago this Friday -- are found in four shipwrecks in the river uncovered by local researchers, scuba divers and Stockton University students.

It's been a fight with time, decay and tidal currents for Steve Nagiewicz, a researcher who has spent almost a decade documenting and preserving what's hidden in the Atlantic County river from the little-known Battle of Chestnut Neck.

Nagiewicz, an adjunct professor of marine science at Stockton University, began teaching an underwater archaeology course and working with students in 2015 to collect and process information needed to reconstruct the sunken ships from the battle.

The history is still out there, but the shipwrecks are breaking up in the river, said Nagiewicz, who is also a trustee with the New Jersey Maritime Museum.

"We're trying to document them so that when people come here to see the battle, they'll know what the ships look like before they disappear," he said.

So far, researchers have identified four centuries-old schooners at depths ranging from 14 to 40 feet underwater in the Mullica River about 10 miles from Atlantic City. Divers have also been able to retrieve artifacts from the decaying ships including beads, glass bottles and bricks.

The relics can be traced back to October 6, 1778, when two British fleets arrived in South Jersey to seize and attack privateers operating out of a port in Little Egg Harbor during the fight for American independence.

"It's probably one of the most unknown historic battles where a fleet of 10 British ships, 400 British marines came in to destroy a town and a privateering harbor that had been plaguing British shipping for the early part of the Revolutionary War," said Nagiewicz.

Privateers were essentially government-sanctioned pirates, according to Nagiewicz. They obtained letters of marque, or permission from the local government, to capture British ships and sell them at auctions to support George Washington's Continental Army.



Shipwreck artifacts from the Revolutionary War Battle of Chestnut Neck on the Mullica River in Atlantic County, N.J., are displayed at the New Jersey Maritime Museum in Beach Haven on Thursday, Sept. 21, 2023. *(Jim Lowney for N.J. Advanced Media)*

Chestnut Neck was the largest privateering port between Boston and Charleston at the time, according to Norman Goos, a historian with the Atlantic County Historical Society.

"As crazy as it sounds, a little hole in the wall just did devastating damage to the British supply chain and tripled the insurance on shipping things in the British Empire," Goos said. "The British came to Chestnut Neck to try to salvage their supply routes."

The British burned about ten captured merchant ships, then moved into the village and killed nearly 50 men-- bayoneting them in their sleep -- in an attack known as the Little Egg Harbor Massacre, according to local historians.

The battle was a loss for the Continental Army, but the port was so resilient that within a month after the British departed the area on October 15, 1778, it was fully operational again, Goos said.

Today, in Port Republic, there is a 50-foot monument built in 1911 to commemorate the Battle of Chestnut Neck.

Over the past four decades, researchers have uncovered four shipwrecks from the historic battle: the Bead, the Cramer, the Phoel and the recently discovered Mullica.

There are at least 4,000 shipwrecks scattered along the New Jersey coast, according to Nagiewicz. However, the Revolutionary War schooners found in the Mullica River are the oldest, along with others located in Crosswicks Creek in Burlington County.

See Shipwrecks — page 13

Captain Solomon Clifford Joseph – The Highest Scoring Jewish Ace of the Great War

Scarce Distinguished Flying Cross awarded to highest scoring Jewish ace of the Great War up for auction at Noonans.

A fine and scarce 1918 Great War Sopwith Camel fighter ace's Distinguished Flying Cross and bar awarded to Captain Solomon Clifford Joseph of the Royal Naval Air Service and Royal Air Force - who was the highest scoring Jewish ace of the Great War - is to be included in a sale of Orders, Decorations, Medals and Militaria at Noonans Mayfair on Wednesday, October 13, 2023.

As Mark Quayle, Medal Specialist and Associate Director of Noonans commented: "Joseph was a "gung-ho" pilot, whose aggressive flying style and skill accounted for at least 13 aerial victories over the Western Front between May - October 1918. He was no stranger to taking risks, and was wounded in aerial combat, and nearly shot down on many occasions."

"Approximately 66 D.F.C. and Bars were awarded for the Great War.

In the London Gazette of September 21, 1918, for his DFC, it observed Joseph to be: "A gallant pilot who has accounted for eight enemy aircraft within the past four months. On many occasions the enemy, were numerically superior to Lieutenant Joseph's patrol, but this did not prevent his attaining success."

For his D.F.C. Second Award Bar, less than two months later on 2 November 1918, the London Gazette said: "A very gallant and skillful officer. He led his formation under a large force of enemy aircraft with a view to inducing them to descend to attack him."

Solomon Clifford Joseph was born in Birmingham, England in April 1893 and was the son of a fine art dealer who specialized in Jade.

Joseph joined the Royal Naval Air Service in August 1917, and carried out pilot training at Crystal Palace from 12 August 1917, and at Vendome from 15 September 1917. He trained on the Caudron Biplane at the British Flying School, Vendome, France, attaining his Royal Aero License (No.5475), 7 October 1917.

He was posted as a pilot for operational flying to 210 Squadron in March 1918 and transferred with the Squadron into the Royal Air Force the following month. Flying in Sopwith Camels from various bases in France, Joseph remained with the Squadron until 28 November 1918.

The Squadron, of which Joseph was to become a Flight Commander, were initially engaged on ground- attack duties to help stop the German Spring Offensive. They were subsequently engaged on offensive patrols and bomber escort missions over Belgium.



Joseph returned to Birmingham after the war and enjoyed a prosperous Manufacturing career. Using his middle name for inspiration he formed The Clifford Group, which by the time of his retirement in April 1960, consisted of up to 16 companies.

Captain Joseph died in the Queen Elizabeth hospital, Birmingham in March 1966, and is buried at Witton, Jewish Cemetery.

Shipwrecks – from page 10

"The only thing that remains are the old bones of the very bottom of the sailing ships," Nagiewicz said. "Yet, those wrecks are historic because of their age and what they did during the time."

In the mid-1980s, a group of local New Jersey divers located the shipwrecks of the Bead and the Cramer. The Bead was named after the dozens of glass trading beads found on the boat that were likely used to trade with Native Americans, according to local historians

The vessel researchers called the Phoel was discovered in 2008 and named after Stockton researcher William Phoel, who died unexpectedly on an expedition in the Amazon. In 2015, Nagiewicz picked up where Phoel left off and a few years later he and Stockton marine field station students used sonar technology to "see" and measure the wreck.

The Phoel is the largest of the discovered schooners -- about the length of 1 1/2 school buses.

The artifacts and information about the Battle of Chestnut Neck are on display at New Jersey Maritime Museum on the southern end of Long Beach Island.

PTSD Treatments – from page 11

According to the results of the most recent Stage 3 clinical trial, nearly 87% of the patients who received MDMA-assisted therapy showed significant improvement in their PTSD symptoms more than four months after treatment.

By the study’s end, 71% no longer met the diagnostic criteria for having PTSD.

Two participants who received MDMA reported having serious thoughts of suicide, although no one involved in the study -- neither the MDMA or placebo group -- attempted suicide.

MDMA is not without its risks. It is linked to high blood pressure, seizures and kidney failure, and its use can cause negative aftereffects such as irritability, depression, anxiety and memory issues, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

With MAPS wrapping up more than 12 years of research on MDMA as a treatment for combat-related PTSD, the organization plans to seek approval of the therapy from the FDA in 2024. The agency granted a “breakthrough therapy” status to the treatment in 2017.

The Drug Enforcement Agency also will need to weigh in, removing it from the list of illicit controlled substances.

To date, the DEA has been reluctant to alter that list, known as Schedule 1, to include declassifying medical cannabis, which remains illegal under federal law but is now allowed either for medical or recreational use in 38 states.

Legislation currently under consideration by Congress includes amendments that would require the Department of Defense and VA to study the use of marijuana to treat PTSD, depression and chronic pain in service members and veterans.

The legislation, part of the House version of the National Defense Authorization Act, also would require the Pentagon to conduct clinical trials on the MDMA and psilocybin for PTSD, traumatic brain injury and chronic traumatic encephalopathy.

Important Resources to Support Our Nation's Heroes

(Click on any of the links below or head to www.jwv-fl.org and click on the link at the top of the page.)

Courtesy of: Ryan MacKenzie from Thankyouveteran.com

[Matching Career Options with Personality Types](#)

[Veterans Employment Assistance](#)

[Career Advice for Veterans: Interviewing Tips](#)

[What is a VA Home Loan?](#)

[Mortgage Assistance Programs for Veterans](#)

[Moving Companies with Military Discounts](#)

[At-Home Services That Can Help Senior Veterans](#)

[Veterans' Health Care: Costs & Co-Payments](#)

[Military & Veterans Mental Health Issues](#)

[Counseling, Crisis Help, & Suicide Prevention for Our Military Community](#)



**JWV Department of Florida
Next Meeting
Located TBD**

Officer Reports

Department Commander's Report

October 22, 2023

1. Conducted and attended post meetings (virtually and attended).
2. Attended monthly Department Commanders meetings with NC and NVC.
3. Set up chain of command with Department SVC and VC and assigned post to each.
4. Prepared and sent weekly e-mails to members.
5. Connected H Shulman to a post in Tampa area.
6. Removed several members from mailing due to death and reported same to National.
7. Dealt with several post on a calendar year on 990 notified National.
8. Worked and facilitated paperwork for merger of Post 631 with 440.
9. Welcomed Rick Cooper to FL and connected him to Post 684 and gave him alternatives.
10. Connected new member Sam Aboulsgis with Post 631 members.
11. Prepared financials for June meeting.
12. Worked with CPA to file Department 990 tax filing.
13. Connected Richard Mahler with Post 631
14. Connected Temple Beth Am in Jupiter with contacts on East Coast.
15. Connected Alec Levy with new Post 300.
16. Appointed Alan Paley as Quartermaster and worked with him and Wells Fargo to make a smooth transaction of on-line books.
17. Preparation of Agenda for meetings.
18. Preparations of financial reports for Oct. 22 meeting.

Quartermaster's Report

Cash Basis JEWISH WAR VETERIANS OF THE USA, DEPT OF FLORIDA
Cash Flow-Operating
July through September 2023

	<u>TOTAL</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
3618-Post 459	0.89
Total Income	0.89
Expense	
7586-Rent-Storage Locker	852.83
Total Expense	852.83
Net Ordinary Income	-851.94
Net Income	<u>-851.94</u>

Opening Bank Balance July 1, 2023 \$ 16,560.71
Closing Bank Balance Sept 30, 2023 \$ 15,708.77

Cash Basis JEWISH WAR VETERIANS OF THE USA, DEPT OF FLORIDA
Cash Flow Convention
July through September 2023

	<u>TOTAL</u>
Net Income	0.00
Opening Bank Balance July 1, 2023	\$ 6,633.81
Closing Bank Balance Sept 30, 2023	\$ 6,633.81



Click on our banner to go to our website!



Annual Post/Department Requirements

Post Elections: Between January and April each year.

Department Elections: Held at Department Convention, warrant to National Attn: Harrison Heller following Department Convention.

Post Installations: Within 60 days of election; send Warrant to National Attn: Harrison Heller, due by end of **June**.

Financial Board Report: Sent to posts by end of February and returned to National Attn: Harrison Heller no later than **May 1st**.

990N: Sent to IRS with copy to National Attn: Harrison Heller by **May 1st** along with the Financial Board Report.

Fidelity Bond: Bill is sent by National to Post in December and payment is due by **February**. Send to National Attn: Christy Turner.

Liability Insurance: Can be purchased through National or separately and proof of insurance should be sent at the same time as the Financial Board Report by **May 1st** to National Attn: Christy Turner.

Dues update: is sent to posts and departments between April and June and needs to be returned before **July 1st** when dues are set for the year. Send to national Attn: Harrison Heller.

Membership Updates: Should be sent as they occur to the National Membership Department, Department Adjutant, and Department Commander and should include address, phone, and email updates; deaths; transfers; and post contact information.

Delegate form for National Convention: Sent to each post between May and June and needs to be returned to National Membership Department at least 15 days prior to the National Convention. Each post gets 1 delegate for every 10 members who are current on their dues status. Copy should be sent to Department Commander and Adjutant.

Report of Convention Form: Department submit to National Attn: Harrison Heller not later than 15 days prior to convention.



VA Now Has One Centralized Phone Number for all Customer Service

The agency currently has several dozen customer service lines, each set to address a different issue. That has now changed with the addition of the new single access telephone contact point that VA officials say will alleviate confusion and make it easier for veterans, families, caregivers, and survivors to reach a live agent that can provide assistance.

The new number is

800-MyVA411

(800-698-2411)

and provides a single access point to all VA contact centers. The number is available anytime 24/7/365. The other numbers are not going away. That means if you can't remember or lose the new number, the line you've been using for years to contact your desired division will still work.

THE PACT ACT AND YOUR VA BENEFITS



The PACT Act is a new law that expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances. This law helps us provide generations of Veterans — and their survivors — with the care and benefits they’ve earned and deserve.

This page will help answer your questions about what the PACT Act means for you or your loved ones. You can also call us at 800-698-2411 (TTY: 711). And you can file a claim for PACT Act-related disability compensation or apply for VA health care now.

To file a disability claim online: <https://www.va.gov/disability/file-disability-claim-form-21-526ez/introduction>

To apply for VA Healthcare online: <https://www.va.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction>

WHAT’S THE PACT ACT AND HOW WILL IT AFFECT MY VA BENEFITS AND CARE?

The PACT Act is perhaps the largest health care and benefit expansion in VA history. The full name of the law is The Sergeant First Class (SFC) Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act.

The PACT Act will bring these changes:

- Expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras
- Adds more than 20 new presumptive conditions for burn pits and other toxic exposures
- Adds more presumptive-exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation
- Requires VA to provide a toxic exposure screening to every Veteran enrolled in VA health care
- Helps us improve research, staff education, and treatment related to toxic exposures

If you’re a Veteran or survivor, you can file claims now to apply for PACT Act-related benefits.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO HAVE A PRESUMPTIVE CONDITION FOR TOXIC EXPOSURE?

To get a VA disability rating, your disability must connect to your military service. For many health conditions, you need to prove that your service caused your condition.

But for some conditions, we automatically assume (or “presume”) that your service caused your condition. We call these “presumptive conditions.”

We consider a condition presumptive when it’s established by law or regulation.

If you have a presumptive condition, you don’t need to prove that your service caused the condition. You only need to meet the service requirements for the presumption.

GULF WAR ERA AND POST-9/11 VETERAN ELIGIBILITY

We’ve added more than 20 burn pit and other toxic exposure presumptive conditions based on the PACT Act. This change expands benefits for Gulf War era and post-9/11 Veterans.

These cancers are now presumptive:

- Brain cancer
- Gastrointestinal cancer of any type
- Glioblastoma
- Head cancer of any type
- Kidney cancer
- Lymphatic cancer of any type
- Lymphoma of any type
- Melanoma
- Neck cancer of any type
- Pancreatic cancer
- Reproductive cancer of any type
- Respiratory (breathing-related) cancer of any type

These illnesses are now presumptive:

- Asthma that was diagnosed after service
- Chronic bronchitis
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
- Chronic rhinitis
- Chronic sinusitis
- Constrictive bronchiolitis or obliterative bronchiolitis
- Emphysema
- Granulomatous disease
- Interstitial lung disease (ILD)
- Pleuritis
- Pulmonary fibrosis
- Sarcoidosis

HOW DO I KNOW IF I HAVE A PRESUMPTIVE EXPOSURE TO BURN PITS?

If you served in any of these locations and time periods, we’ve determined that you had exposure to burn pits or other toxins. We call this having a presumption of exposure.

On or after September 11, 2001, in any of these locations:

- Afghanistan
- Djibouti
- Egypt
- Jordan
- Lebanon
- Syria
- Uzbekistan
- Yemen
- The airspace above any of these locations

On or after August 2, 1990, in any of these locations:

- Bahrain
- Iraq
- Kuwait
- Oman
- Qatar
- Saudi Arabia
- Somalia
- The United Arab Emirates (UAE)
- The airspace above any of these locations

AM I ELIGIBLE FOR FREE VA HEALTH CARE AS A POST-9/11 COMBAT VETERAN?

We're extending and expanding VA health care eligibility based on the PACT Act. **We encourage you to apply, no matter your separation date.** Your eligibility depends on your service history and other factors.

If you meet the requirements listed here, you can get free VA health care for any condition related to your service for up to 10 years from the date of your most recent discharge or separation. You can also enroll at any time during this period and get any care you need, but you may owe a copay for some care.

At least one of these must be true of your active-duty service:

- You served in a theater of combat operations during a period of war after the Persian Gulf War, or
- You served in combat against a hostile force during a period of hostilities after November 11, 1998

And this must be true for you:

- You were discharged or released on or after October 1, 2013

We encourage you to enroll now so we can provide any care you may need now or in the future. Enrollment is free.

WHAT IF I WAS DISCHARGED OR RELEASED BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2013?

If you meet the requirements listed here, you can receive care and enroll during a special enrollment period between **October 1, 2022, and October 1, 2023.**

At least one of these must be true of your active-duty service:

- You served in a theater of combat operations during a period of war after the Persian Gulf War, or
- You served in combat against a hostile force during a period of hostilities after November 11, 1998

And both of these must be true for you:

- You were discharged or released between September 11, 2001, and October 1, 2013, **and**
- You haven't enrolled in VA health care before

We encourage you to apply during this 1-year period so we can provide you with any care you may need now or in the future. Enrollment is free. And your care may be free as well.

VIETNAM ERA VETERAN ELIGIBILITY

WHAT NEW AGENT ORANGE PRESUMPTIVE CONDITIONS WILL VA ADD?

Based on the PACT Act, we've added 2 new Agent Orange presumptive conditions:

- High blood pressure (also called hypertension)
- Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS)

If you think you're eligible for VA health care and benefits, we encourage you to apply now.

WHAT NEW AGENT ORANGE PRESUMPTIVE LOCATIONS WILL VA ADD?

We've added these 5 new locations to the list of presumptive locations:

- Any U.S. or Royal Thai military base in Thailand from January 9, 1962, through June 30, 1976
- Laos from December 1, 1965, through September 30, 1969
- Cambodia at Mimot or Krek, Kampong Cham Province from April 16, 1969, through April 30, 1969
- Guam or American Samoa or in the territorial waters off of Guam or American Samoa from January 9, 1962, through July 30, 1980
- Johnston Atoll or on a ship that called at Johnston Atoll from January 1, 1972, through September 30, 1977

If you served on active duty in any of these locations, we'll automatically assume (or "presume") that you had exposure to Agent Orange.

WHAT NEW RADIATION PRESUMPTIVE LOCATIONS WILL VA ADD?

We've added these 3 new response efforts to the list of presumptive locations:

- Cleanup of **Enewetak Atoll**, from January 1, 1977, through December 31, 1980
- Cleanup of the Air Force B-52 bomber carrying nuclear weapons off the coast of **Palomares, Spain**, from January 17, 1966, through March 31, 1967
- Response to the fire onboard an Air Force B-52 bomber carrying nuclear weapons near **Thule Air Force Base in Greenland** from January 21, 1968, to September 25, 1968

If you took part in any of these efforts, we'll automatically assume (or "presume") that you had exposure to radiation.

GETTING BENEFITS

If you haven't filed a claim yet for the presumptive condition, you can file a new claim online now. You can also file by mail, in person, or with the help of a trained professional.

[File for VA disability compensation online](#)

[Learn more about how to file a disability compensation claim](#)

If we denied your disability claim in the past and we now

Supplemental Claim. We'll review your case again.

Find out how to file a Supplemental Claim

WHAT IF VA DENIED MY CLAIM BUT NOW CONSIDERS MY CONDITION PRESUMPTIVE?

We encourage you to file a Supplemental Claim. When we receive a Supplemental Claim, we'll review the claim again.

Find out how to file a Supplemental Claim

Note: If we denied your claim in the past and we think you may be eligible now, we'll try to contact you. But you don't need to wait for us to contact you before you file a Supplemental Claim.

WHAT IF I HAVE A PENDING CLAIM FOR A CONDITION THAT'S NOW PRESUMPTIVE?

You don't need to do anything. If we added your condition after you filed your claim, we'll still consider it presumptive. We'll send you a decision notice when we complete our review.

CAN I APPLY NOW?

Yes. We're considering all presumptive conditions established by the PACT Act presumptive on the date the bill becomes law.

If you think you may be eligible for VA health care or benefits, we encourage you to apply now.

WHEN CAN I EXPECT VA TO MAKE A DECISION ON MY PACT ACT CLAIM?

We encourage all Veterans and survivors to file for benefits now. We'll start to process PACT Act-related benefits in January 2023. We must wait for funding approval from Congress and put the needed systems in place before we can process these claims.

If you apply for benefits at any time in the next year and we grant your application, we'll likely backdate your benefits to the date of the bill signing. This means we'll pay you the amount you would have received from August 10, 2022, to the date we grant your application.

INFORMATION FOR SURVIVORS

CAN VETERANS' SURVIVORS GET COMPENSATION PAYMENTS UNDER THE PACT ACT?

Yes. If you're a surviving family member of a Veteran, you may be eligible for these benefits:

- A monthly VA Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (VA DIC) payment. You may qualify if you're the surviving spouse, dependent child, or parent of a Veteran who died from a service-connected disability.

Learn how to apply for VA DIC

- A one-time accrued benefits payment. You may qualify if you're the surviving spouse, dependent child, or dependent parent of a Veteran who we owed unpaid benefits at the time of their death.

Learn about evidence needed for accrued benefits

- A Survivors Pension. You may qualify if you're the surviving spouse or child of a Veteran with wartime service.

Learn how to apply for a Survivors Pension

WHAT IF VA DENIED MY DIC CLAIM AND I THINK I'M NOW ELIGIBLE?

You can submit a new application for VA dependency and indemnity compensation (VA DIC).

Learn about VA DIC and how to apply

Note: If we denied your claim in the past and we think you may be eligible now, we'll try to contact you. We may be able to reevaluate your claim. But you don't need to wait for us to contact you before you reapply.

WHAT OTHER VA BENEFITS ARE SURVIVORS ELIGIBLE FOR?

You may be eligible for these VA benefits as the surviving family member of a Veteran:

- **Burial benefits and memorial items** such as a gravesite in a VA national cemetery or a free headstone, marker, or medallion.
- **A burial allowance** to help with the Veteran's burial and funeral costs. You may qualify if you're the Veteran's surviving spouse, partner, child, or parent.
- **Education and training.** You may qualify if you're the survivor of a Veteran who died in the line of duty or as a result of service-connected disabilities.
- **Health care through the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA).** You may qualify if you're the survivor or dependent of a Veteran with a service-connected disability.
- **A VA-backed home loan.** You may qualify if you're the surviving spouse of a Veteran.

Florida Veterans Support Line

**1-844-MyFLVet
(1-844-693-5838)
or dial 211**

Let us return your call:
(727) 319-7440

Send us an email:
VSO@fdva.state.fl.us

Telling the Story of the Jewish American Warrior



Chartered by an act of Congress in 1958, the National Museum of American Jewish Military History, under the auspices of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A., documents and preserves the contributions of Jewish Americans to the peace and freedom of the United States, educates the public concerning the courage, heroism and sacrifices made by Jewish Americans who served in the armed forces, and works to combat anti-Semitism.

The purpose of the Museum is to preserve a record of the patriotic contributions of the men and women of the Jewish faith who served during and between times of

war in the Armed Forces of the United States and as veterans thereof, from the time of the founding of this country to the present, for future generations by illustration through public education utilizing the Museum's collections for exhibits, publications, and educational programs.

The Museum was founded in 1958 by a group of Jewish War Veterans, who saw the value in telling the story of American Jewish Warriors. It is located at 1811 R Street NW, in the historic Dupont Circle area, and it is near the Dupont Circle Metro Station, as well as having a Capital Bikeshare station directly in front of the museum.

The Museum is open Monday through Friday 9-5, Sundays by appointment, and admission is free. If you wish to schedule a group tour, please call 202-265-6280 or email nmajmh@hmajmh.org. Membership information is below and also available at nmajmh.org.

HOW ABOUT JOINING OUR MUSEUM?

Many of you know that housed in the same building as JWV National headquarters in the National Museum of American Jewish Military History. Our museum is a separate entity, and membership in the Jewish War Veterans does not include membership in the museum. Many of our members do not know that.

JOIN THE MUSEUM

Please fill out the information below to get started on your NMAJMH membership. We appreciate your support and thank you for joining!

CHOOSE YOUR MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

- Student and Active Military Personnel.....\$10
- Single Membership.....\$25
- Three-Year Single Membership.....\$60
- Family.....\$36
- Friend.....\$50
- Single Sustaining.....\$75
- Guardian.....\$100
- Organization or Echelon.....\$100
- Life Member (Individual).....\$1000
- Life Member (Family - Member & Spouse).....\$1000
- Sponsor.....\$2500
- I am unable to join but wish to support the NMAJMH programs and enclose a contribution of \$ _____.

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Member of: JWV Post # _____ JWVA # _____

Method of Payment

Check Enclosed: Make payable to *NMAJMH*

VISA Mastercard Discover American Express

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Cardholder Signature: _____

Please send your completed membership application to:

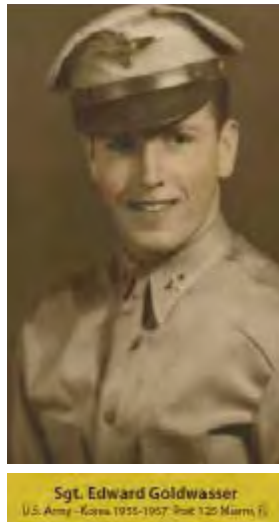
NMAJMH
Attn: Membersip
1811 R Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009



Our Heroes Photos

For a **limited time only**, the NMAJMH is offering a special discount for you to honor your hero by including his or her photo on the **Our Heroes** photo display in the museum.

For only \$100, your hero's photo will be displayed for everyone to see that Jews serve with honor in defense of this nation. This is a savings of \$80 off the regular cost of \$180.



Display includes:

- 1 4" x 6" photo
B+W or color
- 1 Brass ID plate that lists your hero's:
 - Name
 - Branch of Service
 - Area of Service
 - Years of Service
 - JWV Post # and location
(your hero does not need to be a JWV member to be included on the display)

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____ / _____ / _____ / _____

PAYMENT: Make checks payable to NMAJMH or provide credit card information:

Credit Card # _____ Exp. _____ MC __ VISA __ DISC __ AMEX

Name: _____

Branch of Service: _____

Area of Service: _____

Years of Service: _____

JWV Post: _____

Location of Post: _____

• Attach photo or email image to nmajmh@nmajmh.org



The National Museum of American Jewish Military History is creating a Deceased Registry of American Jewish Veterans and has requested the following information:

Veterans Name: _____

Date of Death: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Branch of Service: _____ Rank: _____

Conflict: _____ Male () Female ()

Cemetery Name: _____

Section #: _____ Grave/Plot #: _____

Cemetery City & State: _____

Killed in Action: () No () Yes

Home State when Enlisted: _____

Medals: _____

Jewish War Veteran: () No () Yes

Mail to:
Ms. Debra Stern
Apt. 601-D
5103 NW 35th Street
Lauderdale Lakes, FL 33319

Recruiting New Members and Patrons Is Everyone's Job!

Why you should join JWV

1. We support American military service and the contribution of Jews in the US Armed Forces.
2. We directly help, provide assistance to, and advocate for, ALL American veterans (all ages, races and creeds).
3. We strengthen the network of American Jewish servicemembers and build community.

JWV Membership provides:



- **Comradery** – connecting members and patrons through local Posts across the USA, in Israel and online
- **Network** to share and record the story of American Jewish military service; explore the greatest accomplishment of JWV, **The National Museum of American Jewish Military History**, in Washington, DC, to view the story!
- **Advocacy** for veteran rights and benefits, civil rights, and Jewish issues at all levels of government, including local veteran coalitions, state legislatures, and US Congress. JWV's National Executive Director is President of The Military Coalition, a collaborative lobbying group of 32 VSOs
- **Access to National Service Officers** that help you navigate the Department of Veterans Affairs, access your veteran benefits and assist in benefit disputes
- **The Jewish Veteran**, our national publication reporting on Jewish and veterans' issues
- **Financial services** through our long-standing partner USAA

JWV Services and Programs include:

- **A network of volunteers** – JWV volunteered 33,000 hours in over 80 VA facilities in 2016!
- Annual **Mission to Israel**
- Special **attention to active duty Jewish service persons** including donations of Jewish Bibles, ritual needs and foodstuffs to members of the Armed Forces
- **Education grants** for active duty and veterans, as well as qualifying descendants of JWV members
- **Fight for earned recognition**, awards, and medals for deserving service persons, including posthumous recognition
- Sponsorship of **Boy Scout Troops and Girl Scout Troops**; recognition of Eagle Scouts and Gold Award winners
- Graduation gifts and **recognition for military cadets**



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HISTORICAL EVENTS CALENDAR

OCTOBER

October 1: 1938 - Hitler's troops occupied the Sudetenland portion of Czechoslovakia.

1946 - Twelve Nazi leaders were sentenced to death at the International War Crimes Tribunal in Nuremberg, Germany.

1949 - The People's Republic of China was founded with Mao Zedong as Chairman.

1979 - After 70 years of American control, the Panama Canal Zone was formally handed over to Panama.

October 2: 1967 - Thurgood Marshall was sworn in as the first African American associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

1975 - Japanese Emperor Hirohito made his first-ever visit to the White House.

October 3: 1863 - Pres. Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation designating the last Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day.

1990 - After 45 years of Cold War division, East and West Germany were reunited as the Federal Republic of Germany.

October 4: 1957 - The Space Age began as the Russians launched the first satellite into orbit. Sputnik I weighed just 184 lbs.

October 6: 1949 - "Tokyo Rose" (Iva Toguri d'Aquino) was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment and fined \$10,000 for treason.

1973 - The Yom Kippur War started as Egypt and Syria launched attacks on Israeli positions.

1981 - Egyptian President Anwar Sadat was assassinated in Cairo by Muslim fundamentalists.

October 7: 1985 - Palestinian terrorists seized the Italian ship Achille Lauro; an elderly wheelchair-bound American, was murdered.

October 8: 1996 - Palestinian President Yasser Arafat made his first visit to Israel for talks with Israeli President Ezer Weizman.

October 10: 1954 - Ho Chi Minh entered Hanoi, Vietnam, after the withdrawal of French troops.

October 12: 1960 - In the United Nations, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev took off his shoe and pounded his desk.

October 13: 1775 - The United States Navy was born, authorized by the Second Continental Congress.

1792 - The cornerstone of the White House was laid by George Washington.

1943 - Italy declared war on its former Axis partner Germany after the downfall of Mussolini.

October 14: 1947 - U.S. Air Force Captain Chuck Yeager became the first man to break the sound barrier.

October 17-25: 1944 - The Battle of Leyte Gulf, off the Philippine Islands, the largest naval battle in history during WWII

October 18: 1945 - The Nuremberg War Crimes Trial began

October 23: 1983 - Terrorists drove a truck loaded with TNT into the U.S. and French headquarters in Beirut killing 299.

October 24: 1945 - The United Nations was founded.

October 25-30: 1983 - The Caribbean island of Grenada was invaded by the U.S. to restore "order and democracy."

October 28: 1886 - The Statue of Liberty was dedicated on Bedloe's Island in New York Harbor.

1919 - Prohibition began in the U.S.

1962 - The Cuban Missile Crisis ended

October 29: 1929 - The stock market crashed as over 16 million shares were dumped amid tumbling prices.

NOVEMBER

November 4: 1979 - Young Iranian militants stormed the U.S. Embassy in Teheran, taking 90 hostages, including 52 Americans.

1995 - Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated as he left a peace rally in Tel Aviv.

November 8: 1939 - An assassination attempt on Hitler failed at the Buergerbraukeller in Munich.

November 9: 1989 - The Berlin Wall was opened up after standing for 28 years as a symbol of the Cold War.

November 10: 1775 - The U.S. Marine Corps was established as part of the U.S. Navy.

November 11: 1954 - Celebrated in the U.S. as Veterans Day after Congress changed the word Armistice to Veterans.

1938 - Irving Berlin's God Bless America was first performed.

1972 - Official end to the Vietnam War as the U.S. turned over its military base at Long Binh to the South Vietnamese.

1973 - Egypt and Israel signed a cease-fire agreement sponsored by the U.S.

November 13: 1942 - The 5 Sullivan Brothers from Iowa, were lost in the sinking of the cruiser USS Juneau.

November 15: 1777 - The Articles of Confederation were adopted by Continental Congress.

November 17: 1800 - The U.S. Congress met for the first time in the new capital at Washington, D.C. President John Adams then became the first occupant of the Executive Mansion, later renamed the White House.

1869 - The Suez Canal was formally opened after more than 10 years of construction.

November 19: 1863 - President Abraham Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address.

November 20: 1945 - The Nuremberg War Crime Trials began

November 22: 1963 - At 12:30 p.m President John F. Kennedy was assassinated in downtown Dallas.

November 26: 1789 - President George Washington proclaimed the first American holiday to be Thanksgiving Day.

November 29: 1947 - U.N. General Assembly partitioned Palestine, establishing the Jewish state of Israel in 1948.

November 30: 1782 - America's War of Independence ended with a provisional peace treaty.

DECEMBER

December 1: 1955 - Birth of the modern American civil rights movement as Rosa Parks was arrested in Montgomery, AL.

December 6: 1865 - The 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified abolishing slavery.

December 7: 1941 - Attack on the Pearl Harbor by 200 Japanese aircraft, leaving nearly 3,000 Americans dead.

December 8: 1941 - A day after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the United States and Britain declared war on Japan.

1991 - The USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) ceased to exist, December 14:

1799 - George Washington died at Mount Vernon.

1911 - Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen became the first person to reach the South Pole.

December 15:

1791 - The Bill of Rights (first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution) became effective.

1961 - Nazi SS-Colonel Adolf Eichmann was sentenced to death in Jerusalem

December 16: 1773 - The Boston Tea Party occurred

1944 - During World War II in Europe, the Battle of the Bulge began

1991 - The United Nations revoked Resolution 3379, approved in 1975, which had equated Zionism with racism.

December 17: 1903 - Orville and Wilbur Wright achieved the first powered, controlled airplane flights.

December 19: 1946 - War broke out in French Indochina as Ho Chi Minh attacked the French seeking to oust them from Vietnam.

December 20: 1989 - The U.S. invaded Panama attempting to capture Manuel Noriega

December 21: 1945 - World War II General George Patton died in Germany following a car accident.

1972 - East and West Germany established diplomatic ties,

1993 - The KGB (Soviet Secret Police) organization was abolished by Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

December 23: 1913 - The U.S. Congress passed the Federal Reserve Act

December 24: 1943 - Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower was appointed Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force.

December 30: 1993 - Israel and the Vatican agreed on mutual recognition, ending 2,000 years of unfriendly relations