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Donald A. Chafetz

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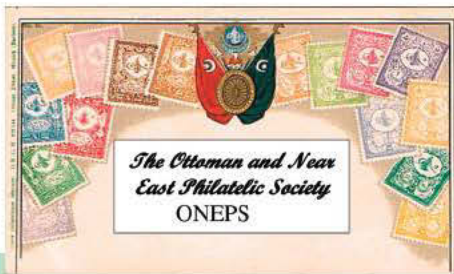


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UNIFIL

Editor's note: The following article is from the late David Simmons, St. Louis, MO. It is a black and white copy of his exhibit on the United Nations forces in the Lebanon border. It was a 2 frame exhibit so it will be reproduced over several issues. (Part 1, Fall 2014, pp. 44-46, Part 2, Winter 2015 pp. 20-21.)

Medal of Honor - World War II

Rabbi Isidoro Aizenberg, New York City, NY

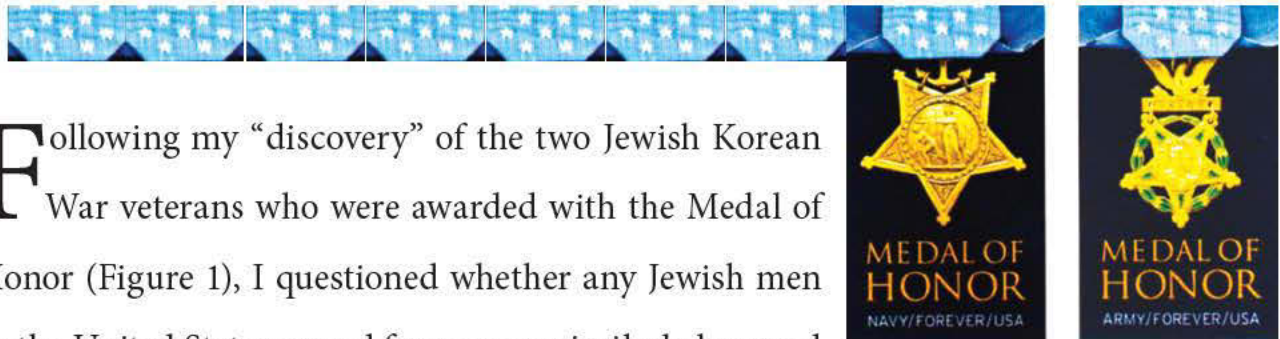


Figure 1
(L to R) Navy and Army Congressional Medal of Honor Awards

Following my “discovery” of the two Jewish Korean War veterans who were awarded with the Medal of Honor (Figure 1), I questioned whether any Jewish men in the United States armed forces were similarly honored in the World War II issue released on November 11, 2013.

Then, too, one similar to the Korean War ‘prestige folio,’ was issued for World War II (Figure 3). My curiosity was amply rewarded for among the 464 American veterans who received the nation’s highest military honor and listed in the folio, three were Jewish: Ben Salomon, Raymond Zussman, and Isadore S. Jachman.

BENJAMIN LEWIS SALOMON



Figure 2

Benjamin L. Salomon was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on September 1, 1914 (Figure 2). After graduating from Marquette University he went on to graduate from the University of Southern California Dental College in 1937 and began practicing dentistry. In the fall of 1940 he was ordered for induction into the army

and became an infantry private.

Following basic training, Ben joined the 102nd Infantry Regiment, won awards as an expert rifle and pistol marksman, his commanding officer graded him as “the best all-around soldier,” and within a year he had

risen to the rank of sergeant and was put in charge of a machine gun section.

PACIFIC WAR

By 1942, Salomon became an officer in the Dental Corps and in June 1944, as newly promoted Captain Salomon he went ashore in Saipan (Northern Mariana Islands) with the 105th Infantry Division. With little work as a regimental dentist he volunteered to replace the 2nd Battalion’s surgeon who had been wounded in action. On June 27, his unit faced desperate Japanese resistance. Together with 919 comrades and after stiff personal courage manning a machine gun, he died on July 7, 1944.

MEDAL OF HONOR CITATION¹

Captain Ben L. Salomon was serving at Saipan, in the Marianas Islands on July 7, 1944, as the Surgeon for the 2d Battalion, 105th Infantry Regiment, 27th Infantry

Captain Ben L. Salomon was serving at Saipan, in the Marianas Islands on July 7, 1944, as the Surgeon for the 2d Battalion, 105th Infantry Regiment, 27th Infantry Division. The Regiment's 1st and 2d Battalions were attacked by an overwhelming force estimated between 3,000 and 5,000 Japanese soldiers. It was one of the largest attacks attempted in the Pacific Theater during World War II. Although both units fought furiously, the enemy soon penetrated the Battalions' combined perimeter and inflicted overwhelming casualties. In the first minutes of the attack, approximately 30 wounded soldiers walked, crawled or were carried into Captain Salomon's aid station, and the small tent soon filled with wounded men.



Figure 3
World War II Prestige Folio cover

As the perimeter began to be overrun, it became increasingly difficult for Captain Salomon to work on the wounded. He then saw a Japanese soldier bayoneting one of the wounded soldiers lying near the tent. Firing from a squatting position, Captain Salomon quickly killed the enemy soldier. Then, as he turned his attention back to the wounded, two more Japanese soldiers appeared in the front entrance of the tent. As these enemy soldiers were killed, four more crawled under the tent walls. Rushing them, Captain Salomon kicked the knife out of the hand of one, shot another and bayoneted a third. Captain Salomon butted the fourth enemy soldier in the stomach and a wounded comrade then shot and killed the enemy soldier.

Realizing the gravity of the situation, Captain Salomon ordered the wounded to make their way as best they could back to the regimental aid station, while he attempted to hold off the enemy until they were clear. Captain Salomon then grabbed a rifle from one of the wounded and rushed out of the tent.

After four men were killed while manning a machine gun, Captain Salomon took control of it. When his body was later found, 98 dead enemy soldiers were piled in front of his position. Captain Salomon's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the

MILITARY BUREAUCRATS

Benjamin L. Salomon was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on September 1, 1914 (Figure 2). After graduating from Marquette University he went on to graduate from the University of Southern California Dental College in 1937 and began practicing dentistry. In the fall of 1940 he was ordered for induction into the army and became an infantry private.

Following basic training, Ben joined the 102nd Infantry Regiment, won awards as an expert rifle and pistol marksman, his commanding officer graded him as "the best all-around soldier," and within a year he had risen to the rank of sergeant and was put in charge of a machine gun section.

ENDLESS REVIEWS

By 1942, Salomon became an officer in the Dental Corps and in June 1944, as newly promoted Captain Salomon he went ashore in Saipan (Northern

Mariana Islands) with the 105th Infantry Division. With little work as a regimental dentist he volunteered to replace the 2nd Battalion's surgeon who had been wounded in action. On June 27, his unit faced desperate Japanese resistance. Together with 919 comrades and after stiff personal courage manning a machine gun, he died on July 7, 1944.

The 27th Division historian, Captain Edmund G. Love went around hospitals interviewing survivors of the attack, and eventually made recommendations for the award of the Medal of Honor to a few of the soldiers killed. While two of his recommendations were accepted,

FINALLY RECOGNITION

Major General George Griner, the Commanding officer of the 27th Division, denied the one for Ben Salomon. His argument was that although Salomon richly deserved the honor it could not be granted to him since he was in the medical service, wore a Red Cross brassard upon his arm, and that under Geneva Convention rules, "no medical officer can bear arms against an enemy."

After the war, Love returned to the United States and in 1946 wrote an article for **The Infantry Journal** where

he specifically mentioned Salomon's heroics. Salomon's father heard a report about the article on the radio and wrote a letter of inquiry to the War Department and the Secretary of War, Judge Robert Patterson who, in turn, asked Love to submit another award recommendation for re submission. By 1951 Love had secured all the required documents, but the request was again denied because the time limit on submitting World War II awards had expired!

In the late 1960's another unsuccessful attempt was made to grant the Medal of Honor to Salomon. Following one documentation review after another the request was again rejected in 1972.

Finally, in the mid-1990's Army Dentist, Col. John E. King, came across the story of Ben Salomon. Together with Dr. Robert West, an alumnus of the USC School of Dentistry, who also shared West's interest, yet another request to honor Salomon was submitted to the Senior Army Decorations Board. This time, 58 years after Salomon's death, President George W. Bush posthumously presented the Medal of Honor to Ben Salomon, with Dr. Robert West receiving the award on behalf of his dentistry colleague.

RAYMOND ZUSSMAN

Zussman was born July 23, 1917 in Hamtramck, Michigan, one of seven siblings (Figure 4). As a boy, Raymond sang in his synagogue's choir. Following his high school graduation, Zussman joined Teamsters Local 337 in Detroit, and rose to the position of shop steward at his place of employment.



Figure 4
Lt. Raymong R.
Zussman

In September 1941, Zussman joined the US Army and in June 1943, he was part of the allied invasion of Monte Cassino, Italy. After being wounded in battle, the Army offered Zussman a headquarters position, and offer he refused. Instead, he requested to be stationed in another front line position, ending up with a tank unit in France.

By mid-September 1944, he was a second lieutenant commanding tanks of the 756 Tank Battalion.

MEDAL OF HONOR CITATION²

On 12 September 1944, 2d Lt. Zussman was in command of 2 tanks operating with an infantry company in the attack on enemy forces occupying the town of Noroy le Bourg, France. At 7 p.m., his command tank bogged down. Throughout the ensuing action, armed only with a carbine, he reconnoitered alone on foot far in advance of his remaining tank and the infantry. Returning only from time to time to designate targets, he directed the action of the tank and turned over to the infantry the numerous German soldiers he had caused to surrender.

He located a road block and directed his tanks to destroy it. Fully exposed to fire from enemy positions only 50 yards distant, he stood by his tank directing its fire. Three Germans were killed and 8 surrendered. Again he walked before his tank, leading it against an enemy-held group of houses, machine gun and small arms fire kicking up dust at his feet. The tank fire broke the resistance and 20 enemy surrendered.

Going forward again alone he passed an enemy-occupied house from which Germans fired on him and threw grenades in his path. After a brief fire fight, he signaled

his tank to come up and fire on the house. Eleven German soldiers were killed and 15 surrendered. Going on alone, he disappeared around a street corner. The fire of his carbine could be heard and in a few minutes he reappeared driving 30 prisoners before him. Under 2d Lt. Zussman's heroic and inspiring leadership, 18 enemy

PRESENTATION

On May 24, 1945, at a graduation ceremony at the US Army Armor School (then located at Fort Knox) Zussman was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor, while his father Nathan delivered a thank you address to the graduating class. In 1949, Zussman was disinterred from a military cemetery and reburied in Machpelah Cemetery in Ferndale, Michigan. In 1997, the Army started work on Zussman Village, a military operations in urban terrain (MOUT) training center for urban warfare at Fort Knox.

ISADORE S. JACHMAN

Isadore S. Jachman was born in Berlin, Germany on December 14, 1922, and moved with his family to Baltimore, Maryland, when he was two-years-old (Figure 5). Following his graduation from high-school in 1939, he enlisted in the US Army in November 1942.



Figure 5

MEDAL OF HONOR CITATION³

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty at Flamierge, Belgium, on 4 January 1945, when his company was pinned down by enemy artillery, mortar, and small arms fire, 2 hostile tanks attacked the unit, inflicting heavy casualties. S/Sgt. Jachman, seeing the desperate plight of his comrades, left his place of cover and with total disregard for his own safety dashed across open ground through a hail of fire and seizing a bazooka from a fallen comrade advanced on the tanks, which concentrated their fire on him. Firing the weapon alone, he damaged one and forced both to retire. S/Sgt. Jachman's heroic action, in which he suffered fatal wounds, disrupted the entire enemy attack, reflecting the highest credit upon himself and the parachute infantry.

Part 4

Palestine Small Town Postmarks

Dr. Melvin A. Richmond, z"l

Editor's note: Dr. Melvin A. Richmond passed away a few years ago. He was an optometrist from Newton, Mass. Dr. Richmond was an avid collector of Palestine stamps and covers and a long time member of the SIP. He did valuable research on the 1920 First "Palestine" Jerusalem 1 issues and created the chart illustrating how to identify the Jerusalem 1 varieties. The chart was a feature in the Bale Palestine Catalog for many years.

*He also collected Palestine small town cancellations and corresponded with David Dorfman z"l, author of the definitive 1985 catalog **Palestine Mandate Postmarks**. The covers shown are from Dr. Richmond's collection. Information on the scarcity rating is based on Dorfman's catalog with "A" being common, "I" being rare and "V.R." being very rare. All the post offices had a number of different cancellations over the years. The number before the scarcity letter rating indicates the specific cancellation illustrated. Over a number of future issues, we will highlight examples from Dr. Richmond's extensive collection. The examples are on a CD made available to my Barry Hoffman. Parts 1 and 2 appeared in the August 2012, October 2012 and Winter 2015 issues of **The Israel Philatelist**.*

Birds on Israeli Stamps

Marty Zelenietz, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

Note: Part 1 Summer 2014 issue, vol. LXV, no. 3, pps 50-53; Part 2, Fall 2014 issue, vol. LXV, no. 4, pps 51-55.

2009 ATM POSTAGE LABELS

2009 saw bird designs come to vended mailing labels, what the Israel Philatelic Federation website calls ATM postage labels (Figure 25). These items are not listed in the Scott Catalogue, and some collectors choose not to collect them. I find them attractive, and they fit neatly into my collection. Here are the species of the 2009 ATMs, devoted to birds of prey.

- Eurasian Griffon *Gyps fulvus* (Figure 26)
- Lesser Kestrel *Falco naumanni*
- Short-toed Eagle *Circeatus gallicus*
- Bonelli's Eagle *Aquila fasciata*

Figure 26
ATM Eurasian Griffon



Figure 25
ATM postage label;



President's column



STAMP EXHIBIT

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May 1 - 3, 2015

Dr. Robert Piles

Gold

Reserve Grand Award

Artists Drawings, Essays, Proofs, and Associated Material of the 1948 Doar Ivri and D'mei Doar Issue of Israel and their Usage

BERKSHIRE HILLS

Rabbi Harold I. Salzman

Program: The Markovits' Story - Part II

Chapter meets the 2nd Sunday of the month at Markovits Stamp House 1 Shamrock St., Stockbridge, MA, at 10:30 am. ▪

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9:00-11:00 a.m.

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Room 2b,

Brighton Beach area, Brooklyn

CENTRAL, NJ

Gary Theodore

Program: Municipal Tax Stamps

Chapter meets the 2nd Tuesday

of each month (except July

and August) at 8 p.m. at the

Congregation B'nai Tikvah, 1001 Finnegan's Lane, North Brunswick, NJ. ▪

CHICAGOLAND IPPSA

Program: Forerunner Foreign Destinations

Presented by Bob Pildes

Chapter meets the 4th Thursday of the month (except November to March) at Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, IL at 7:15 p.m.

For more information write Sam Fireman, 7250 N. Western Ave. Apt #297, Chicago, IL 60645-1843. ▪

CLEVELAND

Ben Wallace

The chapter meets the first Wednesday evening of each month (except July and August) at Temple

Tifereth Israel, Beachwood Branch at 7:30 p.m. ▪

MARVIN SIEGEL CHAPTER

Alan Doberman

Meets alternatively at the Young Israel Ohav Zedek Synagogue, 6015 Riverdale Ave, Bronx, NY and The New City Jewish Center, Old School House Road, New City, NY.

Discussions, philatelic program each month. Everyone welcome. ▪

SAN FRANCISCO

BAY AREA

Ed Rosen

SOUTH FLORIDA

Howard Rotterdam

Program: Bring a recent acquisition Chapter meets the second Monday of each month at 1 p.m. at Temple Sinai, 2475 West Atlantic Avenue, Delray Beach, Florida 33445. ▪ Beginners to advanced. ▪

New Members

Members are requested to inform the Grievance Committee within 30 days if they know of any reason why the following applicants should not be admitted to membership as provided by the Society By-Laws.

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------|-----------------|
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| 10634 | Jean-Louis Chebbat | Draveil, France |
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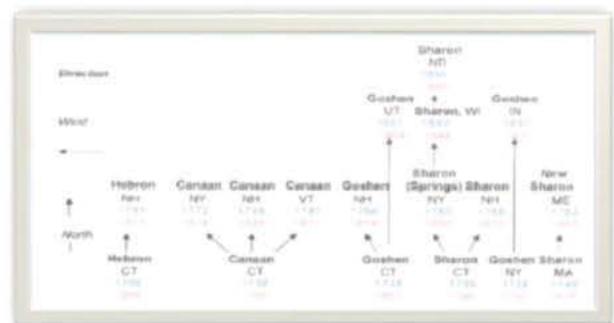
Israel/Holy Land Exhibits at Sarasota 2014 documents seven exhibits at the SIP National Convention including: French and Austrian Postal Operations in the Holy Land, Palestine's 1918 Interim Period, JNF, Doar Ivri and World Recognition of Israel.

Place and Post Offices with Biblical Names explains how non-Biblical places and post offices got their Biblical names. The primary focus is on the United States because the United States has more communities with Biblical names and post offices than the rest of the world.



Places and Post Offices with Biblical Names

From the Tanach – the Old Testament



By
Abraham Blum



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