

NEWS RELEASE

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National Museum of American Jewish Military History Presents Jewish War Veterans' Protest March Against Nazi Germany – 75th Anniversary

Opening March 7, 2008

In 1933, as the Nazi Party grew in numbers and strength following Adolf Hitler's appointment as Germany's Chancellor, the world weighed how - or if - to respond to Nazi oppression of Jews. This question is the foundation of *Jewish War Veterans' Protest March Against Nazi Germany – 75th Anniversary*, a new exhibition opening at the National Museum of American Jewish Military History.

While other American Jewish organizations debated, the Jewish War Veterans called for a boycott of German goods. On 23 March 1933, to kick off this boycott, the JWV led a massive parade through the streets of Manhattan to City Hall, where JWV Commander-in-Chief J. George Fredman presented the mayor of New York City with a resolution calling for the severance of diplomatic relations with Germany. Many other groups followed the JWV's initiative, leading to an international boycott movement. While others hemmed and hawed on the sidelines, the JWV is proud to have stood up bringing international attention to the threat of Hitler and Nazi Germany and forcing other organizations into action.



It is estimated that nearly a million people participated—either as marchers or spectators—in the boycott parade under JWV auspices. The parade began on St. Mark's Place in Manhattan and marched down Lafayette Street to City Hall

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The official exhibition opening will take place on Friday, March 7, 2008 at 12:p.m.

The National Museum of American Jewish Military History (NMAJMH), chartered by an Act of Congress in 1958, is dedicated to preserving and commemorating the service, heroism, and sacrifice of Jews in the armed forces of the United States. In 1654, Asher Levy, one of the original twenty-three Jewish settlers in New Amsterdam, demanded and secured for himself the right to stand guard at the stockade. Today, American Jewish servicemen and women continue to fight to preserve the peace and freedom of their country. The NMAJMH, through exhibitions and educational programs, explains the role of Jews in the armed forces throughout American history and documents the numerous other contributions made by Jewish veterans to America's cultural, social, and political history.

The NMAJMH's permanent exhibits include *Major General Julius Klein: His Life and Work*, *Hall of Heroes: American Jewish Recipients of the Medal of Honor*, and the Captain Joshua L. Goldberg Memorial Chapel. Special exhibits such as *Jewish War Veterans' Protest March Against Nazi Germany – 75th Anniversary* provide additional perspective, recognizing and affirming a centuries old tradition of American Jewish military service.

The NMAJMH is committed to providing a memorable learning experience for all visitors, young and old. Docent-led tours can be customized to fit you specific area of interest. With notice, visitors may have the opportunity to hear veterans from World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War talk about their wartime experiences.

The National Museum of American Jewish Military History is open Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM, and on Sundays by appointment for groups of six or more. The Museum is closed Saturdays and some Jewish and federal holidays.