



# Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America

*Chartered By an Act of Congress*

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October 16, 2023

The Honorable Denis McDonough  
Secretary  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
810 Vermont Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20420

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Thank you for your timely and thoughtful letter expressing the Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA) support for the Jewish War Veterans of the USA (JWV), our Auxiliary (JWVA) and the National Museum of American Jewish Military History (NMAJMH), regarding the terrorists' attacks in Israel. I shared your letter with JWVA President Shirley Zak and Museum President Elaine Bernstein, and we commend you and your Department and President Biden and the Administration for standing with and supporting Israel, our members, and all Jews in condemning the heinous and barbaric acts of terror. We are sharing your most thoughtful letter with all echelons, networks, and community leaders across the nation.

Together, we applaud your personal leadership and very much appreciate your heartfelt thoughts during this difficult and emotional time. Our three organizations remain steadfast in our resolve to protect Israel and its citizens. We will continue to speak out against terrorism wherever and whenever it occurs. We thank the Department for being our partner and strong voice on this vital issue.

As we work through the feelings of shock, sadness, and anger at the massive terrorist attack against Israel and process the facts of innocent men, women, children and seniors being slaughtered in unspeakable ways, your letter demonstrates understanding and compassion that we, as Jewish veterans are not alone. Your words demonstrate solidarity and unity and underscore the meaning of We Stand with Israel.

We look forward to continuing our strong relationship in providing services to veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors.

Sincerely,

Barry Lischinsky  
Colonel, USA (Ret.)  
National Commander (2023-2024)