

*the Bible News & Views*—in an article entitled “Will Israel Unleash The Dogs Of War?” Salomon’s close ally, fundamentalist leader Dr. Randall Price calls on Israel to engage in a general war. Dr. Price is also associated closely with former British military intelligence asset Stanley Goldfoot, who is tied to Jewish terrorist organizations associated with the late Rabbi Meir Kahane. Writes Price: “With all prospects for peace exhausted, with no common ground left for the Israelis and the Palestinians to negotiate their conflicted claims, and the nature of Islam programmed for *jihad* can there be any recourse for these peoples but to wage war? . . . A call for such a widespread end to Israel’s conflicts in the region has been voiced by Martin Sherman, a political scientist at Tel Aviv University, who served seven years in Israel’s defense establishment, who said: ‘It is time for this embattled nation to arise, to cry “havoc” and let slip the dogs of war.’ ”

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## Interview: Andy Jacobs, Jr.

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# Some Background To Pat Robertson’s Crusade

*Rep. Andy Jacobs was a Democratic Congressman from Indiana for 30 years, retiring in 1997. He and Rep. Pete McCloskey (R-Calif.) were sued for libel by televangelist Pat Robertson in 1988. He was interviewed for EIR by Nina Ogden in late September, to throw light on Robertson’s current crusade for war “against 1 billion Muslims.” On Sept. 18, at the 700 Club, Robertson had said that the terrorist attack of Sept. 11 had happened because America was so steeped in sin, that God had lifted his protection from it; he called for the United States to eliminate seven Muslim countries.*

**EIR:** You were a Democratic Congressman from Indiana and Pete McCloskey a Republican Congressman from California, when Pat Robertson sued you both for \$35 million for libel.

**Jacobs:** It all started when Robertson announced that he would enter the Republican Presidential primaries in 1988. His platform seemed typical of the “religious wrong”: a truculent foreign policy and rank selfishness for a domestic policy. . . . One of the things he said was, “When I was fighting in Korea, I wasn’t able to be in business.” That pricked up my ears.

**EIR:** You had gone to Korea at 18, as a Marine.

**Jacobs:** Precisely. It pricked up my ears. The next time I heard about Robertson was from my friend and fellow Marine, Pete McCloskey. He told an amusing story about a rowdy, hard-drinking fellow Marine lieutenant who was on a

Korea-bound ship with him. Pete said this lieutenant was the son of a U.S. Senator from Virginia, Willis Robertson. The son, Pete said, bragged all the way to Kobe, Japan that his Senator-father was going to get him out of combat and that his listeners would just have to fight the reds without him. Sure enough, when they got to Kobe, a Marine personnel officer came aboard and took Pat Robertson and his best friend Ed Ganes, together with four other Marines . . . off the ship and stationed them in Otsu, Japan.

Ganes was the son of the chancellor of William and Mary College. Both Ganes and Robertson were part of the Virginia aristocracy. The conversation between Pete and me was brief and amusing, because Pete said Robertson had become a TV preacher, preaching sermons quite different from the Lord’s view about peacemakers as expressed in the Sermon on the Mount. The TV holy hustler was a “kill a commie for Christ” man, Pete said. But he hadn’t been a “kill a commie (and maybe get himself killed) for his country” man, when duty called.

When the holy video voice decided it was time to skip God and try his hand at Presidential politics, his war policy and contrasting war record seemed appropriate for public discussion. Sounded war wimpish to me.

I wrote a letter to Pete and his answer took six pages. He said another Marine officer told him that the Marines who went to Otsu, eventually went to Korea and into combat. All except the Senator’s son, that is—who had been assigned to the First Marine Division Headquarters, so far to the rear as to be much safer than in the average American city, in those peaceful domestic days. Pete wrote that one of the “decoys,” a Marine named John Gerhart, told him that Robertson became the Division Headquarters’ liquor officer. . . .

**EIR:** I understand the Evans and Novak column—

**Jacobs:** Yes, Robert Novak reached me and asked if it was true that Pete had sent me this letter and whether I would give him a copy of it. . . . When Pete okayed them printing the letter, I got a photocopy to Bob Novak the next day. The day after that, all heaven broke loose. The news of the contents of the letter began in the column and spread like wildfire through the entire media.

**EIR:** Why did Pat Robertson sue you and Pete McCloskey for libel when he knew the contents of the letter were true?

**Jacobs:** Robertson knew the truth of it, but in the manner of Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy of Wisconsin, he figured he had to file a libel case to pettifog the reality, until the key Republican primaries were over. He filed two suits, one against Pete as the originator of the alleged libel and the other against me as the publisher.

He wasn’t about to sue the *New York Times* or *Washington Post* or any other of the major papers that carried the story, or the major TV networks. His lawyers wanted to avoid deep pockets on the defendants’ side of the case. As Pete put it, Robertson’s people assumed that, with his castle, stables,

and Christian cash machine, he could romp over a quickly financially-exhausted Andy Jacobs and Pete McCloskey.

**EIR:** But he lost the suit anyway.

**Jacobs:** My long-standing friend, former U.S. Senator from Iowa, John Culver, recruited George Lehner from John's law firm—Arent, Fox. George was compensated partly by contributions from by-then-inactive Marines, who somehow preferred war hero McCloskey over war wimp Robertson. Then we had a secret weapon, my Dad.

**EIR:** Your father, Andy Jacobs, Sr., was elected to Congress in 1948, and was a lawyer.

**Jacobs:** Pat Robertson didn't know our secret weapon was my Dad. Robertson claimed to have personal conversations with God, one in which he talked the Almighty into changing the deadly course of a hurricane. During one of those conversations, he should have asked God if, in creating my father, He had created one of the best libel lawyers in America; God had. At the time, my Dad was 80 years old, but the scent of such a legal contest perked him up. Who said Robertson couldn't work miracles? . . .

We got a lot of evidence very quickly in the depositions. Marine lieutenants who were in that Fifth Draft ship, and who were now successful business and professional people, backed up Pete's story. But we couldn't nail down the liquor officer part. . . . Robertson's lawyers avoided discussion of the real issue by harping on the liquor officer story. Because of an investigative report published by the Richmond, Virginia *News Leader*—which nailed down the real issues in our favor—Robertson's lawyers needed a diversion from it.

The *News Leader* reporter examined the late Senator Robertson's papers in the archives at William and Mary College. And, sure enough, there were letters from the Senator to Gen. Lemuel Shepherd, commander of the Fleet Marine Force in the Pacific during the Korean War.

**EIR:** I remember when that was published.

**Jacobs:** It was pretty memorable. One letter from the Senator to the General thanked him for arranging that Pat "wouldn't have to go into combat until he had more training." That would be more training than any other Marines would get. Another letter from the Senator assured the parents of Pat's friend, Ed Ganes, that they needn't worry, because Pat and Ed were going to an "interesting and historic place in Japan." By the way, my Dad found out that the English translation of Otsu, that "interesting place," is, "demon disguised as priest." Who says God doesn't have a sense of humor?

I won my case after a motion for summary judgment. But summary judgment was not granted to Pete at that point because of the liquor officer question.

**EIR:** But you won that one too.

**Jacobs:** We won after I received a call from a retired English



*Listeners to Pat Robertson's current calls for a "crusade" against the Islamic world, and those concerned about their effects, should read Rep. Andy Jacobs' account of his own and Rep. Pete McCloskey's court fight with the televangelist-turned-candidate in 1988.*

professor from New Orleans. He wasn't calling to correct anyone's grammar, but because he had been Pat Robertson's tent-mate at First Division Headquarters. In his deposition, he said that not only was Pat the unofficial liquor officer, but that he was pleased to call himself the liquor officer. Robertson had the enviable assignment of flying to Japan as the courier of codes. While on these cushy missions, Robertson would pick up liquor and fetch it back to thirsty Marines at the Division Headquarters officers club. . . .

The professor testified that the Korean woman who cleaned the quarters he shared with Robertson, was a 19-year-old young girl who wanted nothing to do with the prostitution that some other women had fallen into. That's the one, he said, that Pat Robertson hit on. She was terrified, that when Robertson would chase her outside the tent and "pinch her," that other Koreans who saw the spectacle would assume she was a prostitute. The professor explained, "Prostitutes were dead meat with other Koreans when the Americans moved on." But obviously, as far as Robertson was concerned, that was her problem. . . . A few days after the New Orleans deposition, Robertson moved to dismiss his case against Pete. . . . It was said that the case had been filed on the advice of the ultra-conservative activist, Paul Weyrich. The theory was to fog over the facts during the Presidential primaries. When asked by the news media to comment on the dismissal of the case against him, Pete said of Robertson, "He's chickening out now just as he did 37 years ago."