



KOSHER FOOD

Kosher Meals For GI's

Congressman Bob Torricelli (D-New Jersey) announced that kosher meals will now be made available to soldiers in the United States military who request them. This announcement came after Torricelli and the Orthodox Union spent the last year working with the Department of Defense on a cost-effective program to ensure that Jewish soldiers on a religious diet can be provided with kosher meals.

"I am proud to announce that, for the first time, Jewish soldiers in our armed forces will be provided with kosher meals," Torricelli said. "No American, regardless of religion, should be denied the right to serve in our military in a way that is consistent with his or her religious beliefs. By not offering kosher meals, the American military had closed the door on the many observant Jews who felt an

obligation to defend the United States of America. I am glad to have been a leading voice in forcing that change to tolerance."

The Defense Department signed a contract with a commercial supplier that, for the first time, would offer field rations that comply with both religious diets and strict nutritional requirements dictated by the US Surgeon General.

"Congressman Torricelli has been a leader for Jewish causes and helped spearhead the effort to allow observant Jews to serve in the military without fear of forgoing kosher meals," said Rabbi Menachem Genack of the Orthodox Union. "We thank Bob Torricelli for the tremendous efforts in making kosher meals a reality for Jews serving in the American military." ■