

LEGISLATIVE RESOURCE CENTER
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OFFICE OF THE CLERK
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Ethics

MEMBER / OFFICER POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for travel taken in connection with a Member or officer's official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual Financial Disclosure Statement. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, you must **complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House, 135 Cannon House Office Building, within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please do not file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Name of Traveler: Robert Pittenger
2. a. Name of accompanying relative: _____ or None
b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates of departure and return: Departure: 8/13/2017 Return: 8/20/2017
b. Dates at personal expense: _____ or None
4. Departure city: Charlotte Destination: Tel Aviv Return city: Charlotte
5. Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): American Israel Education Foundation
6. Describe meetings and events attended (attach additional pages if necessary): each meeting was dedicated to understanding terrorist activities, terrorism financing, and efforts to end terrorism
7. Attached to this form are EACH of the following (signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box):
a. a completed Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form;
b. the Primary Trip Sponsor Form completed by the trip sponsor prior to the trip, including all attachments and Grantmaking or Non-Grantmaking Sponsor Forms;
c. page 2 of the completed Traveler Form submitted by the Member or officer; **and**
d. the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a. I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the sponsor's agenda. (Signify that statement is true by checking box):
b. If not, explain: _____

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses on the attached Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER: _____

Robert Pittenger

DATE: _____

8/31/17

**U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Ethics**

SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. *A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated on the trip within 10 days of their return.* You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House rules and the Committee's travel regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

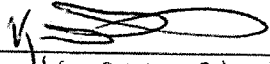
NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
2. Travel Destination(s): Israel
3. Date of Departure: August 13, 2017 Date of Return: August 20, 2017
4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): The Honorable Robert Pittenger
(NOTE: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if all information is identical for each person listed.)
5. **Actual amount** of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in response to Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$5,272.70	\$1,671	\$1,093.11	\$4,786.06 (breakdown attached)
Accompanying Relative	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

6. All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. (Signify statement is true by checking box):

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
 Name: Keith Blatt Title: In-House Counsel
 Organization: American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

I am an officer of the above-named organization (signify statement is true by checking box):

Address: 251 H Street NW
Washington DC 20001

Telephone number: (202) 639-5374

Email Address: ckern@aiefdn.org

Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at (202) 225-7103.

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Ethics

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Robert Pittenger
2. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip):
American Israel Education Foundation
3. Travel destination(s): Israel
4. a. Date of departure August 13, 2017 Date of return: August 20, 2017
b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense? Yes No
If yes, dates at personal expense: _____
5. a. Will you be accompanied by a relative at the sponsor's expense? Yes No
b. If yes:
(1) Name of accompanying relative: _____
(2) Relationship to traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
(3) Accompanying relative is at least 18 years of age: Yes No
6. a. Did the trip sponsor answer "yes" to Question 9(d) on the Primary Trip Sponsor Form (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent and you are requesting lodging for two nights)? Yes No
b. If yes, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted:

7. Primary Trip Sponsor Form is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments and contributing sponsor forms: Yes No
NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties. Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.
As vice chairman of the Financial Services Subcommittee on Terrorism and Fictitious Finance this program allows direct communication with
at Israel allies and collaboration to end terrorism and terrorism financing
9. Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in planning, organizing, requesting, and/or arranging the trip? Yes No

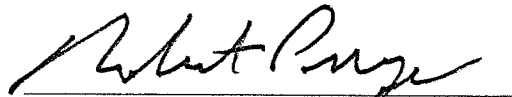
10. FOR STAFF TRAVELERS:

TO BE COMPLETED BY YOUR EMPLOYING MEMBER:

ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Date: 7/14/17



Signature of Employing Member

PITTINGER /
SINGLE

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Ethics

PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a Traveler Form at least 30 days before the start date of the trip. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee Web site (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips.

1. Sponsor (who will be paying for the trip): _____
American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent (signify that the statement is true by checking box):
3. Check only one: I represent that:
 - a. the primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip or
 - b. the trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds or
 - c. the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.
If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors: _____
4. Provide names and titles of ALL House Members and employees you are inviting. For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary):
Please see attached
5. Is travel being offered to an accompanying relative of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
6. Date of departure: August 13, 2017 Date of return: August 20, 2017
7. a. City of departure: Charlotte, NC
b. Destination(s): Israel
c. City of return: Charlotte, NC
8. I represent that (check one of the following):
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent: or
 - c. The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist/foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
9. Check one of the following:
 - a. I checked 8(a) or (b) above:
 - b. I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging:
 - c. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night: or
 - d. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights:
If "d" is checked, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted: _____

REVISED

10. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities the House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees) (indicate agenda is attached by checking box):
11. Check one:
a. I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify that the statement is true by checking box): or
b. N/A - trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education.
12. For each sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip and its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:
AIEF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with the fundamental purpose of educating policy makers about the U.S.-Israel relationship. AIEF is solely responsible for recruiting, coordinating, executing, and funding all aspects of this trip. This includes the Friday evening dinner at the Ambassador's residence - this dinner is funded solely by AIEF.
13. Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary.
a. Mode of travel: Air Rail Bus Car Other (Specify: helicopter)
b. Class of travel: Coach Business First Charter Other (Specify: _____)
c. If travel will be first class or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:
Please see attached breakdown, and explanation in itinerary.
14. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify that the statement is true by checking box):
15. I represent that either (check one of the following):
a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: or
b. The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation:
If "b" is checked:
1) Detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____
\$138 per person per day
2) Provide reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: _____
The trip will take place in Israel in order to educate participants about the U.S.-Israel strategic partnership.
16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
Hotel name: Sheraton City: Tel Aviv Cost per night: \$280
Reason(s) for selecting: location and affordability
Hotel name: King David City: Jerusalem Cost per night: \$321
Reason(s) for selecting: location and affordability
Hotel name: _____ City: _____ Cost per night: _____
Reason(s) for selecting: _____

SINGLE

17. I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. (signify that the statement is true by checking box):

18. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$5,392.77	\$1,380	\$966
For each accompanying relative	n/a	n/a	n/a

	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$6,165.23	please see attached breakdown
For each accompanying relative	n/a	n/a

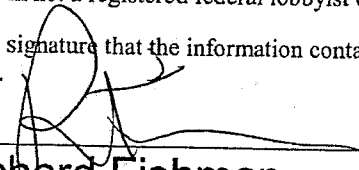
NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

19. Check one:

- a. I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below. *or*
b. N/A – sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

20. I certify that I am not a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent for any sponsor of this trip.

21. I certify by my signature that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name: Richard Fishman

Title: Executive Director

Organization: American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

Address: 251 H Street NW, Washington DC 20001

Telephone number: (202) 639-5233

Email address: rfishman@aiefdn.org

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Ethics
U.S. House of Representatives
1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-7103 (phone)
(202) 225-7392 (general fax)

Susan W. Brooks, Indiana
Chairwoman
Theodore E. Deutch, Florida
Ranking Member

Patrick Meehan, Pennsylvania
Trey Gowdy, South Carolina
Kenny Marchant, Texas
Leonard Lance, New Jersey

Yvette D. Clarke, New York
Jared Polis, Colorado
Anthony Brown, Maryland
Steve Cohen, Tennessee



ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

August 3, 2017

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Donna Herbert
Director of Administration

Megan Savage
*Chief of Staff and Counsel to
the Chairwoman*

Daniel J. Taylor
Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328
Telephone: (202) 225-7103
Facsimile: (202) 225-7392

The Honorable Robert Pittenger
U.S. House of Representatives
224 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Israel,¹ scheduled for August 13 to 20, 2017, sponsored by the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF).

You must complete a Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. You must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$390 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House Members may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), gifts "of minimal value [currently \$390] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments filed with the Committee, and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

¹ We note that the U.S. Department of State (State Department) has issued a travel warning concerning travel to Israel, The West Bank and Gaza, available at <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings/israel-travel-warning.html>. You may wish to contact the State Department regarding the safety of your proposed trip.

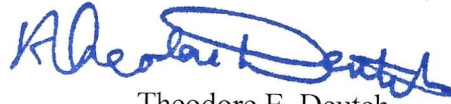
The Honorable Robert Pittenger
Page 2

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,



Susan W. Brooks
Chairwoman



Theodore E. Deutch
Ranking Member

SWB/TED: jls

U.S. House Committee Leaders: List of Invitees

TITLE	MOC FIRST	MOC LAST	P	ST	REASON FOR INVITING
Ranking Member	Eliot	Engel	D	NY	AIEF strives to educate all members of Congress about the strategic partnership between the United States and Israel. This high-level seminar, focused on key committee leaders, will enable these policy makers to better understand the complex historical, religious and geographic context of the Arab-Israeli conflict, as well as events taking place in the larger Middle East region. Congressman Engel is the Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.
Chairman	Jeb	Hensarling	R	TX	AIEF strives to educate all members of Congress about the strategic partnership between the United States and Israel. This high-level seminar, focused on key committee leaders, will enable these policy makers to better understand the complex historical, religious and geographic context of the Arab-Israeli conflict, as well as events taking place in the larger Middle East region. Congressman Hensarling is the Chairman of the relevant House Financial Services Committee.
Chairman	Michael	McCaul	R	TX	AIEF strives to educate all members of Congress about the strategic partnership between the United States and Israel. This high-level seminar, focused on key committee leaders, will enable these policy makers to better understand the complex historical, religious and geographic context of the Arab-Israeli conflict, as well as events taking place in the larger Middle East region. Congressman McCaul is Chairman of the relevant House Homeland Security Committee, and a member of the relevant House Foreign Affairs Committee.
Representative	Robert	Pittenger	R	NC	AIEF strives to educate all members of Congress about the strategic partnership between the United States and Israel. This high-level seminar, focused on key committee leaders, will enable these policy makers to better understand the complex historical, religious and geographic context of the Arab-Israeli conflict, as well as events taking place in the larger Middle East region. Congressman Pittenger is the Vice Chairman of the relevant Terrorism and Illicit Finance subcommittee of the House Financial Services Committee.

U.S. House Committee Leaders: List of Invitees

Chairman	Edward	Royce	R	CA	AIEF strives to educate all members of Congress about the strategic partnership between the United States and Israel. This high-level seminar, focused on key committee leaders, will enable these policy makers to better understand the complex historical, religious and geographic context of the Arab-Israeli conflict, as well as events taking place in the larger Middle East region. Congressman Royce is the Chairman of the relevant House Foreign Affairs Committee.
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**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
U.S. House Committee Leaders
August 13-20, 2017**

Itinerary

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 2017

Afternoon Domestic flights from various cities to Newark

10:45 PM United #90 departs Newark

MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2017

4:20 PM Arrive at Ben-Gurion Airport
Transfer and check into Sheraton Hotel in Tel Aviv

6:30 PM *Welcome and Orientation*

7:00 PM *Regional Overview*
With Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Amos Gilad,
Immediate past Director of Policy and Political-Military Affairs,
Ministry of Defense
-at the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel

8:15 PM *Regional Threats, Regional Opportunities*
Dinner with the Honorable Avi Dichter (Likud), Chair, and
the Honorable Omer Bar-Lev (Zionist Union), Senior Member,
the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee
-at the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel

9:45 PM Overnight at the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2017

7:45 AM Breakfast served
-at the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel

8:15 AM *Iran's Expanding Regional Role*
With Maj. Gen. (Res.) Amos Yadlin,
Director, The Institute for National Security Studies (INSS),
Former Director IDF Intelligence

9:15 AM	Session ends
9:30 AM	Depart for the Ministry of Defense
10:15 AM	<i>United States – Israel Strategic Cooperation</i> Meeting with Lt. Gen. Gadi Eizenkot, IDF Chief of Staff
11:00 AM	<i>Regional Intelligence Assessment</i> Meeting with Maj. Gen. Herzl Halevi, Chief, IDF Intelligence Directorate
12:00 PM	Depart
12:30 PM	<i>American Investment in Israel's Energy Independence</i> Lunch with Benjamin Zomer Israel Country Director, Noble Energy - in Sarona District

American Investment in Israel's Energy Independence

It has been United States policy since 1973 (the Arab boycott during the Yom Kippur War) to aid the State of Israel in ensuring the country is not cut off from energy sources. Over the years the U.S. has worked with its European allies to help Israel diversify its energy sources. At the same time, the U.S. government encouraged American energy companies to establish working relations with their Israeli counterparts. Yet, due to the continuing Arab boycott, the Americans refrained from investing in Israel for fear of being cut off from much larger Arab markets. Finally, Houston-based Noble Energy decided to partner with Israel's Delek company in exploring areas in the Mediterranean Sea which could potentially hold significant natural gas deposits. Within a few years, significant deposits were found. At present Noble Energy is pumping enough natural gas to supply about a quarter of Israel's energy needs. At the same time, Noble Energy has begun to sell natural gas to Israel's neighbors – Jordan and Egypt – as well as to some European countries, and it expects to recoup its original investment in the next two to three years, while at the same time helping Israel to become energy independent and eventually a natural gas exporter.

2:00 PM	Return to hotel
4:00 PM	Depart hotel for Start-Up Nation Central Headquarters
4:30 PM	<i>Start-Up Nation: Israeli Innovation and Ingenuity</i> Moderated by Wendy Singer, Executive Director, Start Up Nation Central - at Start-Up Nation Central

Start-Up Nation

Israel is a giant when it comes to innovation: a global leader in R&D spending and Venture Capital investment, and home to global R&D centers for the likes of Google, Apple and IBM. This session will include a discussion with entrepreneurs representing Israeli innovation and ingenuity that has had enormous impact both in Israel and abroad.

- 6:00 PM Depart
- 6:45 PM *On the Frontlines: Civil War in Syria*
Dinner with Dr. Jonathan Spyer,
Director, Rubin Center, IDC, Herzliya
- at Lumina
- 8:15 PM Overnight at the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2017

- 8:30 AM Breakfast served
- at the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel
- 9:00 AM *U.S. – Israel Cooperation in Missile Defense*
With Dr. Ari Sacher
Systems Development, Rafael Advance Defense System
-at the hotel / private room
- 10:30 AM Depart, travel south
- 12:00 PM *New Frontiers in Defense: The Cyber Security Hub of the Negev*
Visit to the Cyber Security Research Center
 - Briefings on latest developments in cyber security
 - Lunch-at Ben Gurion University

Cybersecurity

The United States and the State of Israel are working together to protect their cyberspace from attacks. In July, U.S. Homeland Security cybersecurity experts spent a week in Israel sharing their know-how and experience with their Israeli counterparts. Both teams spent half of the time at the Cyber Security Research Center at the Ben Gurion University of the Negev in Beer Sheeva. The hub is home to a number of multi-nationals who are working with Israeli experts, including the Cyber Bureau in the Office of the Prime Minister, the Cyber Warfare department of the Israel Defense Forces, and those engaged in research at the university. This coming fall, a larger U.S. Homeland Security team is expected to spend time at the hub.

- 2:00 PM Depart

3:00 PM

Israel's Southern Front

Briefing at the Nir Am Overlook into the Gaza Strip

Israel's Southern Front

Since 2001, Israeli communities bordering the Gaza Strip have been living under the threat of rocket fire. Since the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip in 2005 and the Hamas takeover of the Gaza Strip in 2007, the volume, range and accuracy of the rockets has only increased. The summer of 2014 witnessed Operation Protective Edge, which returned the issue of rocket fire from Gaza to international headlines. At Kibbutz Nir Am, participants will be able to see the border between Israel and the Gaza Strip, to better comprehend the landscape of the region, as well as the unique challenges faced by this area. The visit to Kibbutz Kfar Azza and meeting with a local resident will be an opportunity to better understand the reality of living just kilometers from Israel's border with Gaza, to learn how almost 15 years of rocket fire has shaped those living in the communities most affected, to discuss the advent of Hamas "terror tunnels" into Israel's border towns and how communities have sought to cope with the threat on their doorstep, both physically and psychologically.

4:00 PM

The War Underground: Hamas Terror Tunnels

Visit to an IDF tunnel detection facility

Terror Tunnels

During the 2014 Gaza conflict, Hamas used underground tunnels to terrorize Israel's civilian population. On April 16, 2016, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) discovered a new two-kilometers-long, concrete tunnel from the southern part of the Gaza Strip into Israel, near the border between Israel and Egypt. The discovery was made possible through the use of a new tunnel detection technology. Given the similar threats facing the United States, including on the Korean Peninsula, the U.S.-Mexico border and in various locations in the Middle East, this breakthrough technology holds significant potential for the United States.

5:00 PM

Return to hotel

7:00 PM

Depart

7:30 PM

1967: Fifty Years Later

Remarks by The Honorable Dr. Michael Oren

Deputy Minister for Diplomacy, Office of the Prime Minister

- at Catit

1967

2017 marks the 50th anniversary of the June 1967 Arab-Israeli war, also known as the Six-Day War. The 1967 war has set the stage for every major event in the Arab-Israeli crisis since. The group will meet with member of Knesset Michael Oren, a renowned historian who wrote the acclaimed account of the war, "Six Days of War: June 1967 and the Making of the Modern

Middle East.” He will discuss how this event shaped the region, and the Arab-Israeli conflict over the past five decades.

9:00 PM Overnight at the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2017

7:45 AM Breakfast on own
-at the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel

8:30 AM Depart for Jerusalem

10:15 AM *Remembering the Victims of the Holocaust*
Wreath Laying Ceremony at Yad Vashem

Yad Vashem

One cannot understand Israel’s position on Iran’s nuclear program without understanding the trauma of the Holocaust. Israelis view threats to its destruction in light of the events of the 1930s and 1940s, when the German government’s threats to exterminate the Jewish people were not taken seriously by the international community. This museum provides an important reference point as to how Israelis interpret the threat of an Iranian nuclear program and Iranian leaders committed to Israel’s destruction.

Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, was established in 1953 by an act of the Israeli Knesset. Since its inception, Yad Vashem has been entrusted with documenting the history of the Jewish people during the Holocaust period, preserving the memory and story of each of the six million victims, and imparting the legacy of the Holocaust for generations to come through its archives, library, school, museums and recognition of the Righteous Among the Nations. Located on Har Hazikaron (the Mount of Remembrance) in Jerusalem, Yad Vashem is a sprawling complex of museums, exhibits, archives, monuments, sculptures, and memorials.

Every foreign leader that travels to Israel visits Yad Vashem. Yad Vashem has become a symbol of the Jewish people and its transformation from total helplessness to self-reliance and strength. Thus, a visit to Yad Vashem provides a historical context for the Jewish state.

10:45 AM Depart for the Office of the Prime Minister

11:30 AM Meeting with the Honorable Benjamin Netanyahu
Prime Minister, Israel

12:30 PM Depart

- 1:00 PM Lunch with the Honorable Isaac Herzog, Chairman, Labor Party,
Head of the Opposition
- at the Crown Plaza Hotel
- 2:15 PM Check into the King David Hotel
- 3:15 PM Meetings with Knesset members
 - Naftali Bennett (Jewish Home)
 - Tzahi Hanegbi (Likud)
 - Yair Lapid (Yesh Atid)
- at the King David Hotel
- 5:00 PM Meetings conclude
- 6:30 PM *Israeli Policy in the Palestinian Territories*
Coffee with Col. (Res.) Gilad Eisin,
Immediate past Chief Intelligence Officer, IDF Central Command
- at the King David Hotel
- 7:45 PM Depart
- 8:00 PM *The State of Israeli – Palestinian Authority Relations*
Dinner with Dr. Tal Becker
Deputy Principal Legal Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
-at Darna

The State of Israeli – Palestinian Authority Relations

Since Israel's founding, the Jewish state has sought to reach a just and lasting solution to the Israeli Palestinian conflict. The United States has been closely involved in negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. Most recently, in July 2013, Secretary of State John Kerry helped initiate a round of direct negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. The peace talks conclusively dissolved when the Palestinian political party Fatah signed a unity deal with the terrorist group Hamas.

Dr. Tal Becker is a senior member of the Israeli peace negotiation team, including in the last round of talks mediated by US Secretary of State John Kerry. In this position, he is on the front lines of many of Israel's most pressing diplomatic, legal and policy challenges and is a veteran negotiator, and key behind the scenes representative, for Israel in a wide variety of contexts. During this session, he will address the prospects for peace in the current political climate. He will also discuss the complex challenges that have prevented a final status agreement thus far.

- 10:00 PM Overnight in Jerusalem, King David Hotel

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 2017

- 8:00 AM Breakfast on own
- at the hotel
- 9:00 AM Depart for the City of David
- 9:30 AM *Survey of the City of David*
with Zeev Orenstein
Director of International Affairs, City of David Foundation

The City of David

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has consumed an enormous amount of time and manpower of members of consecutive American Administrations as well as members of Congress. One of the most intractable issues in the conflict has been the question of the future of Jerusalem. Jerusalem's City of David, more than any other site, represents the complexity of this conflict.

The City of David is the site most archeologists agree to be the ancient city of Jerusalem that later became the capital of the united Israelite tribes under King David. This area is one of the most intensively excavated sites in the wider region. To Jewish Israelis, the site represents the beginning of their physical and emotional attachment to Jerusalem that has continued for over three thousand years.

At the same time, much of the site is located in the predominantly Arab neighborhood of Silwan. The residents of Silwan, and the Palestinian Authority leadership are opposed to the archeological efforts being carried out in the City of David. In several instances, homes in Silwan were purchased and then destroyed to open up more areas for excavations. Additionally, Palestinian leadership has denied in their official statements the existence of any Jewish connection to Jerusalem.

- 10:30 AM *Strategic Survey of Jerusalem: The Historic and Holy Basin*
Guided survey of the Old City of Jerusalem

Jerusalem

Throughout its 4,000-year history, the city of Jerusalem has changed hands many times. As home to the world's three great monotheistic religions — Judaism, Christianity and Islam — Jerusalem is probably the most disputed city in history. Today, the status of Jerusalem remains the most contentious issue in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Jerusalem has been at the heart of all recent Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, from the Oslo Accords to the Camp David Summit to the Taba negotiations, and in the most recent talks under the auspices of the U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry. To understand the current political issues, it is critical to understand Jerusalem's history and the role it has played in shaping the Middle East. This seminar will include site visits to various locations in and around Jerusalem to give participants a first-hand look at the historic significance of the city, as well as its geographic layout.

Old City of Jerusalem & the Holy Basin

The Old City of Jerusalem is home to the holiest shrines of the three monotheistic religions, including the Temple Mount, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and the Al-Aqsa Mosque. During the Camp David II talks, the Palestinians and Israelis differed on the Jerusalem question, namely the Old City, the status of Arab neighborhoods just outside the Old City, and religious sites such as the Temple Mount.

The Holy Basin is the historic location of Jerusalem and refers to the land surrounding the Old City, including the Mount of Olives, which is believed to be the departure point for Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem and where Jews have been burying their dead for 2,500 years. The Holy Basin also includes the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site, and the Temple Mount (Haram al-Sharif), sacred ground for Jews, Muslims, and Christians. Control over these sensitive areas remains among the largest disputes in the Middle East.

The professionally guided survey will walk through all of these sites and others, educating trip participants on their historical impact and their role in today's political discussions.

11:30 AM Depart for Jericho

12:00 PM *United States – Palestinian Authority Security Cooperation*
Meeting and lunch with Commanders
-at Palestinian Authority Security Forces Training Base, Jericho

United States – Palestinian Authority Security Cooperation

Between 2007 and 2010, the U.S. State Department allocated \$99 million to the reconstruction of the PA security infrastructure and a further \$392 million to train and equip what would become the National Security Forces (NSF). Locally known as "the Dayton Forces", they were shaped by American Lieutenant General Keith Dayton. The general served as a liaison between the Israeli government and the Palestinian Authority. Over the years the Dayton force has contributed to a dramatic lessening of internal crime within the Palestinian Authority, thus contributing to significant economic development. During this visit the will hear an update on the activities and strategic objectives of the Dayton Forces.

2:00 PM Depart for Ramallah

3:00 PM Meeting with the Honorable Mahmoud Abbas
President, Palestinian Authority
- at the Mukata, Ramallah

4:15 PM Return to Jerusalem

5:30 PM Depart for the Old City

6:00 PM *Welcome the Sabbath at the Western Wall*

The Western Wall

The Western Wall, a remnant of the Second Temple in Jerusalem, is Judaism's holiest site and the heart of the Jewish people's 3,000-year connection to the Land of Israel.

King David established Jerusalem as the capital of ancient Israel circa 1,000 B.C.E., and his son Solomon built the First Jewish Temple on what is known today as the Temple Mount. This Temple became the focal point of ancient Judaism, drawing religious pilgrims from throughout the region. There are more than 850 references to Jerusalem in the Hebrew Bible and innumerable references to the city throughout more than 2,000 years of post-biblical literature.

Even after the destruction of the Second Jewish Temple by the Roman Empire in 70 C.E., Jews maintained a continuous presence in Jerusalem. Jerusalem has been central to the Jewish people through daily prayer and ritual expressing the aspiration to return there. For 2,000 years, Jews prayed for the rebuilding of the Holy City, and to this day, Jews throughout the world face Jerusalem and pray to return to this holy place. The centuries-old Jewish dream of reestablishing Jerusalem as the Jewish capital was partially realized in 1948, when the western half of the city became the capital of the new State of Israel. However, the armistice agreement following Israel's War of Independence left Jerusalem divided in half by the "Green Line" between Israel and Jordan.

Between 1949 and 1967, Jordan controlled the parts of Jerusalem east of the Green Line, severely limiting access to Jews from Judaism's holiest sites, and completely denying access for Israeli Jews to the Old City or the Western Wall, a key remnant of the Second Temple. Furthermore, Christians living in Israel were only allowed to visit churches and holy sites in eastern Jerusalem once a year. Thousands of Jews, some of whose families had been living there for centuries, were expelled from eastern Jerusalem. During the period of Jordanian occupation of eastern Jerusalem, synagogues were destroyed and Jewish burial grounds were desecrated.

When Israel gained control of eastern Jerusalem after the Six-Day War, the Jewish state immediately abolished Jordanian restrictions on access to the city, allowing all Jews, Christians and Muslims to worship at their holy places. Israel later incorporated the eastern half of the city and declared unified Jerusalem to be the capital of Israel.

7:15 PM

Reflections on the Sabbath in Jerusalem

Traditional Sabbath Eve dinner hosted by

The Honorable David Friedman, U.S. Ambassador to Israel

- at the Ambassador's Jerusalem residence

The Sabbath in Jerusalem

Israel, the only Jewish country in the world, boasts the unique tradition of honoring the Jewish Sabbath from Friday sundown until Saturday sundown. 80 percent of the Israeli population will commemorate the Sabbath, in various forms, which typically include a family dinner and special blessings. The Sabbath is especially significant in Jerusalem, home to the holiest site for Jews worldwide - the remains of the First and Second Temple.

The dinner will include a discussion on the importance of Jerusalem to the Jewish, Christian and Muslim populations; the potential for a final status agreement on Jerusalem (arguably the most sensitive final status issue); and the diplomatic challenges faced by Israel and the United States regarding Israeli urban development in the area.

9:00 PM Overnight at the King David Hotel

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 2017

BY 8:55 AM Breakfast on own
- at the King David Hotel

9:00 AM Members Depart hotel

9:30 AM Members Only:
Depart for *Strategic Survey of Israel's Borders*
Departure/Return Jerusalem

Strategic Survey of Israel's Borders Via Helicopter

The State of Israel is slightly smaller than New Jersey yet faces strategic threats at every turn. From the economic and cultural hub of Tel Aviv to Hamas-controlled Gaza in the South is about an hour's drive; to the Northern border with Lebanon, now occupied by Hezbollah, is approximately two hours; and to the Northern border with Syria, populated by both Hezbollah and ISIS fighting in a civil war, takes only three hours.

Every U.S. President seeks to make peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority a central tenet of his foreign policy agenda. President Trump has stated in furtherance of this goal one of the "core issues" under discussion will be the future borders between Israel and a Palestinian state. Using previous Israeli proposals for peace as a reference point, such an agreement would put the western border of a Palestinian state approximately nine miles from Israel's Mediterranean coast and adjacent to 50% of Israel's population and industrial infrastructure.

An aerial view of Israel's borders via helicopter offers a unique perspective of Israel's geographic limitations, and the complex security issues it must consider in the context of peace negotiations. AIEF trip participants will gain a full understanding of the risks the Israeli people will need to balance should its government enter into a peace deal with the Palestinians, in addition to the continued proximity of other threats on its nearby northern and southern borders.

9:30 AM Other trip participants:
Old City survey continues

11:30 AM Delegation reunites
The Impact of Negotiations on the Jerusalem Christian Community
Survey of Christian community and institutions in the Holy Basin

Christians in the Middle East

In the upheaval now sweeping much of the Middle East centuries-old Christian communities in Syria and Iraq were subjected to expulsions and even massacres by ISIS. The Christian Community in Israel has watched these developments with much concern. The community has also watched the off-again, on-again negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority wondering what kind of impact, should an agreement be reached, will have on them. Especially in the City of Jerusalem, home to some 30 different Christian denominations, the question of the freedom of worship and access to their Holy Places has been foremost on their minds. During this session the delegation will hear from leaders of the different Christian communities.

1:00 PM Lunch
- at Golden Panoramic

2:00 PM Depart for the hotel
Prepare for departure

6:00 PM Depart

6:30 PM *The U.S.-Israel Relationship: Bringing it All Together*
Closing dinner
- at the King David Hotel Garden

Closing Dinner

The closing dinner provides an opportunity for participants to process the scope of the week, from the religious center of the Judeo-Christian world in Jerusalem, to the bustling economic powerhouse of Tel Aviv; from the conflict plagued northern borders with Syria and Lebanon, to the environmental and geographical wonders of the Negev desert and the Dead Sea. We will process the range of topics explored, including the U.S.-Israel strategic partnership, prospects for Arab-Israeli peace, the experience of minorities in Israel, as well as greater existential threats throughout the region. Participants will also have the opportunity to share their takeaways, and ask any lingering questions that weren't covered throughout the week.

8:00 PM Depart for the airport

11:10 PM United #91 departs Tel Aviv

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2017

4:15 AM Arrive Newark

Morning Domestic flights to various cities from Newark