



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form

Original Amendment

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for travel taken in connection with official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the annual *Financial Disclosure Statements* of those employees required to file them. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, you must complete this form and **file it with the Clerk of the House, B-81 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: Mark Spannagel
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ OR None
 b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: 6/29/19 Return: 7/7/19
 b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ OR None
4. Departure City: Sacramento, CA Destination: Tel Aviv, Israel Return City: Sacramento, CA
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: Met with former members of kaneset, plo reps, members of the media, mil generals, advisors to peace process, saw Lebanese & Syrian border, discussed & saw the border security fence
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* the *Grantmaking* or *Non-Grantmaking Sponsor Forms*;
 - c. page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the employee; *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 attached sponsor's agenda.
Signify statement is true by checking the box:
 b. If not, explain: _____

LEGISLATIVE RESOURCE CENTER
2019 JUL 22 PM 5:52
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Signature of Traveler: *Mark Spannagel* Date: 7/22/19

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Name of Supervising Member: Rep Doug LaMalfa Date: 7/22/19

Signature of Supervising Member: *Doug LaMalfa*



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form

Original Amendment

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 ten 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: June 29, 2019 Date of Return: July 7, 2019

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Mark Spannagel

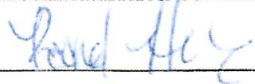
Note: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if *all* information is *identical* for each person listed.

5. Actual amount of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$6,872.80	\$1,696	\$1,260.06	\$3,790.56
Accompanying Family Member	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:  Date: July 18, 2019

Name: Rachel Hirsch 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: (202) 639-5248 Email: rhirsch@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: Mark Spannagel
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying for the trip: American Israel Education Foundation
3. Travel Destination(s): Israel, Jerusalem, Ramallah, Tel Aviv
4. a. Date of Departure: 6/29/19 Date of Return: 7/7/19
 b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense? Yes No
 If yes, list dates at personal expense: _____
5. a. Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? Yes No If yes:
 (1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: _____
 (2) Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
 (3) Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age: Yes No
6. a. Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)? Yes No
 b. If yes, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night 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 chief of staff, I am the principle advisor on foreign affairs to Congressman Latham. Being first hand and meeting with experts in Israel and Palestine will help to educate the congressman on matters of foreign affairs and help peace process

9. Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved planning, organizing, requesting, 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.

Signature of Employing Member Dy Latham Date 5/29/19



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 website (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 family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
6. Date of Departure: June 29, 2019 Date of Return: July 7, 2019
7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC
b. Destination(s): Tel Aviv, Israel
c. City of return: Dulles Airport, Virginia
8. Check only one. I represent that:
 - 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 only 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 you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted: _____



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Primary Trip Sponsor Form

Amendment

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 website (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 family member of the House invitee(s)? Yes No
6. Date of Departure: June 29, 2019 Date of Return: July 7, 2019
7. a. City of departure: Sacramento, CA
b. Destination(s): Tel Aviv, Israel
c. City of return: Sacramento, CA
8. **Check only one.** I represent that:
 - 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 only 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 you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted: _____



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

10. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities 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 only one of the following:

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. Not Applicable. 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 and opinion leaders about the U.S.-Israel relationship. AIEF is solely responsible for recruiting, coordinating, executing, and funding all aspects of this trip. This includes the Sabbath dinner hosted by a Jerusalem family on Shabbat.

13. Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:

a. Mode of travel: Air Rail Bus Car Other (specify: taxis)

b. Class of travel: Coach Business First Charter Other (specify: charter bus)

c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:

n/a

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. Check only one. I represent that either:

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): \$149 (includes meals, snacks, and water on the bus)

2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: The trip will take place in Israel in order to educate Congressional staff about the U.S.-Israel relationship.

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:

Hotel Name: Orient City: Jerusalem Cost Per Night: \$304

Reason(s) for Selecting: location and affordability

Hotel Name: Carlton City: Tel Aviv Cost Per Night: \$289

Reason(s) for Selecting: location and affordability

Hotel Name: Europa City: Tiberias Cost Per Night: \$219

Reason(s) for Selecting: location and affordability

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:



U.S. House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

18. Total Expenses for each Participant:

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates			
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$5,516.59	\$1,861	\$1,046
For each Accompanying Family Member	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	\$3,148.69	Please see breakdown attached
For each Accompanying Family Member	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 only one:

- a. I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below: OR
- b. Not Applicable. Trip 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: Rachel Hirsch Date: May 29, 2019

Name: Rachel Hirsch

Title: In-House Counsel

Organization: American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

Address: 251 H Street NW, Washington DC 20001

Telephone: (202) 639-5248

Email: rhirsch@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, D.C. 20515
 Phone: 202-225-7103 General Fax: 202-225-7392

Theodore E. Deutch, Florida
Chairman
Kenny Marchant, Texas
Ranking Member

Grace Meng, New York
Susan Wild, Pennsylvania
Dean Phillips, Minnesota
Anthony Brown, Maryland

John Ratcliffe, Texas
George Holding, North Carolina
Jackie Walorski, Indiana
Michael Guest, Mississippi



ONE HUNDRED SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

David W. Arrojo
Counsel to the Chairman

Christopher A. Donesa
Counsel to the Ranking Member

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

June 28, 2019

Mr. Mark Spannagel
Office of the Honorable Doug LaMalfa
322 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Spannagel:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Israel,¹ scheduled for June 29 to July 7, 2019, sponsored by American Israel Education Foundation.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) 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. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, 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 employees 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 and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

¹ Please be aware that the Committee's review of the proposed trip does not extend to either the security situation in the destination country or security related to foreign travel in general. We recommend you contact the Sergeant at Arms (SAA) for a safety and security briefing prior to your departure. SAA may be reached at (202) 226-2044 or ohsstaff@mail.house.gov. House travelers should also register for the U.S. State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program at <https://step.state.gov>.

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

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Theodore E. Deutch in black ink.

Theodore E. Deutch
Chairman

Handwritten signature of Kenny Marchant in black ink.

Kenny Marchant
Ranking Member

TED/KM:adw

American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
Senior Congressional Staff
June 29 – July 7, 2019

FINAL Breakdown of Other Expenses

Security: \$1,327.18 per person

-AIEF considers the security of its trip participants as its highest priority. A security team accompanies all participants throughout the trip.

Speaker Fees: \$951.39 per person

-Honoraria for guest speakers

Hotels for contract staff (tour guide, bus driver, security guards): \$358.65 per person

Meals for contract staff and speakers: \$327.66 per person

Tour Guide: \$265.06 per person

-As a detailed historical understanding is crucial to maximizing the educational aspect of the trip, a licensed tour guide accompanies the group throughout the trip.

Room Rentals: \$214.57 per person

-The cost of renting rooms at hotels and restaurants for meetings and meals with speakers.

Hotel Commission \$128

-We pay a 7% hotel room commission to the company that books our hotels.

Airport Assistance: \$71.06

-We use a service to help participants navigate passport control and customs.

Entrance Fees: \$48.99 per person

-Several sites require an entrance fee, including the southern Western Wall excavations and the holy sites around the Sea of Galilee.

Transportation for contract staff and speakers: \$36.69 per person

Photography: \$34.12 per person

-On each trip we take a group photo with a professional photographer

Other: \$19.14 per person

-Briefing materials, miscellaneous

Tips: \$8.05 per person

-Tips for hotel staff

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
U.S. Senior Congressional Staff
June 29 – July 7, 2019**

House Invitees and Explanations

Rob Adkerson, Chief of Staff, The Honorable Barry Loudermilk (R-GA)

As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran's affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. AIEF strives to provide educational programming to all Congressional staff that work in relevant issue areas.

Aaron Bonnaure, Chief of Staff, The Honorable Guy Reschenthaler (R-PA)

As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran's affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. AIEF strives to provide educational programming to all Congressional staff that work in relevant issue areas. The member also serves on the relevant House Foreign Affairs Committee.

**Gideon Bragin, Executive Director, House Democratic Caucus,
The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY)**

As Executive Director of the House Democratic Caucus, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran's affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. AIEF strives to provide educational programming to all Congressional staff that work in relevant issue areas.

Chris Carter, Chief of Staff, The Honorable Richard Hudson, (R-NC)

As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran's affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the

region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. AIEF strives to provide educational programming to all Congressional staff that work in relevant issue areas.

Melissa Chandler Murphy, Chief of Staff, The Honorable David Rouzer (R-NC)

As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran’s affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. AIEF strives to provide educational programming to all Congressional staff that work in relevant issue areas.

Jon Dewitte, Chief of Staff, The Honorable Bill Huizenga (R-MI)

As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran’s affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. AIEF strives to provide educational programming to all Congressional staff that work in relevant issue areas.

Joe Dunn, Chief of Staff, The Honorable Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-CT)

As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran’s affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. AIEF strives to provide educational programming to all Congressional staff that work in relevant issue areas.

Paige Hutchinson, Chief of Staff, The Honorable Colin Allred (D-TX)

As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran’s affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. AIEF strives to provide educational programming to all Congressional staff that work in relevant issue areas. The member also serves on the relevant House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Asha Jones, Chief of Staff, The Honorable Steven Horsford (D-NV)

As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and

veteran's affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. AIEF strives to provide educational programming to all Congressional staff that work in relevant issue areas.

Rosalyn Leighton, Chief of Staff, The Honorable Kelly Armstrong (R-ND)

As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran's affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. AIEF strives to provide educational programming to all Congressional staff that work in relevant issue areas.

Ven Neralla, Chief of Staff, The Honorable Andy Levin (D-MI)

As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran's affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. AIEF strives to provide educational programming to all Congressional staff that work in relevant issue areas.

Brent Robertson, Chief of Staff, The Honorable Roger Marshall (R-KS)

As a Chief of Staff for the U.S. House of Representatives, this invitee is consistently engaged in issue areas relevant to the U.S. – Israel relationship. These issues include U.S. foreign policy, U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran's affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. AIEF strives to provide educational programming to all Congressional staff that work in relevant issue areas.

Aaron Schmidt, Chief of Staff, The Honorable Rep. Suzan DelBene (D-WA)

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Mark Spannagel, Chief of Staff, The Honorable Doug LaMalfa (R-CA)

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U.S. appropriations, refugee and immigrant issues, homeland security, cybersecurity, and veteran's affairs. The AIEF Israel Seminar will explore these issues in depth on the trip, in order to educate the staffer and provide them on-the-ground context for events throughout the region, as well as the strategic partnership between the U.S. and Israel. AIEF strives to provide educational programming to all Congressional staff that work in relevant issue areas.

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
Senior Congressional Staff
June 29 – July 7, 2019**

Breakdown of Other Expenses

Security: \$1,218.75 per person

-AIEF considers the security of its trip participants as its highest priority. A security team accompanies all participants throughout the trip.

Speaker Fees: \$687.50 per person

-Honoraria for guest speakers

Tour Guide: \$281.25 per person

-As a detailed historical understanding is crucial to maximizing the educational aspect of the trip, a licensed tour guide accompanies the group throughout the trip.

Hotels for contract staff (tour guide, bus driver, security guards): \$206.25 per person

Meals for contract staff and speakers: \$200 per person

Room Rentals: \$187.50 per person

-The cost of renting rooms at hotels and restaurants for meetings and meals with speakers.

Hotel Commission \$141.50

-We pay a 7% hotel room commission to the company that books our hotels.

Airport Assistance: \$62.50

-We use a service to help participants navigate passport control and customs.

Entrance Fees: \$56.25 per person

-Several sites require an entrance fee, including the southern Western Wall excavations and the holy sites around the Sea of Galilee.

Transportation for contract staff and speakers: \$37.50 per person

Photography: \$31.25 per person

-On each trip we take a group photo with a professional photographer

Other: \$31.25 per person

-Briefing materials, miscellaneous

Tips: \$7.19 per person

-Tips for hotel staff

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
Congressional Chiefs of Staff
June 29 – July 7, 2019**

Itinerary

Saturday, June 29, 2019

11:55 AM Depart Washington, DCA

1:10 PM Arrive Newark

4:55 PM Depart Newark

Sunday, June 30, 2019

10:15 AM Arrive at Ben-Gurion Airport

Transfer to Jerusalem

Check in to the Orient Hotel

1:00 PM Depart for the Old City

1:30 PM *Welcome and Orientation*

Lunch with Tom Sawicki, Director of Programming

-at the Golden Panoramic

2:30 PM *Strategic Survey of Jerusalem – Part I:*

The Historic and Holy Basin, and the City of David

Guided survey of the Old City of Jerusalem

The Historic and Holy Basin and City of David

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.

- 6:00 PM Return to Hotel
- 7:15 PM Depart for dinner
- 7:30 PM *State of the Nation*
 Dinner with David Horovitz
 Editor, The Times of Israel

State of the Nation

David Horovitz is the founding editor of *Times of Israel*, the leading current affairs website in Israel. Mr. Horovitz is will provide staff with a synthesis of domestic political trends, current international affairs and the general state of mind of the Israeli voters.

- 9:15 PM *Shalom Jerusalem*
 Introduction to the history of the city
 Brief walking survey
- 9:30 PM Overnight at the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

Monday, July 1, 2019

- 8:00 AM Breakfast is served
 - at the hotel, private room
- 8:30 AM *Israel's Political Map*
 Breakfast with Tal Shalev
 Political analyst, *Walla! News*

Israel's Political Map

It is critical for trip participants to have an understanding of the parliamentary system in Israel. Tal Shalev will explain how the parliamentary party system works, how coalitions rise and fall, and how Israeli politics differ from American politics. Since the group will be visiting with government officials throughout the week, we believe it's important to provide this overview early in the seminar.

- 9:45 AM *The Current State of Israel – Palestinian Authority Relations*
 Briefing with Tal Becker
 - at Picollino

The Current State of Israel – 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. Dr. Tal Becker is a senior member of the Israeli peace negotiation team. In this position, he is on the front lines of many of Israel's most pressing diplomatic, legal and policy challenges. He 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.

11:00 AM Depart

11:30 AM *Strategic Survey of Jerusalem – Part II:
Post-1967 Neighborhoods and the Security Barrier*

Post-1967 Neighborhoods and the Security Barrier

When Jerusalem was reunified in 1967, following 19 years of division, the State of Israel extended the city's boundaries to include the strategic hills surrounding Jerusalem. These hills served as launching pads between 1948 and 1967 for sniper and mortar attacks on Israeli parts of the city by the Jordanian Army. Since 1967, these hills have become vibrant neighborhoods, fully integrated into the fabric of Jerusalem. It is vital for those discussing the issue of Jerusalem to understand these neighborhoods' strategic importance and their relationship to the areas in the immediate vicinity.

12:30 PM Depart for the Knesset

1:15 PM Lunch
-at the Knesset

2:30 PM *The Israeli Knesset*
Meetings with members of Parliament

- The Honorable Avi Dichter, Likud Party
- The Honorable Ofer Shelah, Blue & White Party

The Israeli Knesset

Coming just months after new elections, participants will have the opportunity to meet with a member of the Likud party, and a member of the newly formed Blue & White Party. With coalition talks breaking down, it is uncertain if the new government will dissolve and go to new elections, or the President will task another member to try to form a coalition, and potentially a unity government.

3:30 PM Depart for U.S. Embassy

4:00 PM Meeting with Aryeh Lightstone
Senior Advisor, The Honorable David Friedman, U.S. Ambassador to
Israel
-at the U.S. Embassy

5:15 Pm Return to hotel

7:15 PM Depart for dinner

7:30 PM Dinner
- at Tali's Atelier

9:30 PM Overnight at the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem
PLEASE PREPARE FOR THE NEXT MORNING'S CHECK OUT

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

Until 8:30 AM Breakfast on your own
- at the main hotel restaurant
Luggage in the lobby
Check out

8:45 AM Depart for Yad Vashem

9:15 AM *Remembering the Victims of the Holocaust*
Visit to Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial and Museum

Remembering the Victims of the Holocaust

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. The museum's professional docent will guide the group through the main exhibit hall and the children's memorial.

11:30 PM Depart for Ramallah
Lunch boxes en route

12:30 PM *A View from the Palestinian Authority*
Meeting with Dr. Saeb Erekat
Chief Negotiator, Palestinian Authority,
Secretary General, PLO
- at the Millennium hotel, Ramallah

A View from the Palestinian Authority

During each seminar, we invite a representative of the Palestinian Authority to address the group.

Dr. Erekat will present the current state of Palestinian Authority Affairs, including the Palestinian perspective on the issues of the day, as well as relations with Israel and prospects for peace.

1:45 PM Depart for Jerusalem

3:00 PM *A View from the Prime Minister's Office*
Meeting with Reuven Azar
Foreign Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister
- at the Crown Plaza Hotel

A View from the Prime Minister's Office

During each seminar, we invite a representative of the Prime Minister's office to address the group. Mr. Azar will present the official Israel perspective on the issues of the day, as well as relations with the Palestinian Authority and prospects for peace.

4:15 PM Depart for Tel Aviv

5:30 PM Check in to the Carlton Hotel

7:15 PM Depart for dinner

7:30 PM *Tikkun Olam – Israel's Contributions to the World*
Dinner with:
▪ Tali Gottlieb, Volcani Institute
▪ Micha Odenheimer, Tevel b'Tzedek
▪ Yotam Poltzer, IsraAID
- at Lumina

Tikkun Olam – Israel's Contributions to the World

One of the major tenets of Judaism is "Tikkun Olam", to "repair the world". This dinner will focus on representatives from organizations seeking to make the world a better place in various sectors. This evening will be a dinner discussion with entrepreneurs representing Israeli innovation and ingenuity that has had enormous impact both in Israel and abroad. The group will be meeting with innovators that are global leaders in humanitarian aid.

10:00 PM Overnight at the Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv

Wednesday, July 3, 2019

7:00 AM Breakfast on your own
- at the main hotel restaurant

7:45 AM Depart

8:15 AM *Save a Child's Heart*

Cardiac care for children from around the world

- Visit to the Wolfson Hospital
- Visit to the recovery home

Save a Child's Heart

Save a Child's Heart (SACH) is an Israeli-based international, non-profit organization. SACH is committed to saving lives by improving the quality of cardiac care for children from developing countries and creating centers of medical competence in these countries. SACH Israel has saved the lives of over 3,700 children from 50 countries where adequate medical care is simply unavailable. Approximately 50% of these children are from the Palestinian Authority, Jordan, Iraq and Morocco (countries with whom Israel has either no diplomatic relations or who are in a state of war with Israel). More than 30% are from Africa, and the remainder are from Asia, Eastern Europe and the Americas. These children are treated at the Wolfson Medical Center and housed at the Legacy Heritage Children's Home of Save a Child's Heart, both located in Holon.

10:00 AM Depart, travel South

11:00 AM *Life Under Threat of Rockets*

- Meeting with local residents
 - Briefing at overlook into the Gaza Strip
 - Visit to Peace Wall
- at Moshav Netiv Ha'asara

Life Under Threat of Rockets

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.

12:45 PM Depart

Lunch boxes en route

1:15 PM *Israel's Missile Defense Systems*

Visit to Iron Dome Battery

The Iron Dome

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) typically honors our request to visit an Iron Dome battery, the joint U.S.-Israel funded rocket defense program. The military typically approves any visit to an Iron Dome location the week before the trip due to the constantly shifting security situation on the ground. A visit to an Iron Dome battery includes meeting with the soldiers and the commanding officer. For security reasons, we do not receive the names of the IDF soldiers meeting with the group.

1:45 PM Depart

3:15 PM *360° Bird's Eye View of Israel*

Briefing at the Azrieli Tower Helipad

360° Bird's Eye View of Israel

From the rooftop of the Azrieli center, participants will be standing at the highest observatory in the Middle East. The panoramic view stretches from Ashkelon in the south to Hadera in the north. On a clear day one see almost 70 percent of the country, as far as Jerusalem to the East. The importance of this visit is to provide participants a geostrategic viewpoint from which to understand the narrow waistline of Israel, which at its narrowest spans 9 miles from the Mediterranean to the West Bank. Additionally, the area visible from this vantage point – referred to as the Gedera-Hadera corridor – comprises a small rectangle of land that can be covered lengthwise in under an hour. This section of Israel includes over 50% of Israel's population, economic infrastructure, as well as its only International Airport.

4:00 PM *Israel – U.S. Cooperation in Missile Defense*

Briefing with Ari Sacher, Rocket Scientist

- at 38th Floor

Israel – U.S. Cooperation in Missile Defense

Ari Sacher is a Rocket Scientist and has worked in the design and development of missiles for over twenty years. He has briefed hundreds of US Congressmen on Israeli Missile Defense and speaks regularly for the Israeli Foreign Ministry. Ari is highly regarded speaker, enabling even the layman to understand the "rocket science". During this session, he will explain the U.S.-Israel strategic cooperation that has led to Israel's development of multi-tiered missile defense system.

5:00 PM Depart for hotel

7:30 PM *Start-Up Nation*

Dinner with:

- Cathy Sebag, Mobile ODT
- Sami Saadi, Tsofen
- Dr. Yonatan Wexler, OrCam

- at House Number Three, Jaffa

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 evening's Start-Up Nation dinner will include a discussion with entrepreneurs representing Israeli innovation and ingenuity that has had enormous impact both in Israel and abroad.

9:30 PM Overnight at the Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv

PLEASE PREPARE FOR THE NEXT MORNING'S CHECK OUT

Thursday, July 4, 2019

8:00 AM Breakfast is served
- at the hotel, Lumina private room

8:15 AM *Strategic Threats Overview*
Breakfast with Col. (Res.) Assaf Orion
Senior Research Fellow
The Institute for national Security Studies (INSS)

Strategic Threats Overview

As the delegation leaves the Gaza border, and heads north to the borders with Lebanon and Syria, it is critical to understand the threats faced by Israel from these three areas, all Iranian proxies. The briefing will cover the unique situation at each border, as well as the malign activity from Iran contributing to unrest in the region.

9:15 AM Session ends
Luggage on the bus

9:30 AM Depart

10:30 AM *Israel's Narrow Waistline*
Briefing at Alfei Menashe

Israel's Narrow Waistline

Alfei Menashe is a Jewish community located on the western edge of the West Bank. Less than 10 miles from the Mediterranean Sea, Alfei Menashe provides a unique vantage point to discuss Israeli settlement policy, the routing of the security barrier, as well as Israel's narrow waistline.

The sliver of Israeli land west of the West Bank is often referred to as the Hadera-Gadera rectangle, with the city of Hadera denoting the northern point, and the city of Gadera the southern point. The Hadera-Gadera rectangle is home to over 50 percent of Israel's population, as well as civilian infrastructure. The area is also home to Israel's "Silicon Valley", as well as Ben Gurion international airport.

The discussion at Alfei Menashe will allow participants to see firsthand the proximity of Jewish and Arab neighborhoods in both Israel and the West Bank; as well as the strategic threats faced by the Israeli population living in Israel's narrow waistline.

11:15 AM *Settlements in Focus*
Discussion with:
▪ Shaqued Morag, Head of Peace Now
▪ Shai Rozenzweig, Mayor, Alfei Menashe

Settlements in Focus

Israeli settlement policy is one of the more complex issues in the ongoing negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians. Mayor Revivi is the Mayor of a settlement in the West Bank; Yariv Oppenheimer is the former head of Peace now. This session provides an opportunity for members to get an insider's perspective on Israeli settlement policy, the differing views among Israeli citizens, and the role settlements play in the current political climate.

12:15 PM Depart

1:00 PM Lunch
- at Givat Haviva – the Center for Shared Society

1:45 PM *Minority Rights in Israel*
Meeting with Mohammad Darawshe
Director of Planning, Equality and Shared Living
- at Givat Haviva – the Center for Shared Society

Minority Rights in Israel

As of the 2015 census, approximately 21% of Israeli residents are part of the non-Jewish minority, which includes, among others, Muslims, Christians, and Druze. As a liberal, democratic state, Israel is rooted in liberty, the rule of law, free and fair elections, and full civil rights for all citizens. In the last Parliament, 14 Israeli Arabs and 2 Druze served in the 120-member Israeli Knesset. During this session, the speaker will discuss the current challenges facing minority groups in Israel, as well as ways the government of Israel and NGOs seek to address these challenges.

2:45 PM Depart
En route briefings:
▪ *The Jezreel Valley – Strategic land bridge connecting Asia and Africa*
▪ *Upper Galilee – Potential for development*

The Jezreel Valley

Our tour guide will spend an hour during the drive from Israel's center to the north to provide the delegation a briefing on the Jezreel Valley and the Upper Galilee and the challenges facing these regions of the country.

For thousands of years, the Jezreel Valley served as a land bridge linking Africa, Asia and Europe, and serving as a thoroughfare for ancient caravans and, more frequently, armies. In modern times, during World War I, for example, the British and Turkish forces fought a number of pitched battles in the valley. In 1948, following Israel's establishment, the combined forces of Iraq and Jordan attempted unsuccessfully to capture the valley in order to split the just-born Israel into two parts. In the early 20th century, after decades of neglect, Jewish pioneers drained the swamps in the valley, transforming this region into Israel's "breadbasket" known for wheat, cotton, sunflowers and fish ponds. The Jezreel Valley is also home to historical and biblical sites including Tel Megiddo and Nazareth.

Today it is an important symbol of Israel's complex and diverse political reality. The Jezreel Valley, together with the areas of the Lower and Upper Galilee, is home to the majority of Israel's Arab citizens. A survey of this area provides an opportunity to discuss and learn about Israel's Arab citizens – 20 percent of the population – each of which has full democratic, social and welfare rights, the right to vote and serve in the Knesset, and the opportunity to serve on Israel's Supreme Court. These issues are not widely known and this segment gives trip participants the opportunity to understand Israel's relationship with its largest minority group.

Upper Galilee

The Upper Galilee is home to the largest variety of ethnic communities in Israel including Druze, Circassian, Arab Muslim and Arab Christian villages. The Galilee is also home to ancient Jewish and Christian holy sites that provide additional historical and political context to regional tensions. Just as in the case of the Jezreel Valley, the area illustrates the role of minorities in Israel.

At the same time, the Upper Galilee is home to some of the most prominent industrial hubs. Best known among them is the Tefen Industrial area, home to numerous enterprises established by the region's residents – Jewish and Arab. In 2006, Upper Galilee's ISCAR Metal Working Company was purchased for \$5 billion by Warren Buffet's conglomerate holding company. Since then, a number of American investors have become partners in some of the region's hi-tech and bio-tech companies.

While time does not permit for sites visits, a drive through the region allows for expanding on the importance of the area in the context of the U.S.–Israel relationship.

4:45 PM *Hizballah Next Door*
Strategic briefing on the border with Lebanon
With Lt. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi
- at Dovev

Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Lebanon and Hizballah

Lt. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi served 15 years in the IDF in Military Intelligence –first in the Research and Analysis Branch, and later in the Northern Command. During her military service she briefed hundreds of delegations, ranging from U.S. Senators, Congressmen and politicians to global military commanders, senior journalists and visiting VIP delegations. She is the founder/director of Alma, an educational research center focusing on the security issues of Israel's northern border. Zehavi has authored many position papers focusing on Lebanon, Syria and Israel's national security challenges, and continues to brief delegations on these topics. She holds an MA in Middle East Studies from Ben Gurion University and is a resident of the northern Galilee region. She will brief the group on the current threats facing Israel by Iranian backed Hizballah in Lebanon.

5:45 PM Depart

6:45 PM Check in to Europa Hotel

7:45 PM Depart for dinner

8:00 PM *Reflections of the Week*
- Dinner at Decks

Reflections on the Week

We will use this dinner as an opportunity to discuss the speakers and topics we have been exposed to thus far. We have found giving our participants an opportunity to discuss the topics and perspectives presented to them assists them in their ability to more fully understand the complexities Israel faces.

10:00 PM Overnight at Europa Hotel, Tiberias

Friday, July 5, 2019

Until 8:25 AM Breakfast at the hotel

Luggage in the lobby

8:30 AM Depart

9:00 AM *Historical Significance of the Sea of Galilee*

Survey of historical and religious sites around the Sea of Galilee

- Mt. of Beatitudes -- Sermon on the Mount
- The Church of the Primacy of Peter
- Capernaum -- Jesus's Village

Christian Sites at the Sea of Galilee

As part of the seminar's focus on the complex religious fabric of Israeli society, the group will be visiting several of the most sacred sites for Christians in the Holy Land. Included is a guided survey and discussion of some of the most important events in the life of Jesus by the Sea of Galilee. Just as strategic surveys in Jerusalem focused on Jewish, Muslim, and Christian history and claims to the land, the site visits to the Christian sites help provide context for the competing religious narratives for the land of Israel. For example, we will be visiting the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount, the most studied and read speech of any religion in history. Our guide will also lead discussions through Capernaum and St. Peter's Church.

11:00 AM Depart for the Golan Heights

12:00 PM *Syria and Iran Next Door*

Strategic survey along Israel's Border with Syria

With Maj. Ilan Shulman

- at Kibbutz Ein Zivan

Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Syria

Captain (Res.) Ilan Shulman, a disabled IDF veteran, divides his time guiding geopolitical tours on the Galilee and Golan Heights, lecturing to students, giving geo-political briefings for delegations through various Israeli foreign ministry programs, and fulfilling his IDF reserve duties in the Northern Command's intelligence unit. Shulman was raised in Kibbutz Merom Golan near Israel's border with Syria, where one of his favorite jobs was herding the kibbutz cattle. Shulman served in the IDF's paratrooper's unit, rising to the position of company commander. He holds a BA in Israel and Middle East Studies. During this session he will take participants to the border between Israel and Syria and provide an overview of the Syrian civil war.

1:15 PM *Ethics in the IDF*

Lunch with IDF Soldiers

- at HaBokrim

Ethics in the IDF

Ruach Tzahal (Literally, 'Spirit of the IDF') represents the values of the Israel Defense Forces and stands as the foundation for the responsibilities of Israel's army. This overarching ethical code, and the guidelines and operation resulting from it, shape the mode of action applied by all IDF soldiers and units, both in peace and at war. During basic training, every IDF soldier studies and analyzes the code of ethics together with their commanders. It is customary for a framed copy of the code to be hung in every commander's office as a constant reminder of the IDF's values and guidelines. During lunch, participants will be joined by soldiers in the Northern Command, who will discuss the challenges of serving in a region overtaken by the Syrian civil war.

2:45 PM Depart for Jerusalem
Travel via the Jordan Valley
En route briefing:
Jordan: Relations with Israel, and the Growing Refugee Crisis

Jordan: Relations with Israel, and the Growing Refugee Crisis

The tour guide will spend approximately an hour during the drive through the Jordan Valley to explore several topics related to Israel's eastern neighbor: specifically, Israeli-Jordanian strategic cooperation, as well as the implications of the Syrian civil war on the Kingdom.

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan became the second Arab country after Egypt to recognize Israel when it signed a comprehensive peace agreement that ended nearly five decades of warfare. Shepherded by United States President Bill Clinton, the accord signed on Oct. 6, 1994, marked the onset of a new era of economic, cultural, and political dialogue and cooperation between the two countries.

In recent years, the two countries have worked together to combat the increased threat from terrorism by coordinating their security efforts and preventing infiltrations across their shared border. Today, Jordan hosts over 1.4 million Syrian refugees fleeing civil war. Following our discussion with Israeli soldiers patrolling the Syrian border, our guide will address how the influx of Syrian refugees and the threats in the region impact Jordan internally, as well as relations and further potential for strategic partnership between Jordan, the United States, and Israel.

5:45 PM Check in to the Orient Hotel

7:15 PM Depart for dinner

7:30 PM *Reflections on the Sabbath in Jerusalem*
Traditional Sabbath meal hosted by Jonathan and Naomi Schechter-Price
-at their home in Jerusalem

Reflections on 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.

9:30 PM Overnight at the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

Saturday, July 6, 2019

Until 8:25 AM Breakfast on your own
- at the hotel main restaurant

8:30 AM Depart for the Dead Sea region
En route briefing:
Jericho Road and the E-1 Corridor

Jericho Road and the E-1 Corridor

On the drive from Jerusalem to Masada, the group will travel on the highway known as the "Jericho Road" is the strategic importance of the area east of Jerusalem. In 1948 and in 1967, the Jordanian army attacked Jerusalem from the east – the 1948 attack resulted in the city's division that lasted until 1967. Since then Israel has established the City of Ma'ale Adumim east of Jerusalem, today home to some 40,000 residents. To the Palestinians, however, Ma'ale Adumim is the largest settlement on the West Bank. When Israel attempted to expand Ma'ale Adumim's boundary, into an area known as "E-1", the U.S. State Department stepped in and asked that no construction take place there. The issue needs to be examined with those discussing the future of Jerusalem in the context of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

10:00 AM *History and Geopolitics of the Roman Empire*
Guide survey of the National Archeological Park at Masada

Masada

Masada, which was excavated in the 1960s, is considered one of the most important archeological sites in Israel. Masada was the site of the last stand of the Jews in Israel after the Romans destroyed Jerusalem and the Holy Temple in 70 A.D. A group of Jewish zealots fled to the Judean Desert and lived in the former mountaintop fortress of King Herod known as Masada for two years resisting the onslaught of the most powerful army in the world. Determined to break the resistance, the Romans finally scaled the mountain to capture and enslave the Jewish rebels. However, when they finally arrived, they found that all the men, women and children had killed themselves as a last act of defiance. They refused to give in to the Romans and become their slaves.

The ancient story of Masada has important contemporary relevance for the modern State of Israel. "Masada shall never fall again" has become the watchword of the country which has faced existential threats since its founding in 1948. Israel's elite military units, for example, are sworn in on top of Masada in a symbolic act of defiance against Israel's contemporary enemies. These soldiers along with the thousands of Israeli school children who visit Masada each year learn the lesson that Israel should never become so weak again that it would ever face national suicide as an option.

We will spend approximately two hours atop of Masada with a professional guide. The time at Masada with the guide is focused on three areas: 1. touring the ancient excavations; 2. learning the narrative of Jewish resistance to the Romans backed by the archeological and historical evidence; 3. discussing the importance of the Masada story to the contemporary Middle East and the threats in the region.

12:30 PM Exploration of the Dead Sea Region

- at Herod's Hotel

1:30 PM Lunch
 - at Herod's Hotel

2:30 PM Depart for Jerusalem

4:00 PM Return to hotel
 Prepare for departure

6:45 PM Check out
 Luggage on the bus
 Depart

7:00 PM *The U.S. – Israel Relationship: Bringing it All Together*
 Closing dinner
 - at the Orient Hotel

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 during the week.

9:00 PM Depart for the Airport

Sunday, July 7, 2019

12:20 AM Depart Tel Aviv

5:50 AM Arrive Dulles, Virginia