



THE volunteer CONNECTION

The Situation Room Possible Israeli Strike on Iran's Nuclear Facilities

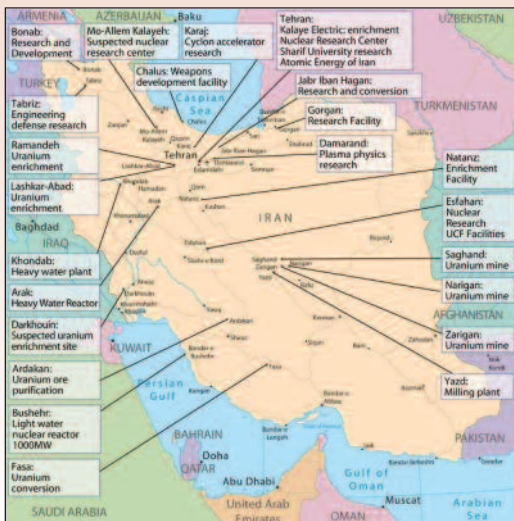
While the USA is tied down in Iraq (7 years) and now Afghanistan (8+ years), Iran's nuclear weapons development program is chugging ahead at full speed. Meanwhile, Israel is wrestling with a fateful decision on Iran's nuclear issue while war tensions are building up around its borders.

Following a bevy of noisy political maneuvers, manipulation and duplicity, clear threats, and crashing diplomatic failures, all roads now point to Israel standing alone in 2010 against the grating regional nuclear Goliath — the Islamic (theocratic) Republic of Iran. This breaks new ground for our world.

Iran has effectively issued a nuclear Mein Kampf against Israel and few ignore the nuclear threat. So how can a tiny country like Israel alter a Nazi-like genocidal obsession in Iran? It's a country with five times the population and ten times the size, chutzpah to ignore the world powers, no common border, and 989 miles between capital cities!

The Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS), a respected think tank, examined that challenge and

(continued on page 1)



VFI National President's Message

Vade's View — January, 2010

Shalom, Volunteers!



I returned from Israel in November. It was a good trip. Thanks to you, VFI sent 700 volunteers to Sar-El in 2009! That is amazing and speaks volumes to your love and support for Israel. The VFI leadership thanks you for your response and the Sar-El folks do also. The other part of this good news is that an overwhelming majority reported to us on your return that your experience was positive and met or exceeded your expectations.

Your contribution of your time and resources enables the Army and Government of Israel to save thousands of shekels each year. I was told that if it were not for the volunteers, the work would not be done on the majority of the large supply bases in central Israel. And the morale boost your presence provides to the soldiers is priceless.

While in Israel, I met with General Davidi and others in the Sar-El leadership. As some of you know, the General is not in the best of health now, but he still is very much present and an active leader in the program. He continues to push and urge VFI and other Sar-El groups from around the world to send more volunteers. For him, 700 for 2009 is a good number, but he expects and hopes that we can send 800 in 2010!

Please continue to tell your VFI story to everyone you can get to listen. You can influence others to go as volunteers, and you are also presenting an image of Israel which is very different from what most people read or see in the media.

We stand ready to send you materials including brochures, posters, newsletters, and DVDs, all for your use in presenting local programs for VFI.

Keep up the good work and again thank you for volunteering in 2009.

Vade Bolton

Vade Bolton
National President, Volunteers for Israel

A Shabbat Dinner Conversation

I am always amazed at what can happen during conversation at a Shabbat dinner. It's December 2007 and dear friends invited me to Shabbat dinner along with a lovely couple. We lit the candles, said the prayers, ate, and had a lively conversation about the places we had visited. After I mentioned my year in Israel in 1971 in a program called Sherut L'AM (Service to the People), Freddie shared her experiences with VFI. I asked many questions and Freddie responded positively.

I immediately knew I was to be a volunteer for 3 weeks in the summer of 2008! After all, I hadn't been to Israel in 37 years and was somewhat overdue.

Since that summer of 2008, my life has changed because of VFI. I have been open to new experiences, adventures, and developing my personal and spiritual growth. But living on an IDF base, working side by side with the soldiers and Israeli civilians, and traveling through Israel, I realized how fulfilled I had become. I was happy in San Diego. However, I was happier in Israel.

Why was I so happy in Israel? The answer lies with the people, culture, sites, and FOOD (so very delicious), which were contributing factors that penetrated to a deep soul level. I found my home and I thank VFI for getting me started on a new journey in my life!

During summer, 2009, I returned to Israel with VFI, this time for 4 weeks, then stayed with friends of friends and traveled to my favorite cities, Jerusalem, Safed, Haifa, and Ra'annana for 5 more weeks. I made the decision to move to Israel when I retire in 2011 from my job as a Counselor for the Deaf. I already have an Israeli Sign Language book and am taking Hebrew classes.

For me, nothing is random, it is all G-d! Life is happening with a purpose for me, and I thank VFI for all they do to make it possible for people to have this transformational life experience!

Karen Miller, San Diego, California, kmillersd@yahoo.com

When Marion and Mike Taube go on vacation, they sleep on cots in different rooms, share bath facilities with total strangers, and work hard 5 days a week performing chores, such as checking expiration dates on medical supplies. "Some people think we're crazy," said Marion Taube. "But it's wonderful."

The Situation Room (continued from front page)

prepared an impossibly detailed (114 page) assessment of Israeli capabilities and options, possible flight paths, sorties requirements, target hardening, and the other details of possible Israeli strikes on Iran's nuclear facilities. For a free education, see "Study on a Possible Israeli Strike on Iran's Nuclear Development Facilities," at: <http://tinyurl.com/yc5bdj1>

The report suggests three major targets; Natanz, Esfahan, and Arak, which are large sites and inconveniently located deep inside Iran. The analysis also suggests two key strike scenarios, each having its own order of battle, mission profile, benefits, and large risks.

Scenario 1 — An Israeli airforce strike against Iranian nuclear facilities and ballistic missile sites involving three possible entry routes, and requiring up to 80 combat jets and a dozen aerial refuelers. The optimum flight route would be along the Syrian-Turkish border, over a small portion of Iraq, then into Iran, and back the same route.

Scenario 2 — Israeli ballistic missile (non-nuclear) strike against Iranian nuclear facilities using about 30 Jericho III missiles.

Accompanying a nuclear Iran is a terrifying reality. However, the big elephant in the room is actually the United States who must give a nod, and render direct material support, if Israel is to have any hopes of succeeding.

The situation distills down to a simple but tough choice. Which is the worse? Iran having the Bomb and providing a nuclear umbrella for terrorists around the world, or bombing Iran.

Steve Plotkin

VFI Officers and Board Members for 2010

Officers:

Vade Bolton, National President, VA,
703.860.0504, vadebolton@comcast.net

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Jay Bernstein, Recording Secretary, NJ
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Jeanne S. Schachter, PA
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Carol Stein, PA
Sharon Stein, NY
Leonard Sydney, NY
Kay Warren, CA
Mark Werner, NC

Saluting David Goldberg: An Exceptional Volunteer and Leader

Long before the establishment of the state of Israel, David Goldberg was the Volunteer Coordinator for the Materials for Palestine Program. This group collected clothing, canned food, hospital equipment, and other important items to be sent to Palestine.

In 1983, David read an article in the Jewish Post about a group of 60-plus somethings who worked as volunteers on military bases in Israel. He applied to the New York office of VFI to offer his services. His several previous trips to Israel as a tourist had been interesting and informative, but returning there and serving the country as a volunteer with the IDF would be like a dream come true.

Two months later, in December 1983, he joined 20 other VFI volunteers from various areas of the United States who, like David, were ready, eager and happy to be of service. Their group was stationed at Julis, a base near Ashkelon, where they worked at tank maintenance and repair. David's job was to help in the major overhauling of Merkava tanks.

When he returned home, David was asked to open a Philadelphia branch and recruit more volunteers. He didn't need to be asked twice. Two of his early recruits were Jack and Jeanne Schachter, whose home became the Philadelphia area office of Volunteers for Israel, which blossomed into a strong, viable, active region because of their energy and dedication. Jeanne is a recent National President.

Dave was concerned that there was no follow-up after volunteers returned. They'd tell family and friends about their

experiences, and then they'd lose touch with each other. So, it was his idea to form the Philadelphia Region Alumni Chapter, the first of its kind, which still meets quarterly. Over the years, David has interviewed hundreds of applicants. Among them are Beverly Cohen and Jim Walsh, and Steve Plotkin, all of whom have gone on to serve VFI through the local alumni group and National Board.

Each time David returned from the program, he came back with a deeper love and stronger desire to return to Israel and to enable others to have the experience he found so rewarding. For the past 25 years, David has served VFI in many capacities, including volunteering, interviewing applicants, manning exhibit booths, promoting

VFI as a speaker before countless audiences, and serving on the National Board. His unflagging enthusiasm is an inspiration to the rest of us.

David is especially proud that in 2001, the National Board of VFI awarded him a plaque honoring him as the "Outstanding Regional Volunteer" and presented to him by Yehuda Lancry, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations.

With great appreciation and love, the Philadelphia Chapter of VFI honors David Goldberg as he begins his 91st year and the 25th year of exceptional service to the VFI Program — and to Israel.



"Every time I return to Israel I become more re-JEW-vinated."

— DAVID GOLDBERG

Libby Weisberg

"It was a great opportunity to participate in Israeli culture in a way that you can't as a tourist. I'm not sure I have ever learned so much in such a short period of time. It was also a cool opportunity to give back to Israel and to show my support."

—NICOLE CRABTREE, 2009

Editor's Corner — A 2009 Recruiting Victory



VFI is a recruiting organization and 2009 was an amazing recruiting victory. This newsletter is a recruiting tool for your use. Fully half of all new VFI volunteers are recruited via word of mouth and by using your copy of this newsletter.

AFTER YOU READ IT, PASS IT AROUND.

We are seeking your personal VFI story to share and inspire countless others down through the ages. It does not need to be polished; that's our job.

Steve Plotkin, Editor
steveplotkin@erols.com,

1340 Brighton Way, Newtown Square, PA 19073,
610.358.5366, Fax 610.361.8896.

Donations Received by VFI

(July 1 – October 31, 2009)

Rebecca Arliss-Turetzky
Renee Bassell
Mindy Belfer
Vade Bolton
Jonathan Brandow
Lori Ann Britton
Jay H. Bernstein
Jane Casey
Beverly Cohen

Phillip Fram
R. Greenberg Haskell
M. Ickow
Donna & Harvey Jauvtis
Kenneth Kabb
Ed Kohl
Roger Konarski
Anna Krasko
Meriania Levy

Michael Lipof
Bonnie & Benn Legum
Howard Newman
Michael Pecullan
Steve & Marcia Plotkin
Randy Rainville
William Robertson
Gluco Romeo
Marian Sacks

Michael Saran
Jeanne Schachter
Gloria Schreiber
Terri & Steve Seiler
Patricia Sielewicky
Neal Simon
Ann Stehney
Barry Stein
Leonard Sydney

Joel Teisch
Martin Turetzky
Jeffrey Urbach
Kay Warren
Mark Werner

Batteries Not Included in the VFI Program, The Following Benefits Are:

- Free Accommodations for 4, 8, or 12 nights (1, 2, or 3 weeks)
- Thirteen Free Meals per week — 5 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 4 dinners, all kosher
- Five small group activities and unique cultural events per week
- Free Land transportation
- Services of our resident group leaders called Madrica.
- Free single supplement and roommate matching service
- Help with discounted local travel and hotel arrangements
- Unlimited comradship
- Expert, local trip leaders will be there for you every step of the way
- Clear evidence you are making a difference

Volunteer Program Schedule for 2010

Programs start only on the Sunday and/or Monday shown below. Volunteers can join for 1, 2, 3, or more weeks. Classes in Hebrew for beginners (the Ulpan option) are designated.

2010 SCHEDULE — 28th Anniversary Year

Jan. 3/4–Jan. 21, 2- or 3-week Program, “Ulpan”
Jan. 24/25–Feb. 11, 2- or 3-week Program, “Ulpan”
Feb. 14/15–Mar. 4, 2- or 3-week Program, “Ulpan”
Feb. 14–Feb. 18, Special 1-Week Program
March 7/8–March 25, 2- or 3-week Program, “Ulpan”
April 11/12–April 29, 2- or 3-week Program, holiday base closings, “Ulpan”
May 2/3–May 13, 2 Week Program, “Ulpan”
May 2–May 6, Special 1-Week Program
May 23/24–June 10, 2- or 3-week Program, “Ulpan”
June 13/14–July 1, 2- or 3-week Program, “Ulpan”
June 13/14–July 1, 3-week Program, International Youth Group—ages 17-25
July 4/5–July 22, 2- or 3-week Program, “Ulpan”
July 4/5–July 22, 3-week Program, International Youth Group—ages 17-25
July 25/26–Aug. 12, 2- or 3-week Program, “Ulpan”
Aug. 15/16–Sept 2, 2- or 3-week Program, “Ulpan”

Sept. 12/13–Sept. 21, Short Program
Oct. 3/4–Oct. 21, 2- or 3-week Program, “Ulpan”
Oct. 24/25–Nov. 11, 2- or 3-week Program, “Ulpan”
Oct. 24–Oct. 28, Special 1 Week Program
Nov. 14/15–Dec. 2, 2- or 3-week Program, “Ulpan”
Dec. 5/6–Dec. 23, 2- or 3-week Program, “Ulpan”
Dec. 26/27–Jan. 13, 2011, 2- or 3-week Program, “Ulpan”

Ulpan Practical Hebrew Class

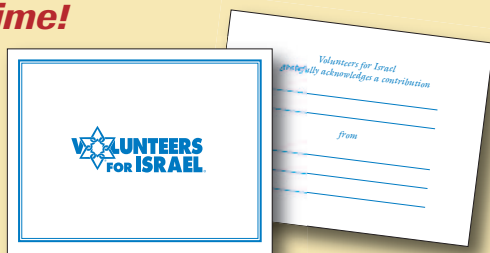
Classes are taught two nights a week by experienced professionals. The one-time fee of \$50 covers up to 3 weeks of classes. Ulpan requires a minimum of 10 participants, so bring a friend. Sign up at the time of your airport arrival in Israel.

Please visit our web site at www.vfi-usa.org for frequent special programs.

NEWSBYTE CORNER

Now You Can Purchase Tribute Cards for All Occasions and Support VFI at the Same Time!

Our attractive new Tribute Cards were originally created by alumni of the Philadelphia region, where they are very popular. And now they are available to everyone.



The cards are a thoughtful way to pay tribute in memory of a loved one, send congratulations, and for many other occasions. They can also be sent as note cards, and they are a terrific fundraiser at Jewish events and fairs.

Not only do the cards cost less than most greeting cards, but they also support your organization – a win/win for everyone. Please tell your friends so they can order some, too.

VFI cards are 4 ½” by 5 ½”, and you can order them in sets of 5 (the minimum order) for \$12.50 each set, including postage.

To order, mail a check for \$12.50 per set, payable to Volunteers for Israel, to VFI New York, 330 West 42nd St., Suite 1618, New York, NY 10036, Attention: Jessica Bernstein.

Follow VFI on the Web

Visit the VFI homepage at www.vfi-usa.org

Follow VFI on Twitter – https://twitter.com/vfi_usa

Become a Fan on Facebook – <http://tinyurl.com/ya4g4zt>

Flying to Israel – the Cheapest Way

The best deals can be found on Tuesday afternoon. Airlines file their discount fares on Monday and their competitors will follow up on Tuesday morning with matching fares.

You may want to sign up for FareCompare.com’s real-time e-mail alerts. Simply select “Save my search” every time you search for flights.

Start-Up Nation – The Book

Start-Up Nation: The Story of Israel’s Economic Miracle, by Dan Senor and Saul Singer (Twelve, \$27) is just out and looks at one tantalizing Israeli puzzle most countries wish they had.

Miracles in the Holy Land are not uncommon, but how come Israel, a country of 7.4 million, only 60 years old, surrounded by enemies, in a constant state of war, with no natural resources, has more companies on NASDAQ than anybody except the United States? What in the world accounts for this tiny nation’s disproportionate high-tech achievements?

This book says it’s partially due to the adversity-driven

culture, which flattens hierarchy and elevates informality – all backed up by government policies focused on innovation. Also credited is the IDF officer corps and their training in problem solving under ambiguous circumstances. This is an entrepreneurial lesson on the differences between Israeli and American young people and a good look at a remarkable and resilient nation.

Improving VFI’s E-Mail Lists and Keeping Us Current

We need your current e-mail address, and those of your fellow volunteers. Please send us a copy of the volunteer list given to you at the end of your program which shows e-mail addresses. Send to Steve Plotkin, 1340 Brighton Way, Newtown Square, PA 19073.

Thanks to those who have submitted their lists. Thanks for helping to keep us current.

HELP WANTED FOR REGIONAL AND NATIONAL PROJECTS

(This space advertises requests for help with VFI regional and national projects.)

HELP – The New York Office is seeking occasional volunteer assistance in dealing with Apple software compatibility glitches. Please contact jbernstein@vfi-usa.org.

HELP – Sharing best practices for local recruiting at the national level.

HELP – A programmer who can help with maintaining our database (national).

HELP – A volunteer to help support VFI in helping with grant writing (national).

HELP – Semipro photographers to capture volunteers at work for picture spreads on website and newsletter.

Contact Vade Bolton at vadebolton@comcast.net.

Israel Hotel Occupancy Among Highest in World

Data for August 2009 shows the hotel occupancy rate in Israel stood at 72 percent, ranking sixth after Singapore, Japan, Australia, England, and Canada. Despite Operation Cast Lead at the start 2009, Israel has managed to recover from the economic crisis faster than most countries around the world.

Shop the VFI Amazon Store and Support VFI

When you shop the VFI Amazon Store, you can get some neat stuff while supporting VFI. The store carries an enticing assortment of travel, Israeli, and other Jewish products. Check it out at www.vfi-usa.org/vfiamazonstore.html

VFI HAPPENINGS AROUND THE COUNTRY

Atlanta/South Region — Covering the states of AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, TN. Ronald Feinberg of Alpharetta, GA, wrote a terrific article on his experiences which was published in the Jerusalem Post. For more information and schedule update, contact Leon Rechtman at 770.328.4573 and atlanta@vfi-usa.org or Alan Mintz at agmintz@mindspring.com.

Boston Region — The Providence, RI JCC held a well attended “Evening of Jewish Renaissance.” Ken Schneider presented the VFI story, using posters, CD’s, bookmarks, and newsletters. He experienced 50 minutes of fast and furious questions about cost, accommodations, food, and what a typical volunteer day was like. For more information, contact Stan Shindler at franintl@rcn.com or Ken Schneider at kenschneider33@cox.net.

Chicago Midwest Region — Herb Eiseman is energizing Chicago VFI veterans to develop a regional alumni organization. Please contact him at herb@herbstours.com with your interest. The Region has experienced a steady flow of Volunteers to Israel! We appreciate you. If you are in the Midwest, YOU can help out here! If you have other ideas to promote VFI, please call Charlotte at 888.246.3037, and let us know what you will do! E-mail: chicago@vfi-usa.org. We are only as good as the help we get!

Dallas Region – For more information, contact Valerie Carlone at valcarlone@gmail.com.

Great Lakes Region — For further information and schedule update, please contact Ed Kohl at 248.420.3729 or michigan@vfi-usa.org.

Las Vegas Region — For further information and schedule update, please contact Fran & Jerry Gardberg at 702.914.6863.

Long Island Region — Our region has processed over 40 volunteers since January. We employ several approaches to reach out to perspective volunteers. We handed out Boarding Passes at the NYC Israeli Day parade and started our own regional web link. This will allow local people to make direct contact with us.

We also set up a database of all Jewish organizations on Long Island, and plan e-mail blasts every other month to plant a seed. If you live on Long Island, you can be processed at the Long Island Regional office. For further information and schedule update, please contact Eric Steinberg at 631.816.3530 or Esteinb173@aol.com.

Los Angeles Region — Susan & Ken Douma are assuming the leadership for the Ruth Rennie volunteer initiative in California. Ruth recently passed on and left a legacy of successfully recruiting large Christian groups to Sar-El over the years. We look forward to their continued success. For further information and VFI schedule update, please contact Carol & Isaac Hlananel at chananel@vfi-usa.org and 866.345.3352.

Metro New York — We are seeking occasional volunteer assistance in dealing with Apple software compatibility glitches. Please contact jbernstein@vfi-usa.org. For further information and schedule update, please contact VFI at 212.643.4848 or e-mail new-york@vfi-usa.org. Sharon Stein & Richard Bernstein

Mid-Atlantic Region — Planning a regional meeting for recent volunteers to bring and mingle with prospects and young people who have attended the highly successful International Youth Program. For more information, contact Marian Sacks at mbsacks31@hotmail.com or Vade Bolton at vadebolton@comcast.net. We are seeking local volunteers willing to organize meetings in their communities.

Pacific Northwest Region — The Pacific Northwest Region (OR, WA, ID, MT, AK, HI) is being handled by the San Francisco Region. Kay Warren can be contacted at e-mail vfi5000@hotmail.com, 510.339.0183, for more information.

Philadelphia Region — Fifty VFI alumni at our Oct. meeting heard Chuck Feldman describe his work with the Holocaust Awareness Museum and their “Witness to History Programs.” A Special tribute was presented to Dave Goldberg who celebrated his 90th birthday. Dave is a recognized raconteur and long-time leader in VFI and founder of the Philadelphia Chapter.

For our Dec. meeting, Middle East analyst Asaf Romirowsky discussed Al Quaida’s Palestinian Dilemma and how Gaza transformed itself into a Hamastan. The meeting was attended by 70 people and was also a special celebration of Jeanne Schachter’s extraordinary service to VFI over several decades. A number of people described her positive influence on their lives and recognition proclamations were presented from Sar-El and the Israeli Consul in Philadelphia.

Our March 3, 2010 meeting is held at the Klein Branch JCC, Red Lion Rd. and Jamison Ave. in Philadelphia, starting at 7:00 p.m. Rabbi Jon Cutler, a Jewish Navy chaplain who served in Iraq, will discuss his war time experiences. Call Bev Cohen or Carol Stein at 888.473.6527 for more schedule details.



Vade Bolton and Jeanne Schachter

San Francisco Region — Please join the San Francisco Region for our Annual Reunion on Sunday, January 10, 2010 at 2:00 p.m., at Congregation Emanu-El, 2 Lake Street, San Francisco. Our featured speaker is Donna Rosenthal – *Smashing Stereotypes: The Many Worlds of Israeli Jews, Muslims, Druze, and Christians*. Find out what Israel looks like to Israelis.

Ms. Rosenthal, author of the award-winning book, *The Israelis: Ordinary People in an Extraordinary Land*, was a news producer at Israel TV, a reporter for Israel Radio and The Jerusalem Post, a lecturer at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and has published articles in many U.S. newspapers. A national Publishers Weekly survey placed her in the top ten most popular Jewish speakers.

This event is co-sponsored by Congregation Emanu-El. The general public is invited to come and learn about VFI by meeting and speaking with veterans of our VFI programs. Call Kay Warren 510.339.0183 or e-mail vfi5000@hotmail.com for more information.

Making a Difference at BAKUM

During October, I learned first-hand what the phrase “getting out of your comfort zone” really means as I flew to Israel for a 2-week stint as a Sar-El (meaning “Service for Israel”) volunteer. Volunteers provide direct service to Israel through physical labor and, not to be minimized, the positive effect on morale by their very presence.

My group of 18 was assigned to an IDF base called BAKUM, located near Tel Aviv and notable as the first base to which every new IDF soldier reports. Its function is to rapidly begin the process of transforming 18 year old boys and girls into IDF soldiers. Because of that rude awakening, we learned that no IDF veteran remembers BAKUM fondly.

The accommodations at BAKUM were hardly luxurious, more like a 0-star hotel. We lived like the soldiers did, in barracks, on bunk beds, using latrines, and hiking to and from the distant mess hall. But, that which doesn’t kill us makes us stronger, right? And, speaking of food, it was plentiful, Kosher, and fairly tasty — especially if you like cucumbers and tomatoes.

Taking orders from our two young female soldiers — madrichot (leaders) — our group’s assignment was to pack the “kit (duffle) bags” that each new soldier received during his/her processing into the army. By all accounts, our highly motivated group set the standard for volunteer efficiency by packing more

than 6,000 kit bags. By the time we completed our tour of duty, it seemed every officer on the base knew of our accomplishments, for when chatting with them we frequently heard, “Sar-El! Kol HaKavod (all the honor)!” We walked tall in our IDF uniforms!

It was hard, sweaty, and at times frustrating work and a sense of humor was an absolute necessity. Overall, the experience rewarded each of us with a well-earned pride of accomplishment knowing that we had truly provided useful service to Israel and made a difference.

I’m frequently asked if I would do it again. Yes, I would. In fact, the next time I’d like to put together a local group from New Haven, CT. What are you doing next October? Let me know if you’re interested in a Sar-El adventure. L’hetraot.

Ed Berns, redberns@sbcglobal.net



This group from Beth Tfiloh Synagogue was led by Larry Feldman of Baltimore, MD



Harvey Rand donating tools brought from the U.S. to the IDF soldiers.

Twelve Things I Love About Israel

1. I love the peacefulness of Shabbat in Jerusalem. So quiet and relaxing. I can sit on my tuchus all day and not feel guilty.
2. I love how the smallest, obscure hummus restaurant serves the best tasting stuff. Within 7.2 seconds of your placing an order, they've scooped, spread, sprinkled and created what I like to call "beautiful goodness."
3. I love the number of people on the social networking sites like Twitter and Facebook defending Israel when it's being blasted in the international media.
4. I love the weekly Friday night dinner with my family when they feed me enough to nourish a small army.
5. I love that there's free wireless internet everywhere.
6. I love the social norm that allows us to double-dip your food in peace without neurotic fear of contracting the West Nile virus. Take your Pural bottle and stick it somewhere.
7. I love that my cab driver offered me a peach and that I accepted it. That will happen in America when falafel balls fly.
8. I love how the fruit shakes here contain the most obscure fruits in the history of the world. "Watch this....hey, can I get a shake with Abraham's desert star citrus fruit, but the one without seeds that only grows in the Western Negev? (pause) YOU HAVE IT?????"
9. I love how people have no qualms about giving you a ride to the airport even if it's three in the morning and their wife is in labor.
10. I love how on Rosh Hashana, the car radio display wished me a "shana tovah." I don't care what planet you're from, that's awesome.
11. I love watching the Super Bowl until 5 a.m. with the guys. When you work that hard for it, you enjoy it that much more.
12. I love that I've had this once-in-a-lifetime experience and that it's not over yet.

Adapted from Benji Lovitt, a comic and writer, www.benjilovitt.com

Steve Plotkin

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—Barbara Abbott, Copy Editor

—Regina Stinger, Graphic Designer

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CONNECTION

THE Volunteer

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