

Anna Sobol Levy Fellowship 2015-2016



Final Report & Activity Summaries

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Lecture with Dr. Eitan Azani

Florie Lewine

Date: 29 October 2015

Time: 1100

Location: ICT Conference Room, IDC, Herzliya

Lecturer: Dr. Eitan Azani

Summary:

This lecture was one of our first opportunities of the year to meet with Dr. Eitan Azani, Col. (Res.) in the Israeli Defense Force and head of the MA in Counter-Terrorism program at IDC Herzliya. His insight as a lecturer, military expert, and thoughtful advisor was among the most influential voices available to us. The meeting was loosely structured, with Dr. Azani answering questions for us about the program and providing us a brief overview of expectations for our courses. Furthermore, Dr. Azani prepared us for what we could expect to learn in our course “Radical Islamic Ideologies.” By providing an introduction to the sophisticated structure of terrorist organizations and their origins, Dr. Azani offered his unparalleled wisdom in helping us to understand what to expect from our coursework over the year ahead.

Personal Analysis:

In this informal meeting, the fellows were able to ask questions of Dr. Azani regarding IDC Herzliya curriculum, Dr. Azani’s personal military background, the Israeli security apparatus, and Israel’s perspective on radical Islam. It was appropriate to have this meeting at the beginning of the year, as it allowed all of us a more intimate environment to have our questions answered and get to know Dr. Azani.

Specific Feedback:

This lecture was a nice opportunity for the fellows to spend time with Dr. Azani, but there was little structure or preparation for the meeting. As with many of the informal lectures, I believe with a guiding discussion topic or idea, more substance could have been taken away from the event.

Intelligence Community Memorial and Museum Visit

Florie Lewine

Date: 8 November 2015

Time: 1300

Location: Israel Intelligence Heritage and Commemoration Center

Lecturer: Center Staff



Summary: Our first fellowship excursion was to the Intelligence Community Memorial and Museum in Ramat Hasharon. The Center commemorates those that have lost their lives serving in the Israeli intelligence community. Furthermore, the Center serves as a research and educational center. We started the day learning about the various security threats Israel faces continuously, from suicide attackers to the hazardous prospects of tunnel warfare. We were able to see some of the artifacts sequestered from Palestinian terrorists, including weapons and propaganda. Next, we learned about the Center's research program, the Meir Amit Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center (ITIC). There, we were able to view a video that thoroughly and entertainingly explained how Israel reacts to every incoming security threat. We then were able to visit the commemoration site, which honors more than 700 Israelis who lost their lives serving the Intelligence community.

Personal Analysis: This excursion served as a great introduction to the Israeli intelligence apparatus. Everyone we met at the Center was incredibly knowledgeable and willing to share with us an advanced overview of how Israel limits the threats of attack through intelligence research. Because many participants in our fellowship are interested in a career in the intelligence field, this trip offered us unique insight into Israeli operations.

Specific Feedback: This was an excellent trip to have at the beginning of the year, as it offered us a great overview of Israeli security and intelligence. It was also very special to see the commemoration site to help us visualize just how many individuals had given their lives while working in the intelligence field. Even though the outing was brief, this trip provided us unique insight that helped us to understand Israeli security as the year progressed.

U.S. Military in Afghanistan: Lecture with LTC Ed Brady

Rachel Hayes

Date: 12 November 2015

Time: 1200

Location: ICT Conference Room, IDC,
Herzliya

Lecturer: LTC Ed Brady, War College Fellow

Summary: The primary purpose of the lecture was to teach us about U.S. Army COIN operations and modern warfare based on the lecturer's experience as a battalion commander in Afghanistan and Iraq. LTC Brady had been on four combat deployments (one in Iraq and three in Afghanistan) as a light infantry/armored officer. LTC Brady began his lecture by breaking down the structure of the U.S. 1st Armored Division and the battalion he had commanded in Western Afghanistan. He then shifted to discuss the situation in southwestern Afghanistan, in the Shindand province on the Afghan-Pakistan border where he had been posted. One of the key points that LTC Brady wanted to impress on us was that, as policymakers, it is important to remember who is being sent, what their constraints are, and what the costs may be. LTC Brady then moved on to discuss the process of defeating and dismantling the Al Qaeda network and the way that future warfare would be conducted.



Personal Analysis: One part of the lecture that was greatly appreciated was that the lecturer broke down and explained the structure of the military and the standard Army division. As most of the fellows this year were not affiliated with the military, getting a thorough explanation of the structure of a combat unit was greatly appreciated. LTC Brady was a very good presenter, using his personal experience as a spring-board to talk about more general policy implications. LTC Brady also included a very interesting and thorough distinction between COIN and counterterrorism, two terms that are often used interchangeably. LTC Brady's concluding thoughts on the four fallacies of future warfare were especially thought-provoking. These fallacies include (in his words): the delusion that quick and decisive victories can also be achieved at minimal cost, the notion that raids and precision strikes can be an effective substitute for boots on the ground, the struggle with getting partners to assist with the dirty work, and the fact that we cannot always pick our wars.

Specific Feedback: In general, this was an excellent lecture. The experience and the personal knowledge that the lecturer had to share made it interesting, informative, and thought-provoking.

I would highly advised that the next war college fellow be invited to give a lecture to next year's fellows. The lecture went smoothly and there was full participation from everyone present. The one point that could go more smoothly is the time limit. While LTC Brady finished in time for us to get to class, he was cut short, and we had to rush to our next classes. Most likely, this was because it was one of the first lectures of the year, but making sure that everyone is on the same page in terms of duration would help to make the event run even more smoothly.

Friends of the IDF (FIDF) Annual Gala

Emma J. Harris

Date: 18 November 2015

Time: 1800

Location: Tel Aviv University

Lecturer: Mr. Doron Belachsán

Summary: This optional event was the Annual FIDF Fundraising Gala hosted at the University of Tel Aviv and paying tribute to programs and benefits the FIDF offers, allowing donors to see the impact of FIDF, and to honor various members of the military and specific “friends” of the organization. We were invited by Mr. Doron Belachsán (photo, right), a contact of Mr. Landau, and given an introduction to FIDF as an organization, and the special relationship that the general Israeli population has with the Israeli Defense Forces, as well as the important relationship the IDF has with American private donors. The event was cocktail-style with a ceremony featuring several performances by IDF and Israeli artists, as well as features of impactful programs that benefit soldiers, youth at risk entering into the IDF, etc.



Personal Analysis:

This evening event was optional and four of the fellows were able to attend. As this was relatively early in our year, this event served as a good introduction to the impact that the IDF has on Israeli culture and society, in addition to the significant role that Israeli and foreign, predominantly American, donors play in supporting soldiers, boosting morale, and providing

socially oriented programs in tandem with military service, in a way that is perhaps distinctly Israeli. A New York-based non-profit, FIDF is an organization founded by Holocaust-survivors to provide for the education and wellbeing of the women and men who serve in the IDF, wounded soldiers, and the families of fallen-soldiers. A mission statement of FIDF regarding the IDF is “Their job is to look after Israel. Our job is to look after them.”

The event was absolutely Public Relations-oriented, given the strong message-oriented and support-building origins of the FIDF, and was a fundraising event first and foremost while also providing emotional stories about the IDF and FIDF impact. It was an interesting and beneficial perspective to receive in contrast with our other formal lectures that approach the military and its role in security from theoretical, tactical and political perspectives. This was an important political element, in which Mr. Landau shared his interest in showing the fellows the culture surrounding how beloved IDF service is as an element of Israeli identity, and as a pillar in the global Jewish and military communities. This was a great opportunity to mingle among some IDF military elite, as well as the social groups that support the FIDF organization, and provided a fascinating introduction to IDF-centered marketing and the IDF brand of morale-boosting messaging.

Specific Feedback: This was a fun and interesting event that provided a unique perspective on and introduction to the IDF and the community that surrounds it. It shared emotional stories, my favorite of which was on the FIDF funding of a program for youth-at-risk from various communities in Israel whom need a different kind of initial support and training when they enter the IDF. It showed the story of how service has provided a way-out and an opportunity for growth and life change, in a way that would not be supported as fully without the FIDF. As three of the fellows present are non-military personnel, it was an interesting exposure to the social-military aspects in the community. I also enjoyed learning more about direct American support for the nation of Israel and the IDF, a unique program where foreign civilians provide direct funding for military programming. I would definitely recommend future fellows be given opportunities like this to gain additional perspectives during their time in Israel.

Visit to the Gaza Border

Kevin Mitchell

Date: 25 November 2015

Time: 07:45 – 17:30

Location: Sderot, observation point, Israel-Gaza-Egypt border

Lecturer: IDF Official Escort

Summary: We began our tour with a visit to Israel's Operation Black Arrow memorial, three kilometers (or so) outside the Gaza Border. From the memorial, we were able to overlook Gaza City – as well as much of the northern Gaza territory – aided by Edan's high-quality binoculars. While there, we received an informative lecture from an IDF official escort on Israel's 1955 Operation Black Arrow and a multitude of other topics (e.g. Operation Protective Edge, Hezbollah, Egypt-Gaza tunnel systems, etc.). Afterwards, our group (including the IDF escort) travelled to a nearby IDF military base where we were permitted to tour (inside and out) the state-of-the-art Merkava tank (shown above), along with several other combat-ready vehicles. Our tour concluded with a trip to another memorial site in southern Israel – which provided an excellent vantage point of the southern Gaza territories (i.e. Khan Younis) – and a brief excursion to the Israel-Gaza-Egypt border.



Personal Analysis: Looking back, I would consider this to be one of the most informative, interesting, and valuable experiences that we had together as a group. Speaking for myself, it is highly unlikely that I would have made the trip down to the Gaza border on my own, and failing to see the Gaza border would have meant missing out on an opportunity to experience, in person, a fundamental component of the Israel-Palestine conflict. The trip was very well organized and our guides were well informed on Israel's Gaza-focused policies and the history of Israel's operations in southern Israel.

Specific Feedback: This trip was a perfect balance between educational, fun, and exciting. It was well planned, food was provided, and our guides were very well informed. I would definitely recommend that future cohorts repeat this activity.

Lecture with Dr. Boaz Ganor

Amy Saxton

Date: 08 December 2015

Time: 1100-1200

Location: ICT Conference Room, IDC, Herzliya

Lecturer: Dr. Boaz Ganor

Summary: Dr. Boaz Ganor is the Founder and Executive Director of the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT) and also teaches a required class for the MA Government (Counterterrorism) program titled Terrorism and Counterterrorism. The primary purpose of this lecture was to discuss trends in modern international terrorism and some of the challenges that democratic countries face in countering terrorism. Dr. Ganor discussed the importance of first understanding our own values and the ways in which we operate before trying to understand the enemy. He explained that democracies face the paradox of balancing security with civil liberties, a theme that we later discussed in many of our other courses in our program. Dr. Ganor also noted the challenges with not having an internationally recognized definition of terrorism, particularly for enacting the necessary legal framework for counterterrorism policies.

Personal Analysis: Dr. Ganor helped us understand the complexities of modern terrorist networks and the need for a multi-faceted approach for counterterrorism. His experience from working with many different intelligence, security, and police services throughout the world helped us understand the major topics of discussion and existing policies to deal with these threats. It was really helpful to hear from someone who is both an academic and practitioner.



Specific Feedback: As with most of our lectures, we used the entire hour for discussion. I found that the format of having an initial brief that was about 30 minutes long followed by Q&A was a good balance. Dr. Ganor gave us several different topics in his introductory brief that opened the door for follow-on questions based on our interests, though he struck the right balance for such a short lecture. I found that it was very productive to be able to talk to him outside of class in a smaller group setting and focused more on a military/policy perspective.

Visit to the Green Line with Jonathan Davis

Kevin Mitchell

Date: 22 December 2015

Time: 08:00 – 17:30

Location: VP Davis' house, refugee camp observation point, Green Line observation points

Lecturer: Jonathan Davis, Vice President External Relations, Head of the Raphael Recanati International School, IDC Herzliya

Summary: After meeting up in the morning, we drove to VP Jonathan Davis' beautiful house for personal introductions and a fascinating lecture on the history of the Green Line. Afterwards, we all (VP Davis included) boarded the bus and drove a short ways to a series of lookout points along Israel's security fence overlooking various points of interest. Along the way, VP Davis spoke on a wide variety of interesting points, including the utility of Israel's fence, security checkpoints (both inside and along the security fence), Israeli settlements, East Jerusalem, and the Second Intifada. Throughout the tour, VP Davis' knowledge in security affairs and the technical aspects of Israel's border security made for a fascinating and valuable experience.



Personal Analysis: This activity definitely ranks among my favorite with the ASL program. I have always been very interested in Israel's security fence/check point systems and, having learned much about this topic from those living within the West Bank, it was interesting to hear the Israeli point of view. In light of the enormous drop in the number of terrorist attacks – and, particularly, in the number of the more devastating suicide attacks – it has become easier for me to understand the value many Israelis see in the fence.

Specific Feedback: The Green Line/security fence tour provided us with valuable insights into Israel's rationale for building the fence and permitting the building of settlements in the West Bank. As controversial as the fence has been, it provides Israel with real, tangible security dividends via the prevention of cross-border terrorist attacks. As enlightening as this tour was, it would have also been fascinating to learn more about the political, social, and legal aspects of the security fence, as well as the effects that it has on the population living within the West Bank.

Visit to the Northern Border with Brig. Gen. (Res.) Nitzan Nuriel
Amy Saxton

Date: 13 January 2016

Time: 0800-1800

Location: Borders of Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon

Lecturer: Brig. Gen. (Res.) Nitzan Nuriel

Summary: We departed IDC Herzliya early in the morning to head to Northern Israel with Brig. Gen. (Res.) Nuriel, the former director of the Counter-Terrorism Bureau in Israel and a deputy division commander during the Second Lebanon War. Our route took us along the border between Israel and Jordan and then up along the border between Israel and Syria, stopping along the way at key points to learn about the security situation and various challenges throughout the region. Brig. Gen. (Res.) Nuriel particularly noted the border disputes between Israel and Syria and tensions over territory that remain to this day. In the north, we visited Mt. Bental in the Golan Heights and the town of Metula, where we stood on top of observation points that allowed us to see the landscape in the neighboring countries. Brig. Gen. (Res.) Nuriel gave us a briefing at each of these sites on the current and future security challenges for Israel, particularly focusing on the capabilities of non-state armed groups and terrorist organizations. After lunch in Metula, we drove along the Lebanese border and discussed the unique challenges that Hezbollah poses to Israel.



Personal Analysis: This trip provided a comprehensive overview of Israel's security situation and gave us perspective on the close proximity of the threats from its neighboring countries.

Brig. Gen. (Res.) Nuriel did an excellent job of providing us with both some historical context as well as current developments between Israel and Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon, highlighting in particular the security threats from both state and non-state actors. His experience in the IDF definitely bolstered the conversation from a military perspective, and he was able to share insights from the tactical, operational, and strategic levels. Personally, this was one of my favorite trips because it really enhanced my understanding of the security situation beyond what we were learning in the classroom.

Specific Feedback: Though this was one of our longer trips, I think that it was well-structured and really helpful to learn more holistically about Israel's threat landscape with a comprehensive tour along the borders of its neighbors. I personally found Brig. Gen. (Res.) Nuriel to be extremely informative and engaging. His insights from his military experience helped me better think about the challenges of fighting both conventional and nonconventional enemies. I would highly recommend doing a similar trip next year that gives a broad picture of Israel's security situation.

Lecture with former Member of Knesset Ronen Hoffman

Kevin Mitchell

Date: 9 March 2016

Time: 12:30 – 1:30

Location: ICT Office

Lecturer: Ronen Hoffman

Summary: The lecture with Dr. Ronen Hoffman – former policy advisor to the Ministry of Defense, former member of the Knesset, Co-Founder of the ICT, and current professor at the IDC – touched upon many important topics surrounding

Israel's legislative and electoral processes. More specifically, a significant portion of Dr. Hoffman's lecture was devoted to his efforts to change the Israeli electoral system so that smaller parties had less impact on decision making in the Knesset. Given the numerous, salient differences between the US and Israeli legislative processes, much of his lecture also focused on Israel's party-based electoral process, as well as its checks and balance system between the Prime Minister and the Knesset. He also stressed the need for Israelis to vote for moderate to leftist parties in order to balance out the (relatively) conservative leanings of Israeli politics.

Personal Analysis: Although I had been aware of some of the more fundamental aspects of Israel's legislative process (e.g. party-based electoral system, voting thresholds, legislative powers of the PM and Knesset, etc.), the lecture with Dr. Hoffman provided a more in-depth insight into this system. It was also quite refreshing to listen to the perspectives of an Israeli politician from the left side of the political spectrum (Yesh Atid party).

Specific Feedback: Professor Hoffman's lecture was incredibly helpful in understanding the Israeli political system, and his candid nature made for a fascinating lecture. If I were to offer any sort of criticism for this specific activity, it would be to hold it sooner in the year so that future fellows will not be lost in the bewilderment that is the Israeli political system.



Lecture with Colonel John Kenkel

Melissa Castro

Date: 10 March 2016

Time: 1100

Location: ICT Conference Room, IDC Herzliya

Lecturer: Colonel John Kenkel

Summary: Colonel John Kenkel was the United States Army War College Fellow at the International Counter Terrorism Institute (Herzliya, Israel) during the academic year of 2014-2015. Colonel Kenkel is currently serving as the Director of Training for the United States Security Coordinator in Jerusalem. During the lecture Colonel Kenkel spoke to us



about his experiences as a Foreign Area Officer (FAO) in MENA. He spoke about his time spent serving in various US embassies across MENA, more specifically about his time as the Chief of the Office of Security Cooperation at the US embassy in Tunis, Tunisia in 2013-2014.

Throughout the lecture Colonel Kenkel imparted advice from lessons he learned through his successful military career. He spoke about the importance of public service and how individuals can fulfill this duty through the military. Colonel Kenkel spoke about the importance of networking throughout your career, whether you are military personnel or a civilian. Having served a significant amount of time overseas, spanning Europe, Asia and MENA, Colonel Kenkel has seen the causes and effects of war. He imparted that war is a reflection of governmental failure. Lastly, Colonel Kenkel spoke about the importance of finding balance, modesty and confidence in your life.

Personal Analysis: Overall, Colonel Kenkel gave a fantastic lecture that highlighted his experiences in the geopolitical arena interspersed with invaluable life lessons. In addition, Colonel Kenkel has a zeal and candor about his career and experiences that is inspiring and refreshing.

Specific Feedback: I highly recommend the ASL Fellowship maintain contact with Colonel Kenkel for future lectures and as a mentor for future military officers, as he has taken up new posting in Jerusalem.

Israeli Defense Forces Formal Introduction

Emma J. Harris

Date: 16 March 2016

Time: 1000

Location: ICT

Lecturer: Edan Landau

Summary:

This lecture was a formal introduction to the Israeli Defense Forces to provide fellows with a clearer background on history, structure, and famous operations. Mr. Landau provided a detailed presentation with a comfortable socratic element that allowed fellows to be engaged and ask questions across the board. Mr. Landau covered the Haganah, Palmach, Irgun, and Lehi origins of the IDF, as well as introductions to the War of Independence, Sinai Campaign, 6 Days War, Yom Kippur War, and War of Attrition. Mr. Landau also walked us through Operation Peace of Galilee (1st Lebanon War), the first Intifada, withdrawal from Lebanon, the Second Intifada, Second Lebanon War, Operation Cast Lead, Operation Pillar of Defense, and Operation Protective Edge which was incredibly helpful to paint a clear progression of Israeli military actions and political circumstances from May 1948 to the summer of 2014.

Mr. Landau also lectured on the IDF military structure giving details of the Air Force, Infantry, Artillery, Engineering, Intelligence, the Navy, and Special Operations and Units. We were able to compare and contrast structure and jurisdiction between the IDF and U.S. military. Mr. Landau also provided important current details that create a wider scope of understanding; the IDF budget of \$16.5 billion USD with \$3 billion USD from the U.S. annually; 6-7 spy satellites that were Israeli developed and launched; engineering breakthroughs related to tunnel warfare; that the head of Military Intelligence is responsible for the intelligence assessments for the Office of the Prime Minister; and which of our professors are active military reservists and what roles they play within the framework of the IDF.

Personal Analysis: This was a wonderful and informative lecture that Mr. Landau provided in response to feedback from fellows whom felt a formal overview of the IDF would be helpful. This lecture provided important background from an expert, which was an invaluable complement to IDC program lectures and ASL events and lectures. In Israel, nearly every citizen the fellows have regular contact with has served in the military, and for many this was the start of career trajectory. In addition to grasping the background of guest lecturers and the



significance of certain visits, this background and point of reference was extremely helpful and thought-provoking. Mr. Landau was incredibly knowledgeable and the lecture was also pragmatically guided in part by the needs of the Fellows.

Specific Feedback: The circumstances of this lecture did highlight a challenge we had in coordination between Fellows and Mr. Landau. We encountered challenges in the realm of personal responsibility for Fellows to communicate effectively with Mr. Landau amid scheduling. Luckily the two-lecture scheduling for this particular opportunity was able to accommodate the initial challenges. Recommendations for next year include stressing full-participation from all Fellows, barring extenuating personal circumstances when communicated directly with Mr. Landau or other coordinator.

Lecture with Admiral (Res.) Avraham Ben-Shoshan
Amy Saxton

Date: 13 March 2016

Time: 1000-1100

Location: ICT Conference Room, IDC Herzliya

Lecturer: Admiral (Res.) Avraham Ben-Shoshan

Summary: Admiral (Res.) Ben-Shoshan is the former Commander-in-Chief of the Israeli Navy. He spoke to us about the past, current, and future naval challenges that Israel faces. In particular, he discussed the Palestinian terror threats at sea and some of the ways that Israel conducts counterterrorism using its Navy. He gave a unique perspective on how the Israeli Navy conceptualizes defense and how difficult it is to stop a ship at sea, which puts a lot of pressure to institute effective preventative measures in order to protect the enemy from infiltrating Israel's borders. Finally, Admiral (Res.) Ben-Shoshan highlighted the Navy's increasing role in maintaining Israel's economic zone. For example, to protect Israeli oil rigs along the coast, he explained that the Navy needs to maintain a constant physical presence by conducting patrols.



Personal Analysis: I found this lecture to be really interesting and realized the complexities of terrorism and counterterrorism from the Navy's perspective. Admiral (Res.) Ben-Shoshan gave many examples that helped us conceptualize the difficulty of fighting terrorists at sea, such as the four-second time frame for deciding if a boat is a friendly or hostile actor and then responding

appropriately. He was also very interested in our program of study and asked us whether we thought the academic curriculum would help us in our future careers in public service.

Specific Feedback: This lecture was great, and I only wish that we had more time with Admiral (Res.) Ben-Shoshan. He was scheduled to brief at the MA Seminar immediately following our lecture with him, so I think that he felt a bit rushed and also did not want to discuss too much about some of the topics that he was planning to introduce later in the seminar lecture. However, he was very receptive to questions and challenged us to offer our own thoughts following his lecture to us.

117th Fighter Squadron

Melissa Castro

Date: 22 March 2016

Time: 0900

Location: Ramat David AFB

Lecturer: AFB Personnel



Summary: For this trip we met on IDC campus and took a private minibus north. We were accompanied by IDC personnel and an IDF public affairs representative. We arrived at the Air Force Base and were instructed to leave our cell phones on the bus. We were met by several Air Force personnel and officers who accompanied us to the squadron's briefing room. We were greeted and briefed by an Israeli Air Force (IAF) fighter pilot who gave us a history of the 117th Fighter Squadron and a Q&A session.

Ramat David AFB is a former Royal Air Force base (between 1942 and 1948). In May 1948 the base was given to the IDF. This base has a proud heritage as it is the home of the 117th Fighter Squadron, the "First Jet" squadron (est. 7 June 1953). When the Air Force Base was established, it was home to a handful of variants of the Meteor jet – the T7 and F8, which played a crucial role during the Six Day War. During our briefing, we learned about one of the proudest moments of the 117th squadron was their role (F-16A aircraft) in destroying a nuclear facility near Baghdad, Iraq in 1981. During the Lebanese invasion in 1982, Israeli F-16s were able to conduct attacks against invading Syrian MiGs. In 1987, the 117th squadron was able to upgrade their aircraft to the F-16C and F-16D. Today, the 117th squadron is the exclusive home to the F-16C Barak airframes.



At the end of the briefing we had a short Q&A session where we learned about the selection process for the IAF, who have priority over selecting personnel to serve within their prestigious ranks. We learned about the extensive selection, testing, and training process that Israeli pilots undergo. Our host showed us his flight suit and equipment, to include a custom

helmet updated with the latest Israeli technology to maximize performance and unity between the pilot and the aircraft.

After our briefing we were escorted down the road to a slightly lowered hardened facility that houses two F-16C Barak aircraft. Within the hangar we were given more information about the aircraft, various missions and introduced to the maintenance crew. We were allowed to step up to the cockpit of the aircraft and look at the panel and learn more about the uniqueness of the modified airframe. The F-16 is considered to be Israel's most advanced aircraft, however, there is a lot of eager anticipation for the new F-35's to arrive.

Personal Analysis and Feedback: I personally enjoyed this excursion and found the experience pleasant and informative. The pilot we spoke with was highly educated and knowledgeable. If there are future Air Force personnel within the fellowship, this experience is a necessity. This excursion gave a brief vantage point to the bilateral relationship of America's most reliable strategic partners in the Middle East from a tactical air perspective. For developing Air Force officers, who face the opportunity to become tomorrow's strategic leadership, gaining this brief insight into a critical U.S. ally is the building blocks to developing a solid foundation for decision making within the security and geopolitical spheres of tomorrow.

Geopolitical Tour and Lecture: Jerusalem and West Bank Fence

Emma J. Harris

Date: 5 April 2016

Time: 0800-1700

Location: Modi'in and nearby settlements, Security Fence, Rachel's Tomb, Jerusalem (Old City), Abu Ghosh



Summary: This day began with a stop to Modi'in to nearby settlements to explain the complex and contentious reality of controversial building of communities on both sides of different



territorial lines in different zones. Our guide for the day, an Israeli security expert, detailed the nature of building with its political challenges, the previous issues with security of civilian areas historically, and security measures that exist now and have helped shape the contemporary situation. Following the geopolitical lecture theme, we also visited border locations of entrance to the West Bank and strategic locations along highway 1 to discuss historical clashes and security challenges. We visited strategic points around Jerusalem to highlight community differences and historical precedents, before entering Jerusalem and the Old City. In the Old City we were shown locations of modern historical bombardment and discussed the different periods in which Jerusalem was under the control of different nations and entities. We also discussed current contrasts between East and West Jerusalem and the challenges different jurisdictions raise in

modern government and continued alienation of the Eastern population related to resource allocations.



We then visited Al Aqsa Mosque, learning about the historic jurisdictional clashes which shaped the current reality of Jordanian *Waqf* control and Israeli cooperation, alongside the significance of the location to all Abrahamic faiths in varying degrees. We were also able to witness ongoing political and religious tensions between the Muslim and Jewish populations of Jerusalem first-hand in relation to the area.

In addition to our tour of the Temple Mount and the Old City, we also visited Rachel's Tomb to see the logistical challenges Israel experiences in balancing religious needs, security imperatives, and geopolitical lines. We were able to see the larger cement portion of the security fence, in contrast to the more limited metal chain-link barriers surrounding settlements and along most Israeli border areas. We finished our tour with a trip to nearby Arab village Abu Ghosh to enjoy some local cuisine and debrief from the day.



Personal Analysis: This trip was a highlight of the year, not only in scope of areas visited and perspectives addressed, but also in the incredible knowledge shared from our host. The tour was meticulously planned with historical information, contemporary challenges, successes, and

failures provided for each location visited, as well as placing each element of the day within the larger context of the political and security realities of the Israeli-Palestinian situation. This day was invaluable as the guide was able to provide many details, stories, and insights gained from a lengthy career in service to the Israeli state and experience dealing with all manner of security with the West Bank. The scope of his understanding in tactical challenges as well as municipal issues were an invaluable part of my Israeli education and I feel very lucky that we were able to have this lecture. The famous humus of Abu Ghosh was a wonderful personal touch for the end of the day and great location for finishing discussions and addressing final points.

Specific Feedback: It is definitely recommended that another similar lecture be planned for next year, though logistically securing the time of the same lecturer is unlikely for future fellows. Geopolitics is imperative to understanding the Israeli-Palestinian and ongoing Arab-Israeli conflicts with the complexity of Jerusalem and the surrounding area being integral to and one of the hardest aspects to objectively conceptualize the conflicts. I feel I can speak for all the Fellows in hoping that future ASL Fellows would have a similar learning opportunity. Though the timing of the event was dependent on the lecturer in large part, I would also suggest that a lecture of this nature be attempted earlier in the year to frame the rest of the programming.

Aviation Security: Lecture with Mr. Tsahi Stormza

Rachel Hayes

Date: 16 May 2016

Time: 1200

Location: ICT Conference Room, IDC, Herzliya

Lecturer: Mr. Tsahi Stormza, Aviation Security Expert

Summary: As preparation for our trip to Ben Gurion Airport, we had a meeting with Mr. Tsahi Stromza to get an background lecture on the basics of aviation security in Israel. Mr. Stromza, who was the head of El Al security at the time of 9/11, focused his lecture on the history of aviation terror in Israel and the structure of Israel's aviation security at home and abroad. He stressed that Israel's system works well for Israel, but it may not be directly translated into successful security procedures in other countries that face different threats. By starting with the 1960s hijacking and forced landing of an Israeli flight in Algeria, Mr. Stromza explained to us the ways that aviation security has grown and evolved to respond to emerging threats. He also referenced the recent attacks on the airports in Brussels and the Russian plane in the Sinai, using these cases to highlight security gaps and the improvements that need to be made on a global level.

Personal Analysis: This lecture and the subsequent trip to the airport were my favourite activities this year, which surprised me, as airport security has never been a particularly strong interest of mine in the past. Perhaps because I knew so little about the industry it made the lectures and the trip that much more enjoyable. From my perspective, Mr. Stromza was emphasizing the pioneering role that Israel had had in the development of aviation security. Mr. Stromza talked about the different types of aviation security that El Al itself provides, for instance, Air Marshall services and ground security abroad. Hearing about the El Al security process was interesting, especially juxtaposed with the field trip we did the next day that explained the security procedures at Ben Gurion Airport. It is an interesting concept, having two different security organizations operating in the same area (one for the airlines and one for the airport). In some ways, it seems like overkill and an inefficient allocation of resources, and yet, the two security operations do not seem to interfere with each other. Instead, they seem to work together harmoniously, filling in gaps and increasing security for the overall aviation industry.

Specific Feedback: As I mentioned, this lecture/field trip series was my favourite from the entire year. With regards to the content of the lecture, tracing the history and the process of Israeli aviation security was fascinating. If it had been possible, I would have liked to hear more about the comparison to the U.S. security process and what Israel considers in the wake of

massive attacks like the Brussels airport attack. Of course, this type of information may not be available to us due to security constraints, but if it is, that would be interesting to learn about. One point to improve on: attendance. As we had with some of the other lectures, we had a problem with attendance, and only five of the six fellows came to the meeting. As we will discuss, it is advised that it be made clear to all fellows that attendance to lectures and field trips is mandatory barring emergency or pre-approved excuse.

Airport Security: Field Trip to Ben Gurion International Airport (BGN)

Rachel Hayes

Date: 17 May 2016

Time: 1400-1700

Location: Ben Gurion National Airport

Lecturer: Ben Gurion Airport Security Department Staff and Consultants



Summary: A continuation of the previous day's meeting. Unlike Mr. Stromza's lecture, which focused on El Al security, the trip discussed security of BGN itself. The field trip started in the lobby with a discussion about the initial security process (the roadside checkpoints, entrance security officers) and the architecture of the building (road pushed back from the airport to prevent a car from speeding into it, specially designed trash cans and windows to limit damage in the event of a roadside bombing). Security officers then briefly explained the security process for passengers (this could have been expanded on) before turning to an explanation of security procedures for checked baggage, including a tour of the checked baggage screening process. After the tour, we were given another lecture by the head of airport security about the way that Israel operates airport security and how it works with international partners to make international travel safer.

Personal Analysis: Again, this was a spectacular trip. The interesting facts the security employees discussed about the architecture of BGN and the additional security procedures in place during construction was extremely interesting. Personally, I think the best part of the system was going behind the scenes of the checked baggage process. It was interesting to learn that most of the employees in the BGN security team, particularly working with checked

baggage, are students rather than full-time employees. This is an interesting dilemma that the security apparatus will have to consider: every couple of years, a whole new team of employees will have to be trained. In some ways, it's almost the opposite problem that the United States has; as someone pointed out, the TSA is often a second career for most, so we have difficulty getting people to stay on long enough to be promoted to a higher position in airport security. The lecture given by the head of security was interesting, although some of the information he gave us was a repetition of the information we were given during the tour. The fact that BGN is the only international airport (ignoring that one can fly to Jordan from Eilat) and the fact that we fly through the same airport and are required to pass through the same security procedures as high powered foreign diplomats (including the President) brings the size of the country into perspective.

Specific Feedback: This trip should definitely be preserved for the future. There is very little feedback to give about how to improve the trip, as it went very smoothly. One idea to consider is perhaps moving it up on the schedule and having the visit to BGN occur before the end of first term, so that students have a better appreciation for security the first shortly after their first few times in BGN airport.



The FBI in Israel: Lecture with FBI Legal Attachés Cary Gleicher and Rusty Rosenthal

Rachel Hayes

Date: 19 May 2016

Time: 1100

Location: ICT Conference Room, IDC, Herzliya

Lecturer: FBI Legal Attachés Cary Gleicher and Rusty Rosenthal

Summary: FBI legal attachés Gleicher and Rosenthal were scheduled to lecture at the MA seminar and agreed to come an hour and a half before to speak with the ASL fellows. The meeting was not so much a lecture as it was a Question and Answer session. The conversation bounced around from topic to topic, but the most common questions all asked about the FBI's role in U.S. national security policy and its relations with partner organizations, both American and international.

Personal Analysis: For anyone who wanted more information about a career in the FBI, this was a very helpful and interesting lecture. The two agents had an impressive amount of experience from all over the world, not just the Middle East and Israel. Another highlight of this conversation was understanding the scope and focus of the FBI as opposed to other law enforcement and national security agencies. The FBI has a complex role in U.S. national security due to its dual role as a law enforcement agency and a national security agency. It was interesting to hear from Mr. Gleicher and Mr. Rosenthal that the FBI is "first and foremost a law enforcement agency working to prevent an attack [that works] in the court of law." While this may seem self-evident, getting clarification about the international intelligence organizations like the CIA and the FBI's law enforcement approach to counterterrorism was very helpful.

Specific Feedback: The two legal attachés were very easy to talk to and eager to share from their experience and expertise. They worked to engage everyone in the fellowship, going so far as to make sure that everyone asked at least one question before the meeting ended. As I mentioned before, the conversation was particularly helpful for anyone with an interest in eventually working for the FBI. I would highly recommend inviting the legal attachés back next

year for another lecture. I might also recommend (if it is possible) inviting the NYPD Counterterrorism officer stationed in Israel to come give a lecture as well, as hearing from two different counterterrorism/law enforcement agencies about their roles abroad would be a very interesting comparison. One point for improvement: upon arrival, it appeared that no one had coordinated what the actual topic of discussion would be. I am not certain what the FBI legal attachés had been told about the purpose of the meeting, but the ASL fellows were not expecting a Q&A session, and it was clear that we were scrambling to make sure to use the time efficiently. I think that for next year, it would be helpful for the fellows to know whether or not they should come prepared to listen to a lecture or if they are going to be asked to start a conversation on a specific topic (for instance, the FBI's partnership with Israeli security forces) with the lecturers.

ASL Visit to Haifa Naval Base

Melissa Castro

Date: 24 July 2016

Time: 0840-1400

Location: Haifa Naval Base

Lecturer: Cyber Naval
Officer

Summary: Similar to other trips, we met on IDC campus and took a minibus to visit the Israeli Naval Base located in Haifa. The Haifa naval base is home to the Missile Boats

Flotilla, the Submarine Flotilla, and Patrol Boats Squadron 914. This naval base houses the naval training schools – submarine ops, missile boats ops, naval command school, and the Israeli Naval Academy.

On our way to the base we picked up another IDF personal affairs representative who joined us on our tour. We arrived to the Naval Base that is adjacent to the Haifa port. We were shortly greeted by a Naval cyber officer who worked on one of Israel's largest missile boats. We were escorted into a conference room where we were given a briefing about Israel's navy.

We learned about various types of missions the Israeli Navy is responsible for. These include regular water patrols, identification of watercraft entering into Israeli waters, protection of national assets (drilling rigs, cargo ships, etc.), smuggling prevention and IDF mission support. One of the more interesting facts we learned was the large area of responsibility the Israeli Navy is responsible for that spans an area larger than the state of Israel in the Mediterranean. The Israeli Navy is responsible for protecting cargo ships that carry importation shipments that account for 90% of the Israeli importation industry. Lastly, the Naval officer gave insight into the requirements and training for the Israeli Navy.

After our briefing and Q&A session, we were escorted to the docks where we toured a missile boat. The Naval officer showed us the interior of the largest missile boat in the fleet. We were able to view the living facilities, munitions room, operations and command rooms. We were allowed to peer into the engine room, however due to superstition and Naval tradition, only males were allowed to enter the engine room. Within the Israeli Navy there is a strong belief that if a female entered the engine room of the ship, it would stop working. The reason being is that the ship would be jealous of the woman.

We concluded our trip with a brief visit to the submarine dock. We were greeted by a submarine officer who spoke to us about his experiences as a submariner. We learned about the



construction of a new hardened submarine base to add more secrecy and protection to their growing fleet. He discussed open source information of submarine capabilities and life on a submarine crew. Since the fellows are comprised of mostly females, we learned that the Israeli Navy does not allow females to be a part of the submarine crew. However, the Israeli Navy is planning to publicly announce that females will be allowed to join submarine crews within the next year.

Personal Analysis: The visit was a unique experience. None of the fellows had any experience with the Navy so we were able to learn a lot on our tour. The Naval officer that gave us the briefing and tour was difficult to understand. He spoke English, but lacked the command of accurate vocabulary that made it a challenge for clarity of conversation. Touring the base and the ship was eye-opening to witness the concentration of advanced technology and weaponry dedicated to Israeli national security.

Personal Feedback: For future fellowship excursions, I would recommend this tour if there are Coast Guard, Navy or Marine officers a part of the fellowship. Otherwise, it is recommended that touring Israeli officer candidate facilities or other training courses might be of better utility for future fellows.

Western Galilee Security Trip with Dr. Eitan Azani

Florie Lewine

Date: 1 August 2016

Time: 730-1600

Location: Northern Israel, near Lebanon border

Guide: Dr. Eitan Azani

Summary: We had a wonderful last trip with the fellowship touring Israel's northern border, led by Dr. Eitan Azani. We started the morning early to make the long drive, stopping for an amazing breakfast at an ICT researcher's family home in Ma'alot. From there, we traveled to the Point 105 along the Israel-Lebanon border. Rachel gave a presentation on the 2006 Hezbollah cross-border raid that had occurred at this location, while Dr. Azani filled in on this attack's significance as the start of the 2006 Lebanon War. We then traveled onwards to Mount Adir, an observation point where we were able to view a sweeping overlook into Lebanon. Amy presented on the site's significance as a commemoration to the Israeli soldiers who had lost their lives in the Second Lebanon War. Our next stop was Rosh Hanikra, the nature reserve just south of the Lebanon border. I was responsible for presenting on this location, where we discussed the site's significance as the location where Israel and Lebanon negotiated an armistice negotiation in 1949. As we overlooked the Mediterranean, we discussed Israel's continued security threat from the sea, and the role the Navy plays in protecting against this threat. We finished the day with a fantastic lunch by the sea, before making the long drive back to IDC.



Personal Analysis: This trip was a highlight of the Fellowship for me because of the opportunity to learn and experience Israel with Dr. Azani. We had a beautiful day for travelling, and it was a great opportunity to learn about Israel's complex northern border security strategy. Dr. Azani offered unparalleled insight into each location's significance, and also challenged

each of us to learn about the sites and present for the group.

Specific Feedback: I believe the structuring of this field trip is a great model to use for future excursions. While this event required a lot of travel time, all of us were engaged in each site we visited without being overwhelmed with information. Dr. Azani's military expertise and sincere willingness to engage with the ASL Fellows should definitely be utilized by future fellowship classes.



2015 - 2016 Fellow Bios



Melissa Castro

Melissa Castro is a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force. She is a graduate of the Marriott School of Business at Brigham Young University-Provo, Utah. She focused her undergraduate studies on Experience Management and Middle Eastern Studies & Arabic. She was an ASL Fellow in the 2015-2016 academic year where she attended the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya, Israel. She earned a Master's in Government with an emphasis in Counter-Terrorism and Homeland Security.



Emma J. Harris

Emma was an ASL Fellow for the 2015-2016 academic year at IDC Herzliya in the Counter-Terrorism and Homeland Security MA Government track, gaining a certification in Cyber Security. During her time at IDC, she worked with the International Institute for Counter-terrorism (ICT) supporting research dealing with terrorist groups, terrorism fundraising, and regional threats to Europe and the UK. Emma previously worked in the consulting field in Asia, with several years spent in China; she speaks Mandarin Chinese and Spanish. Emma holds a BA in Global Studies, with Concentrations in International Relations and Political Science from the LIU Global program of Long Island University, with additional focus on regional studies in Latin America, Southern Africa, and Asia-Pacific.



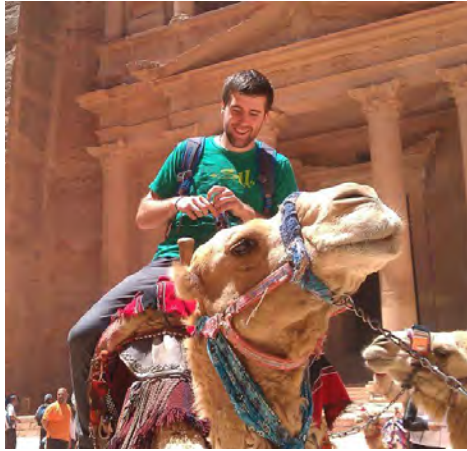
Rachel Hayes

Rachel Hayes graduated from Yale University with a B.A. in Global Affairs on the International Security track, a topic that has fascinated her since studying the Israel-Palestine conflict as a sophomore in high school. Her focus while at Yale was on terrorism in the Middle East and North Africa, culminating in a joint senior research project for the National Counterterrorism Center. In addition, she spent her four years as an active member of the Women's Varsity Fencing team, including stints as team manager and Sabre squad captain. She is from Denver, Colorado.



Florence (Florie) Lewine

Florie Lewine is originally from Seattle, Washington. Before transitioning to New York City for her undergraduate career at New York University, Florie spent a year living in Paris, France, heightening her interest in international affairs. Previous internship experiences at U.S. Congressional offices, the U.S. Department of State, and the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law shaped Florie's interest in national security research and the constitutionality of counter-terrorism policy. The opportunities allowed by the Anna Sobol Levy Fellowship during her year in Israel studying at IDC Herzliya provided Florie immeasurable first-hand experience as she now begins her career in Washington, D.C.



Kevin Mitchell

Kevin Mitchell has lived in Utah for most of his life, and graduated from Utah State University in 2013 with a Bachelor's degree in International Studies. In 2015 he received a Master's degree in Public Policy with an emphasis on International Policy from the University of Utah. In addition to his time at IDC Herzliya as an ASL Fellow, Kevin has been to Israel once before, and regionally, he studied abroad previously in Amman, Jordan. His previous academic career focused on Mandarin Chinese and Modern Standard Arabic, and is moderately proficient in both. In the Summer of 2015, Kevin married his wife Tracie, who joined him this past year for his Fellowship and Master's degree in Israel.



Amy Saxton

Amy Saxton is a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army. She graduated from the United States Military Academy with a Bachelor's of Science in Economics and a Minor in Terrorism Studies. She has also completed several internships with the Department of Defense. Amy is a 2015-2016 Anna Sobol Levy Fellow and received her MA in Government with a Specialization in Counterterrorism and Homeland Security. Amy is currently attending the Field Artillery Basic Officer Leader Course (BOLC) in Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

