

Anna Sobol Levy (ASL) Fellowship

2016 – 2017



Final Report & Activity Summaries

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Annual FIDF Event in Tel Aviv

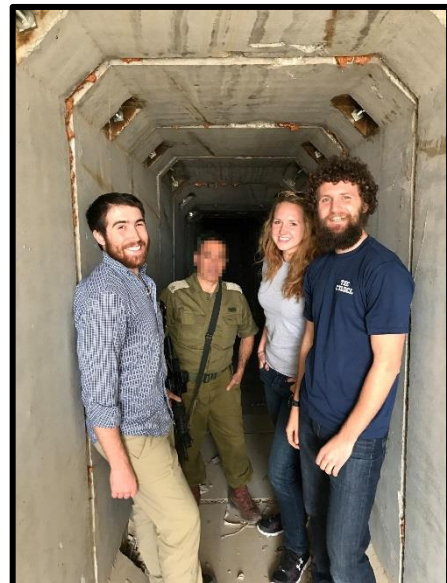
16 November 2016

During this event we had the opportunity to experience how the Jewish Diaspora repays the soldiers of the IDF. We learned about the relations between Israelis and the IDF as well as Americans with IDF and their importance. In addition, we had a brief introduction with the IDF Deputy Chief of Staff, whom we had the opportunity to take a picture with.

Visit to Infantry Training Base

29 November 2016

On Tuesday we visited an Infantry Training Base where we received a lecture about the unique and exceptional training that is done on the base. We talked specifically about CBQ and tunnel warfare training. Also, we were able to observe new recruits while they were going through special units selection. This visit was led by Maj. (Res.) Doron.



Israeli Intelligence & Commemoration Center

21 December 2016

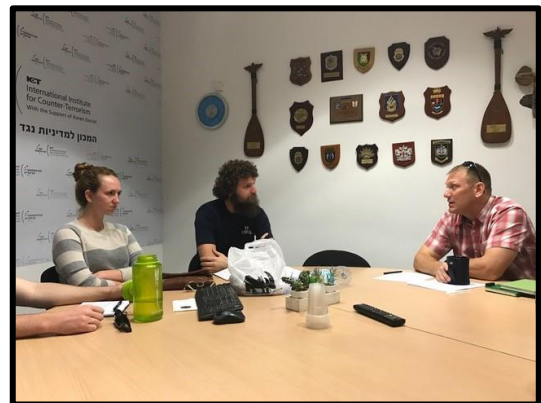
During this day we visited the Israeli Intelligence and Commemoration Center at Gllot. We received detailed information about the work that the center does and the special intelligence officers who were killed in the process of getting valuable information for the state of Israel. Later we met with Brig. Gen. (Res.) Yossi Kuperwasser who gave us a regional briefing and explained his role as chief of the research division in IDF Military Intelligence, then he talked about his recent job as the director general of the Ministry of Strategic Affairs.



Lecture with LTC Jeremy Bartel

25 January 2017

Throughout this day we had the opportunity to sit and talk with US Army War College Fellow LTC Jeremy Bartel. We talked about what does it mean to serve in the armed forces and the challenges it comes with. LTC Bartel told us about his experiences from his deployments around the world and gave us tips and recommendations on how to be better officers. This was a very interesting talk about leadership and overseas service.



North Trip I with Dr. Eitan Azani

9 May 2017

On Tuesday we had a tour with Dr. Eitan Azani to the Golan Heights and the northern tip of the Galilee. During this trip we discussed the current situation of the Syrian Civil War; because we were very close to the border, we were able to observe the situation. Also, Dr. Azani explained how many people can be involved in such a small area and how overwhelming this problem must be for the UN. Later on we talked about the tense situation on Israel's border with Lebanon. Dr. Azani explained his previous position in the army as a battalion level intelligence officer and thanks to his experience we had the opportunity to learn from him about the strategical and tactical implications of the border with Lebanon.



North Trip II with Dr. Eitan Azani

17 May 2017

A week after the trip to the Golan Heights and the northern tip of the Galilee we went on another north trip with Dr. Eitan Azani to Israel's Western Galilee region. First we stopped at the Mount Adir observatory where Dr. Azani gave us a brief introduction on Israel's experience with Lebanon and Hezbollah terror organization. After Mount Adir we continued to 105 border post where the Second Lebanon War started and received an operational briefing by ICT's Danielle Habberfeld. We finished the trip at Rosh Hanikra where we learned about Israel's maritime border challenges.



Lecture with Prof. Boaz Ganor

1 June 2017

We started the month meeting with Prof. Boaz Ganor, the Dean of the Lauder School of Government at the IDC. It was very interesting to talk to him one-on-one because some of us had have class with him but this lecture gave us an opportunity to have a more close and personal discussion with him. We spoke about the Israeli-Palestinian issues as well as the developing and evolving field of counter-terrorism. Because of the structure of the meeting we were able to ask specific questions about the military as well as governmental organizations. In addition, Prof. Ganor told us about his own experiences on the field.

Visit to BAHAD 1, IDF Officers School

12 June 2017

During this trip we visited the IDF Officers School, BAHAD 1. The school is located right outside Mitzpe Ramon in the Israeli's Negev region. Throughout the day we heard from Lt. Col. Yossi about the three different demanding courses that an IDF soldier needs to complete in order to become an officer. Later on, we went on a tour of the school led by 1st Lt. Sivan and accompanied by visiting USAF Cadets.



Tour of the Gaza Border

18 June 2017

On this trip we toured the Gaza border. First, we met IDC law student, Capt. (Res.) Stas G. of the Armour Corp; who gave us an introduction on the 2014 Protective Edge operation from the "Hetz Shachur" monument which overlooks the city of Gaza. After that, we proceeded to the "Iron Division" monument for a briefing on Rafah and Khan Yunis. Then, we stopped at the very active Kerem Shalom border crossing into the Gaza Strip and we had the chance to get a photo at the Israel-Egypt-Gaza tri-border meet. Later, we had an amazing humus for lunch, but we quickly continued to visit the Qasam/Grad rocket storage at Sderot. We finished the trip at the Nahal Oz military base, where we had scheduled a meeting with some officers but unfortunately they cancelled last minute for operational reasons.



Meeting with LTC (res.) Erez from the Flotilla 13 Unit

23 July 2017

One of our last trips of the year consisted on a meeting with a former commander of an Israeli commando unit. During the meeting, the commander discussed with us all the different challenges and opportunities in commanding elite soldiers during combat. He talked about the joint training conduct with the US Navy SEALs, selection and training, and special warfare challenges.

"Anti-Terrorist Barrier" Trip with Jonathan Davis

24 July 2017

On Monday we went to Mr. Jonathan Davis' (IDC's Vice President) beautiful house. Once we got to the house, we introduced ourselves and Mr. Davis gave us a lecture about the history of the Green Line and the security situation and challenges along the security barrier. After the lecture we drove all together to get a closer look of the barrier itself. During the drive, Mr. Davis explained to us interesting facts about the Israeli settlements, East Jerusalem and the Second Intifada.



Lecture with Erroll Southers

25 July 2017

On this day we had a lecture with Erroll Southers, PhD. We discussed US homeland security. Dr. Southers spoke about his past experience in the FBI HRT unit and as head of LAX police, we also touched on the current challenges to US HLS.

Visit to Haifa Navy Base

11 August 2017

For our last trip we toured the Haifa Navy Base. We started the trip with a short introduction from 2nd Lt. Tomer and then we continued to visit some of the Israeli Navy boats. First, we stopped at the INS "Keshet" where we talked with the OPS, Cpt. B. Cpt. B showed us around the ship and told us about the daily routine, the relationship between officers and enlisted seamen, and the process of becoming a naval officer in the IDF. Later, we visited a patrol boat called "The Princess". We finished the trip with a rare and unique visit to the INS "Dolphin", which is one of the Navy's newest and most advanced submarines. Cpt. G. took us onboard for a tour of the CIC living quarters and engine room.

