

Israel Defense Forces Participants Information Booklet



JINSA



ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCES

Commandant, National Defense College

The IDF and the United States of America share many of the same values and interests on the Regional and Global sphere.

Our shared values, since the founding of the State of Israel, and the deep roots of American Jewry, created a strong and strategic bond and alliance between our countries. Some may say that Israel is even the 51st state. Some may take this statement in light mind, but as a member of the IDF, and the General Staff, I know how crucial and deep our relationship is.

The cooperation between our countries touch each and every sector - from banking, investments, real estate, healthcare system, sports – and of course military and defense cooperation.

As our mil-to-mil cooperation grows, we realized we need to make sure that the IDF senior leadership understands and knows how the American system works, in order to ease the process of decision making and creating some sort of a common-language.

I would like to thank you all at JINSA for helping us execute this senior leadership seminar, and I look forward to learn and experience the American system, history, strategy and relationship with Israel with our friends and colleagues at JINSA.



Major General Itai Veruv

CG, IDF National Defense College

ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCES SENIOR LEADERS SEMINAR, 2019



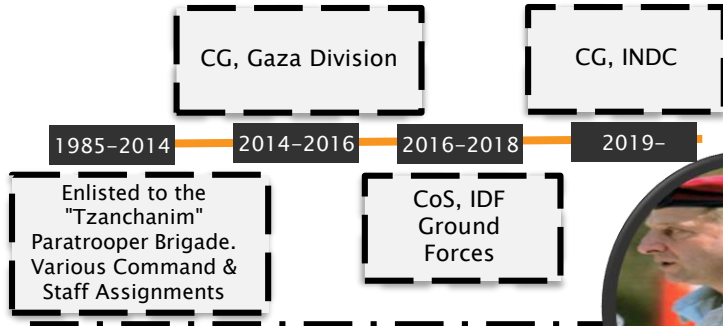


MG Itai Veruv

Commandant of the IDF Military Colleges



Military Service



Personal Info

- Born in 1966.
- Married to Yael, Father to 6.
- Resides in Maale Gilboa.



Education





BG (S) Effie Defrin



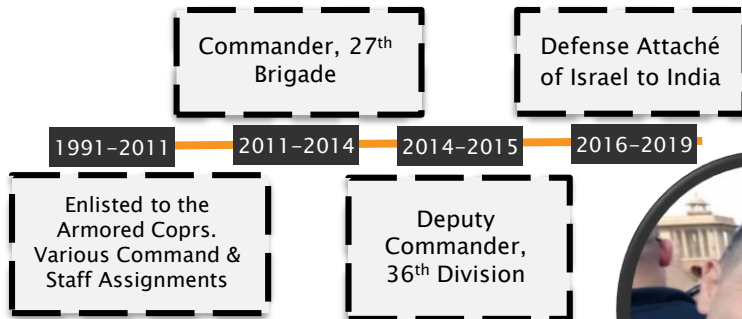
Designated to Commander International Cooperation Unit



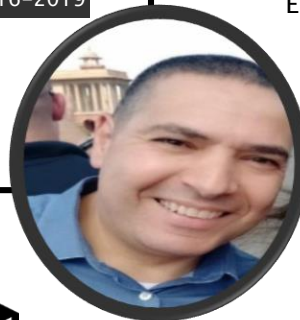
Military Service



Personal Info



- BG (S) Effie Defrin is Married to Carmel and a father of four (Yuval, Ella, Yael, Alon).



Education





BG Yaron Finkelman

98th Division Commander



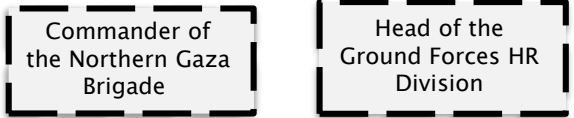
Designated to Head of Operations Division (DJ3)



Military Service



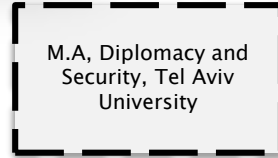
Personal Info



□ BG Finkelman is Married and a father of three.



Education





BG Ziv Avtalion

Head of the Ground Forces Technology Division
Designated Head of the upcoming Digital Transformation Division



Military Service

Head of the
Combat
Equipment Center

Head of the Ground
Forces Technology
Division

1992-2014

2014-2016

2016-2017

2017-

Enlisted to the
Armored Cops.
Various Command &
Staff Assignments

Head of the TLD -
Ground Forces
Merging
Management



Personal Info

- BG Ziv Avtalion was born in 1970 in Israel; he is married and has 4 children.
- BG Avtalion currently resides in Pardes Hanah-Karkur.



Education

B.Sc., Mechanical
Engineering,
The Israel
Institute of
Technology

M.A., Business
Management,
Bar-Ilan
University

M.A., Political
Science,
University of
Haifa

Alumnus of Public
Administrative
Studies,
Harvard
University

IDF National
Defense
College

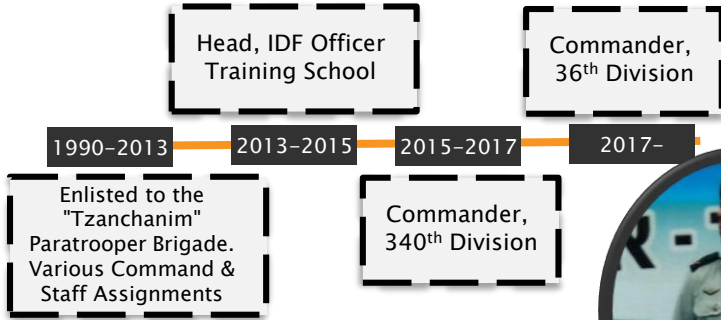


BG Avi Gil

Commander, 36th Division



Military Service



Personal Info

- BG Avi Gil was born in 1972.
- He is married to Sharon and currently resides in Tel Aviv.



Education





BG Dan Newman

Head of the Ground Forces Human Resources Division
& Designated 36th Division Commander



Military Service



Personal Info

Head of the
Ground Forces
Training Dept.

Head of the
Ground Forces HR
Division

- ❑ BG Dan Newman is married to Kinneret, he is a father of three.
- ❑ BG Newman currently Resides in Kibbutz 'Chen'.

1991-2013

2013-2015

2015-2017

2017-

Enlisted to the
Armored Corps.
Various Command &
Staff Assignments

Commander
of the 7th
Brigade



Education

LLB, Law &
Business
Management

M.A, History &
Defense

M.A,
National
Security

IDF National
Defense
College



BG Eran Niv



Head of Judea and Samaria Division Designated Head of Shiloach Division (J5)



Military Service



Personal Info

Head, IDF Officer Training School

Head of Judea and Samaria Division

□ BG Eran Niv is Married to Hagit and a father of three.

1989-2010

2010-2013

2014-2017

2017-

Enlisted to the "Tzanchanim" Paratrooper Brigade. Various Command & Staff Assignments

Head of Ground Forces HR Division



Education

B.A, Social Sciences, Bar Illan University

National Defense College

Royal College of Defense Studies (U.K)



RDML Eyal Harel

Head of Naval Intelligence (N2)



Military Service

Brigade
Commanders
Course, NDC

Head of Naval
Intelligence



Personal Info

- RDML Eyal Harel is Married and a father of three children.

1992-2013

2013-2015

2015-2017

2018-

Enlisted to Israeli
Naval Academy.
Various Command &
Staff Assignments

Head of Planning
Department,
IDF J-5



Education

B.A, Economics
and Business
Administration

M.A, Political
Science, University
of Haifa

National
Defense
College



Brig. Gen. Amir Gat

Director of Israel Air Force Intelligence (A2)

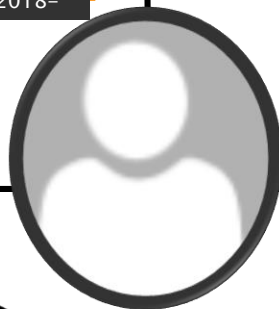


Military Service

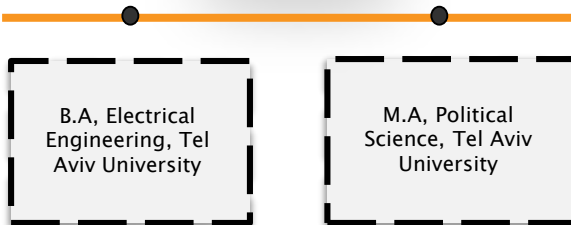


Personal Info

- Brig. Gen. Amir Gat is Married to Gali and a father of three.



Education





BG Eran Ortal

Head of the Dado Center for Interdisciplinary Military Studies



Military Service

Head of System Analytics Branch, IDF J5

Head of the Dado Center for Interdisciplinary Military Studies



Personal Info

- BG Eran Ortal was born in September 22nd, 1971 in Tel Aviv-Jaffa.
- He currently resides with his wife Perla and four children in Matan, a town in the center of Israel.

1989-2010

2010-2012

2013-2019

2019-

Enlisted to Field Reconnaissance Brigade. Various Command & Staff Assignments

Head of Research Team, Dado Center for Interdisciplinary Military Studies



Education

B.A in History and Political Science, Open University of Israel

M.A in Military Studies, Tel Aviv University

IDF National Defense College



COL Amit Saar

Chief Intelligence Officer, Southern Command
Designated to Head of Research Division



Military Service

Head of the CT
Branch, Southern
Command

Chief Intelligence
Officer, Southern
Command
Designated to Head of
Research Division



Personal Info

- ❑ COL Saar is Married to Alal.
- ❑ He is a father of two (Omer - 3.5 & Amos - 1.5).

1990-2013

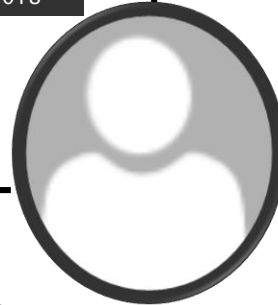
2013-2015

2015-2017

2018-

Various positions in
the IDI

Head of the
Palestine Division,
IDI Research
Division



Education

M.A in
Philosophy,
Hebrew
University
Jerusalem

M.A in
Conflict
Resolution
, Brandeis
University

M.A in
Political
Science,
University of
Haifa

IDI Cross -
Organizational
Intelligence
Course

IDF
National
Defense
College



COL Erez Askal

Head of 9900 Unit (GEOINT)



Military Service

Chief Intelligence Officer
Judea & Samaria
Division

Head of 9900
Unit (GEOINT)

1989-2010

2015-2017

2017-2019

2019-

Enlisted to 'Nahal'
Brigade. Various
Command & Staff
Assignments (A2)

IDI, Northern
Branch



Personal Info

- COL Erez Askal was born in 1977.
- COL Askal is married and a father of four.
- He currently resides in Beit Gamliel.



Education

B.A in Law, Ono
Academic
College

M.A in Political
Science (Middle
East & Africa), Tel
Aviv University



COL Gil Pinchas

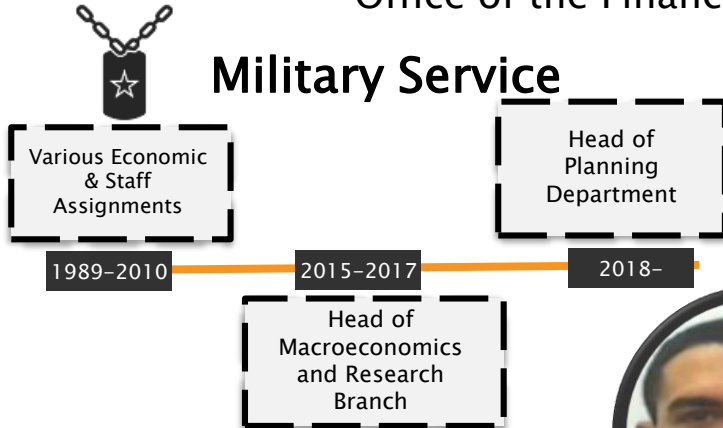


Designated to the head of IMOD Budget Directorate & The Office of the Financial Advisor to IDF CHOD

Military Service



Personal Info



- ❑ COL Gil Pinchas was born in 1980.
- ❑ Married to Daphne and currently Resides in Tel - Aviv



Education





Dr. COL Hadas Minka-Brand

Head of IDF Behavioral Sciences Center



Military Service

Head of
Organizational
Development,
8200 Unit (J-2)

Head of IDF
Behavioral
Sciences
Center

1994-2011

2011-2015

2015-2017

2017-

Various field and
staff positions

Head of Behavioral
Sciences, J-2



Personal Info

- Dr. COL Hadas Minka-Brand resides in Jerusalem.
- She is Married and a mother of three.



Education

M.A in Labor Studies

PhD, Organizational
Sociology, Tel Aviv
University



MAJ Benzi Zimmerman

Head of J3 International Cooperation Desk



Military Service

Desk Officer, Intl. Cooperation Unit

Head of J3 International Cooperation Desk



Personal Info

- MAJ Benzi Zimmerman resides in Jerusalem, he is married to Samantha and the father of Cayli.

2010-2013

2013-2015

2015-2017

2018-

Various field NCO and staff positions

Chief Ops Officer, IDF J5



Education

B.A, International Relations, Bar Ilan University

M.A, Political Science & Political Communications, IDC