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Instructions: Use this form as a cover sheet for any paperwork you may need to submit to the **Office of Public Records** in order to make your Privately Sponsored Post-Travel Submission complete in accordance with Rule 35. **Only complete this form if you need to submit an amendment to a post-travel filing you have already submitted.**

SUBMIT DIRECTLY TO THE **OFFICE OF PUBLIC RECORDS IN 232 HART BUILDING**

Name of Traveler: Joseph Hack

Employing Office/Committee: Office of Senator Fischer

Travel Expenses Paid by (List all sources): The American Israel Education Foundation

Travel Date(s): May 25, 2019 - June 2, 2019

Description/Title of Attached Forms: American Israel Education Foundation Final Itinerary

Purpose of Amendment (describe the reason for amending original submission): The Amendment contains the final itinerary that includes descriptions and explanations for each event.

9/11/2019
(Date)

(Signature of Traveler)

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(Revised 4/19/2010)

American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
U.S. Senior Congressional Staff
May 25-June 2, 2019

Final Itinerary

Saturday, May 25, 2019

3:20 PM	Depart Union Station (Amtrak)
6:21 PM	Arrive Newark
10:45 PM	Depart Newark

Sunday, May 26, 2019

4:20 PM	Arrive at Ben-Gurion Airport Transfer to Jerusalem
6:30 PM	Check-in to the Orient Hotel
7:15 PM	Depart for dinner
7:30-8:00 PM	*Setting the Stage* Orientation with Becky Strapp, Director of Educational Initiatives - at Touro
8:00-10:00 PM	*State of the Nation* Dinner with David Horowitz Founding Editor, *The Times of Israel* - at Touro

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

10:00-10:30 PM	*Shalom Jerusalem* Introduction to the history of the city Brief walking survey

Shalom Jerusalem
Throughout its 4,000-year history, the city of Jerusalem has changed hands many times. As home to the world's three great monotheistic religions — Judaism, Christianity and Islam — Jerusalem is probably the most disputed city in history. Today, the status of Jerusalem remains

the most contentious issue in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Jerusalem has been at the heart of all Israeli-Palestinian negotiations. To understand the current political issues, it is critical to understand Jerusalem's history and the role it has played in shaping the Middle East. This seminar will include site visits to various locations in and around Jerusalem to give participants a first-hand look at the historic significance of the city, as well as its geographic layout.

10:30 PM Overnight at the Orient Hotel

Monday, May 27, 2019

7:30 AM Breakfast is served
-at the hotel

7:45-8:45 AM *Israel's Political Map*
Breakfast with Professor Reuven Hazan
Professor of Political Science, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- at the hotel

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

9:00 AM Depart for Strategic Survey of Jerusalem

9:15 AM-12:15 PM *Strategic Survey of Jerusalem – Part I:*
The Historic and Holy Basin and City of David
Guided Survey of the Old City of Jerusalem with Ze'ev Orenstein

The Historic and Holy Basin and City of David
The Old City of Jerusalem is home to the holiest shrines of the three monotheistic religions, including the Temple Mount, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and the Al-Aqsa Mosque. During the Camp David II talks, the Palestinians and Israelis differed on the Jerusalem question, namely the Old City, the status of Arab neighborhoods just outside the Old City, and religious sites such as the Temple Mount.

The Holy Basin is the historic location of Jerusalem and refers to the land surrounding the Old City, including the Mount of Olives, which is believed to be the departure point for Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem and where Jews have been burying their dead for 2,500 years. The Holy Basin also includes the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site, and the Temple Mount (Haram al-Sharif), sacred ground for Jews, Muslims, and Christians. Control over these sensitive areas remains among the largest disputes in the Middle East.

The professionally guided survey will walk through all of these sites and others, educating trip participants on their historical impact and their role in today's political discussions.

12:15 PM	Depart
12:45-1:45 PM	*Israeli-Palestinian Negotiations: How Wide is the Gap?* Lunch with Tal Becker Senior Legal Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs -at Caffit Botanical Gardens

Israeli-Palestinian Negotiations: How Wide is the Gap?
Since Israel's founding, the Jewish state has sought to reach a just and lasting solution to the Israeli Palestinian conflict. The United States has been closely involved in negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. Dr. Tal Becker is a senior member of the Israeli peace negotiation team. In this position, he is on the front lines of many of Israel's most pressing diplomatic, legal and policy challenges. He is a veteran negotiator, and key behind the scenes representative, for Israel in a wide variety of contexts. During this session, he will address the prospects for peace in the current political climate. He will also discuss the complex challenges that have prevented a final status agreement thus far.

1:45 PM	Depart
2:15-2:45 PM	*Strategic Survey of Jerusalem – Part II:* Post-1967 Neighborhoods and the Security Barrier

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

3:00 PM	Security Check
3:15-4:30 PM	*Meetings with Members of Knesset* ▪ The Honorable Nir Barkat, Likud The Honorable Yair Lapid, Blue & White Party -at the Knesset

Meetings with Members of Knesset
Coming just months after new elections, participants will have the opportunity to meet with a member of the governing party in the coalition (Likud), and one of the opposition parties (Blue and White Party). The Honorable Nir Barkat and the Honorable Yair Lapid will offer their perspectives on the new Knesset, and their party's position on the major issues of the day.

4:30 PM	Depart for hotel
7:45 PM	Depart for dinner
8:00-10:00 PM	Dinner -at Tali's Atelier

Dinner at Tali's Atelier
This dinner will just be the participants, in order to allow the group to process what they've experienced thus far.

10:30 PM	Overnight at the Orient Hotel

Tuesday, May 28, 2019

7:45 AM	Breakfast is served - at the hotel
8:00-9:00 AM	*U.S.-Israel Relations* Breakfast with Aryeh Lightstone

U.S.-Israel Relations
During each seminar, we invite Ambassador David Friedman or a member of his staff to address the group and share the Embassy's perspective on U.S.-Israel relations and the state of affairs in Israel.

9:15 AM	Depart for Yad Vashem
9:45-11:45 AM	*Remembering the Victims of the Holocaust* Visit to Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum

Yad Vashem
One cannot understand Israel's position on Iran's nuclear program without understanding the trauma of the Holocaust. Israelis view threats to its destruction in light of the events of the 1930s and 1940s, when the German government's threats to exterminate the Jewish people were not taken seriously by the international community. This museum provides an important reference point as to how Israelis interpret the threat of an Iranian nuclear program and Iranian leaders committed to Israel's destruction.

Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, was established in 1953 by an act of the Israeli Knesset. Since its inception, Yad Vashem has been entrusted with documenting the history of the Jewish people during the Holocaust period, preserving the memory and story of each of the six million victims, and imparting the legacy of the Holocaust for generations to come through its archives, library, school, museums and recognition of the Righteous Among the Nations. Located on Har Hazikaron (the Mount of Remembrance) in

Jerusalem, Yad Vashem is a sprawling complex of museums, exhibits, archives, monuments, sculptures, and memorials.

Every foreign leader that travels to Israel visits Yad Vashem. Yad Vashem has become a symbol of the Jewish people and its transformation from total helplessness to self-reliance and strength. Thus, a visit to Yad Vashem provides a historical context for the Jewish state. The museum's professional docent will guide the group through the main exhibit hall and the children's memorial.

11:45 AM	Depart for Ramallah Lunch boxes en route
12:30-1:45 PM	*A View from the Palestinian Authority* Meeting with Dr. Saeb Erekat Chief Negotiator, Palestinian Authority - at his office in Ramallah

A View from the Palestinian Authority
During each seminar, we invite a representative of the Palestinian Authority to address the group. Dr. Erekat will present the current state of Palestinian Authority Affairs, including the Palestinian perspective on the issues of the day, as well as relations with Israel and prospects for peace.

1:45 PM	Depart
2:45-3:45 PM	*A View from the Prime Minister's Office* Meeting with Reuven Azar Foreign Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister - at the Crowne Plaza Hotel

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

4:00 PM	Depart for Tel Aviv
5:15 PM	Check-in to the Carlton Tel Aviv Hotel
7:30 PM	Depart for dinner

7:45-9:45 PM *Start-Up Nation*
Dinner with
- Dovie Meisel, United Hatzalah
- Cathy Sebag, Head of Products, Mobile ODT
- Dr. Yonatan Wexler, OrCam

Moderated by Inbal Arieli, Tech Entrepreneur
- at Deca

Start-Up Nation
Israel is a giant when it comes to innovation: a global leader in R&D spending and Venture Capital investment, and home to global R&D centers for the likes of Google, Apple and IBM. This evening's Start-Up Nation dinner will include a discussion with entrepreneurs representing Israeli innovation and ingenuity that has had enormous impact both in Israel and abroad.

10:00 PM Overnight at the Carlton Tel Aviv Hotel

Wednesday, May 29, 2019

7:00 AM Breakfast on your own

7:45 AM Depart

8:15-9:45 AM *Save a Child's Heart*
Meet with Dr. Houri and Visit the Recovery Home
-Wolfson Hospital

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

9:45 AM Depart

10:45 AM-12:45 PM *Israel's Southern Front*
- Visit Netiv Ha'asara and meet with local residents
- Overlook into Gaza and Visit to Peace Wall

-at Netiv Ha'asara

Israel's Southern Front
Since 2001, Israeli communities bordering the Gaza Strip have been living under the threat of rocket fire. Since the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip in 2005 and the Hamas takeover of the Gaza Strip in 2007, the volume, range and accuracy of the rockets has only increased. The summer of 2014 witnessed Operation Protective Edge, which returned the issue of rocket fire from Gaza to international headlines. At Kibbutz Nir Am, participants will be able to see the border between Israel and the Gaza Strip, to better comprehend the landscape of the region, as well as the unique challenges faced by this area. The visit to Kibbutz Kfar Azza and meeting with a local resident will be an opportunity to better understand the reality of living just kilometers from Israel's border with Gaza, to learn how almost 15 years of rocket fire has shaped those living in the communities most affected, to discuss the advent of Hamas "terror tunnels" into Israel's border towns and how communities have sought to cope with the threat on their doorstep, both physically and psychologically.

12:45 PM	Depart *Boxed Lunches en Route*
1:00-1:30 PM	*Israel's Missile Defense Systems* Visit to Iron Dome Battery

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

1:30 PM	Depart
3:00-4:00 PM	*Israel-U.S. Strategic Partnership* Briefing with Ari Sacher Rocket Scientist, Rafael -at the Hotel

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

4:15-5:00 PM	360 Bird's Eye View of Israel Briefing at the Azrieli Center Helipad

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

5:00 PM Depart for hotel

7:50 PM Depart for dinner

8:00-9:45 PM *Israelis from Different Walks of Life*
- Dr. Yasmeen Abu Fraiha
  Co-Founder and Executive Director, Genesis
- Chen Arieli, Chairperson, Aguda-National LGBT Task Force
- Rivka Ravitz, Chief of Staff to the President of Israel
- Racheli Yaso
  Development Officer and Visitor Relations Director, Yemin Orde

- at Lumina

10:00 PM Overnight at the Carlton Tel Aviv Hotel

Thursday, May 30, 2019

8:00 AM Breakfast is served
- at the hotel

8:15-9:15 AM *Regional Strategic Threats*
Meeting with Assaf Orion
Senior Research Fellow,
The Institute for National Security Studies (INSS)
- at the hotel

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

9:30 AM Depart

10:30-11:15 AM *Israel's Narrow Waistline – Strategic Concerns*
Briefing at Alfei Menashe

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

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

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

11:15 AM-12:15 PM *Settlements in Focus*
- Shaqued Morag, Head of Peace Now
- Eliana Passentin, Int'l Desk Director, Binyamin Regional Council

-at the Community Center, Alfei Menashe

Settlements in Focus
Israeli settlement policy is one of the more complex issues in the ongoing negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians. This session provides an opportunity for members to get an insider's perspective on Israeli settlement policy, the differing views among Israeli citizens, and the role settlements play in the current political climate.

12:15 PM Depart

12:50-1:30 PM Lunch
-at Givat Haviva Dining Hall

2:30-3:30 PM Depart
En route briefings:
- *The Jezreel Valley – Strategic Land Bridge connecting Asia and Africa*
- *Upper Galilee – Potential for Development*

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

For thousands of years, the Jezreel Valley served as a land bridge linking Africa, Asia and Europe, and serving as a thoroughfare for ancient caravans and, more frequently, armies. In

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

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

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

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

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

4:00-5:00 PM *Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Lebanon and Hizballah*
Strategic Briefing on Israel's border with Lebanon
with Lt.Col. (res) Sarit Zehavi, Director, Alma Research Center
-at Mt. Adir

Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Lebanon and Hizballah
Lt. Col. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi served 15 years in the IDF in Military Intelligence –first in the Research and Analysis Branch, and later in the Northern Command. During her military service she briefed hundreds of delegations, ranging from U.S. Senators, Congressmen and politicians to global military commanders, senior journalists and visiting VIP delegations. She is the founder/director of Alma, an educational research center focusing on the security issues of Israel's northern border. Zehavi has authored many position papers focusing on Lebanon, Syria and Israel's national security challenges, and continues to brief delegations on these topics. She

holds an MA in Middle East Studies from Ben Gurion University and is a resident of the northern Galilee region. She will brief the group on the current threats facing Israel by Iranian backed Hizballah in Lebanon.

5:30 PM Depart

6:30 PM Check-in to Europa Hotel

7:45 PM Depart for dinner

8:00-10:00 PM *Reflections on the Week*
- Dinner at Decks

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

10:30 PM Overnight at the Europa Hotel

Friday, May 31, 2019

8:00 AM Breakfast at the Hotel

8:30 AM Depart

9:00-11:00 AM *Historical Significance of the Sea of Galilee*
Survey of historical and religious sites around the Sea of Galilee
- Mt. of Beatitudes – Sermon on the Mount
- St. Peter's Church
- Capernaum – Jesus' Village

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

11:00 AM Depart for the Golan Heights

12:00-1:15 PM *Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Syria*
Strategic survey of Israel's border with Syria
With Cpt. (Res.) Ilan Shulman
- at Kibbutz Ein Zivan

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

1:30-2:30 PM *Ethics in the IDF*
Lunch with IDF Soldiers
-at HaBokrim

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

2:30-3:30 PM Travel back to Jerusalem via the Jordan Valley
En route briefing:
Jordan: Relations with Israel, and the Growing Refugee Crisis

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

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

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

5:30 PM	Check-in to the Orient Hotel
7:15 PM	Depart for dinner
7:30-9:30 PM	*Reflections on the Sabbath in Jerusalem* Traditional Sabbath evening dinner With Wendy and Saul Singer - at their home in Jerusalem

Reflections on the Sabbath in Jerusalem
Israel, the only Jewish country in the world, boasts the unique tradition of honoring the Jewish Sabbath from Friday sundown until Saturday sundown. 80 percent of the Israeli population will commemorate the Sabbath, in various forms, which typically include a family dinner and special blessings. The Sabbath is especially significant in Jerusalem, home to the holiest site for Jews worldwide - the remains of the First and Second Temple.

The dinner will include a discussion on the importance of Jerusalem to the Jewish, Christian and Muslim populations; the potential for a final status agreement on Jerusalem (arguably the most sensitive final status issue); and the diplomatic challenges faced by Israel and the United States regarding Israeli urban development in the area.

10:00 PM	Overnight at the Orient Hotel

Saturday, June 1, 2019

7:30 AM	Breakfast on own - at the hotel, Main Dining Hall
8:00-10:00 AM	Depart En route briefing: *Jericho Road and the E-1 Corridor*

Jericho Road and the E-1 Corridor
On the drive from Jerusalem to Masada, the group will travel on the highway known as the "Jericho Road" is the strategic importance of the area east of Jerusalem. In 1948 and in 1967, the Jordanian army attacked Jerusalem from the east – the 1948 attack resulted in the city's division that lasted until 1967. Since then Israel has established the City of Ma'ale Adumim east of Jerusalem, today home to some 40,000 residents. To the Palestinians, however, Ma'ale Adumim

is the largest settlement on the West Bank. When Israel attempted to expand Ma'ale Adumim's boundary, into an area known as "E-1", the U.S. State Department stepped in and asked that no construction take place there. The issue needs to be examined with those discussing the future of Jerusalem in the context of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

9:30-10:30 AM *History and Geopolitics of the Roman Empire*
Guided survey of the National Archeological Park at Masada

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

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

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

11:30 AM–12:30 PM *Exploration of the Dead Sea Region*
- at Herods Hotel

Dead Sea Region
During our drive to and from the Dead Sea area, as well as during our visit to the Dead Sea, our tour guide will discuss a variety of issues integral to understanding the region, the country, and relations with both the Palestinians and Jordanians.

It is important to note that the region is mostly desert. For decades, Israel has been challenging this arid area and developing its agricultural potential. While the Middle East is suffering from water shortages, Israel, through modern technology and water conservation policies, including the recycling of over 80 percent of water used for domestic purposes and transferring it to agriculture, has literally "made the desert bloom." Some of this technology is already being

shared with Jordan and the Palestinian Authority. All sides realize that a comprehensive regional water policy will ensure food production necessary to satisfy the Middle East's growing population. For example, in late 2013, the three parties agreed to build a Red Sea-Dead Sea water project to address the shortage of fresh, clean water in the region and the rapid loss of water at the Dead Sea. This highlights the growing importance for Israel and her Arab neighbors to work together on joint environmental projects.

The key regional players also face serious environmental issues in the Dead Sea region. One of the major environmental concerns is the receding of the Dead Sea and the appearance of sinkholes, which cause the earth above to collapse. Roads, fields and buildings have collapsed due to this phenomenon, and experts are concerned the tourist infrastructure along the Jordanian and Israeli shores of the Dead Sea are also in danger. This issue has led to unprecedented cooperation between Israelis, Jordanians and Palestinians and serves as a model for regional cooperation.

12:30 PM	Depart for Jerusalem
2:00-3:30 PM	Lunch -in the Old City
4:00 PM	Return to hotel Check out
7:00-9:00 PM	*The U.S.-Israel Relationship: Bringing it All Together* Closing dinner

Closing Dinner
The closing dinner provides an opportunity for participants to process the scope of the week, from the religious center of the Judeo-Christian world in Jerusalem, to the bustling economic powerhouse of Tel Aviv; from the conflict plagued northern borders with Syria and Lebanon, to the environmental and geographical wonders of the Negev desert and the Dead Sea. We will process the range of topics explored, including the U.S.-Israel strategic partnership, prospects for Arab-Israeli peace, the experience of minorities in Israel, as well as greater existential threats throughout the region. Participants will also have the opportunity to share their takeaways and ask any lingering questions that weren't covered during the week.

9:00 PM	Depart for the Airport

Sunday, June 2, 2019

12:20 AM	Depart Tel Aviv
5:50 AM	Arrive Dulles