

Rosalynn Carter's Trip to Israel, 3/11/79

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March 11, 1979

General description:

A total of 1375 immigrant families (approximately 6,000 persons) have passed through the Absorption Center since its founding in 1970. This particular absorption center is only for families with children. Spread over an area of 40 dunams (10 acres), the Center provides housing, in two and four apartment units, for up to 200 families. Every apartment is furnished and includes two or three bedrooms, a living room, kitchen, and bathroom. The public buildings include a club room, lecture hall, youth activity center, class rooms, offices, etc.

In order to provide a comprehensive framework for initial absorption, the Mevaseret Zion Absorption Center includes the following services:

1. Five kindergartens for children age 6 months through 5 years.
2. A school for grades 1-6, in which the emphasis is the study of Hebrew for the children of the immigrant families. In addition, religious and national holidays are studied and celebrated.
3. A Hebrew language school for adults (Ulpan). A five month, intensive Hebrew language curriculum. Daily, totalling 25 hours per week. Upon completion of course of study, the immigrant is able to function in Hebrew. The language studies are within the framework of Israeli reality: holidays, current events, bible, geography and history, etc. The program includes trips to various parts of the country. At the moment there are 7 classes with 140 students.
4. Youth Activities. Daily club activities for children and teen-agers: arts & crafts, folk-dancing, sports, outings, discussions, holiday celebrations, home-work assistance, etc. These activities enable the mix of youngsters from various backgrounds, where the common language is Hebrew.
5. Cultural Activities: A wide range of programs to better acquaint the immigrant with Israel and Judaism, aimed at easing the absorption process; : lectures, study groups, folk-dancing, movies, holiday programs, field trips, religious services and activities.

--the facilities also include a synagogue, medical clinic, self-service grocery store, etc.

--the staff of the Absorption Center includes a social-worker, employment placement officers (Ministry of Labor), immigrant housing official (Ministry of Immigrant Absorption), house-mothers, maintenance staff, education coordinator, culture and youth activity directors.

Present Population

145 families totalling 688 persons, including 272 children.
(within a month the number of families is expected to grow to 175).

Professions of immigrants: engineers(25), doctors and dentists(17), para-medical(11), physicists and chemists(14), musicians and artists(9), bookkeepers and accountants(8), teachers(25). Also lawyers, business managers, mathematicians, clerks, psychologists, etc.

Countries of Origin:

Soviet Union	89
U.S.A.	16
South Africa	13
England	10
South America	12
Holland	1
Finland	1
Iran	1
Australia	1
New Zealand	1

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ON IMMIGRANTS PARTICIPATING IN MEETING
WITH MRS. CARTER

Dina (1939) and Josef (1937) Beilin. Moscow. Engineers. Immigrated April, 1978. Well-known immigration activists. First visa rejection April 1972. Josef was dismissed from employment in July 1973 due to visa application. From April 1972 Dina participated in protest hunger strikes and demonstrations. Spied on by KGB. Threatened by KGB with imprisonment for 15 years. Josef was thrice arrested for 15 days for demonstrations in support of the legal right of Soviet Jews to go to Israel. Since immigrating to Israel both have been active in the continual struggle for Soviet Jewry.

Dina visited U.S. in spring, 1978. Met with members of Congress, governors and majors. Many T.V. and radio appearances on behalf of Soviet Jewry and the right of immigration to Israel.

Live at Absorption Center with daughter and mother. Plan to settle in Jerusalem.

Clara Exelbrit. Colombia. Immigrated to Israel Nov 1978. Married (Menashe), three children age 8½, 11, 12. Husband is economist and business administrator. She is language teacher. Plan to settle in Jerusalem.

Solomon (1931) and Natalie (1938) Liknaitzky. Johannesburg, South Africa. Immigrated to Israel, Jan. 1979. 3 children ages 19, 17, 13. Both Natalie and Solomon have law degrees. Solomon was senior partner in Johannesburg law firm. Natalie was a free-lance writer specializing in features on art, theater and law with special emphasis on Black art and artists, and Black theater.

Yaakov (Jerry) and Erika Zeisel. Immigrated from Boston, Mass.(USA). in July 1978. Yaakov has PhD in accounting from Ohio State University. Taught at Boston University prior to moving to Israel. Presently employed by Jerusalem Institute of Management, a joint project of Harvard University--Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Erika Zeisel has Master's degree in Occupational Therapy from Boston University and worked for Boston Children's Hospital at an institution for the retarded. She is presently working with brain-damaged children in the Jerusalem school system.

They have two daughters age 13 and 15. Plan to settle in Jerusalem.

Truth Africa - 3 children - 2 here
come because we want to be with our people
stirring.

The flowering of Judaism indeed the miracle
winter African tribes - comparison of Jewish
tribes -
Dmgt. for children to integrate -

last occup. therapist
prof. of mgmt - Boston -

Came last summer with 2 teenagers -
a dream shared by Jews -

Solid professional skills -
Amer. attitudes & values -

grateful to be personal investment -

"we would be so grateful if you could
let our families know how

healthy + exceedingly happy we are
in our new home"

only discovered "Jewishness" in recent
few years.

"I feel alone like I've never felt -
husband said -

management
training &
cultural systems

never
quite

Bus # 2 - pool # 10
to wine & bread
ceremony -

Adoption Center -

Jewish Agency - loved Jim org. - extend
traditional welcome -
cognizant with husband - guest for peace
met in rec room under Star of David

To mark occasion - depicting life & story of Israel

one of 70 - to ease aboriginal

1,800 a month come into 70 centers -

8 1/2 years old

For all first time Purim in Israel
For many, first time ever - 4 corners of earth -

Belin USSR - seems now a nightmare - Israel a dream
plea for help for those who bought her freedom -
Personal friends of U.S. - Scharansky
I ask you to do all that is possible -
Thank you - picture of family -
daughter in University - impossible to believe -

Colombia -

Come from free country
to be with our people
to participate

3 1/2 mos -

file
Israel
Trip

I AM ROKACH

Rokach: The name is Rokach, Rokach.

Kids: Hey, look at him! How he can sing!

Mothers: What? Did he go crazy? Yaki, Yo'av, where are you?

Rokach: The name is Rokach, Rokach

Kids: Let's hear what he's got to say.

No, let's all go home, go home.

Rokach: Let me...

Kids: Let him have his way.

Rokach: The name is Rokach, Rokach.

I'm not so bad, as you can see.

What is it that you kids want?

Kids: One more time from the top...

Rokach: The name is Rokach, Rokach.

Kids: Hey, look at that, how he can sing!

GHOSTS

A Ghost, A Ghost:

Now there's a funny ghost, ha ha ha ha ha

And a ghost that tries to scare you, waii, waii, waii, waii, waii.

And a ghost that's ten feet tall

Or a ghost up on the roof,

Or one that's underground,

Or underneath your bed.

A LONG TIME AGO

Once, once a long time ago, a long time ago

My Dad would tell me stories, and he sat near my bed at night.

A child is in his bed, his father by his side.

And mother, busy with her chores, is whistling "Good Night".

Now once upon a time there was a duck, the story goes

And with the duck, there were three bears, this every child knows.

And there I am tucked into bed, so warm and snug I lie,

And soon my sleep will turn to dreams that last me through the night.

FINAL SONG

Well, everyone, that's it for now

And we said goodbye to Kato who's in jail.

Regards to you all from the Prince, Prince Mio

Who came to live in his land of dreams.

Hello everyone, here's our friend the ghost

And who is standing over there?

Why it's Mio, our hero, who's come to stay now,

For ever and ever and a day, and a day, and a day, and a day.

Grain Birth Board
Member -

Present citation on
behalf -

citation of honor

"in recog of
dedicated work in
field of m h"

"loving ^{and} care to
countless people in
need"