SEVENTY YEARS OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN ALIYAH

A Story Of Achievement
SEVENTY YEARS of SOUTHERN AFRICAN ALIYAH

A STORY OF ACHIEVEMENT

by Philip Gillon

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MESSAGE BY THE PRESIDENT OF ISRAEL, MR. CHAIM HERZOG
FOR SPECIAL BOOK ON SOUTH AFRICAN ALIYAH
MARCH 1992

Dear Friends,

SOUTHERN AFRICAN ALIYAH - A STORY OF ACHIEVEMENT
serves to underline the special nature of this group within the mosaic
that makes up Israel. It is a group brought here primarily by a strong in-
er impulse rather than by the push of adverse outer circumstances. It is
a group true to the Zionist legacy its grandparents and great-
grandparents brought with them from deeply Jewish homes in Eastern
and Central Europe, above all in the Baltic States.

A century or so in the new Diaspora of Southern Africa produced some
extraordinary mutations. Struggling immigrants in a vast, still unformed
country learned many a new skill, from the military and athletic to the in-
dustrial and academic.

The new skills came with the "olim" to Israel: virtually every basically im-
portant aspect of Israeli life has benefited from them. One need only re-
member the South Africans in MAHAL who meant so much to the hard-
pressed Israeli effort in the 1948 War of Independence.

What have South Africans not touched and developed? They are agricul-
tural pioneers in the classic Kibbutz mode and middle-class pioneers in
industry. They have given Israel excellent physicians and veterinarians.
They are sportsmen and influence others to engage in sports, notably
 tennis, which has become a democratic, popular sport among us. They
have enriched Israel by their concern with the arts, their splendidly orga-
nized volunteering, their innovations in medical care.

This relatively small aliyah is profoundly influential. And life here, with all
its difficulties, has given these one-time Southern Africans an opportuni-
ity for self-fulfilment and the stirring sense of participating in history. May
many others in these problematic days follow them to Israel, sharing
their commitment to Zionism, their talents and their effectiveness.

Chaim Herzog
People going about their daily lives are seldom conscious of the fact that, in perspective, they may be creating history. This is certainly true of the Southern Africans who have taken up residence in the Land of Israel since the first decade of the Twentieth Century.

The Jewish populations of South Africa and the two Rhodesias (now Zambia and Zimbabwe) never exceeded 130,000 souls. The number of those who came on aliya amounted to approximately 12 percent of this figure: together with the first generation born here, they brought the total number of Southern Africans to 17,000 by the end of 1990.

After the State celebrated its fortieth anniversary (in 1988), the Israel Committee of the South African Zionist Federation - commonly known by its acronym address "Telfed" - decided to place on record the story of the achievements of its constituency. It is an account going back more than 70 years. It represents a striking accumulation of success, despite some failures, of planned settlement, innovation and improvisation, of an adjustment by human beings to new lives in an environment completely different from the one that nurtured them. It is a formidable story of individuals which, in the aggregate, amounts to one of the most remarkable voluntary seminal contributions to the Yishuv by a Diaspora community.

It is to the venturesome men, women and young people who participated - and are currently participating - in that effort, that the following pages are dedicated.
CHAPTER ONE:

INTRODUCTION

SOUTH, KEEP NOT BACK

"I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will
say to the north, Give up, and to the south. Keep not back: bring my sons
from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth..." (Isaiah, 43, 5-6)

From the earliest beginnings of Zionism in Southern Africa, the yearning to return to the Jewish Homeland was not just a pious hope. The cynicism that Zionism is a movement enabling Jews living comfortably in one land, to send reluctant Jews from another land to Israel has never applied to the policy of the S.A. Zionist Federation, which always supported aliyah as the supreme expression of Zionism. Zionism came officially to Southern Africa when the Chovevei Zion Society ("Lovers of Zion") was founded in Johannesburg in 1896, the very year that Herzl published his Judenstaat. The Society received some Passover wine from Rishon Le Zion, and recorded with delight that "Our fellow-Jews tasted it and were made to see that Palestine, too, is a land like other lands, where it is possible to live."

A Zionist Association was formed in Cape Town in 1897 and a year later, the Chovevei Zion merged into the Transvaal Zionist Association. By the end of 1898 — despite the ferment in Southern Africa that resulted in the Boer War
Jewish Colonial Trust Share issued to Mendel Max Gurland, of Cape Town in 1900
INTRODUCTION

breaking out in 1899 - there were a dozen Zionist societies with 5,000 members in South Africa, and the S.A. Zionist Federation had been established.

Two Southern Africans, Lennox Loewe and Leopold Kessler, represented South Africa at the Third Zionist Congress in Basle in 1899: one of them visited Palestine and reported on his return to South Africa that settlement there was a practical proposition.

A trickle of immigration from Southern Africa into Palestine started: at a Zionist conference in 1906, it was reported that 35 former Transvaalers were living in Jerusalem.

In the 'twenties and early 'thirties, after the Balfour Declaration was issued and World War I ended, several prominent Southern Africans immigrated to what was then Palestine.

Among the early Southern African arrivals was Abraham Levy, who became chief accountant of the Palestine Railways in 1922. A year later he was joined by his wife Milly, who remained a venerated figure in Haifa until her death in 1987. Levy was later appointed head of the S.A. Binyan Mortgage Bank Company, established by Southern Africans.

Tzipporah Genussow, the wife of Menachem Genussow of Barkley West, immigrated with their four young children in 1925: he stayed behind to liquidate his affairs, and only managed to join them in 1933. He had already invested in agricultural research projects, including cotton cultivation. His daughter Nechama went as a shaliach from Palestine to South Africa in 1939, and began to work there with the nascent Hashomer Hatzair movement. Subsequently, she settled on kibbutz Tel Amal (later renamed Nir David), which was established on Keren Kayemet land, purchased for the Fund by Southern Africans and made available to the kibbutz.

The Genussows' son, Israel, was killed on active service in World War II. There are now several generations of Genussows settled in Israel.

Jacob Gesundheit, a prominent industrialist in Cape Town and a leader of the Mizrachi movement, immigrated with his wife Bella and four children in 1926. He became active in many fields, restoring the Tiberias Hot Springs, and joining another Southern African, Chaim Joffe, who had been a leading figure
in the meat industry in Cape Town, in establishing the Palestine Cold Storage Plant. Together with Yehuda Magnes, the Chancellor of the Hebrew University, and Henrietta Szold, the founder of Hadassah, Gesundheit worked in the Brit Shalom movement, that believed in peaceful co-existence between Jews and Arabs.

Louis Policansky, who had manufactured cigarettes in South Africa brought capital and know-how to the tobacco industry in Israel, where he took over Dubek Ltd.

Eliahu Gurland, from Cape Town, who had represented South Africa at the Basle Zionist Conference, made aliya in 1924. In 1933 his son Max Gurland, his wife Sonya and three daughters joined him in Palestine. When visiting his father in Tel Aviv in 1928 he, together with Louis Policansky and Chaim Joffe was given the idea by Chaim Nachman Bialik of...
purchasing a large tract of land, which was transformed into a citrus grove. It was planted in accordance with all the newest agricultural methods of the time. It was a model of its kind, so much so, that it was paid a visit by the then High Commissioner of Palestine, Sir Arthur Wauchope. The 1929 South African Jewish Year Book notes that eleven prominent Southern Africans had immigrated by then to Palestine. A noteworthy feature of Southern African immigration in the 'thirties was that chairmen and other members of the Federation came on aliyah. But immigration from Southern Africa to Palestine sustained a severe blow when the Passfield White Paper was issued. The British limited Jewish immigration certificates to a fixed number of penniless people, and to capitalists, who could prove that they had sufficient means to support themselves. The Jewish Agency and the World Zionist Movement decided that priority in the allocation of certificates should be given to the refugees from Europe, which had fallen under the Nazi jackboot. Thus Southern African immigration was curtailed during the rest of the period that the Mandate endured. Nevertheless, the Federation and all the Zionist youth movements included aliyah as a major objective in their programmes. In 1933 the Federation established a chalutz farm near Krugersdorp, where Jewish "townees" learned about agriculture as preparation for going to settle on the land in Palestine. Although the chalutz farm was eventually closed down, 40 percent of its graduates settled permanently in Israel. Michael Kaplan and his wife Katie settled in Haifa in 1937. He became the secretary and legal adviser of the Palestine Electric Corporation. She was secretary to the Port Captain during the Mandatory period, and after the State was established, she was for many years secretary of the Academic Department of the Technion. She was made a "Freeman" of Haifa. During the Mandate, the Kaplans were very prominent in the Irgun Zvai Leumi (IZL), and were gaoled for harbouring Friedman Yellin, the head of the Lochamei Herut Yisrael (Lechi), when he was on the run. Several Southern Africans immigrated as holders of "capitalist"
certificates in the 'thirties. In the mid-thirties prominent Zionist Youth leaders came to join the Yishuv. These included Herzl Zuckerman who became the Secretary and thereafter Managing Director of the Tel Aviv Port Authority, Polly Salber (Reznik), Sima Herman and Solly Friedman who has been a leading lawyer in Haifa since 1936 - all these leaders of the Cape Zionist Youth Executive - as well as Abraham Katz, the Chairman of the S.A. Young Mizrachi.

By 1948, when the State was established, a fair number of Southern Africans had settled in Palestine. There were Southern Africans in business, in the professions, in kibbutzim or moshavim.

During World War II, many former Southern Africans enlisted in Palestine in the British army and in the Jewish Brigade when it was formed.

Twenty-five ex-soldiers, who had visited Palestine during World War II and fell in love with it, formed a group called Chalutzim Chayalim (soldier-pioneers), who were determined to get back to Palestine and to settle there. Most of them succeeded.
INTRODUCTION

One organised group of 20 chalutzim left Southern Africa by ship in July, 1947. This was a momentous occasion and before they left, 800 Zionist leaders and members of youth movements crowded Coronation Hall in Johannesburg to bid them farewell and good luck. Some of them formed the nucleus of Moshav Timorim.

Graduates of the Bnei Akivah youth movement helped to establish kibbutz Kfar Etzion, in the Gush Etzion area, near Hebron: two of them were killed, and others captured, when the Arabs attacked the kibbutz in 1947.

It is worth noting that, despite the fact that Southern Africans could be found everywhere in the country, even before the State was established, until 1948, they did not form any kind of immigrant organisation.

Even in 1948, the Southern Africans set up the South African Zionist Federation (Israel), now known as Telfed, not as a landmanschaft, but merely as an office designed to provide practical help to Mahalniks and later, to ex-Mahalniks and new immigrants. For a long time great efforts were made to avoid any implication that any kind of landmanschaft was involved.

The underlying philosophy at first was obviously that Southern Africans should throw themselves into the melting-pot and emerge Israelis.

The establishment of the State and the ending of the British restrictions on immigration should have provided a stimulus for scores of thousands of Southern African Zionists to come to Israel on aliya. But there were objective reasons making aliya very difficult, and the response to the challenge was certainly disappointing to people like Ben-Gurion, who had expected all the Jews in the world, including those living in the affluent West, to rush to the land of their dreams.

The trouble was that it soon became apparent that, as T. S. Eliot put it, "between the idea and the reality falls the Shadow". The country was desperately poor, had few natural resources and a very limited economic infrastructure. The tish had repressed its economic development, except insofar such development fitted in with the overall needs of the ring bloc. As the Mandate ended, the British expelled Israel from that bloc.

For would-be Southern African immigrants, the position was
complicated by restrictions that were imposed on the despatch of currency from South Africa by the South African government.

Hundreds of thousands of immigrants without means from the displaced camps of Europe and the mellachs (the equivalents of ghettos) of the Middle East and North Africa were pouring into Israel. There was so little food available that at times the newly established government of Israel was not sure whether it would be able to provide basic foods like bread. Work opportunities were minimal: thousands of people were put on to relief jobs for the State and the Keren Kayemet. This was hardly a propitious environment to attract Jews to leave their established homes and businesses or jobs in Southern Africa. Critics like B-G thundered at them that they should abandon their fleshpots, but only a few responded to the challenge.

Nevertheless, by 1959, at the end of the State's first decade, the Israel office of the S.A. Zionist Federation reported that there were 2,000 Southern Africans settled in Israel.

A survey conducted at the time showed that one-third of the Southern Africans were settled in kibbutzim and moshavim, while the rest were in cities and towns. Ten percent were in the medical profession, ten percent in other professions, ten percent in the public service, six percent were industrialists, nine percent were stenographers and secretaries, three percent were in aviation and the rest were in miscellaneous occupations.

Sharpeville provided a major boost to the push to emigration from Southern Africa in 1960; eight hundred-and-fifty olim came in one year. Then the Six Day War in 1967 considerably intensified the pull of immigration to Israel.

An unusual feature of the Southern African aliyah compared to other Western immigrations was that numbers of Zionist leaders in the Southern African Jewish community planted new roots in the Jewish homeland: among these were former chairmen of the South African Zionist Federation — Lazar Braudo, Nicolai Kirschner, Israel Dunsky, Solomon Liebgott, Isaac Kalmonowitz and Solly Sacks — and former presidents of the Central African Zionist Organisation (CAZO) — Dave Melmed, Mervyn Lasovsky, Marvyn Hatchuel, Eric Brod and
INTRODUCTION

Nick Alhadeff, General Secretaries of the Federation and CAZO — Jack Alexander, Zvi Infeld, Sidney Berg and Leib Frank — also immigrated to Israel.

Former heads of CAZO residing in Israel

In 1947, David Ben-Gurion invited the Zionist leaders of the world to attend an emergency meeting. There he said to Israel Dunsky, then Chairman of the S.A. Zionist Federation, "Your country's contribution per capita is the highest in the world. But even more than your financial support, I would place the emphasis on your manpower."

In 1948 and 1949 the Federation sent a ship, the "Benny Scow", twice to Israel, with vitally needed supplies.

Today, many of the reasons why early immigrants found life in Israel so hard have fallen away. The basic economic situation has changed, though temporary difficulties still remain. Immigration and natural increase have raised the size of the population to over four million — there are many prosperous countries in the world with smaller populations.

Capital from the U.S. government, from German reparations, from the Jews of the world and from the Jews settling in Israel strengthened the economic base.

The old joke, "The way to make a small fortune in Israel is to bring a large one into the country", is no longer valid. In fact, despite wars, recessions and inflations, Israel has become like most other Western countries, a country in which the middle
class - and this is the class to which Southern African Jews belong - can flourish and live very pleasant and comfortable lives.

A survey would almost certainly reveal that most Southern African Jews in Israel are doing precisely that — leading pleasant middle-class lives in the land of their forefathers. This applies even in kibbutzim: for better or worse, they have been "bourganised".

There are about 17,000 Southern Africans living in Israel today.
When World War II broke out almost simultaneously with the issue by the British Government of the Passfield White Paper limiting Jewish immigration to Palestine and Jewish land acquisition there, David Ben-Gurion, the Chairman of the Jewish Agency, announced that the Yishuv would fight the War as if there was no White Paper, and would fight the White Paper as if there was no War.

This policy resulted, on the one hand, in many Jews in Palestine enlisting in the British forces and on the other hand, in the strengthening of the Haganah, Palmach, Irgun Zvai Leumi (IZL) and Lochamei Herut Yisrael (Lechi).

Abraham Katz was killed in the defence of Hanita, the famous kibbutz established overnight in 1938 on the Lebanese border. The young pioneers laying the foundations of the settlement were subjected to several heavy attacks by Arabs, and Katz was critically wounded. He died soon afterwards.

Many Southern Africans who had settled in Israel in the 'thirties and 'forties enlisted in the British army.
Herzl Genussow, who enlisted in "The Green Howards", was killed in an accident while on manoeuvres in Madagascar. Major Harry Joffe was on an Allied troopship that sank in the Mediterranean, and he helped to save the lives of many of the men afloat in the water. Later, in the War of Independence, he was severely wounded when leading a convoy of trucks up to Jerusalem in an attempt to relieve the siege.

Max Schumacher, Louis Shapiro, Max Kahn (who became a senior officer after the War in the Haifa police, in which Shapiro also served), Colin Gluckmann (later appointed State Attorney, when, at Ben-Gurion's insistence, he changed his name to Gillon), who was mentioned in despatches, Kalman Keet, Archie Dorfan, Eli Kirschner, Harry Schumacher, Hugo Alperstein and Bernie Slome all served in the British forces with distinction.

Billy Falk drove a bus transporting Haganah personnel. Harry Salber, a founder of Ma'ayan Baruch, played an important role in the defence of Galilee.

Nora Miller, one of the first South African English teachers, served in Cairo as an officer in the Royal Air Force.

Southern African graduates of the Bnei Akiva movement were founders of Kfar Etzion in the Gush Etzion area near Hebron. Arab forces overran the kibbutz in May, 1948, massacred many of the inhabitants and took the rest into captivity. After their release, some of the survivors including surviving widows, founded moshav Massuot Yitzhak, near Ashkelon. After 1967 several went back to re-create Gush Etzion.

Nava Nurock (now Lapidot) was serving as a nurse in the Hadassah Hospital on Mount Scopus in April 1948, when a convoy of doctors, nurses and other personnel, on the way up to the hospital through Sheikh Jarragh, was ambushed and set on fire by Arab terrorists. Seventy-seven people were massacred.

For several weeks she remained at the hospital while battles raged around it. Eventually the nurses were evacuated, and she helped to improvise an emergency Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem, which functioned throughout the siege and for some years thereafter, until Hadassah built a new hospital.

Shmuel Katz and his wife Doris were both active in the IZL: he was a member of the High Command. Later they divorced,
and she married Eliyahu Lankin, who had commanded the "Altalena", and who was appointed, years later, Israel's Ambassador to South Africa.

All these activities by former Southern Africans, of course, did not take place in any South African framework: the people concerned functioned as Palestinian Jews. An organised framework for Southern Africans to contribute military service to the Yishuv and Israel, only came into being when Mahal was created at the beginning of 1948.

In Biblical times, Nechemiah rebuilt the wall of Jerusalem with a ploughshare in one hand and a sword in the other. By 1947 it had become clear that swords would be needed to defend the nascent Jewish State that would emerge from the U.N. deliberations.

The Jewish Agency set out to supplement the potential Israeli army formed by Haganah and Palmach, by calling on the Jewish World War II veterans to rally as volunteers joining the Jewish forces in Palestine. These volunteers were called the Mahal, and they became a sort of Israeli Foreign Legion. They were unpaid idealists. A similar call for volunteers was made by IZL, which was also successful. Altogether 3,000
Southern Africans answered the call of the Mahal and of them, 800 were accepted. Some were retrained in South Africa. Two training centres were established, one at Bacher's farm near Johannesburg and the other at Witbank.

The enlistment, training and despatch of the volunteers to Israel were all organised by well-known South African Jewish soldiers, such as former air ace Colonel Cecil Margo, and Major Leo Kowarsky, who was later to be a Chairman of Tefed in Israel.

Colonel Lionel Meltzer put together a large medical contingent, including many carefully selected specialists. (See chapter on Medicine.)

For Southern Africans to serve in the Israeli forces was not allowed by South African law; neither was the military training the Mahal recruits were given in South Africa by organisers appointed by the S.A. Zionist Federation.

Fortunately, leaders of both major political parties in South Africa during that period – the ruling United Party, led by Field-Marshal Jan Christian Smuts, who was a fervent Zionist, and the Nationalist Party looked favourably on Zionism, and turned a blind eye to such training.

Getting to Israel and into the Israel Defence Forces was not entirely straightforward. David Teperson and eight other Southern Africans left South Africa on April 5, 1948, and were arrested in Cairo. Teperson and Harold Evion explained that they were Dutch Reform Church ministers, and they were allowed to go on to Paris. The others were released after a couple of days and also went to France.

In France the volunteers spent five weeks in a Displaced Persons camp in Marseilles: they were trained by the Palmach in the surrounding hills. At the beginning of May, they left Marseilles on one of "the little ships" of Aliya Bet, the "S.S. Tetti", and landed in Tel Aviv on a most auspicious date, May 15, 1948.

Hillel "Bill" Daleski, Sidney Langbart, Melville Malkin, Elliot Katzenellenbogen, then a student, later a well-known family doctor, Eddie and Masha Rosenberg, Norman Slotnik, Jack Segal and Max Barton and several pilots formed the first S.A. Mahal contingent to get to Palestine.

Their Dakota landed at Lydda Airport on April 21, 1948. They
MAHAL

actually had legal immigration certificates.

S.A. Mahal crew at the wreck of an enemy plane brought down by them

On the day that they landed, Lydda Airport was captured by the Palmach. They found themselves in a chaotic situation. Fortunately, they were picked up and taken to Tel Aviv by Ezer Weizman, who recognised the pilots and put the Southern Africans in a hotel.

Apart from the pilots, many of these early arrivals had served in the S.A. artillery during World War II, so naturally they hurried off to join the artillery of the Palmach. It was not as simple as it sounds: they found the artillery corps all right, but it had no guns. Eventually guns and shells came, and they fought in the battles against the Egyptians in the South, including one of the fiercest battles of the war, in the Faluja pocket.

Teperson and Evion, in the second group, joined the Haganah on the day they landed in Tel Aviv, and were sent to join the Alexandroni Brigade on the following day.

Teperson participated in all the battles on the central front until the first cease-fire on June 11, 1948. Later Teperson served in the Jeep Company of the Palmach Negev brigade.

Joseph ("Josie") Shlain, another artilleryman, was placed in a unit armed with anti-aircraft guns — the first such seen in Israel. Because of the lack of any enemy planes to shoot down, he moved to the Fourth Troop (Solela Daled), an anti-tank unit attached to the artillery.
Several others with experience in the artillery – Honie (Yochanan) Rosenberg, Freddy Salant, Dave Schmidt, and Eli Robin – arrived in June. They went to Tel Aviv in search of a unit to join, but could not find one: the newly established Israel Defence Forces were still rapidly improvising units as best they could. The Southern Africans were sitting forlornly on the Tel Aviv beach, when Josie Shlain drove past in a jeep and saw them. Learning of their predicament, he said, “Why don't you join us?”

So they became members of his anti-tank unit. They were armed with PIAT anti-tank guns, which had only one disadvantage: they were ineffective unless fired at a tank from a range of at most 50 metres.

Later their ordnance improved out of all recognition: they were given captured Egyptian guns, first two-pounders, then six-pounders, afterwards even seventeen-pounders. Leo Camron, who had served as a captain in the S.A. Artillery Corps in World War II, arrived a little later and joined the Israeli artillery.

Yet another artillery specialist was Major Eric Behrman, who came with his wife Jeanne, a nurse.

Joe Wolf became a member of the Hativa Seven, a famous unit. After the War, he went back to South Africa, but returned in 1969 to farm in a moshav. Three Southern Africans – Reginald Sagor, Jimmy Hanley and Mike Isaacson – were members of Moshe Dayan’s commando. George Jamieson moved from the artillery to "The Desert Foxes".

Richard Fellows, an experienced tank mechanic and mechanised artillery expert, with considerable experience in the British Army – he had converted to Judaism – provided invaluable service. His wife Naomi, a nurse, also came with the Mahal.

Eddie Russak, a radar expert, came with his wife Jane, a nurse, and he installed all the radar stations between Haifa and Eilat after the British had left. Another veteran from the S.A. Corps of Signals, Maurice Ostroff, became commander of the main IAF radar station.

Several other Southern Africans joined the Signals Corps, among them Moshe Shapiro, who rose to the rank of major, and Shaul Levinson (Bar Levav). Bar-Levav remained in the
Signals Corps till 1956, and he set up communications between Jerusalem and Israeli embassies abroad.

Charles Heller served in the Tank Corps and was wounded during the battles for the Negev.

Jack Fleisch, an infantryman, was captured in action years later by the Egyptians, and was released in a prisoner-exchange during a truce.

Thus hundreds of Southern African Mahal volunteers served with great distinction in all the different types of army corps, including infantry, artillery, armour, signals, engineering and medical units.

But perhaps the most dramatic Southern African contribution in the War of Independence was in building up and operating the Israel Air Force: the Southern African roles included providing planes, manpower and expertise.

Morris Borsuk, later to become a chairman of Telfed in Israel,
SEVENTY YEARS OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN ALIYAH

recalls that in the late 'forties, before the State of Israel was proclaimed, he attended a meeting with leading members of the South African Zionist Federation and with Louis Pincus; Pincus had come to South Africa from Israel, where he was serving as an aide to David Remez, later to be Israel's Minister of Transport. Pincus wanted South African Jews to help to build up Israel's embryonic air force and civil airline - the latter was still not even nascent, it was only a twinkle in Remez' eye.

As a result of that meeting, Westair, a non-scheduled airline, with Borsuk as one of the two founding directors, was born. In due course it became Universal Airlines, and was eventually absorbed into EL AL. Westair started with a fleet of three Dakotas, and later added a fourth Dakota.

A twice-weekly flight to Tel Aviv was organised. After the goods and passengers had been unloaded, the planes were used to fly urgent food and military supplies to kibbutzim in the South, cut off by the Egyptian Army.

Boris Senior, a veteran pilot from World War II, went to Tel Aviv in December 1947 and within three days, he was flying in the Sherut Avir of the Haganah, precursor of the Israel Air Force.

At that stage there were seven other pilots in the Sherut Avir - these were Jews who had settled in Israel after the War. Six of them had had limited experience in the R.A.F., and the last one was a former Russian ex-Stormvik fighter pilot. They flew rickety old club planes held together by spit, glue and prayers.

Their missions included patrolling the water-line to the Negev kibbutzim and dropping ammunition and other supplies on settlements. They also flew night missions, using hand torches to light up the instrument panel.

The Dakotas brought from South Africa were also used for night bombing attacks on Gaza, Migdal and even Damascus: they went into action so quickly that there was not enough time to remove the South African registration marks.

In February 1948, Senior was sent to South Africa to recruit air force personnel, to buy aircraft and to get both men and planes to Palestine in whatever way he could. Armed with a letter from the "General Council of Jewish Aviation in
Palestine", he presented himself to the S.A. Zionist Federation. He joined forces with Yoel Palgi, a famous Israeli paratrooper, and they combed South Africa for planes and crews. In Kimberley they discovered 40 World War II Kittihawk planes, about to be reduced to scrap. They could have purchased these for £3 or £4 each. Unfortunately, there was no way to smuggle the planes out of South Africa, even if they were dismantled into parts and stowed in ships or in transport planes. In the end they had to settle for 14 civilian craft.

Getting these planes to Israel posed nearly insuperable difficulties. Two planes were registered as personal planes in the names of Boris Senior and Cyril Katz, another former World War II pilot. Unfortunately, both planes crash-landed at Chitumbu, on a jungle strip near the Zambesi River. Another plane was flown out of South Africa by Cecil Wulfsohn, also a World War II pilot, and he got to Khartoum. From there Senior took over, and after a six-hour flight across Egypt, he landed on a strip at Kibbutz Nir Am.

Before he landed, his plane was nearly brought down by Israeli troops, and after landing, he was almost shot as he got out of the plane - fortunately, somebody recognised him. Of the 14 aircraft purchased in South Africa, two crashed on the flight to Israel, and one was impounded by the Egyptians. The remaining eleven civilian aircraft did sterling work despite their limited capabilities — they engaged in bombing missions, photographic reconnaissance, the dropping of supplies and the maintenance of communications with besieged Jerusalem and isolated settlements.

On bombing missions, the pilots simply opened the doors and windows and threw out the bombs. The planes were also used as gun platforms — machine-guns were fired out of the luggage compartments.

It is a little known fact that, when the Egyptian Navy made an attempt to carry out a sea-borne landing on Tel Aviv beach in June, 1948, they were harassed by small planes brought from South Africa, which were flown by Southern Africans.
Then the Egyptian flagship, the "Farouk", was sunk by the Israel Navy, reinforced by the planes. Three Southern Africans — Frank Herbstein, Charles Mandelstam and Cyril Gottsman — served in the naval vessels that participated in the action.

Solly Meltzer also served as a seaman: he had sailed from South Africa on the "Bennie Scow", the ship that brought vital supplies to Israel.

Danny Rosin, an experienced SAAF pilot, flew a Dakota from South Africa, but was compelled to go via Greece to Rome. There Daniel Agronsky, an Israeli representative, told him that a C46 purchased in Czechoslovakia — loaded with guns and other ammunition — had lost an engine and had been forced to crash-land at Treviso, Italy. The crew of four had been imprisoned because the weapons were contraband. Agronsky gave Rosin "a ton of money": he flew to Venice, and took a train from there to Treviso. He made a deal with the Italian authorities whereupon he was allowed to take away the plane and to get the crew out of gaol. They made him surrender the weapons and ammunition.

The crew, all Americans, consisted of two pilots, a navigator and a wireless operator. One pilot went home to the U.S., but the other stayed, and after the plane was fixed, showed Rosin how to operate the C46. They flew to Zautec, Czechoslovakia, to get more arms there.

From there he got to Israel, where he found that Southern Africans Dov Judah and Smoky Simon "were running the show". They were responsible for getting him appointed, together with Claude Duval, a South African non-Jewish ex-SAAF volunteer, James Blackwood, an American and Abe Nurick, a fantastic South African mechanical engineer, to set up 103 squadron, which bombed Gaza, Beersheba (in Egyptian hands) and the Faluja pocket.

Aharon Remez headed the Air Force and Ezer Weizman and Sid Cohen served together in 101 squadron.

One of Rosin's curious missions was "Operation Jonah": he, Rolfe Futerman and a British pilot flew to Rhodes to fetch three Avro-Ansons that had been impounded by the Greeks. They had suitable passports and flying licences to convince the Greeks that they would take the planes to France.
They duly set off westwards towards France, but somehow lost their way in the great blue sky, and ended up going east to Israel. Rosin remained in 103 until January 1949, when Remez and Dan Tolkowsky put him in charge of a training school for pilots which they opened in Herzliya. With him in the school were pilots Rolfe Futerman, Emanuel Solarsh, Leon "Sonny" Ospovat and Coleman Myers (a Rhodesian). Eric Berman was the administrator and his wife Jeanne Berman the nurse.

Several Southern Africans, such as "Smoky" Simon, Dov Judah, Sid Cohen, Sid Kentridge, Leslie Shagham and Rolfe Futerman attained top positions in the Air Force.

Morris Segal was in charge of pilot training when his plane crashed, and he was severely injured. After he participated in Operation Jonah, Rolfe Futerman was promoted to flight-commander in 103 Squadron. In August 1949 he returned to South Africa, but came back on aliya in 1977 and joined Israel Aircraft Industries.

Mandy Voss and Lou Maserow, who had been wireless operators in the SAAF, came to Israel in the Mahal to serve the IAF in this capacity.

First group of pilots at passing out parade
Some pilots, like Rubin Narunsky, were given courses in South Africa and joined the IAF a few months later. Other Southern African pilots who brought planes from South Africa and served in the Israel Air Force were Tuvia ("Tuxie") Blau, Les Chimes and Arthur Cooper: Syd Chalmers was chief technical officer of a Mosquito squadron; Zeev Zimmerman and Chaim Grevler served in air crews. At the end of the war, David Ben-Gurion, Israel's Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, paid a public tribute to the Southern African Mahalnicks for their share in developing Israel's air force, radar and medical corps.

Many pilots and air crew stayed on after the military operations ended. Some were among the pioneer air crews in the newly created El Al.

Syd Chalmers, who went from England to South Africa, joined Mahal and then El Al, was killed when the Bulgarians shot down an El Al passenger plane in 1955.

In the Six Day War in 1967, many of the El Al air crew — veterans from the Mahal days — flew planes against the Egyptian Air Force and Army. When this war became imminent, 782 volunteers arrived in Israel from Southern Africa, but the IDF was by then so strong that a Foreign Legion was no longer needed. So the Southern Africans served as volunteers in kibbutzim and elsewhere.

In 1973 during the Yom Kippur War, 300 Southern Africans came as volunteers to serve on kibbutzim, depleted of manpower because of Army call-ups.

Unfortunately, the Southern Africans paid a high price for their service to the country. Altogether 66 Southern Africans have fallen in the defence of Israel. (See list page 179).

In 1986 a monument to their memory designed by South African David Fine was dedicated in the Galilee, a kilometre from the Golani Junction, opposite the South African forest. (See page 179).

From the very nature of the War of Independence and of Mahal's activities, there was a great deal of improvisation, and records were not comprehensive, so it may be that the activities of some who served in Mahal are not recorded here. For any such omissions we apologise.
The Israel committee of the South African Zionist Federation (later to be known as "Telfed") came into existence in September 1948. They set up the first office in Israel to provide aid to immigrants from the English-speaking countries, the so-called "Anglo-Saxons". Its great value to the immigrants became manifest so rapidly that other "Anglo-Saxons" very soon paid it what has been described as the sincerest form of flattery — imitation. In later years it was described by an Israeli Minister of Absorption as a model of its kind.

Against this background of a success story, it is perhaps surprising that setting up Telfed was not a carefully planned project with clearly defined short-term and long-term objectives. On the contrary, like Topsy in Uncle Tom's Cabin, "it just growed". As Sam Levin, who held the post of Director of the office from 1949 to 1962 once wrote, "The Israel Office began before the Federation had any intention of setting one up."

The original function of Telfed was to minister to the 800 Mahal volunteers from Southern Africa, who required...
hospitality and relaxation, and a place for storing their surplus personal effects; they also needed pocket-money, newspapers, cigarettes, and news from home; they had to make a host of individual arrangements, including their eventual settlement in Israel or their repatriation to Southern Africa, and could not manage without guidance and aid.

The first Israel Committee included Joseph Janower (former head of the Jewish National Fund in South Africa; Lazaro Braudo (former chairman of the S.A. Zionist Federation in South Africa and chairman of the Anglo-Palestine Bank, now the Bank Leumi); Jack Geri (originally Gering), managing director of Africa-Palestine Investments (A.P.I.) and later Minister of Trade and Commerce; Alex Rubens, managing director of the Palestine Cold Storage Ltd.; Abraham Levy, managing director of the Binyan Mortgage Bank Ltd.; Michael Comay, head of the Anglo-American desk in the newly born Israel Government's Foreign Office; Louis A. Pincus, legal adviser to the Minister of Communications; and Advocate Eli Kirschner, legal adviser to the A.P.I.

When the idea of a special office catering to the Mahalniks' needs was bruited, Eli Kirschner, who held a senior position in Israel Army GHQ, offered the use of his legal offices at 13 Ahad Ha'am street, in the heart of Tel Aviv, for the purpose. A nearby store-room, with retiree Abraham Rosenberg, former principal of the Jewish Free School in Johannesburg serving as storeman, was rented.

Mike Udwin, who had arrived as secretary of the Mahal medical team, was installed as liaison officer - he was later to become Telfed's first secretary.

Sam Levin, on his arrival in January 1949, was appointed Mahal Re-Settlement Officer, and some months later, he became Telfed's first Director-General.

From the beginning of the arrival of the Mahal volunteers, Joseph Janower and his wife Alice acted in loco parentis to them, and established close personal associations with them. So, when the S.A. Federation in Johannesburg set up an Israel committee in the offices generously provided by Kirschner, Janower was an inevitable choice as its first chairman.
The Joseph Janower era (1948-1952)
Janower spent a great deal of time talking to members of Mahal; he listened to their problems, offered them timely words of advice, supervised the distribution of free cigarettes and pocket-money (five Israel pounds per month). When the fighting ended at the beginning of 1949, Janower's committee turned its attention to non-belligerent matters, such as encouraging and assisting Mahal volunteers to remain in the country, and also to providing services to other members of the Southern African Jewish community who came on aliyah to Israel.

Early in 1949, Kirschner was released from the IDF and had to take back his offices. Alex Rubens, the manager of the Palestine Cold Storage, another South African company, offered Telfed accommodation in his building. Telfed moved accordingly.
But, while Telfed appreciated Rubens' gesture and goodwill, sharing with the Cold Storage was a rather cold solution to their problem: it was bad for morale for the Southern African soldiers and ex-soldiers, trying to adjust to Israeli life, to see vast quantities of food set aside for export or for tourists, at a time when the citizens of Israel were enduring an austerity worse than that which the English had suffered during the "Blitz".
Norman Lourie, founder of S.A. Habonim, owned a flat at 109 Hayarkon Street, close to the beach. The building stood on pillars. Lourie persuaded the owners to build a home for Telfed around these pillars, at a cost of 2,000 Israeli pounds key-money and a similar sum in annual rent.
Within two years Telfed was living in great style. They had offices, a clubroom, bar and cafetaria in one of the choicest locations in Tel Aviv, right next to the Dan Hotel.
The re-settlement of Mahal volunteers was the major pre-occupation — and achievement — of Janower's four-year
SEVENTY YEARS OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN ALIYAH

tenure. Funds were allocated by Telfed for initial grants, which were paid either to the individuals or to the kibbutzim and moshavim that absorbed them. Special attention was devoted to employment and housing problems. Janower was a member of the directorate of the JNF in Jerusalem, and managed to secure the allocation of two sites, one in Tel Aviv and the other on the Tel Aviv-Givatayim border, for housing construction. Under his leadership, and with the professional assistance of the A.P.I., three blocks of apartments for ex-Mahal Southern Africans were built in what was called very appositely Jan Smuts Boulevard. A special Binyan mortgage and the Mahal grant, resulted in the settlers' cash participation in their homes being minimal. The success of this project inspired the construction of another building of nine apartments later on: the purchase of these flats was open to all Southern African immigrants, even if they were not ex-members of Mahal. Further buildings in the Tel Aviv area were acquired for Southern Africans, and a parallel scheme was initiated in Haifa. A 1951 innovation was the calling of a conference of Southern Africans resident in Israel. Its main purpose was to discuss the encouragement of aliyah and how to ensure the successful integration of Southern African immigrants. There were 150 participants and very constructive ideas emerged from the two days of deliberations.

The David Dunsky era (1953 - 1959)
David Dunsky, a former chairman of the S.A. Zionist Youth Council, arrived in Israel, together with a number of friends, and applied himself to setting up a number of business enterprises across the country. Post-Mahal immigration included a wave of immigrants who had been influential in current S.A. Zionist affairs, including members of the Federation executive, and it was inevitable that their colleagues in Johannesburg, who nominated the Israel committee, would want them to take the lead in the committee, so Dunsky was a natural choice as Chairman. He tackled the problem of breaking through the bureaucratic wall surrounding foreign currency regulations, and succeeded
in obtaining more favourable rates of exchange for investors, as well as an exemption for Southern African immigrants from the rule requiring automatic conversion of all foreign exchange brought by them to Israel. He established the Foreign Investors’ Association, and became its first Chairman.

During his term of office, plans were drawn for the construction of a hostel and additional apartment blocks on the Givatayim site that Janower had acquired from the JNF. (Today this is on Amishav Street — but then it was called "Shenkin Street Extension"). The hostel, consisting of a number of one-room apartments on three floors was intended for temporary accommodation for newcomers – singles and young couples without children. It was completed in 1954, and was dedicated a year later in memory of those who had fallen in Israel’s defence.

By this time the Jewish Agency had entered the housing field very actively, and the Southern Africans had ready access to the Agency’s subsidised housing.

As a result, the proposed apartments...
were not built at the time, and the land remained unexploited for about 20 years.

During the Sinai Campaign in 1956, a number of volunteers came from Southern Africa and enlisted in the Nahal, the elite Israeli corps that combines paratrooper service with working in kibbutzim. Telfed played its usual role of guide, philosopher and friend to the volunteers.

Some of these volunteers did not return to South Africa, and, of those who did, many came back later as immigrants. The increase in tourist traffic prompted Telfed to arrange numerous welcoming parties, which enabled the visitors to meet veteran settlers.

The most colourful group consisted of Dutch Reform ministers and their wives, who were very excited, not only by the Holy Places, but also by the modern farming methods they saw on kibbutzim.

Then came a visit by the Prime Minister of South Africa, Dr. Daniel F. Malan, the first Prime Minister ever to visit the State of Israel.

During this era, Telfed assisted in the development of the Ashkelon special project. (See page 55).

Another exciting development was the commencement of direct broadcasts to Southern Africa via "Kol Zion Lagola". Included in the regular programme was a weekly feature on the activities of Southern Africans settled in Israel, and a weekly talk, "From the Federation", by the Telfed director.

These broadcasts met with a very positive response.

(see picture on page 35).

The Israel Dunsky era (1960-1969)

Israel Dunsky came on aliyah after serving in many capacities in the S.A. Zionist Federation in Johannesburg, including those of Treasurer and Chairman of the Federation, and also Chairman of the I.U.A.

Shortly after his arrival, he succeeded his younger brother as Telfed Chairman, and was able to strengthen the bonds between the head office in Johannesburg and its Israel committee.

In 1961, Israel Dunsky, together with Sam Levin, the Director-General of Telfed, and Frederick Levy, the Financial Administrator, took the initiative of arranging a meeting with
David Ben-Gurion, the Prime Minister at Sde Boker. The purpose was to invite Mr Ben-Gurion to pay a visit to South African Jewry which had hitherto not taken place. Knowing B-G's dislike for pomp, the Telfed group that went to Sde Boker to brief the "Old Man" dressed carefully for the occasion in chalutz attire. They were welcomed by Ben-Gurion and Paula; probably at her insistence, he was wearing a dark lounge suit and tie.
A very cordial and comprehensive discussion took place, in which he reiterated his appreciation of Southern African Jewry's contribution to Israel in manpower and material resources. He expressed his willingness to visit the community in the near future.
The following year something that was believed to be impossible was achieved when David Ben-Gurion agreed, in the interests of Jewish education, to visit South Africa.
There was an intensified flow of immigration after Sharpeville, and Telfed responded to the new needs. Until then, ulpanim (adult education courses in Hebrew) had been provided mainly for external students and where there was any accommodation, no provision was made for families. This inspired the inauguration by Telfed of family reception centres, which admitted entire families who could concentrate on their Hebrew studies, leaving their problems of employment and housing to be tackled at a later date.

Telfed set up Ulpan Ben Yehuda in Netanya which has continued to function ever since. A parallel project was set up in Petach Tikva for two years.

Secondary school students among the immigrants went as boarders to the Alonei Yitzhak Youth Village, which provided both normal scholastic courses and agricultural training. This served as the forerunner of other comprehensive high school schemes for the children of immigrants.

The Six Day War of 1967 cast a shadow on Telfed's normal activities. Tragically, there were a number of Southern African casualties and condolence visits became the order of the day. The outbreak of the war resulted in a new surge of volunteers from Southern Africa: but conditions were very different from those that had prevailed during the Mahal period of 1948. Then the War of Independence had followed closely on World War II, and the Mahal volunteers had all served in that war. In 1967, the young volunteers, although not needed by the Israel Defence Forces as combat troops, worked on kibbutzim and moshavim, replacing Israelis who had been called up. Telfed mobilised its forces to pay sustained visits to each of the scattered groups and to minister to the needs of the volunteers.

Unfortunately, it was during this era that Telfed had to leave its premises at 109 Hayarkon Street, where it had been for 13 happy years.

After these fat years came twelve lean years. Early in the 'sixties, the South African Government curtailed the transfer of funds to the Jewish national institutions in Israel. Beggars cannot be choosers, and in 1963 Telfed had to move to a Jewish Agency building at 53a Hayarkon Street. Not only were the new premises woefully inadequate, they
had to be shared with "foreigners" — the immigrant associations of the Americans, the British and the Dutch. Indeed, if anything, the Southern Africans were the interlopers - the others had been in the building for some time. Gone was the cosy clubhouse with its sense of intimacy. Financial stringency made it necessary to cut staff. Yet somehow Telfed managed to maintain the high level of its assistance to thousands of settlers, volunteers and visitors.

**The Leo Kowarsky era (1970-1971)**

Leo Kowarsky immigrated to Israel in 1963 after a distinguished military, political and business career in South Africa.

After World War II, he established in South Africa the Southern African League for the Haganah, and was elected its Chairman. He was one of the people responsible for the selection and training of the Mahal volunteers in 1947 and 1948.

In Israel, soon after he immigrated, he became Chairman of the Maccabi World Union Executive and of the International Maccabi Games Executive Board.

He also served on the Telfed committee, becoming Vice-Chairman under Israel Dunsky. In this capacity he headed the committee dealing with the volunteers who came to Israel before and immediately after the Six Day War in 1967. The aftermath of the war kept him very busy with these volunteers when he became Chairman of Telfed in 1970. Many of them settled in Israel after the War ended, and Telfed was very active in thier successful absorption. Unfortunately, Kowarsky died prematurely in the following year.

**The Joseph Herbstein era (1971 - 1974)**

Judge Joseph Herbstein retired from the South African Supreme Court bench and came to settle in Israel; throughout his life in South Africa he had been a devoted Zionist and had served the movement in Cape Town in many capacities.

Immediately after he arrived in Israel, he joined the Boards of
Governors of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the Technion, but his prime area of service was to Telfed. He concentrated on raising funds and endowments for education and absorption. He personally inspired numerous donors, whose funds were used to inaugurate wide-reaching bursary programmes; these donors generally appointed Telfed as trustees to administer their gifts to various educational and welfare institutions. These activities received added momentum when Herbstein became Chairman of the Telfed committee and later, when he relinquished the chairmanship, he continued to be very active in these spheres as an elder statesman. Several momentous events, including the Yom Kippur War, took place while he was Chairman. The tragic aftermath of the war was the need to pay condolence visits to the families of Southern Africans who fell in defence of Israel on many fronts, and to other families whose loved ones had been taken prisoner. A consoling development was the arrival of hundreds of volunteers for a year's service — special arrangements on an ongoing basis were made to maintain contact with them. In 1972, the Zionist Federation in South Africa made the necessary financial arrangements to enable the Israel office to seek a new home. A suitable place for a new "nest" was found on the fifth floor of the Clal building, a skyscraper near Dizengoff Circle, where the Telfed office now is. For a long time there were only blueprints and it took three years for the move to be completed. A South African Embassy was opened in Tel Aviv in 1972. During the preceding 24 years, Telfed had acted unofficially, but with the full knowledge and approval of the Southern African authorities, in a "consular" capacity. Thus it had attended to various matters concerning relation-
ships between the two countries, including the issue of certificates relating to births, visa applications and passports. Telfed was naturally delighted to surrender such functions to the official South African representatives.

Through a special Trade Committee, Telfed still continued to promote commercial relations between Israel and South Africa. These activities led to the establishment of a fully fledged Chamber of Commerce.

The Max Miodownik era (1975-1978)

Max Miodownik, who had served as Treasurer of Telfed during the period that Judge Herbstein had been Chairman, took over the chairmanship in 1975.

His first duty was the pleasant one of leading the move of the offices at last from 53a Hayarkon Street to the comparatively palatial premises in the Clal building. Although building operations were still going on, moving day was set for June 15, 1975, and, on that day, Rabbi Louis Rabinowitz duly affixed a mezzuza to the doorpost; members of the Telfed committee, the staff and a large gathering of visitors celebrated Telfed's finding of a new home. Nostalgic Southern Africans say that the Telfed office is still not as relaxed as the clubhouse at 109 Hayarkon Street was - nothing could be - but it is extremely functional, is centrally located and is a corner of paradise compared to 53a Hayarkon Street.

Working with additional staff and improved facilities, Telfed was in a better position to provide more comprehensive and efficient services. New specialised sub-committees - a Medical Committee, a Lawyers Committee, a Rental Housing Committee and a Telfed Editorial Committee - were set up. Funds were obtained through the Jewish Agency and an arrangement was made with Pinchas Sapir, then Chairman of the Agency, for the allocation of R3m for the acquisition, for rental to new arrivals, of an apartment block in Ra'anana and
of a large building on the land adjoining the hostel in Amishav Street, Tel Aviv. This pioneering venture became the forerunner for the establishment of "Isrentco", an Israeli company owned by Telfed, providing apartments for rent. "Telfed", the monthly newsletter produced by Telfed, initiated by Hertzel Katz, which had been established to provide information of value to new immigrants, was expanded into a fully-fledged magazine, containing news and features about Southern Africans settled in Israel, and about developments in Jewish life in South Africa. Thus the magazine came to serve not only newcomers, but also long-time Southern African settlers in Israel.

Aliyah from Southern Africa peaked in 1977, when a record number of 1,400 immigrants came to Israel. They were widely dispersed throughout the country and to cater for their needs, new regional committees were set up in Beersheba, Netanya and Kfar Saba. One of Telfed's tasks was arranging visits to South Africa by prominent Israeli personalities, both for fund-raising and cultural purposes. One memorable tour initiated by Telfed was by the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra.

**The Hertzel Katz era (1979-1982)**

Hertzel Katz came on aliyah in 1969, after heading the Betar movement in Southern Africa and serving as a member of the S.A. Zionist Federation. He joined the Executive of Telfed in 1971. The steady growth in the number of newcomers and their dispersal throughout the country characterized his term of office as Chairman. Branch offices were opened in Jerusalem in 1979 and in Haifa in 1980. An office in Ra'anana also functioned for a limited period. Regional committees with elected office-bearers and active social and educational programmes, developed in various localities, thus diversifying Telfed's activities even further.
At Katz' initiative, attention was devoted to the current situation of the World Zionist Movement, and the need to review it. He steered a resolution calling for reform of the Zionist movement through the 36th Zionist Conference in South Africa in August, 1980 - the S.A. Zionist Federation, as a result of Telfed's prodding, raised the issue with the world Zionist leadership.

Katz inaugurated in 1980 the establishment of a provident fund, Keren Telfed, which was registered according to Israeli law as an amutah (a non-profit company with philanthropic aims). Contributions were obtained from Southern Africans in Israel and overseas, as well as the Jewish Agency. The Fund provided aid to numerous Southern Africans in need. Today the Fund is a major means of alleviating financial pressure on new and veteran Southern Africans alike.

Southern Africans founded a new moshav, Manof, in 1980 after Telfed had helped the would-be settlers to overcome almost insuperable bureaucratic obstacles.

A very significant step was a visit by the S.A. Zionist Federation's leadership in August, 1981, to sponsor a residential development in an area named Atar Sapir. (The name was changed later to Kochav Yair.)

As the first chairman of the Kochav Yair committee, Katz concluded the arrangements with the Israeli authorities for the development of the area, and the first registration of settlers began.

During this period Telfed played a leading role in the establishment of the Joint Council for Aliyah and Klitah by the associations representing the so-called "Anglo-Saxons" in Israel.

At long last the new building in Amishav Street adjoining "The South African Hostel" was inaugurated. The official ceremony took place in January, 1982.

An imaginative innovation was the organisation in February-March, 1982 of workshops for Southern African regional workers and members of sub-committees involved in the absorption process.

To recognise the contributions of Southern African volunteers to Israeli society, Katz inspired the establishment of an annual Telfed Volunteer Award for community service.
The Morris Borsuk era (1982 to 1986)

Morris Borsuk, who had been Treasurer of the Executive of the S.A. Zionist Federation in South Africa, became Chairman of Telfed in 1982.

Aliyah from Southern Africa was on the rise throughout the period that he was Chairman, and Telfed set out to provide incentives and facilities for intending immigrants. A steering committee was first established to work out the best possible programme.

One concession Telfed gained from the authorities was the removal of the restriction on the size of apartments that immigrants could acquire without losing their qualification for preferential mortgages.

Forty years is a long time in an individual's lifetime. Many of the vigorous young Mahalniks and other early settlers were not-so-young pensioners or retired personnel by the 'eighties. Their children had grown up, so Telfed came to their aid.

Social contacts were organised for them through Telfed's different branches. Telfed gave its blessing and practical help to the "Beit Protea" project, a "Golden Age" retirement home planned for Southern Africans. The project encountered many bureaucratic obstacles; Telfed helped the organisers to overcome these. Nevertheless the construction stage was delayed until 1990.

Thousands of Southern Africans attended a reunion at the Maccabiah Village in May 1985; President Chaim Herzog addressed them, and presented the first Telfed Volunteer Award for community service to the person chosen by the Telfed committee.

A poignant ceremony took place in May, 1986 at the Golani Junction in Galilee, in which the memories of Southern Africans who fell in the defence of Israel were commemorated, and a memorial, designed by sculptor David Fine of Ma'ayan Baruch was unveiled.
During this period Telfed co-operated with the Jewish Agency in a scheme to provide secondary school education in English for young immigrants whose lack of knowledge of Hebrew impaired their ability to matriculate in Israel's normal schools. A special matriculation course, using English as the mother tongue, was opened for Southern Africans in the Moses Mosenson High School in Hod Hasharon. This special education in English has been used ever since, and has eased the integration process for many teen-age Southern Africans. To stimulate aliya, Telfed, together with the Israel Government and the Jewish Agency, launched a campaign in South Africa. Twenty thousand copies of a glossy brochure, called "Make the Right Move" were distributed; these described various rural and urban settlements in Israel, and outlined detailed programmes for prospective immigrants to study. A very successful Southern African arts festival was organised, at which artists and sculptors exhibited their creations, and musicians, dancers and singers performed. An official reception was organised by Telfed in honour of Zulu Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, who was on a visit to Israel.

**The Leon Charney era (1987 - 1990)**

Leon Charney, a former head of Betar, came on aliya in 1961. His first activity in Telfed was to serve as a member of the Hostel Committee in 1967; in 1980, he became a member of the Executive. The upsurge in Southern African aliya that had marked the Borsuk era came to an end in the latter half of the 'eighties, as a result of a changed political climate in Southern Africa and the outbreak of the Intifada, so most of the efforts of Telfed during this period were devoted to devising schemes that would counter the trend. Telfed presented to the Israel Cabinet a comprehensive blueprint for aliya which has become a "reference book" for everyone dealing with immigrants. To help immigrants, Telfed
set up an employment department, which managed to place newcomers in many fields of endeavour in Israel. Telfed organised various missions to South Africa to promote the good cause. One consisted of representatives of Telfed and the Ministry of Absorption. The Commissioner of Inland Revenue sent recruiters for accountants; the Ministry of Health, the Health Funds and the Israel Scientific Council despatched experts offering posts to doctors and paramedical personnel. As a result of the last visit, Southern African doctors were exempted from having to write re-qualifying examinations in Israel.

Teams of dentists and pharmacists also went in search of potential immigrants. The pharmacists' mission resulted in an agreement that pharmacists could take oral examinations in South Africa to qualify to practise in Israel - this was a concession that had been sought for decades. Telfed also managed to obtain permission for lawyers to write examinations in English in South Africa, enabling them to practise at the Israel Bar. A similar concession was obtained for electricians. A course in English was opened in the Tadmor Hotel in Herzliya for immigrants who wanted to enter the hotel industry.

Hundreds of teen-age Southern Africans came to Israel every year in programmes organised by Telfed, in cooperation with the Government and the Jewish Agency.

The prolonged battle waged by Telfed and other immigrant associations for recognition as the official representatives of the immigrants was at last successful. A Council of Immigrants' Associations was formed; Telfed played a major role in its creation, and in running it.

In 1989 Telfed conducted a survey "Operation Outreach", to review what had happened to Southern African immigrants who had come since 1986. It disclosed that 70% of them enjoyed job satisfaction, and that 40% owned their own homes. 75% of the adults were professionals.

Telfed introduced an imaginative concept for immigration absorption that was to become famous - the Rishon Le Zion project. Instead of olim being taken for several months to immigrant absorption centres, they went straight to apartments in Rishon Le Zion, a satellite city of Tel Aviv. The
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term "Direct Absorption" was coined for the project. The mayor of Ra'anana was so impressed by it that he introduced a similar project in his town, using Telfed as counsellors. Telfed was asked to send a representative to the Ladispoli transit camp near Rome to fetch some of the Russians who had been stuck there. He brought 65 Russians to Rishon. "Direct Absorption" became the mainstay in the handling of the waves of Russian immigrants that began to come in the nineties.

In April 1990, Telfed organised a "happening", a "Salute to Sixty Years of Southern African Aliyah". The event, attended by a thousand Southern Africans who had immigrated at various times throughout the past 60 years, took place at Kibbutz Shefayim. The guests of honour were the South African Ambassador, H.E. Mr. Johan Viljoen, and Mr. Uzi Narkis of the Jewish Agency. Southern African musicians, singers and dancers presented an audio-visual show written, directed and produced by Southern Africans, supported by laser lighting effects which delineated in compressed, dramatic form, the contributions of Southern African olim to the life, defence, economy and development of Israel, that are set out in this book.

The Nick Alhadeff era (1990 - )

Nick Alhadeff came on aliyah in 1977; he was the first President of the Central African Zionist Organisation to immigrate to Israel during his term of office. He had had a wealth of experience in communal work in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), having served as Vice-President of the Central African Board of Deputies. He was speedily integrated into communal work in Israel and was invited to join the Telfed Executive soon after his arrival in the country; within a year he was appointed an Honorary Officer. After serving as Treasurer of Telfed for seven years, he took over the reins of the chairmanship in 1990.
Although the rate of immigration went into a state of decline in the early 'nineties, Alhadeff managed to increase Telfed's contribution to the absorption of Southern Africans and other immigrants.

Two of the largest South African Trust Funds were established. These enabled Telfed to assist many Southern Africans who had fallen on hard times, and to institute a "Quality of Life" programme to provide children with extracurricular activities.

The influx of Russian immigrants caused a severe housing shortage, and the purchase of a home became a formidable undertaking for Southern Africans. Telfed spared no effort in trying to develop new housing projects, similar to those it had introduced so successfully in the past. Among these projects were a new settlement, Tzur Yigal, and a building near Central Tel-Aviv.

Alhadeff played a central role in bringing Beth Protea, the Southern African retirement home, to fruition.

Telfed's involvement in the absorption of Soviet Aliya took a new turn in 1991, when it expanded its activities to that of encouraging absorption through the medium of sport. Together with the Israel Tennis Center, a national programme was embarked upon, which provided a series of tennis lessons for children and adults, in addition to providing scholarships for young and promising tennis players. Telfed, together with the Haifa Committee for Soviet Jewry, turned its Haifa office into an Educational Research Centre for Soviet pupils and students. Rental Housing Advisory offices were opened in Tel-Aviv, together with Maldan (the Real Estate Agents Association) and in Rishon Le Zion, within the framework of the Municipality's Absorption Offices. During the Gulf War, Telfed was instrumental in bringing a solidarity mission from South Africa.

Towards the end of 1991, Telfed's offices became a hive of activity in preparation for the visit to Israel of the President of South Africa, F. W. de Klerk. Telfed hosted a function for the President and his entourage at Beit Protea and together with the Jewish National Fund, organised a tree-planting ceremony at the South African Memorial Garden to the Fallen near the Golani Junction.
The Administrators

All these Chairmen and the various Telfed committees were served by remarkable executive directors, who functioned like top civil servants in C.P. Snow novels. They made imaginative and valuable contributions to the framing of Telfed policies, applying their profound knowledge of Israeli conditions and their insights into immigrant problems. Then they executed these policies with great skill and efficiency.

They were in day-to-day contact with thousands of Southern Africans, who knew they could always come to the Telfed Director-General and his aides for guidance when in trouble, that they would find there a sympathetic ear, and whatever aid could be given to them in practice.

These Directors-General and their terms of office were:
Sam Levin (1949 - 1962);
Leib Frank (1962 - 1978);
Itz Stein (1979 - 1984);
Sidney Shapiro (1984 - )

Simie Weinstein, who came on aliya in 1956, after working with Mahal volunteers at the Southern African end, has served Telfed ever since as the liaison officer between it and the Israel Ministry of Defence; as Telfed's representative on the Jewish Agency's Housing Committee for Western
immigrants; as a liaison officer with the South African Embassy; and as Telfed's honorary spiritual leader officiating at weddings and funerals.

What does Telfed do?
For more than 40 years the Federation office in Israel has done anything and everything calculated to encourage aliya from Southern Africa, to make the absorption of Southern Africans into Israel easier, and to blunt the shocks of change. In a way it may be said that, within this broad definition of its overriding aims, Telfed's approach has been entirely pragmatic rather than philosophical. Whenever a problem arose, Telfed would try to come up with a solution. Some needs of immigrants have remained the same, but others developed as Israeli society and the nature of the immigrations changed. (Many of Telfed's functions, and achievements are described above in the report on the different Chairmen's eras.)

Representing the immigrant
Telfed, acting together with other immigrant associations, has waged — and is still waging — a long campaign on behalf of the immigrants. The objectives of this struggle are to get new laws and regulations introduced, to clear away red tape, to change rigid attitudes, and to promote greater understanding of the immigrant's needs. This has involved working continuously with - and sometimes against - the Jewish Agency's Department of Immigration and Absorption, and the Ministry of Absorption. In particular, Telfed was involved in an advisory capacity, when, in the early 'seventies, arrangements were made with the South African Government to allow investment of capital by Southern Africans in Israel. In 1986, when political events in South Africa indicated that a large wave of aliya from Southern Africa could be expected, Telfed drew up a detailed blueprint for the promotion of Southern African immigration and the successful absorption of the immigrants. This proposal, which included a plan of action and in-depth budgeting was presented to the Israel Cabinet. It was accepted by the Government as an excellent programme
for promoting aliyah, not only from Southern Africa but also from other countries, from which large-scale immigration could be expected.

At Telfed’s initiative, the then Prime Minister, Shimon Peres, directed that a special Coordinating Committee, comprising representatives of the Ministry of Absorption, the Jewish Agency and Telfed should be established at the level of directors-general, with a Telfed representative, Hertzel Katz, as chairman.

Two sub-committees were appointed, one to concentrate on aliyah and the other on absorption. These committees met regularly every few weeks for a number of years, and achieved numerous breakthroughs in the promotion of Southern African aliyah and the provision of special aid to help the immigrants from Southern Africa to get absorbed. This was the first time that such a committee, at such a high level, had been appointed.

As a member of the Council of Immigrant Associations, Telfed is involved in all negotiations with the Ministry of Absorption and the Jewish Agency.

**Housing**

Apart from housing erected by Telfed as previously indicated, Telfed helps with second mortgages. State housing loans for new immigrants, which are generous according to general Israeli standards, have been made available to Southern African immigrants. These loans have to be taken up within a limited number of years, or the rights to them are lost. Telfed has waged a continuous fight, so far without success, to change this restriction.

The loans have never been anywhere near as large as those to which Southern African settlers were accustomed to receive for housing in South Africa, and the terms have always been more onerous. Telfed therefore helps Southern Africans — as well as the children of settlers — with second mortgages on easy terms that make the purchase of homes possible.

**Rental Housing**

For those who cannot afford to purchase homes, the Israeli housing market does not provide a viable alternative. It is for
The Hostel, built in 1953

Adjoining the Hostel, one of Telfed's rental apartment blocks
this reason that Telfed embarked upon a long-term rental housing project by providing some 100 apartments in the Tel-Aviv and Ra'anana areas. In addition, the "Isrentco" company leased apartments on the private market for the purpose of providing housing for direct absorption projects.

**Loans**

Immigrants - and sometimes long-term settlers as well — need help with comparatively small amounts to purchase furniture, or to set up small businesses, or for any of several other purposes, and cannot obtain these loans in the normal way from the commercial banks. Telfed provided and provides such loans on very easy terms.

**Employment**

Enormous thought and effort have gone into helping Southern Africans to find work. Activities in this regard have included:

- arranging for lawyers to write their Israeli bar examinations in English in South Africa;
- arranging for pharmacists to get recognition in Israel, after doing examinations in English in South Africa;
- investigating job opportunities in the professions, and advising potential immigrants accordingly;
- arranging that Southern Africans wishing to go into hotel management or hotel services should attend special courses;
- setting up a businessman's committee to advise on commercial opportunities for new Southern African immigrants wanting to go into business;
- arranging posts in the income tax office for accountants;
- providing pilot tours for potential settlers so as to help them become orientated to work conditions in Israel.

**Education**

A problem encountered by some immigrants that is almost as serious for them as housing and employment difficulties, is the education of their children - often the children, particularly teen-agers, find it difficult to settle down in Israeli schools. Telfed has tried to help in a number of ways, such as providing educational counselling. More specific help is given through
the provision of bursaries for the children of immigrants, made possible through the establishment of numerous trusts and funds.

New Ideas
Telfed pioneered by introducing many new ideas to stimulate immigration and to help in the absorption of immigrants to Israel, such as:
- setting up the first territorial community office (later emulated by other communities);
- introducing the first resettlement scheme for Mahal volunteers;
- building the first hostel for Western immigrants;
- setting up the first family absorption centres (Netanya and Petah Tikva) for family Ulpanim (forerunners of the Absorption Centres);
- initiating the building of more than 50 apartments in Jan Smuts Boulevard, Tel Aviv, for Mahal settlers and other new arrivals (a project that was later emulated by the Ministry of Housing);
- starting the first organised scheme for rental apartments;
- starting the first high school scheme for English-speaking immigrants (Alonei Yitzhak);
- initiating the first Israel matriculation programme in English (at the Mosenson School in Hod Hasharon).
- contributing to the quality of life of established Southern Africans with limited incomes, by enabling their children to participate in extra-mural activities.

In recent years Telfed also pioneered the following important "firsts" in the absorption of immigrants:
- abolition of apartment size restrictions for obtaining maximum Government mortgages;
- the direct absorption programme (Rishon Le Zion) on an organised basis (later adopted by the Government as its official policy on absorption);
- Telfed was the first non-Russian immigrant organisation to set up special direct absorption projects for Soviet Jews;
- the initiation, in conjunction with the Israel Tennis Centers and the Jewish Agency, of a social absorption project through the medium of sport, whereby immigrant adults and children
were provided with free tennis instruction;
- organising the provision of a hoteliering course in English;
- arranging qualifying exams in English for electricians;
- arranging qualifying examinations in South Africa for lawyers, accountants and pharmacists to practice in Israel;
- establishment of a Moshav with integrated private/commercial concepts — Moshav Manof;
- helping to promote a retirement centre based on the concept of community responsibility — Beit Protea;
- establishment of a coordinating committee, bringing together the Ministry of Absorption and the Jewish Agency to discuss issues relating to Aliyah and Absorption.

**Singles - Young Adults Support Group**

As Israel grew economically stronger, and socially more and more like long-established Western societies, certain problems similar to those that are common throughout the world, came to the forefront.

One of these was that posed by singles, people of both sexes, who were either unmarried or divorced, and yet wanted to settle in Israel.

In Israel, the assumption of the Ministries of Housing and of Absorption has always been that everyone wanting a home is in the process of living happily married ever after, generally with a merry bunch of children.

As a result, limited provision has been made by the State to provide housing for those people who are single. Telfed attempted to set up a special housing project for singles, and helps them with loans to get housing.

In addition, Telfed branches in various towns assist by providing social contacts and recreation for singles. Telfed inaugurated the Young Adults Support Group, which is one of the few such associations which has continued to be active. This group encompasses a few hundred singles and provides them not only with social and cultural stimulation, but also with a framework for investigating various housing projects.

**Senior Citizens**

To aid senior citizens, Telfed helped to initiate the Beit Protea project, described above in the outline of achievements in the different eras.
Sport
Southern Africans have been prominent in establishing or developing many branches of sport in Israel (See chapter 11 on Sport), and Telfed has always given them whatever aid it could in their endeavours.

Social Activities
To help Southern Africans to feel that they are not alone in a strange new world, Telfed has organised numerous social activities, most of them arranged by the branches. These have included a luncheon club, lectures by prominent Israelis, picnics; mass get-togethers of Southern Africans on special occasions, when thousands get an opportunity to wander happily together down memory lane.

SPECIAL VENTURES
The Mothercraft Training Centre (The MTC)
One of the most famous of Southern Africa's special projects was the Mothercraft Training Centre (MTC) in Tel Aviv, established and run by Wizo, but very much a special Southern African baby.
World Wizo always encouraged its constituent bodies in different lands to take on special projects under its aegis. As a result of this policy, the connection of the S.A. Women's Zionist Council to the MTC was approved.
The MTC was opened in 1929 and operated with great success for 52 years. It was a model for similar centres throughout the country.
Two of the first South Africans to settle in Israel were Lazar and Anna Braudo. Already in South Africa, Anna Braudo had sponsored the idea of the MTC and after she and her family immigrated, she became its first Chairman. After her death she was succeeded by Katie Gluckmann, who was succeeded in turn by Inez Bernstein, then Sylvia Frysch and after her Freda Raphael. Under the inspired leadership of these women, the MTC became famous in Israel.
The MTC attended to premature babies and pre-school children, many of them either physically or socially
handicapped: it also served as a school to train nurses, women and mothers in how to tend to such children.

Tennyson wrote correctly, "The old order changeth, yielding place to new, and God fulfils Himself in many ways, lest one good custom should corrupt the world."

By 1981 the State had set up numerous agencies and institutions with the same aims as the MTC; these bodies used the methods that had been developed by the MTC. So in March 1981, the MTC closed its doors.

In the course of the 52 years it had attended to 9,000 premature babies and 9,000 other children: over 2,000 nurses and other women had graduated from the MTC to serve Israeli society. The Southern African women accepted a new Wizo project in Herzliya, which provides children in need with accommodation in the homes of adoptive parents.

The Ashkelon Story
When news reached Southern Africa during World War II about the horrors of the Holocaust, a special fund, called the South African Jewish War Appeal, was set up to provide aid and succour to the survivors. The original intention was to help them in Europe, but within a few years, almost all of them had been brought through the opened gates of the newly established State of Israel.

The State, inhabited by 600,000 Jews, was almost without resources, yet it took in hundreds of thousands of destitute refugees, from Asia and North Africa as well as Europe. The refugees were housed temporarily in tent towns, called ma'abarot.

The S.A. Jewish War Appeal decided to allocate the funds it had collected to provide housing in Israel for the refugees.

The strategic planners of Israel had come to the conclusion that the long-term defence and economy of the country required the spread of the population, away from the existing thickly-populated areas, into new development towns and villages in empty areas in the South and Galilee.

The planners suggested that the Southern Africans should build a small model garden unit of a new town to be established on the dunes overlooking the Mediterranean, some eight miles north of the Gaza Strip. State policy was based on the belief
that settling a population was the best means of ensuring the security of the area.

The South African War Appeal accepted the proposal, and formed a company called "Afridar", which built 468 attractively designed cottages, on a slope overlooking the ocean.

The town was called Ashkelon because it was close to the ruins of the great Philistine town where Samson had sported with his enemy's dancing girls, and which later became in succession a major city of the Romans, the Byzantines and the Crusaders.

The Southern Africans provided the neighbourhood with a civic and commercial centre adjoining a broad piazza complete with clocktower, a charming Wizo creche, a Family Health Centre, a hospital, a sports stadium, a bowling-green, tennis courts and a cricket pitch. In addition, they built the Dagon Hotel close to the sea to create tourism. Later Southern Africans contributed to the building of a synagogue and to the Ashkelon Hospital.

Telfed played a major role in finding personnel to occupy key positions in the running of Ashkelon. (The town's affairs were run by a management committee headed by Max Spitz and thereafter by Louis Pincus. Selwyn Lurie served as Managing
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Director for the years 1955 - 1958).
The first Mayor, Dr. Henry Sonnabend was a South African, and so were the town clerk, Philip Gillon, the town treasurer, Sam Wulfson, the secretary of the Afridar company, Robert Ben-Ami, and the manager of Afridar's technical department, Max Levinson.

Eventually Afridar was absorbed into the large neighbouring town of Migdal to form the city of greater Ashkelon and the Southern Africans devolved all their holdings, transferring them to agencies of the Israel Government. What had been Ashkelon became known as "Afridar", one of five units of greater Ashkelon, known for the quality of its houses.

Leo Tager, a Southern African and formerly Vice-Chairman of the S.A. Zionist Federation, was elected the second Mayor of greater Ashkelon. Jack Schneider was appointed the city engineer.

The tie between the Southern Africans and the town withered away, but the model town was copied elsewhere in Israel and the Afridar neighbourhood remains one of the most attractive housing developments in Israel.

Many streets are still named after Southern African cities, some in Afrikaans.

Max Decktor later was elected Deputy Mayor of Ashkelon and held the post for some years.

Synagogues
Southern Africans contributed to the building of synagogues in Kfar Shmaryahu, Netanya, Savyon and Manof.

Project Renewal
When the Jewish Agency introduced Project Renewal, whereunder Diaspora communities became linked to the rehabilitation of specific areas in Israel, the South African Zionist community accepted responsibility for the Bukharin and Katamon areas in Jerusalem and later for the development town of Ofakim.

South Africa's Project Renewal in Israel is directed by Miriam Blumberg, who works closely with Telfed.
Endowments and Scholarships
Southern African Jews have a long history, going back to pre-State days of making creative testamentary dispositions and lifetime gifts to schools, institutes of higher learning, hospitals, medical and social welfare institutions and other deserving causes.

Many such bequests and grants have been made since 1948, with Telfed often appointed as administrator of the funds involved. Judge Joseph Herbstein played a major role in the promotion of legacies, endowments and gifts.

In order to facilitate the best use of these funds in Israel, Telfed created in 1963 a Bursaries and Scholarships Committee. The name was changed later to the Endowments and Scholarships Committee.

So successful has the committee been in capturing the imagination of Southern African Zionists that by 1990, the Committee was administering over 100 trusts and endowments, involving a capital investment of $4.5m and making possible the grant of over 300 scholarships a year.

Aid is generally made available to children of Southern Africans who need help and also to the under-privileged and the disadvantaged in Israeli society.

Considerable assistance has been given to children in developing towns and deprived areas. They are given scholarships to attend institutes of higher learning, music and art academies, nursing schools and yeshivot.

Education in Israeli schools is free, but incidental expenses - books, tools, uniforms, excursions in the field, participation in extra-mural activities — can be prohibitively expensive for children from poor homes. The Southern African funds provide help for parents who would otherwise be unable to supply their children with these fringe needs of the educational process.

In addition, a special Headmasters' Fund places funds at the disposal of headmasters to enable them to supplement the budgets they obtain from the Ministry of Education: they can use these funds to provide extras for their students and to meet the emergency scholastic and social needs of their pupils.

Special grants have been made to such development towns as Safed, Beit She'an and Acre to help their municipalities, engaged in a battle to keep children off the streets, to
establish youth orchestras and choirs.
Funds are allocated to help the blind, the hard-of-hearing, the
retarded, the aged, and disabled soldiers, sailors and airmen.
Students at institutes of higher learning and technological
colleges have been helped with grants for research.
In a project called "Perach", some beneficiaries of grants are
expected to provide extra tuition to needy students, whenever
they can, in return for the aid they received.
Donations have been made to certain organisations, such as
the Bat Dor Ballet School of Beersheva, and bodies dealing
with North African and Yemenite communities. Hospitals have
also been the recipients of grants.
One of the last requests of Judge Herbstein was that Neve
Shalom, the joint Jewish-Arab "village of peace" near the War
of Independence battlefield of Latrun, should receive
assistance. This was provided from the Samuel and Pauline
Sussman Memorial Trust, which is a large endowment created
in Israel by a Southern African.
Other very large endowments are the Goldschmidt, Stanley
and Zeva Lewis and Goldberg Trusts. These funds, which
provide a wide variety of constructive aid to immigrants, are
administered by independent Boards of Trustees on which the
Telfed executive is represented.
In some cases special projects have been established by means
of the funds administered by Telfed.
Among these are the Lawenski-Gordon Intensive Care Unit in
the Barzilai Medical Centre of the Ashkelon Hospital, in
memory of the late Dr. Mary Gordon; the Schweppes
Community Centre in the religious school of Or Yehuda in
memory of the late Jacob and Sylvia Schweppes and the
Nussbaum Library of the David Reemez Elementary School at
Lod.
CHAPTER FOUR:

AGRICULTURE: BUILDING AND BEING REBUILT

Thousands of Southern Africans came to Israel imbued with the ideal of chalutziut. In the words of the old pioneering song, "they came to build and to be rebuilt". They settled down to work as farmers on kibbutzim and moshavim. (See Chapter Five on settlements).

At the beginning, the image of the chalutz was of somebody working with shovel and hoe. But as the green revolution transformed agriculture throughout the world, bringing all the innovations of modern science from the laboratory to the farm, so agriculture on the kibbutzim and moshavim in Israel changed completely. Southern Africans were in the forefront of this revolution.

Arye Sive, who had practised law in Springs in the 'thirties, came to Israel in 1939 and joined a core group in Binyamina that in 1943 provided the first settlers of Kfar Blum in the Huleh Valley. The kibbutz began to produce apples and pears. Sive was seconded to the Fruit Growers' Association in Israel, and again was "rebuilt" - this time into an agricultural scientist.
He became a specialist in the cold storage of fruit, devouring all the literature on the subject as eagerly as a child eating a Kfar Blum apple. He set up a laboratory. All kinds of new ideas about cold storage were spreading throughout the world. He established international contacts. A visiting Cornell University professor obtained a grant for him from the Rockefeller Foundation to study cold storage in the U.S.

He returned to Israel to apply everything he had learned and the new ideas he had developed. He made it possible for fruit farmers to store apples for a year and pears for nine months. He worked also on avocados, pomegranates and cherries. His field is now wider than cold storage: it encompasses the whole fruit-growing cycle, from fertilisation to marketing.

His aims are to see that Israeli fruit reaches the markets in perfect condition. He has been serving the Fruit Growers' Association for more than 30 years. In 1966 he was awarded the Kaplan Prize.

Max Berman, also from Kfar Blum, came on aliya in 1945 and worked for 20 years at the central cold storage in Kiryat Shmona, serving the settlements of Upper Galilee. He is an expert on controlled cold storage, dealing with apples, potatoes, eggs, poultry and grapefruit.

Bobby Shapiro and Hillel Miller are two of Israel's leading experts on avocados and lychees. Haim Katz, originally a member of Kibbutz Barkai, then of Moshav Habonim and later of Orot, served as an expert at the Acre Agricultural Research Station from 1960 onwards. His speciality is poultry and egg production.

Dr. Morris Zeligman, an entomologist living now on Kibbutz Beit Ha'emek, is an expert on pest control in cotton: he developed techniques for combatting the many local diseases that afflict this vulnerable crop. He is also an expert on tissue culture and biotechnology.

Another veteran kibbutznik who became an adviser on agriculture is Harry Salber, one of the founders of Ma'ayan Baruch. An expert on fruit, he travels some 10,000 km per season, visiting kibbutzim, estimating crops, suggesting picking and harvesting dates, counselling on marketing and on what fruit should be put into cold storage.

Maury Grupel (Moshe Ben Ami) of Kibbutz Shuval is a
specialist on forage crops and was awarded a prize for his work in this field.

Maurice Shapiro has been for many years one of Israel's most active extension workers in sheep husbandry. Dots Sadovsky of Kfar Monash was head of the citrus division of the Moshav Movement for twenty years.

Solly Ben-Ami (Blecher) after participating in the Habonim hachsharah at Northcliff, Johannesburg, came to Israel as a member of Mahal in the latter half of 1948. After the War of Independence ended, he joined Kibbutz Ma'ayan Baruch. He was sent as an emissary to South Africa and when he returned, spent a year in Israel's mercantile marine sailing on the "Negba".

At Moshav Orot he became one of the first Israelis to grow peaches and after some failures, hit the jackpot with "Herald Jubilee" peaches.

In 1967 the Israel Government's Department of International Cooperation sent him on a course on how to instruct farmers in developing countries.

After that he spent years as an Israeli expert, both on behalf of the Government and in his private capacity, advising farmers in developing countries like Zambia, the Philippines, Nepal, Malawi, Liberia, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Egypt, Ethiopia, the Transkei and Bophuthatswana. His field of expertise broadened until he became a specialist in comprehensive regional development.

Another Southern African, Yitzhak Abt, a graduate of Stellenbosch University, became a world authority on regional planning. Immigrating to Israel in 1955, he joined Arie ("Lova") Eliav as a planner in setting up Chevel Lachish, a regional project which embraced a region of some 60 agricultural villages in an area of 200,000 acres between Ashkelon and the foothills of the Judean mountains.

In the heart of the region a new development town, Kiryat Gat was established. The aim was to have industries in Kiryat Gat processing agricultural products of the area, to attract other industries and to achieve rural-urban integration between Kiryat Gat and the surrounding villages. Abt and his wife were among the first pioneers to settle in Kiryat Gat, where they still live.
The nature of what crops the farmers would grow, how these would be marketed and how the settlers would be provided with facilities for living, was carefully worked out by the central planning authority in Kiryat Gat. Abt was a key member of this authority. Reports of what had been achieved in settling new immigrants on the redeemed badlands of Lachish created a world-wide sensation and the project became a model used in numerous developing countries.

In 1963 Senator William Fulbright visited Lachish and was so impressed that he arranged for Abt to go to the U.S. for six weeks to study regional development projects there.

On his way back to Israel, Abt went to Venezuela to study a project there and met the Minister of Planning, who invited Israel to send a team to advise on regional development. Abt went back as head of this team. From then on until 1967, he posted over 50 experts to all countries in Latin America except Cuba. He returned to Israel to become Deputy Director - later Director - of the Centre for International Cooperation in the Ministry of Agriculture. As head of Israel’s agricultural programme for developing countries, he helps to bring 500 students from 50 countries to Israel every year for training.

He also arranges to send Israeli experts abroad.

The programme also has a heavy input in applied agricultural research for developing countries. In addition, Abt is chairman of the board of Agridew, a para-State company under the aegis of the Ministry of Agriculture, producing inputs for sale in both developed and developing countries.

Several Southern Africans became research workers at the renowned Volcani Centre of Agricultural Research.

Dr. Noam Seligman, a graduate of Stellenbosch University, came to Israel in 1951 and joined Kibbutz Tzora, where he remained till 1958. He serves the Institute of Field and Garden Crops of the Volcani Centre as an expert on forage crops and range management.

In 1953 he started to work for the Soil Conservation Service, and in 1959 was appointed Chief of Range Research and Management at the Volcani Centre. In 1973 he completed his PhD degree and subsequently initiated extensive research in arid zone range management. His research team has developed a plant growth model for predicting wool and beef
production under various management options. Much of his work has been applied in developing countries in Africa and also in Egypt.

Dov (Bernie) Basker, a graduate of UCT, is a senior scientist in the Volcani Centre’s Institute of Technology and Storage of Agricultural Products. He specialises in the development and implementation of advanced methods of food tasting using "taste panels", and has many publications in the scientific literature to his credit.

A Kenyan in the Volcani Centre, Ely Cohen, is an expert on nematodes. He also served as Deputy Director of Research in the Agricultural Research Organisation of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Sidney Lossin Yudelman, an administrator in the Institute of Soils and Water in the Volcani Centre, came on aliya in 1948, after completing her hachsharah with Habonim in Northcliff, Johannesburg. She was a member of Kibbutz Hatzerim till 1958. Since 1976 she has been responsible for the organisation of the annual International Post Graduate Irrigation courses for foreign students, held at the Institute of Soils and Water of the Volcani Centre and of other courses. She has worked with over 800 students from 50 different countries including a few from the Peoples’ Republic of China.

Tuvia Spektor came on aliya in 1949, after completing his hachsharah with Hashomer Hatzair in South Africa. Since 1958, he has served in the Department of Ornamental Plants and Flowers of the Volcani Centre’s Institute of Field and Garden Crops. He developed a system of vertical agriculture in tubes that has been taken up in Sweden.

Dr. Hylton Bark, a veterinarian who immigrated to Israel in 1975, was appointed Head of Israel's first veterinary hospital in Beersheba. He has done research on respiratory physiology in animals and has been appointed Director of the new Veterinary School opened in Rehovot in 1985. He also heads the Department of Small Animals Medicine.

Another veterinarian in Beersheba, Professor Reuven Yagil, has done dramatic research on the camel and is considered to be the world's leading expert on this intriguing creature. He holds the Benny Slome Chair in Animal Production for Food in Arid Areas and travels to developing countries to help them with his knowledge.
Leslie Shanan, a South African water engineer, established the original Habonim chalutz groups in Durban in 1939 and a year later in Johannesburg. In 1945 he came on aliyah with the first organised Habonim chalutz aliya group, and became a member of Kfar Blum, where he remained until 1949. After serving in the IDF for a year, he joined the Department of Agriculture in 1950 and was appointed Chief Engineer of the Soil Conservation Service in 1953. He served there until 1955, after which he set up a private engineering consulting office.

In 1958, he joined Professor Michael Evenari and Professor Naphthali Tadmor in a Hebrew University research team that investigated the ancient agricultural systems used by the Nabateans to grow crops in the Negev desert where the rainfall is only four inches a year. The team concluded that they had used a technique of exploiting the occasional flash flood runoff from small and large watersheds for supplementary irrigation.

They put their theory into practice, by reconstructing two ancient farms at Avdat and Shivta, where the Nabatean technologies were duplicated, investigated and evaluated. These farms produced fruit, field crops and range grasses.

From 1976, Shanan divided his time between lecturing at the Hebrew University and serving as a consultant to foreign governments and to the World Bank in Washington, carrying out assignments in Korea, the Philippines, Thailand, Laos, Nepal and India. In 1982 he was appointed Professor of Hydrology in the Hebrew University's Department of Geography. He has written four books and 130 scientific articles on technical papers.

Nina Selbst is Head of the Economic Department of the Ministry of Agriculture's Water Commission. Water is the most precious of all commodities in Israel, so regulations about its usage are strict: in theory, nobody can tap or move a single drop of water without the approval of the Water Commissioner. Nina Selbst is involved in the economic implications of water projects, the pricing and long-term planning of water usage.

Teddy Herman joined Tahal, the Water Planning Authority. Apart from making a great contribution to the planning of the
usage of Israel's water resources, he has been sent by Tahal as a consultant to numerous countries abroad, particularly in West Africa.

This listing of outstanding Southern African experts in diverse agricultural fields, cannot do justice to the many hundreds of Southern Africans who have helped to raise the standard of agriculture in Israel, to that of the most advanced countries in the world, without getting into the limelight. They certainly managed to build and to be rebuilt.
he ideal of chalutziut provided a great deal of inspiration to Zionism in South Africa, and to the youth movements in particular. The dream of "building the land and being rebuilt" captured the imagination of many Southern Africans, despite their largely middle-class backgrounds.

This ideology motivated the S.A. Zionist Federation in Johannesburg to set up a chalutz farm near Klerskodorp in the Transvaal before World War II, and several of its graduates subsequently came to Israel on aliyah.

The farm was eventually closed down, but agricultural training for would-be chalutzim was provided afterwards at Northcliff in Johannesburg for members of Habonim. Later a farm was set up at Palmietfontein for Bnei Zion graduates. Other chalutz farms were established near Brits, Oogies and at Balfour Park in Johannesburg.

Until the War of Independence many individuals made their own way to Israel and joined kibbutzim and moshavim.

To Hashomer Hatzair belongs the credit of "selling" the
concept of chalutziut on a group basis to S.A. Jewish youth. Some teen-agers, who had come to South Africa with their parents from Eastern Europe and who had been members of Labour Zionist youth movements there, got together in 1934 and organised study circles. Their object at that stage was limited but after a short time, they decided that they would join World Hashomer Hatzair.

Hashomer Hatzair recruitment for chalutziut was started in South Africa in 1934-35.

In 1934, M. L. Genussow, a founder of the Zionist movement in South Africa, supported by Joseph Janower and Lazar Braudo, persuaded the S.A. Zionist Federation to organise a special JNF fund-raising campaign to purchase land in the Bet She'an valley.

On the land they purchased, a temporary settlement was established in one day by Hashomer Hatzair - this was the first example of the "Tower and Stockade" system later used for over 60 settlements.

The settlement was named Nir David to commemorate David Wulfsohn, the second president of the Zionist Movement, who like many South African Jews, was born in Lithuania.
Nechama Genossar, the daughter of M.L. Genussow, became a founder of this kibbutz. She was sent later by Hashomer Hatzair as the movement’s first shaliach to South Africa. In 1938 the first group of chalutzim from S.A. Hashomer Hatzair went on aliyah and joined Kibbutz Eretz Yisrael Gimmel, which later became Kibbutz Hatzor. Three years after this Hatzor group, a second Hashomer Hatzair group went on aliyah and after a period in Netanya, in 1946 went to settle in the Negev in Shoval, at Bir Zaballa, on the famous "Night of the 11 Settlements".

A small but steady stream of graduates from Hashomer Hatzair flowed to Israel from 1949 onwards, helping to establish Kibbutzim Barkai, Nachshon and Zikim.

Demobilised Southern Africans who had served in the Middle East theatre during World War II and had visited Palestine, formed the Chalutzim Chayalim organisation in 1946, and after a period of hachsharah at Kfar Giladi, they founded Ma’ayan Baruch in Northern Galilee, together with Israeli ex-Palmachniks. Ma’ayan Baruch was named after Bernard Gordon, a long-time Johannesburg supporter of the Jewish National Fund.

A group of 20 chalutzim, most of them members of the United Zionist Party, went from South Africa to Palestine in 1945 under the auspices of the S.A. Zionist Youth Council. They established Timorim, a kibbutz, at first in the Galilee - later the settlement moved to southern Israel, near Kastina and changed its form to that of a moshav shitufi.

A major boost to Southern African chalutz aliyah came when Habonim adopted chalutziut as its basic ideal. Hundreds of Habonim graduates went to kibbutzim and moshavim.

The first organised Habonim group settled in Kfar Blum in 1945. In 1949 Habonim graduates established Moshav Habonim (now known as Habonim) near Haifa, and about the same time a large Habonim garin joined Tzora near Beit Shemesh.

The ideal of chalutziut was also adopted prior to World War II by young Orthodox Southern Africans in Bnei Akiva and S.A. Young Mizrachi. Graduates of these movements immigrated to Israel and were among the founders of several famous kibbutzim: Kfar Etzion in the bloc about ten miles from Hebron;
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Shluchot in the Beit She'an Valley, near the border with Jordan; Kfar Darom, in the area, then empty and desolate, where the new towns of Ashkelon and Ashdod have been built since then; Kibbutz Lavi near the Horns of Hittin, where a great battle was fought between Saracens and Crusaders in 1187 C.E.

It is difficult to assess the specific influence of the Southern Africans on the kibbutz movement. From the time of the establishment of the State until the end of the 'eighties, the economic and social changes in the kibbutzim - irrespective of their original ideologies and sizes - have been vast. There is now hardly a kibbutz in the country that engages only in agriculture and does not have at least one industry.

Among the kibbutz industries that have prospered is tourism, a development which has had a considerable impact on the lives of the kibbutz communities: for some reason, perhaps a hangover from South Africa's tradition of hospitality, several Southern Africans on kibbutzim became organisers of tourism. The Southern Africans certainly played a role in bringing about social and economic changes in kibbutz life and in getting them accepted despite opposition from the diehards. Most of the Southern Africans came from comfortable backgrounds and while prepared to put up with austere conditions when there was no alternative, they did not believe in austerity for austerity's sake, as a sort of Gandhian ideal. Furthermore, many of them had had professional, academic or managerial training, and were able to put their skills to good use in the new kibbutz industries.

The kibbutz aliya inspired many parents, brothers and sisters to come to Israel, either to join the kibbutzim where the members of their families were established or to settle in cities and towns.

SPECIFIC SETTLEMENTS FOUNDED BY SOUTHERN AFRICANS OR WHERE THEY PLAYED MAJOR ROLES IN THE SETTLEMENTS' DEVELOPMENT

Barkai: Kibbutz Barkai was founded by Hashomer Hatzair pioneers, including 55 Southern Africans, in 1949, at the southern entrance to Wadi Ara, near Mount Megiddo. There
are still 17 of these South Africans living on the kibbutz. Its agricultural products include bananas, avocados, lychees, cotton, wheat, barley and dairy products. It has three industries, producing polyethylene sheeting for industry and agriculture; electrical cables; glucose for food and glue.

**Grofit**: A kibbutz founded by the Nahal in 1964 in the Arava Valley, 25 miles north of Eilat. It was developed by a mixture of Israelis and Americans. In 1987 three immigrant Southern African families chose Grofit rather than kibbutzim in the north of the country because they wanted to be in the desert.

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*Dr. D. F. Malan - the first ever serving Prime Minister to visit Israel at a reception by ex - South Africans at Moshav Habonim (1956)*

*To his right is Zvi Infeld, General Secretary of the S.A. Zionist Federation*
Habonim: Moshav Habonim (now called Habonim) is a moshav shitufi founded by 40 Southern Africans, ex-members of Habonim, in 1948. The moshav farms bananas, citrus, lychees, avocados and field crops. In the early days they had a factory manufacturing vermiculite, which now produces Perlite.

Hasollelim: Many members of S.A. Bnei Zion joined Kibbutz Hasollelim (The Roadbuilders) in Galilee, near Nazareth.

Hatzor: Three South African families are still on Hatzor, founded in the 'thirties.

Kfar Blum: A group of seven Southern Africans got to Palestine in 1945 and joined Kfar Blum, a new kibbutz established in the Huleh Valley, despite the prevalence there of malaria and the fact that most of the land was waterlogged. Two members of the kibbutz, Arye Sive and Samuel Rubinstein, played major roles in fruit cultivation and packing in the North of Israel — they went on to make important contributions to agriculture in general. (See chapter on Agriculture.) By the beginning of the 'nineties, Kfar Blum was a prosperous kibbutz, still based primarily on agriculture, but also running two factories and a cold storage plant, as well as an intimate guest-house with 59 double rooms.

Kfar Daniel: Originally called Beit Chever, Kfar Daniel was founded originally on the banks of the Yarkon River by ex-Southern African Mahalniks. Most of the Southern Africans have left the settlement.

Kfar Darom: This settlement was founded in the south before the War of Independence between where Ashdod and Ashkelon were later built by a group which included chalutzim from S.A. Young Mizrachi. When the War broke out, it had to be abandoned.

Kfar Etzion: This is one of the group of kibbutzim established ten miles from Hebron before the War of Independence. Many Southern African Bnei Akiva graduates were among the founders. One of the first military actions launched by the Arabs was an attack on these kibbutzim. Despite a heroic resistance, many of the defenders were massacred and others were taken captive. Two Southern Africans were killed. After their release from captivity, some former Kfar Etzion settlers founded Masuot Yitzhak in the south named after Chief Rabbi Yitzhak Herzog. When the Ezion Bloc was
recovered after the Six Day War in 1967, some of the former settlers of Kfar Etzion, including South Africans, helped to re-establish the kibbutz.

**Ma'ayan Baruch:** Demobilised Southern Africans who had served in World War II and who had formed the Chalutzim Chayalim organisation after the War, went on hachsharah in 1946 to Kfar Giladi, and then founded Kibbutz Ma'ayan Baruch in Northern Galilee in 1947 together with Israeli ex-members of the Palmach. Ma'ayan Baruch is in the Galilee Panhandle, close to the borders of Syria and Lebanon. At the end of 1989 there were 69 families on the kibbutz, of whom nine were South African. The main sources of income came from farming - avocados, field crops, fruit, groundnuts, chickens for meat and a large dairy herd. The kibbutz also runs a metalwork factory. Veteran Harry Salber has made important contributions to agriculture in general in Israel. (See chapter on agriculture.)

**Manof:** This is a moshav in Western Galilee founded in 1980 by 35 Southern African families, as part of the policy of the Israel Government and the Jewish Agency of redeeming the Galilee. It is the only settlement project which was 100% Southern African when it was founded. One of the interesting aspects of Manof is that it is planned to be entirely without an agricultural base and it includes a design centre manned by architects.

After the initial difficult years, Manof now has expanses of communal lawns around which are scattered the homes of some 60 families, including several Israeli families, who joined the moshav recently. There are 150 children. The industries include a contact lens factory, which is the largest employer on the moshav, a butchery, a label printing works, a sweet factory and plant hothouses. Manof prides itself on having contributed greatly to the facilities provided by the Misgav Regional Council.

**Masuot Yitzhak:** This moshav was established near Ashkelon by survivors of the Etzion massacre, some of whom left the moshav after the Etzion region was recovered as a result of the Six Day War in 1967, to re-establish Kfar Etzion.

**Nachshon:** Kibbutz Nachshon was settled in May 1950, by an Israeli Hashomer Hatzair group on a hill on the Jordan
border, opposite the Latrun Monastery. The site was selected solely for strategic reasons to close the approaches to Jerusalem. The original group was joined by Hashomer Hatzair groups from Southern Africa, Poland, North America, Brazil and Israel, and by Youth Aliyah groups from North Africa and the Middle East. The first Southern Africans came to the kibbutz in 1955. Nearly 100 Southern Africans have been members of Nachshon at one time or another. Today there are about 80 families who are members of the kibbutz, of whom eight are Southern African. Despite their small numbers at present, the Southern Africans certainly made their mark on many aspects of kibbutz life, their influence being far out of proportion to their numbers. They held such posts as farm manager, kibbutz secretary and branch managers.

One of the kibbutz ventures is a Food Facility Planning Office, the largest of its kind in Israel. The general manager is a Southern African.

**Neve Ilan:** This *moshav shitufi* was established in the late 'sixties by former American Young Judaeans in a forest in the Judaean mountains, 12 miles from Jerusalem, commanding magnificent views in all directions. The forest was originally planted there by the Jewish National Fund in memory of Katie Gluckmann, who had been Chairman of the JNF in South Africa for many years before immigrating to Israel. The American settlers were joined by nine Southern African families. The moshav engages in many agricultural activities, including the breeding of turkeys for meat and the cultivation of proteas. It has an electronics industry. The major source of income is an internationally known hotel, which developed out of a small guest-house: attached to it is a sports club which includes a swimming-pool and tennis-courts. The Southern Africans had an influence in all aspects of the moshav's development, both economic and social. Their imprint is particularly marked in the hotel and sports club, both of which have reached the highest standards of efficiency.

**Orot:** Many Southern Africans have settled in Orot, a moshav near Ashkelon, where they engage in a variety of different types of agriculture. Most of them have been successful.

**Ramat Rachel:** On the outskirts of Jerusalem, is Kibbutz
SETTLEMENTS

Ramat Rachel near the tomb of Rachel on the road to Bethlehem. Its creation in 1922 was inspired by Josef Trumpeldor.

From the 'seventies onwards about a dozen Southern African families joined the kibbutz. Most of them work in tourism or in the sports club - the kibbutz runs a 108-bed hotel, very popular for conventions and conferences, and there is also a camping site.

Sde Nitzan: This is a moshav ovdim established in 1974 in the Eshkol region of the Western Negev. The moshav is remarkable because it pioneered in the development of glass and plastic greenhouses for the cultivation of vegetables and fruit, particularly in the winter, both for export and the local market. Among the 60 families in the moshav, there are several Southern Africans. Barry Marco specialises in the organic growing of tomatoes in hothouses and has won two prizes, one from the Ministry of Agriculture and the other from the Agrexco marketing agency, for his contribution to this field of agriculture. Other Southern Africans specialise in the production of proteas.

Shluchot: This was founded by Bnei Akiva graduates, including a strong garin from Southern Africa, in the Beit She'an valley, west of the town of Beit She'an. Many Southern Africans are still left there, and the kibbutz is very prosperous.

Shoval: This was one of the famous eleven settlements established clandestinely on "The Night of the 11 Settlements" in October 1946 in the Negev, to stake Israel's claim to the Negev under the partition of Palestine, that was expected to be recommended by the United Nations. Young Southern African members of Hashomer Hatzair had come on aliyah in 1942, and had gone on hachsharah to Kibbutz Ein Hashofet.

From there they moved on to establish Shoval, originally named Eilat. On that original founding night there were 40 Southern Africans in the group that went to Shoval. At the end of the 'eighties, there were 14 Southern African families left out of 140 on the kibbutz.

Talmei Yosef: After the Six Day War, Southern Africans helped to establish a moshav called Talmei Yosef in Northern
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Sinai. As a result of the Camp David agreements, the moshav was moved in July 1977 to the Besor region of the Western Negev. It has been a leader in the development of growing vegetables and flowers in plastic greenhouses.

**Timorim:** The first group of six chalutzim of the United Zionist Party youth movement arrived in 1945 and underwent hachsharah at Ramat Yochanan and Kfar Glickson, before founding Timorim in 1948, on a beautiful hill-top site opposite Nahalal in the Yizreel Valley. They were gradually joined by several other Southern Africans, most of whom belonged to the UZP youth movement. By 1952 it became clear that there was not enough land to satisfy all the expanding settlements in the Yizreel Valley. After prolonged negotiations between Telfed and the Jewish Agency, a new site at Kastina in the south was offered to the group, and was accepted. This second beginning gave them a chance to avoid their previous mistakes in planning their new home. They also used the opportunity to change the format of the settlement to that of a moshav shitufi, a system whereunder, although the economy is collective, the families dwell in private homes. The experience of two members who had originally worked for ISCOR (the Iron and Steel Corporation) in South Africa enabled them to open their own metal works plant.

In nearby Ashkelon they subsequently set up the world's first solar heating factory Miromit, based on an idea developed by a South African engineer, Otto Seidman. The factory also produced Israel's first metal shelving units and desert coolers for Eilat. By the end of the 'eighties, Timorim was engaging in many branches of agriculture, and in addition, was running three factories, manufacturing furniture, plastics and metal pipes. Of the 160 members, 22 are Southern Africans.

**Tuval:** This kibbutz was established in 1981 in Western Galilee on a hilltop in the mountains opposite the town of Carmiel, as part of the programme of the Government and the Jewish Agency to redeem the Galilee. Its founders were members of the Habonim Dror movement from Southern Africa, Britain and Australia, who were joined by former members of the Israeli Scouts. At the beginning of the 'nineties there were 120 members, of whom a large proportion were Southern Africans. The kibbutz's main sources of income
are from its dairy herd of 160 cows and chicken runs. Two novel products are kiwi fruit and dried lavender flowers, marketed under the trade name of "Galilee Lavender".

**Tzora:** Kibbutz Tzora was founded by a group of sabras in 1948 in the region where Samson sported with Delilah, known as Beit Shemesh. One of the first Southern African Habonim groups to come to Israel arrived in December 1948, and went on hachsharah to Kibbutz Afikim. At the end of their hachsharah, they joined Tzora. Today there are 200 families on Tzora of whom 70 are Southern Africans. Most of the other families are sabras, but there are also families from England, the U.S., Australia and South America, attracted by the relaxed "Anglo-Saxon" atmosphere that prevails. ("English is also spoken here.")

The agricultural branches of the kibbutz include cotton, turkeys, a large dairy herd, almonds, avocados and grain crops. Tzora has several industries. The Tzora furniture factory manufactures metal and nickel furniture. (This began as a bicycle factory, but its purpose was later changed.) Tzora is one of the few kibbutzim in Israel with an established reputation for women's fashions earned by its Canaan factory. Its silk-screen factory produces decorative artwork and Judaica. Three years ago Tzora started to develop a tourist industry, concentrating on attracting visits from groups wanting to study aspects of kibbutz life. This led to the development of a catering service, called "Nights in Canaan". A gigantic 100 metre-long marquee was imported from South Africa and is used to cater for weddings, barmitzvahs and other such events in the area. The food served at these functions is all cooked or baked on the kibbutz. Tzora and its marquee were used for the novel opening ceremony of the World Zionist Council meeting in June, 1990.

**Yahel:** Kibbutz Yahel in the Arava on the road to Eilat, was established in 1986 by American immigrants belonging to the Reform movement. The kibbutz maintains Kashrut and observes the Sabbath. Graduates of Maginim, the Southern African Reform youth movement, joined Yahel.

**Yizreel:** Kibbutz Yizreel was founded in the Eastern Yizreel valley in 1948 by former members of the Palmach who had been demobbed. Ten years later, Habonim Dror graduates
from South Africa, Australia and New Zealand joined them. Another Habonim group came four years later. The problem of integrating Southern Africans and sabras was solved very efficiently when five young men from Southern Africa married five young sabra women.

By the end of the 'eighties, 40 members of the kibbutz were Southern Africans; in addition 15 parents from Southern Africa had joined their children.

Yizreel's agricultural products include cotton, amaryllis bulbs, citrus and almonds; it had a large dairy herd and poultry run. It has three industries: a metalwork factory, a factory manufacturing "Dolphin" swimming-pool cleaners and a clothing factory. On the sporting side, Yizreel has the finest rugby ground in the country - this also serves as a cricket field. The sabra youth of the kibbutz have taken enthusiastically to these sports. The influence of the Southern Africans on all aspects of life in the kibbutz is great, and links with South Africa are strong. Hundreds of young Southern Africans have been on courses or ulpanim at Yizreel.

Yotvata: Situated about 50 km. north of Eilat, Yotvata, founded in the 'fifties, is the most successful kibbutz in the Arava; it has attracted many Southern African settlers. The kibbutz is famous throughout Israel for its dairy products.

URBAN SETTLEMENTS

Many Southern Africans preferred urban settlements to kibbutzim and moshavim and were among the founders, or first settlers in the new towns Ashkelon and Savyon; they made major contributions to the expansion of dormitory towns in the greater Tel Aviv area, such as Kfar Shmaryahu, Ra'anana and Ramat Hasharon.

In the 'eighties, Southern Africans helped to found two new towns, Efrat and Kochav Yair.

Efrat was established in the Shomron hills, just outside Jerusalem in the latter half of 1983. About forty Southern African families, graduates of Bnei Akiva, were among the founders.

Kochav Yair is an urban settlement launched in September, 1983 just inside the old "green line", near the former Eastern frontier of Israel.
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By the end of the 'eighties, there were 450 families in the townlet, of whom 70 were Southern African.
Southern Africans with means who settled in what was then Palestine in the 'twenties and 'thirties, conceived of the idea of pioneering with capital. At that time both South Africa and Palestine were part of the sterling bloc, so they had no difficulty moving capital from South Africa to Palestine.

In 1922 a company known as South Africa Palestine Enterprises (Binyan) was formed by leading Zionists. Later its headquarters were moved to Tel Aviv, and it became the African Palestine Investments, generally known as the API. Eventually the company passed out of South African control and the name was changed to Israel Africa Investments Ltd.

Jacob Gesundheit, a prominent industrialist in Cape Town who immigrated to Israel in 1926, was imbued with the dream of reviving the hot springs in Tiberias, which had been famous in the ancient world, when Berenice was queen in Tiberias. He founded the Tiberias Development Company, which took practical steps to turn his dream into a reality by building a modern spa.
Chaim Joffe, who had been a leading figure in the meat industry in Cape Town, realised that Palestine was in desperate need of cold storage facilities to handle meat and fish imports and agricultural exports. He started the Palestine Cold Storage and Supply Co. Ltd., and was joined in the enterprise by Gesundheit. The cold storage facilities were to prove vital to the population during the grim days of World War II, the War of Independence, and the early years of statehood and mass aliyah. Subsequently, the plant enabled Israeli agriculture to share to the full in the green revolution that followed World War II.

Gesundheit also became a partner in the Palestine Lighterage and Supply Company, which pioneered in the provision of port services in Haifa. Louis Policansky, who had sold out a flourishing tobacco business in South Africa, brought his know-how and capital into the small firm of Dubek Ltd., and expanded it into a cigarette giant. The API took over the Tiberias Development Company and the Palestine Cold Storage and went on to develop what came
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to be known as "The South African Group", so widely respected that David Ben-Gurion, the country's first Prime Minister, made Jack Geri a leading member of the group, his Minister of Commerce.

Other members of the group were Lazar Braudo, who became Chairman of the Board of the Anglo-Palestine Bank (which later became the Bank Leumi), Joseph Janower, Policansky, Gesundheit, Joffe, and advocate Eli Kirschner.

The group found that starry-eyed immigrants, who had come to keep their rendezvous with the Balfour Declaration, had to pay intolerable rents to landlords and usurious interest to money-lenders. The group therefore established the South African (Binyan) Mortgage Company, which provided mortgages at reasonable rates of interest to would-be householders. The influence of Binyan was widespread: not only did it help its own customers, its creation also compelled rates of interest for housing loans generally to fall to more reasonable levels. Abraham Levy was appointed managing director of the Binyan Mortgage.

The Africa-Palestine Investment Company (API) used its finance to buy strategic blocks of land from Arabs at a time when such acquisitions were difficult because of the restrictions imposed by the Mandatory Government after the Passfield White Paper was issued.

The Southern Africans realised that Palestine, with its rich history, archaeological treasures, unique position as the heart of Judaism and Christianity, and its exciting present as the renascent Jewish homeland was a "natural" for tourism, which would bring in precious sterling and dollars, and would provide employment for thousands of immigrants.

So, apart from developing the hot springs in Tiberias, the API built there the Galei Kinneret, a hotel that gained world-wide renown.

Other famous hotels built or developed by the South African group or other Southern Africans, included the Sharon in Herzliya, the Rimon Inn in Safed, the Dagon in Ashkelon, the Dolphin Inn in Shavei Zion, the Savoy in Haifa, the Tal, Yamit and the "Regency Suites" in Tel Aviv.

The Southern African group participated in the launching of Ata Textiles and Fertilisers and Chemicals, although the South
Africans later dropped out of these enterprises. Zionists in Southern Africa and Palestine managed to promote trade between the two countries later which developed to such an extent, that in 1933 the South African Government appointed Michael Haskel, a prominent mining man and leading Revisionist, as its Trade Commissioner in Tel Aviv. His office there, opened in January 1936, was run by Shmuel Katz, destined to become an IZL leader and a Herut member of the Knesset. The office which was authorised to issue South African passports and visas, was closed in 1939, before World War II broke out.

Prior to the establishment of the State, Julius Gesundheit, an electrical engineer, a son of pioneer settler Jacob Gesundhieit, founded Electra Ltd., which became a leading manufacturer of elevators and air-conditioning units, exporting to many countries. Another son of a pioneer, Harry Joffe, Chaim Joffe's son, became a partner in a leading firm of automobile importers. Later he had a heroic record in both World War II and the War of Independence. Ephraim Hechter formed the Hechter Investment Group, which participated in the founding of Fertilisers and Chemicals Ltd. This grew into one of Israel's most important export industries.

In 1944 a group of prominent Southern African Zionists in South Africa set up a company called Palestine African Shippers Ltd. (PALSHIP), to stimulate trade with Palestine and the establishment of enterprises there that would provide employment for immigrants after World War II ended. The name of the company was subsequently changed to Peltours International. Percy N. Manham was sent to Palestine by the group to implement its programme. On his arrival in Tel Aviv, he established a subsidiary company for Palship, entitled Paimex, an import and export company. For Palship he acquired a controlling interest in Peltours, a travel and tourism company established many years before by the Jewish Agency. This interest was later increased to 100%. The company had branches in Cairo, Alexandria, Port Said, Beirut, Baghdad and Teheran. These branches were lost after the War of Independence broke out but Peltours
continued to expand and remained one of the largest travel and tourist enterprises in Israel. Max Spitz subsequently became its Managing Director.

Manham built up Peltours' Mercantile Insurance branch, until this became one of the largest of its kind in the Middle East. A fascinating contribution to the history of Israel's communications was made by Peltours. When the British withdrew from Palestine in 1948 in some dudgeon, they cut Israel's normal postal contacts with the world. The Federation and Peltours operated what was called "The Peltours Mail", which kept intact the new State's links with Southern Africa. The scheme functioned remarkably well in the early days of the State; eventually the Israel Government's Ministry of Posts took over.

Palship and the Southern African group established the Binyan Insurance Company with Manham as the first managing director. It became one of the leading insurance companies in Israel. Subsequently, when the Migdal Insurance Company
came under the control of the South Africans, the two companies amalgamated as the Migdal Binyan Insurance Co. Ltd. Later the Bank Leumi took over, and changed the name back to Migdal.

On behalf of these Southern Africans, Manham founded two other Southern African insurance companies, The Israel Re-Insurance Co., Ltd. and the Insurance Division of Peltours. He was also instrumental in setting up Magen Insurance Co., Ltd.

Just after the State was established, Paimex provided an excellent service to Israel by bringing much-needed foodstuffs and vitally needed raw materials to Israel from Southern Africa. The South African Government agreed that payment for these goods could be made from non-transferable gift funds raised by the Keren Hayesod, the Keren Kayemet, and other funds in South Africa. Special ships were chartered to effect these shipments.

Henry J. Kirsch immigrated from South Africa, and became the managing director of Paimex.

**From Westair to El Al**

While the Southern Africans, through "The Peltours Mail" maintained the State-on-the-way's postal links with the outside world, other South Africans established air links between that State-to-be and South Africa.

(The story of the foundation of the first air-link between Israel and South Africa is recorded in Chapter Three on Mahal.)

Westair was absorbed into another South African company, Universal Airlines, which started with a tiny, almost laughable, so-called "fleet" of second-hand planes flying between South Africa and Palestine, making several stops along the way. Tall oaks from little acorns grow; afterwards Universal became El Al, with a South African, Louis A. Pincus as its first Managing Director.

Many of El Al's first pilots, other air crew, administrative and operations personnel were Southern Africans, who had come to Israel with Mahal. Subsequently, Pincus made a decision that put El Al among the world's leading airlines - the company purchased Britannias and for a time El Al planes were among the fastest commercial planes in the air.

During this period, Joe Rosenberg, a South African heading the communications division, introduced a very efficient
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air-to-ground communications system that no other airline was using. Israel Rieback became a leading figure in El Al's Service and Maintenance Division.

After Statehood

The years that preceded the establishment and consolidation of the State constituted the heroic period of Southern African capital investment. After statehood was achieved, the nature of the Southern African contribution to the economic development of Israel inevitably changed and became perhaps, less romantic.

For this there were many reasons. The State was in charge of the economy, and decided on policy and priorities. It obtained vast sums for investment from German reparations, American grants and loans and State of Israel Bonds.

Israel was ousted by the British from the sterling bloc, so the despatch of funds from Southern Africa to the Jewish State became extremely difficult. In the U.S.A., the Zionists had been for years a minority movement, whereas in Southern...
Africa Zionism had always been very strong: after the Holocaust and the establishment of the State, the Americans "discovered" Zion, and in no way hindered from transferring dollars freely, they poured huge amounts of capital into the country. This diminished the relative importance of Southern African investment.

Nevertheless, a group of young investors headed by David Dunsky who came on aliyah, set up a number of companies engaging in a wide variety of enterprises. These included such different fields as building, insurance, travel, tourism, furniture manufacture, dress manufacture and fashions.

Among this group’s companies were the Ararat Insurance Company, the MEFI furniture factory and the World Travel and Tourist Agency.

One enterprise that was part of the romantic tradition of early Southern African capital was established by the Dunsky group together with Timorim, a Southern African moshav shitufi in the south. This factory was Miromit, situated in Ashkelon, the town that Southern Africans had helped to bring into being. Miromit made Israel’s first solar heaters of water for domestic consumption. Their first customer was David Ben-Gurion, living in retirement at Sde Boker: B-G’s imagination was fired by the concept of drawing energy from the sun.

Housing

As the need of hundreds of thousands of immigrants for roofs over their heads became more intense, Southern African investors tended to go into real estate and housing to an ever-increasing extent.

Most of the structures going up in Israel were, what were called "housing units"— that is, apartments in identical, concrete, matchbox-like blocks, each exactly like the one next to it, all of them completely devoid of individuality. Southern Africans, perhaps because they had memories of the gracious and tranquil homes inspired by the Cape Dutch farmhouses, rebelled against settling for such abodes.

The API developed Savyon as a suburb of private homes with gardens very similar to such suburbs for the middle-class in Southern Africa. The suburb has a country club, including a swimming-pool, bowling-green and tennis courts.

David Teperson came to Israel with a Mahal group in April
1948. After the War of Independence, he joined Moshav Habonim, then went into building as an independent contractor, establishing the David Teperson Building Co., Ltd. The firm has built hundreds of private homes in Herzliya Pituach, Kfar Shmaryahu, Caesarea, Ra'anana and Ramat Hasharon, as well as blocks of flats and factories in various parts of the country. One of their specialities is building swimming-pools.

Other builders, who brought their know-how of South African methods and standards of constructions to bear in Israel included Abe Nurick, who built the Kfar Shmaryahu commercial centre, Abe Altman, Bob Levinson and Max Levinson. Max Levinson was in charge of many of the building operations of the Afridar company in Ashkelon.

The Anglo-Saxon Real Estate Agency Ltd., formed by David Blumberg, set out to attract foreign investment capital into Israel. Its slogan, "Have a Foothold in Israel" became known among Jewish communities everywhere. It has promoted the building of apartment blocks, apartment hotels, Israel's first drive-in cinema and large shopping malls. "Anglo-Saxon" built one of Israel's first luxury skyscrapers outside Tel Aviv, in Herzliya.

Blumberg made a considerable contribution to the field of real estate in Israel and became President of the Israel Real Estate Association. He was also elected to the World Executive International Real Estate Federation in 1983 and represents it on the UN Shelter Commission.

Today "Anglo-Saxon" has branches all over the country, and employs 250 people, including 30 Southern Africans. It has a turnover of $300m per year and earns $40m in foreign currency. Stanley Finkelstein, one of the Managing Directors, controls the largest branch among the Anglo-Saxon franchises.

Corex Management & Investment Co., Ltd. was set up in the late seventies by a Southern African, Isaac Bloch, whose family had engaged in property development and building material merchandising in Cape Town and a sabra partner, Gadi Golan, with the primary aim of creating a Western-orientated vehicle for investment for foreign investors. It now represents over 500 such investors and
provides work for hundreds of people. The firm's investments include rental industrial buildings, rental housing, offices, squash and sport centres. It has influenced building trends, the quality of construction and development planning. Corex applies Western management methods to build a bridge between Israeli and foreign investors.

The Garrun group was set up in 1972 by Frank Garrun, a South African who set out to work out potential projects, to find suitable investors, and then build and manage the projects. Today the Garrun Group consists of five companies - building, management, maintenance, leasing and investment companies, each functioning separately, but all under the same roof. It manages $60m worth of property and 400 Israeli companies, owned by over 700 shareholders from around the world. Among the group's best-known projects are Beit Giron, an industrial complex; Giron Park, a high-tec industrial park; Giron Centre, a mall in Ra'anana; Nitza Towers, a major skyscraper in Netanya, and Giron 2000 in Rishon Le Zion.

In Haifa, a building company headed by Southern African Gerald Fredman developed a beautiful area set in forest, opposite the Haifa University, on the crest of Mount Carmel, into one of the most attractive housing estates in Israel.

Have a Hamburger instead of Falafel
From providing housing for Israelis to feeding them was a natural step. From 1982 until today a South African company has been filling Israelis with hamburgers through Burger Ranches, formed by Ron Lapid and Barry Scop. This has become one of Israel's leading consumer chains. Israelis are great fastfood eaters on the streets, but a strong culinary tradition has established Oriental food — not, as one might have expected, Eastern European dishes — as the country's kiosk fare. Falafel, humus, tehina and, to a lesser extent, shewarmas are strongly entrenched for roadside trenchermen: almost every street has its falafel prince, falafel king and falafel emperor.

Burger Ranch broke through this tradition by supplying first class meat, imported from South Africa, by providing Southern African standards of cleanliness and by applying Southern African and American methods of marketing, including a rare concept in Israel — trying to please the customer.
Some diners like to eat slowly and in great comfort; other Southern African food suppliers cater for them in the Safari restaurants, where, as the name implies, they can eat meals suitable for lovers of good red meat.

**Sweet Tooth**
Samson brought sweetness out of the lion, and Israel was known to be a land of milk and honey. Some South Africans cater for the person with a sweet tooth, who prefers sweets and chocolates to meat, or perhaps wants them as well. One of Israel's very successful suppliers of candies is Len Sackstein, whose "Taste of Israel" sweets are known internationally. The firm, which moved recently into large new premises, manufactures unique products, put into very attractive containers.

**Fish and 'Phones**
Another famous item of cuisine for kiosks around the world is fish and chips but Maurice Kahn saw fish as creatures of such beauty that they should be observed rather than devoured. So he had South African architects Maurice Kaplan and Leon Charney design an underwater observatory at Eilat, together with an aquarium.
This has become the major tourist attraction of Eilat, certainly for people lacking the nerve and ability to swim into the depths with snorkels, masks and aqualungs. Instant and comfortable deep-sea diving through the observatory's transparent glass has thrilled hundreds of thousands of visitors to Eilat. After looking at the myriads of fish nose to nose through the glass, the visitors are delighted to learn all about them upstairs in the scientific aquarium.
Another successful Maurice Kahn business venture that filled a deeply felt Israeli need was the incorporation of yellow pages into the telephone books. These yellow pages enabled Israelis to discover rapidly the suppliers and artisans whom they needed desperately, although of course, Kahn cannot guarantee that they will come when summoned.

**Laser Beams Produce Dollars**
One of the most unlikely and most successful of Southern African entrepreneurs is the celebrated plastic surgeon, Professor Isaac Kaplan, Head of the Plastic Surgery Department of the Beilinson Hospital and incumbent of the
Sackler Faculty of Medicine Chair of Plastic Surgery in Tel Aviv University. (See chapter on Medicine.)

Professor Kaplan realised the marketing potential of the lasers he had developed for surgical purposes as an alternative to the traditional scalpel. Together with physicist Uzi Sharon, he invented the "Sharplan" carbon dioxide laser, a unique instrument with a highly concentrated beam of infra-red light, which vapourises the tissues as it cuts through them. It makes an accurate, very fine incision, which leaves the adjacent areas practically unaffected.

Marketed by Laser Industries of Tel Aviv, the Sharplan is now being used by hospitals and private practitioners in 49 countries and has earned millions of dollars. In 1987 Professor Kaplan was awarded the Rothschild Prize in Industrial Development for the invention.

It may seem to be a long distance from the operating-table to entertainment, but lasers bridged that gap effortlessly. Four Southern African immigrants living in Kochav Yair - Russel Abel, Martin Klein, Colin Klein and Lawrence Herson - formed Laser Lighting (Israel) Ltd. to use laser lighting as an integral part of Israeli entertainment.

Their services have been employed by the Israel Defence Forces, by municipalities, by organisers of festivals and major events, by top-rate artists. Among their famous performances were shows they put on at the 40th Anniversary Massada concert, the 1989 Maccabiah Games and at the Telfed "Salute to 60 years of Southern African Aliyah" in April 1990.

South African Government Liberalises Some Funds For Investment

In 1973, after the visit of Prime Minister John Vorster to Israel, the South African and Israeli governments entered into a unique bilateral agreement whereby South Africans were allowed to transfer fixed sums of money for investment projects.

The investment quota was set then at about $20m a year. In 1989, investment proposals for $220m were submitted, an indication of the interest of South Africans in investing in Israel.

The Israel-South Africa Chamber of Commerce (I.S.A.C.C.)

The Israel-South Africa Chamber of Commerce was set up in
1973 to promote bilateral trade and investment between the two countries. Over 100 businessmen and representatives of Telfed and the S.A. Consulate attended the inaugural meeting, where Hertzel Katz was elected the first Chairman. Within three years the Chamber reported that trade had expanded considerably. Exports to South Africa for the first two months of 1976 reached $13.4m, compared to $4.97m in the corresponding two months of the previous year. On the other hand, imports had dropped from $10.9m to $8.2m. Trade continued to improve for several years, but in 1987, it was hit severely by Israel joining the world-wide boycott of South Africa.

ISACC plays an active role in promoting trade with South Africa; it organises trade missions to S.A., seminars and other functions, and publishes, in addition to regular trade bulletins, an annual full-colour publication "PERSPECTIVE". ISACC participated in 1987 in the formation of the Federation of South African Chambers of Commerce Abroad (FEDSACCA).

Among other chairmen were Maurice Mendelowitz, Aubrey Berman, Howard Glazer, Maurice Ostroff and Morris Borsuk.

Some Southern Africans pioneered with know-how in the development of the Israeli economy. Moshe Navias, a mining engineer, who had been underground manager and Head of research and planning on the Geduld mine, served for a decade as Chief Mining Engineer of Israel Mining Industries. He helped in the prospecting and mining of phosphates, copper, iron, manganese, oil shale and flint shale. He also served as consultant to Tahal (the Israel Water Planning Authority), Mekorot, Nesher Cement and other companies, and went on their behalf to Guatemala, Nicaragua, Cyprus, Ethiopia and the Ivory Coast.

Ruth Blumberg, who immigrated in 1954, was engaged by Israel Mining Industries and headed Process Development in their Research and Development division until 1977, when she...
moved to Miles Israel Ltd. She did innovative research on Liquid extraction (Solvent extraction), a relatively new area for separating mineral values. Her group developed a number of new separation and conversion processes, of which she was the co-patentee. One of these processes, for separating citric acid from fermentation broth, was licensed to Miles. The processes won her international recognition. The International Solvent Extraction Conference bestowed on her its Award for "Outstanding Accomplishment and Meritorious Achievement in Solvent Extraction". The Chemical Engineering Department of the Technion bestowed on her the status of "Guest of the Faculty".

Ben Milwidksy worked for Zohar, the chemical factory of Kibbutz Dalia for many years, and made a major contribution to the development of the detergents industry. He obtained world-wide recognition as an expert in the field, has written eight books and eventually set up as an international consultant. Lazar Judelman, an engineer, was one of the first engineers employed by the Urdan steel plant in Netanya.

Cecil Slevin, a building engineer, one of the early settlers in Eilat, installed the first "desert coolers" — instruments with dripping water subjected to wind, which worked as a poor man's air-conditioner in a desert climate.

Honie ("Yochanan") Rosenberg, who graduated as a civil engineer in South Africa, came with the Mahal in June, 1948. When the War ended, he joined Kibbutz Beit Hever. When he left the kibbutz, he realised that the country was very short of surveyors - he had studied surveying as a second course in South Africa and he set up a group, which over the years, has done surveys of different kinds for numerous kibbutzim and moshavim.

Several architects have designed buildings or developments that changed the architectural face of Israel.

In the 'fifties, Avraham ("Axel") Axelrod designed housing units in Ashkelon, using five different shapes to avoid the danger of uniformity. Staggered up the slope of the dunes, with their red-tiled roofs and views of the ocean, they remain to this day one of the most restful neighbourhoods in Israel. He also designed the buildings at Lod Airport.

Meilach Kotlowitz joined the famous architectural firm of Dov
Carmi, and was responsible for the design of the Dagon Hotel in Ashkelon. The firm also served as consultants to Jack Barnett of Cape Town in the planning and building of the Afridar Civic and Commercial Centre in Ashkelon. Together with Ze'ev Rechter, they designed the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv.

Maurice Segal, an architect who had come with the Mahal to establish the Israel Air Force, remained to practise architecture. He designed the Kfar Shmaryahu Cultural Centre and together with Leon Charney, the Kfar Shmaryahu synagogue. The former is called Beit Senior and was endowed by the Senior family to commemorate the memory of Leon Senior, who lost his life while serving as a pilot in the S.A. Air Force.

Later Charney, in partnership with Maurice Kaplan, designed the Eilat undersea observatory tower; together with a Canadian associate, they planned the entire "Top of the Capital" neighbourhood on French Hill, Jerusalem, consisting of 450 terraced units melting into the slope, the first neighbourhood of its kind to be built in Israel; the Yamit Apartment Hotel on the Tel Aviv seafront; Telfed's rental housing block in Givotayim.

Gert Guttmann won several competitions, including one for a Mikve in Bnei Brak and another for a school in Beersheba; he is a specialist in educational buildings and has planned over 30 schools all over Israel and community centres in Lod, Petach Tikva and Rosh Ha'ayin. He also did the education masterplans for Herzliya, Netanya, Beersheba, Kiryat Gat, Kiryat Ono and Bat Yam. The first day care centre for elderly Arabs in Taibe was designed by him, as well as Beit Protea, the South African project for senior citizens and Beit Issie Shapiro for retarded children in Ra'anana. The restoration of old buildings in Tel Aviv is his most recent specialisation.

Benjamin Peleg, after being for some years a partner in the firm of Carmi & Associates, where he worked on the new Egged bus terminal and shopping complex, set up a new firm with two sabra architects as his partners.

They have designed numerous shopping malls, industrial complexes, science and technology industrial parks and facilities for recreation and tourism. In the last category are
the administration block and services for campers at Ein Gedi and additions to the coral world at Eilat, including a new undersea laboratory, tower, restaurant, shops, shark tank and fish pools. They designed the community centre, library and swimming-pool in the Jerusalem suburb of Ramot.

Emanuel "Monik" Tross planned the new chapel in Nazareth, built around a carpenter's stable as an altar; for this design he received international acclaim. In Issafiya, Tross designed a chapel for English pilgrims for the British Conference Centre. In Nazareth and elsewhere he planned a number of hospitals. He initiated in Jerusalem the system of terraced housing that is now widely used.

Harry Whiteson planned the private medical centre built in Herzliya by Southern African investors, which is a landmark building of its kind in Israel. For Telfed he built a residential block in Ra'anana. Jack Stein, a veteran South African architect, designed a number of houses in Herzliya Pituach for the American Embassy.

Benjamin Kaplan, working together with his wife, designed the new Shifa Hospital in the Gaza Strip. They planned institutes for retarded children and a block containing apartments for hire in Ra'anana.

Harry Brand, recognised as one of the country's authorities on town planning, has written authoritative books on the subject.
CHAPTER SEVEN:

THE HEALING HAND

(Medicine, nursing, physiotherapy, pharmacy, psychology, professions allied to medicine, optometry, veterinary service.)

INTRODUCTION:

The Pre-State Position of Medicine

The profession of medicine was firmly established in Palestine before the State was proclaimed in May 1948. There was no shortage of doctors. Hitlerism had driven from Germany and other countries in Europe great numbers of very able Jewish physicians, many of whom settled in Palestine. So it seemed that there was no particular need for a large-scale immigration of doctors from Southern Africa. Nevertheless, in the period before the 1948 War of Independence began, Dr. Mary Gordon, a woman of great courage, completely dedicated to serving suffering humanity, worked in the internment camps set up by the British in Cyprus for the so-called "illegal immigrants" turned back by the Mandatory regime from their Promised Land. Several Jews, who suffered facial injuries in the Arab riots that preceded the War, were sent to Professor Jack Penn in South Africa for plastic surgery; he also visited Palestine, where he performed operations on the wounded.
SEVENTY YEARS OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN ALIYAH

Mahal

The War of Independence changed the situation completely. Even before Palestine was invaded by Arab armies from the surrounding countries, it became clear that medical help would be needed to cope with war casualties. Many Southern African Jewish doctors had served with distinction in the South African Medical Corps during World War II. Some of them were enrolled in the Mahal medical contingent, headed by Dr. Lionel Meltzer, who had been awarded an M.C. for gallantry in the desert during World War II, and was in charge of the contingent. He mobilized several specialists, who were later joined by Southern African doctors and other personnel already settled in Israel.

In the first Mahal contingent to go to Israel were Dr. Jack Wilton, a surgeon; Dr. Lionel Meltzer, an anaesthetist; Dr. Louis Miller, a psychiatrist; Dr. Gershon Gitlin, an anatomist; Dr. Victor Resnekov, a radiologist; Dr. Arthur Helfet, Dr. Cyril Kaplan and Dr. Israel Schwepppe, orthopedic surgeons; Dr. Harry Bank, an internal medicine specialist; Dr. George Mundell, an internist and pediatrician; Dr. Isaac Kaplan and Dr. Bernie Hirschowitz, plastic surgeons; Dr. Mendel Klaff and Dr. Mary Gordon, general physicians. They were joined by Dr. Abe Hurwitz, of Moshav Timorim; Dr. Jack Medalie, of Moshav Habonim; Ron Sobel (later Shouval), a psychologist; Dr. Miriam Gitlin, a family physician, who came to Israel in November, 1948. Sid Cohen, a medical student, came as a pilot, but later qualified as a doctor.

Among para-medical personnel, who served in the Mahal, were Ted Elion, a pharmacist; his wife Hannah and June Medalie, physiotherapists; Zelda Ravid and Ray Brunton, nurses; Yetta Golombick, a psychiatric social worker. Myra Bank, an English teacher, taught amputees in the Army Rehabilitation Centre.

Yeshayahu Brenkel, a pharmacist living on Kfar Blum, served as a field nurse in the north and became famous for saving, by applying digital pressure, the life of a man shot in the neck. Ilana Neumark, a biochemist came with Mahal at the end of 1948 and served in this capacity in No. 10 Military Hospital in Haifa.

Dr. Alan Price was a member of a group of Mahal volunteers who got to Rome in July 1948, and came with survivors of
the Holocaust on a Greek ship to Haifa. He served with the 52nd battalion of the Givati Brigade in all the fighting in the South that culminated in the battles for the police station of Iraq Suidan and the Faluja pocket. After the War he went back to South Africa for specialist training, returning in 1980.

Covering as they did such a wide range of specialisations, it was inevitable that Southern African Mahal medical personnel should play major roles in the Israel Medical Corps.

Dr. Meltzer was appointed second-in-command of the Corps, under the great Dr. Chaim Sheba, one of the most remarkable men who ever tended a patient or ran a hospital.

Dr. Miller, together with Ron Sobel, organised psychiatric testing for air crews. Miller also set up the first psychiatric programme for soldiers suffering from battle exhaustion (shell shock). He and Sobel were joined in setting up psychological services in the army by Eddie Rosenberg, who had served as an air-gunner on the SAAF, had then qualified in South Africa as a psychologist and had come to Israel with Mahal as an air-gunner: he moved to the Medical Corps to join Miller and Sobel. Masha Rosenberg, Eddie's wife, also served in the psychological services.

**After the War of Independence**

Many of the doctors, who came to Israel in the Mahal, stayed on as permanent settlers.

When large numbers of Yemenite Jews were brought home to Israel “On Eagles' Wings” from 1949 onwards, thousands of them were taken straight from the planes to an abandoned British Army barracks, supplemented with tents, in Rosh Ha'ayin. Dr Mary Gordon, who had worked in the internment camps set up by the British for Jewish refugees in Cyprus, headed a large clinic in Rosh Ha'ayin.

Doctors and lawyers in South Africa financed the establishment of the Leopold Greenberg Forensic Medicine Institute in Tel-Aviv. The initial work involved in setting up the Institute was done by Dr. "Okkie" Gordon, the South African pathologist. The institute is still of vital importance in the investigation of causes of death due to trauma and of other forensic medical issues.

**The Patient and the Doctor**

Southern African doctors came to Israel with a splendid
tradtion of doctor-patient relations and made a considerable impact on the practice of medicine in the country. With their background and philosophy, it is not surprising that the Southern Africans made a particular contribution to the development of social medicine, family medicine and community medicine in this country.

The Ashkelon Hospital and Mothercraft Training Centre.

Southern Africans participated in the financing and planning of the Ashkelon Barzilai General Hospital. Later the Lewenski bequest financed a Premature Pediatric Care Centre in memory of Dr. Mary Gordon. Even before the State was established, the S.A. Women's Zionist Council established the Mothercraft Training Centre (MTC) in Tel Aviv to care for premature babies and children of broken homes, as well as to train nurses.

At the foundation stone ceremony of Ashkelon Hospital
L. to R. Mayor Leo Tager, Minister of Health Barzilai, Dr. Mary Gordon

THE HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL SCHOOLS

In the early years of the State, the Hebrew University Hadassah Medical School in Jerusalem was the only one of its kind in the country. Later, other medical schools were
established in Tel Aviv, Haifa and Beersheba.

Dr. Jack Karpas came to the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Centre in 1952 as Associate Director-General; he was the first Southern African to join the Hadassah staff, but by no means the last. His function was to appoint staff and to equip the hospital. Dr. Karpas was convinced that Southern African doctors were equal to the best in the world, both because of their medical skills and because of their humane approach to patients.

When he set out to find staff for the Hadassah Hospital, therefore, he "sold" his belief in Southern Africans to Hadassah so effectively that, within a few years, there were 43 Southern African physicians (ten per cent of the total number) on the Hadassah staff. Many of them held (and still hold) key positions in the hospital and became professors in the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School.

Southern Africans were also very prominent in the development of all other major hospitals and medical schools in Israel, as will be seen from the subsequent review in this chapter of contributions to specific branches of medicine.

**Private Medicine**

In private medicine, Dr. Herbert Judes and Dr. Aubrey Joffe initiated the setting up of the Herzliya Medical Centre, which is widely considered to be a major breakthrough for this type of medicine. Getting a licence took some years because of opposition from the neighbours.

Among those serving as Heads of departments in the Herzliya Centre are Dr. Neil Schwartz, Medical Director; Professor Zalman Rubinstein, Head of the Radiology Unit; Dr. Simon Strauss, Head of the Ultrasound Unit; Dr. Elliot Katzenellenbogen, Chief Anaesthetist; Dr. Myra Shapiro, Head of the Mammography Unit.

Southern Africans set up a similar centre in Haifa, despite intense opposition from successive health ministers, who tried to withdraw Government commitments to the investors, allegedly because the ministers feared that the hospital would interfere with public medicine. Only after the investors sued the Government in the Supreme Court in South Africa was the licence for the hospital issued in April 1990.
Many Southern Africans became heads of hospital departments and professors in medical schools, and helped to change the character of Israeli medicine. But it must be stressed that the general practitioners serving families and communities in cities, towns, villages and settlements in all parts of the country, also made a major contribution.

Some of the specific fields in which Southern Africans made their mark are the following:

**Anaesthesiology:** Professor Ben Aronson set up a new Anaesthesiology Department in Hadassah's Mount Scopus University Hospital, and headed it until his retirement. He did major research on blood flow, as measured by blood viscosity or by overall flow to the limbs, and on capnography, measuring carbon dioxide levels in the blood stream, as an index of the efficiency of ventilation. He is now doing research on pain and its prevention.

Professor Seymour Hoffman was responsible for setting up the Anaesthesiology Department in the Meir Hospital, Kfar Saba. When he retired in 1986, Dr. Robert Judaiken, another South African, took over as Head of the Department. Yet another South African, Dr. David Olsfanger, heads the Department's Intensive Care Unit. So Kfar Saba anaesthesiology is very much a Southern African "show".

**Anatomy:** Professor Gershon Gitlin, of the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School, made an inestimable contribution to the discipline of anatomy in Israel, and was recognised as a great teacher of anatomy. His influence extended far beyond Jerusalem.

**Cardiology:** Treatment of heart attacks has been revolutionised in the last decade by the discovery of new drugs and by the invention of remarkable machines. Several South Africans have made major contributions towards bringing Israel up-to-date with the latest advances in cardiology.

One of these cardiologists is Professor Mervyn S. Gotsman, of Hadassah - incidentally, he was the physician attending to Menachem Begin, when Begin was Prime Minister, a duty which took Gotsman to many of the historic conferences in the U.S.A. and Egypt.
Professor Monty Zion established and runs the Cardiology Department in the Sha'arei Zedek Medical Centre in Jerusalem. Prof. Basil Lewis, who worked for years at Hadassah with Gotsman, moved to Haifa to become the Head of the Cardiology Department at the Carmel Hospital. Other Southern African cardiologists holding senior posts in hospitals are Dr. Hylton Miller, at Ichilov; Dr. Raymond Aronson, at the Sheba Medical Centre; Dr. Jonathan Balkm, at Sha'arei Zedek; Professor Leonard Blieden, a pediatric cardiologist, at Beilinson; Dr. Avi Bakst at the Meir Hospital.

**Cardiac Surgery:** Professor David Adler, who set up a Cardio-Thoracic Unit in the Rambam Hospital in Haifa in 1961, was one of the pioneers in open heart surgery in Israel. Professor Joseph B. Borman, Head of the Department of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery in Hadassah, hit the headlines when he performed the first successful heart transplant in Israel. By the end of 1990 he had effected many other such transplants, and had made heart transplantation a routine procedure. He has acquired an international reputation for his work on the replacement of heart valves. Patients come to him from all parts of the Middle East, including countries officially at war with Israel.
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Dr. Dan Aravot, after specialising in heart and lung transplant surgery in England under Dr. Jacobs, is now heading a new transplant department in Beilinson Hospital.

Clinical Microbiology: The usual concept of a diagnostic microbiology service in a hospital is of a department responsible for providing service for doctors dealing with infectious diseases. But clinical microbiology has been completely revolutionised in recent years, because of the attacks launched on human beings by new bacteria, viruses and allied micro-organisms and by the development of new drugs to fight them.

Professor Theodore Sacks, head of the Clinical Microbiology Department of Hadassah, pioneered in the field, and established modern clinical microbiology in Israel. His right hand man is another South African, Professor Mervyn Shapiro, who heads the Unit of Infectious Diseases. Professor Jack Sobel is a clinical microbiologist serving in the Rambam Hospital in Haifa.

Gastroenterology: Professor Bentley Novis opened the Gastroenterology Department in the Meir Hospital.
He was the first specialist in Israel to introduce the use of the fibre-optic endoscope for the removal of gallstones from the biliary system; and endoscopic sphincterology, the passage of large tubes (stunts) through inoperable tumours in gullet and bile ducts. His department is a leader in the field of therapeutic endoscopitis.

Professor Shmuel Edelman of the Rambam Medical Center, after specialising in internal medicine for some years, changed the focus of his main research interest to gastroenterology, and is well-known for his work on intestinal lymphoma. He is Chairman of the National Scientific Medical Council. Dr. Shmuel Odes-Sagan serves in the Soroka Hospital in Beersheba.

**Gynaecology and Obstetrics:** Professor Sidney Joel Joel-Cohen headed the Gynaecology and Obstetrics Department at Beilinson from 1973 to 1978. Subsequently, Dr. Teddy Edelstein headed the department.

Dr. Brian Reichman heads the Neonatal Department of the Tel Hashomer Hospital (renamed the Chaim Sheba Medical Centre).

Dr. Michael Goldberg held the position of Deputy Director-General of Asaf Harofe Hospital and headed the Premature Baby Unit.

Joseph Factor, who had been Head of the Air Force Medical Services, later became Head of the Afula Hospital and then joined the Gynaecology and Obstetrics Department at Beilinson, where he is now also the Deputy Director-General of the hospital.

**Haematology:** Professor Aaron Polliack, Head of the Lymphoma and Leukemia Unit of the Haematology Department at Hadassah, has done much internationally acclaimed research on the treatment of lymphoma and leukemia. Among other things, he produced a scanning electron microscopy atlas of normal, transformed and leukemic leukocytes, and several authoritative books on leukemia and lymphoma, which were published in the U.S. and the U.K. In 1989 he was appointed Editor-in-Chief of an international journal, "Leukemia and Lymphoma". He works closely with Hadassah's Bone Marrow Transplantation Department, responsible for one of the marvels of modern medicine, bone
marrow transplantation, which effects complete cures of some hitherto hopeless genetic diseases and blood cancers.

**Internal Medicine:** Professor Harry Bank, of the Sheba Medical Centre, who came with the Mahal and served as a battalion medical officer, joined Tel Hashomer Hospital (later renamed the Chaim Sheba Medical Centre) and for many years headed one of the internal medicine departments there. He has run an anti-coagulant clinic there for 30 years, now the only one of its kind in the country.

A famous UCT teacher, Professor Frank Forman, joined the Sheba Medical Centres Internal Medicine Department after he retired in South Africa. Professor Rafael N. Melmed is a top physician in Hadassah's Internal Medicine B Department. Professor Gerald Brook, of Rambam has done very interesting work on rheumatology.

Professor Mark Loewenthal, a member of the Internal Medicine Department of the Soroka Medical Centre in Beersheba, is doing dramatic work on bone disease in the elderly.

**Nephrology:** Professor Justin Silver, a member of the Department of Nephrology and Hypertension in Hadassah, made a significant contribution in nephrology and renal disease; he heads the Unit of Calcium Metabolism.

Professor Geoffrey Boner established in 1969 a dialysis unit at the Hillel Yaffe hospital in Hadera, the first such unit to be set up in a small hospital. In 1977 he was appointed Director of the Renal Failure Unit at the Beilinson Medical Centre. He has served as Chairman of the Israel Society of Nephrology and as adviser to the Ministry of Health; he has published over 90 scientific articles on different aspects of nephrology.

**Nuclear Medicine:** Dr. Jack Bar-On heads the Department of Nuclear Medicine at Ichilov Hospital and has set up a number of similar departments in other hospitals in Israel. He also serves as a United Nations consultant in the field of nuclear medicine.

**Oncology:** Professor Harold J. Brenner, after specialising in tumours at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Centre in New York, now heads the Oncology Department in the Sheba Medical Centre, and is doing research on several aspects of cancer. He is currently also a visiting part-time
teacher and research worker at Sloan-Kettering.

**Orthopaedics:** Professor Israel Schweppe, who came to Israel with the Mahal, set up the Orthopaedics Department in the Carmel Hospital in Haifa. He was later responsible for the Orthopedic Department of the Afula Hospital for 17 years, and then returned to the Carmel Hospital. Professor Charles Malkin, Head of the Orthopedics Department in the Kaplan Hospital in Rehovot, has achieved dramatic results with his work on artificial hips. Dr. Chaim Goldman served for many years in the Poriya Hospital in Tiberias.

Professor Hyman Pogrund, of the Hadassah University Hospital on Mount Scopus, is an orthopaedist who has specialised in osteoporosis, i.e. "brittle bones", a disease in which the mineral content of the bones decreases. It is one of the most prevalent of bone diseases, generally afflicting middle-aged people, particularly women. Professor Pogrund does his work on osteoporosis as a member of a team in the Hadassah Jerusalem Osteoporosis Centre, which was headed by another South African, Professor Alan Rubinow. Professor Rubinow, after specialising in rheumatology was appointed Chief of the Rheumatology Unit at the Hadassah Medical Centre.

**Pathology:** Professor Martin Sacks, who set up the Pathology Department of the Soroka Hospital in Beersheba, is recognised as a world authority on the histopathology of lymphoma, and heads a WHO panel dealing with this subject. Dr. John Myerson, who was Chief Pathologist in the Israel Defence Forces, developed new identification methods that became standard procedures. He gave up his life in the line of duty, while working on a mountain-top, where an IDF plane had crashed, resulting in many casualties.

A famous Cape Town pathologist, Professor Golda Selzer joined the Pathology Department of the Sheba Medical Centre after she retired from UCT.

**Pediatrics:** Pediatrics seems to have had a special appeal for Southern Africans. Professor Bernard Cohen headed the Department of Pediatrics in the Tel Hashomer Hospital from the early 'fifties until his retirement. He did major research on child mental care, and retardation. His work on hereditary
diseases and catatonic children also won wide recognition. Professor Justin Paswell now heads the Pediatrics Department and the Research Immunological Laboratory at Tel Hashomer. Professor Bernard Hammer heads the Pediatrics Department of the Hadassah Balfour Hospital in Tel Aviv.

Professor George Mundell, who came with the Mahal, assisted Mary Gordon in the Rosh Ha'ayin ma'abara, as the pediatrician in charge. Later he succeeded her as consultant to the Mothercraft Training Centre. He subsequently became Head of the Assaf Harofe Medical Centre's Pediatrics Department.

He has served as consultant to the Ministry of Health on maternal and child health problems, and has become a world authority on diseases that cripple children and on children's rehabilitation. In 1986 he was awarded the Yom-Tov Liman Prize for outstanding work in the rehabilitation of brain-damaged children.

In the early years of the State, Dr. Stanley Levin headed the Department of Pediatrics in the Kaplan Hospital in Rehovot, where Dr. Michael Cooper is now serving as Head of the Pediatric Day Care Unit.

Professor Michael Jaffe established and heads the Department of Pediatrics at the Rothschild Hospital (later renamed the Bnai Zion Hospital) in Haifa.

Dr. Archie Bloch, Deputy-Director of the Pediatric Department of the Ashkelon Barzilai Hospital, has served a large region in southern Israel, providing preventive and community pediatrics. He has written numerous books and articles on different aspects of children's physical and mental health, including such themes as sex education.

In 1987 he was awarded a prize by the Ministry of Health for his contributions to Public Health. He also received the Henrietta Szold Prize from the Tel-Aviv Municipality for his book on sex education for youth.

Dr. Basil Porter serves as pediatrician in the Soroka Hospital in Beersheba, and initiated the establishment of the Child Development Centre in Beersheba.

Professor Solomon Reisner headed the Neonatal Department of the Beilinson Hospital. He is also the Regional Director of the Sharon area for Maccabi Kupat Holim.
Dr. Michael Kaplan is Head of the Pediatrics Department at the Assaf Harofe Hospital and Dr. Dov Cohen is Head of the Pediatrics Department in the Rebecca Sieff Hospital. Dr. Emanuel Chigier has been Director of the Medical Services of Youth Aliyah since 1971. He has written two books, edited ten books, and has been editor of the International Journal of Adolescent Medicine and Health. He has pioneered in the development of sex education for adolescents and of adolescent health services. He is Chairman of the Israel Association for Adolescent Health, and Secretary of the Israel Rehabilitation Society, and is a member of the WHO Expert Advisory Panel on Rehabilitation.

**Plastic Surgery:** Several Southern Africans have brought plastic surgery in Israel to a very high standard. Professor Isaac Kaplan, who came with Mahal, served at Hadassah for some time, and then became Head of the Department of Plastic Surgery in Beilinson Hospital. He revolutionised surgery, when, together with a Hebrew University physicist, he invented the Sharplan carbon dioxide laser. Professor Bernard Hirschowitz started in 1951 with a two-bed ward for plastic surgery cases in Rambam, and has turned it over the years into a large and flourishing department. He has acquired a world reputation for his work on burns cases of which, unfortunately, Rambam receives a very large number as a result of battles in the North. He developed an egg-rich diet for burns cases that excited considerable response.

Dr. Erwin Kaplan served for many years in Beersheba, during the town’s pioneering period and was known as “The angel of Beersheba”. Then he moved to the Poriya Hospital in Tiberias.

**Psychiatry:** Dr. Louis Miller, after serving for a long time as Director of the Mental Health Services in the Ministry of Health, became Chief National Psychiatrist and had much to do with the framing, development and organisation of national policies about mental health and community health programmes.

Since 1986, Dr. Aubrey Zabow has headed the Beersheba Health Centre, set up by the Ministry of Health. It comprises hospitalisation, day care, outpatients' and community services.
Safrira Ashkenazi serves in the Child Development Centre in Beersheba. Dr. David Rabinowitz was appointed Director of the Psychiatric Services at the Rambam Hospital, Haifa, in 1988. Dr. Michael Polliack, who served in the IDF with the rank of major and was awarded the prestigious Yitzhak Kouzari Prize for his work with the population of South Lebanon in 1988, is specializing in child psychiatry. 

**Radiology:** Dr. Victor Resnekov, who came with Mahal, became one of the pioneer radiologists in the country. Professor Ted Siew, Head of the Department of Diagnostic Radiology in Hadassah, was responsible for introducing sophisticated diagnostic imaging services into Hadassah. Among other things, he introduced computerised tomography of the brain, ultrasound and angiographic techniques. He was followed in Hadassah by Professor Roy Gordon. Professor Zally Rubinstein heads the Department of Interventional Radiology in the Sheba Medical Centre. Dr. Simon Strauss is Head of the Ultrasound Premature Radiology Department at Assaf Harofe Hospital. Professor Albert Solomon heads the Radiology Department in the Ichilov Medical Center. Dr. Graham Polliack, who received an award as the outstanding regimental doctor during his service in the IDF in Lebanon, specializes in radiology and imaging techniques. Dr. Alan Price is a diagnostic radiologist in the Elisha Hospital in Haifa.

**Social Medicine, Community Medicine and Family Medicine:** Southern Africans led the way in the development of social medicine, family medicine and community medicine. In 1953, Hadassah decided to open a family and community health centre in the large Jerusalem suburb of Kiryat Hayovel, the aim being that this would provide comprehensive preventive, promotive and curative services for the 20,000 inhabitants of the suburb. Apart from providing services, the Kiryat Hayovel Centre also engaged (and still engages) in teaching and research programmes. The plan was that the Centre would serve as a model for centres to be set up throughout Israel. The Centre was headed at its inception by a South African,
Professor Sidney L. Kark, and was staffed almost entirely by Southern Africans. After Professor Kark became Professor Emeritus, his place was taken by another South African, Professor Joseph Abramson, who was in turn replaced on his retirement by a South African, Professor Leon Epstein. Professor Epstein had headed a similar centre in Haifa for many years.

A similar centre was established in Ashkelon under Dr. Abraham Hurwitz, but was closed because of Kupat Holim opposition. Dr. Hurwitz remained one of the leading experts in the country on family medicine, and lectured on the subject at both Beersheba and Tel Aviv Universities.

Professor Max R. Polliack was instrumental in drawing up a national syllabus for vocational training in family medicine, which was adopted by the Scientific Council of the Israel Medical Association and the Israeli Medical Authorities. He became Head of the Department of Family Medicine in the Tel Hashomer Hospital, originally set up by another South African, Dr. Jack Medalie. Polliack was instrumental in establishing the Israel Association of Family Physicians. The Department was assisted by a large number of Southern Africans.

Dr. Moshe Schein was the Chief Medical Officer of Southern Command, and Dr. Israel Lifschitz served for many years as the Medical Officer of Health of the Netanya Municipality.

**Surgery:** Professor Jack Ami-Zakai (Abrahamson) is Head of the Department of Surgery in the Rothschild Hospital in Haifa, and heads the Pediatric Surgery Unit there. He introduced pediatric surgery as a recognized speciality into Israeli medicine.

He has done considerable research on the spread of cancer cells and on hernias, and has published extensively on his work in these fields, as well as others.

**DENTISTRY**

From the earliest days of the State, Southern African dentists have taken an active part in development of Israeli dentistry and in the organisation of the country's academic dental institutions.

One dentist, Dr. Hyman Ravid, came to Israel with the Mahal. Many Southern Africans have provided dental care to
SEVENTY YEARS OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN ALIYAH

kibbutzim and moshavim within the framework of the public health services for many years, while others established successful private practices.

In the academic field, Dr. Wilfred Kusner, in the Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Dentistry in Jerusalem, helped to pioneer in the performance of maxillo-facial surgery and the use of prostheses for patients with war, accident or tumour deformities. Other Southern Africans at Hadassah are Professor Aubrey Chosack, Head of the Unit for Dental Treatment of Handicapped Children in the Department of Pedodontics, and Professor Aubrey Soskolne, Head of the Department of Periodontics.

Dr. Harold Sgan-Cohen is a senior lecturer in Community Dentistry in the Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Dentistry. He is involved in teaching and in conducting programmes in preventive dentistry, the epidemiology of dental diseases and dental health in communities.

Southern Africans are also very well represented on the staff of the Maurice and Gabriela Goldschleger School of Dental Medicine at the Tel Aviv University and were instrumental in getting the school established and the impressive clinic built.

Professor Herbert Judes is Chairman of the Department of Operative Dentistry and Dr. Leslie Serebro is a Senior Lecturer and Coordinator in this Department, in which Dr. Colin Gorfil also serves. Dr. Zeev Avraham and Dr. Morris Strauss are also members of the Orthodontics Department.

Dr. Leon Belistoki set up and heads the Department of Facial Deformities in Children at the Sheba Medical Centre.

Dr. Serebro is Regent for Israel of the Alpha Omega Dental Fraternity, and other Southern Africans have served in key positions on the Fraternity's international committee.

A group of Southern African dentists, headed by Dr. Trevor Segal, Dr. Brian Braude and Professor Herbert Judes opened a Dental Clinic for the Handicapped in 1989 at Beit Issie Shapiro, a centre for disabled and handicapped children. A survey revealed that 70 per cent of these children needed dental care.

PSYCHOLOGY

Southern Africans have played major roles in the field of psychology in Israel. Professor Ron Shouval (Sobel), who had
served in the Psychology Section of the South African Air Force in World War II, working on the selection of air crews, immigrated in 1947 and settled in Ma'ayan Baruch. When the Mahal doctors arrived, Dr. Louis Miller, the eminent psychiatrist, invited Shouval to join him in doing air crew selecting for the Israel Air Force. Shouval remained in the Israel Defence Forces after the fighting ended, becoming a lieutenant-colonel and serving as Chief of the Army Psychological Services till 1966. He then went to Tel Aviv University and became Chairman of the Psychology Department. He has also served as Chairman of the Department of Behavioural Sciences.

Moshe Reeb also served in the IAF as a psychologist, and later went into the IDF psychology service. He stayed there till 1965, when he went to Bar-Ilan University.

Professor Solly Katz, of the Psychology Department of Bar-Ilan University, has established a new specialization – rehabilitation psychology – and is responsible for the rehabilitation centre for brain-damaged army veterans.

Noam Kemp, of Migdal Ha'embleek, is a psychologist serving as Director and Supervisor of the school psychological services in Migdal Ha'emek. Dr. Stanley Rabinowitz was Chief Psychologist of the Israel Air Force.

PROFESSIONS ALLIED TO MEDICINE

Professor Phyllis Palgi, a social anthropologist, served for many years as Anthropological Adviser to the Ministry of Health, particularly about new immigrants from the Middle East and North Africa, and the integration of medical services into their customs.

From 1980 to 1988 she headed the Department of Behavioural Sciences in Tel Aviv University. In 1990 she was awarded the Distinguished Award for Anthropological Research and Applied Research by the Israel Association for Anthropology.

Chasya Pincus served for several years as a psychiatric social worker in the Geza Hospital. She was a lecturer in the Department of Family Medicine in the Tel Aviv University's Medical School.

Naomi Stuchiner, who heads Beit Issie Shapiro, was awarded the Henrietta Szold Prize for the outstanding social worker of
Bernice Myers studied occupational therapy in Jerusalem and became a forerunner in the treatment of children suffering from developmental delay. She helped to establish, and headed children's occupational therapy departments at Beit Lewenstein, Beilinson Hospital, Beit Issie Shapiro and Kupat Holim Maccabi (Sharon area).

Josie Beutler, an occupational therapist, living in Kibbutz Yizre'el, serves in the Afula Hospital and the Rehabilitation Advice Centre of the kibbutz movement. Erica Katz has been a speech therapist in the Speech and Voice Clinic of the Tel Hashomer Hospital since its inception in 1959. She also worked as a speech therapist within the hospital and in its education framework. Other speech therapists who contributed greatly to the profession in Israel are Babette Serebro and Marian Fredman.

Miriam Brenner is a sexologist and sex therapist, who has pioneered in these fields in Israel.

**NURSING**

Rona Moss-Morris (Bar-Am), who had qualified at the Addington Hospital in Durban, came to Israel as a nurse in 1945 and joined Kfar Blum, where she had to combat malaria, typhoid and various dysenteries.

She opened the first Tipat Chalav (Mother and Child station) in Kiryat Shmona, then a ma'abara inhabited by 5,000 souls. There she had to fight, among other things trachoma, ringworm and diseases caused by ignorance and lack of hygiene. Nava Nurok (later Lapidot), served in the Hadassah Mount Scopus Hospital from April 1948, for many years.

Zelda Ravid, who came with the Mahal, nursed in Haifa for some years. Meira Berman, who studied nursing in the Beilinson Hospital, served in that hospital for many years. Ariela Ari (Levin) studied child-care in the Mothercraft Training Centre, specialising in premature babies. She moved to the Sheba Medical Centre, continuing to specialise in premies.

Sheila Gatter (Mimran) came on aliyah in 1963 and qualified in the Henrietta Szold-Hadassah School of Nursing in 1967. During the Yom Kippur War she was stationed at the naval base Ras Sadar in Egypt. From 1975 to 1978 she was Head Nurse in Hadassah's Internal Medicine A Department, and
from then on has been in charge of the Dialysis Unit. Barbara Rimon, another Hadassah nursing school graduate, is now in charge of Hadassah's Unit for Surgical Nutrition and Metabolism. She has become an expert on the safe and effective administration of parenteral and enteral nutrition. Two other Hadassah graduates, Beverly Wolman and Esther Wachsman (Grunebaum) are serving respectively in the Hadassah Gynaecology and Obstetrics Department of the Mount Scopus Hospital and Hadassah's Internal Medicine B Department. Barbara Jean Gatter came on aliyah in 1964 and worked in Hadassah until September, 1965, when she moved to Kupat Holim, eventually becoming Head of the Home Care Programme. She went to Germany to study the Reflex Zone Therapy system and since her return, she heads the Day Care Rehabilitation Unit in East Talpiot, Jerusalem.

**PHYSIOTHERAPY**

There were two Southern African physiotherapists in the Mahal contingent: Hannah Elion and June Medalie. After the War, Elion worked for some years at the Imahut Hospital in Haifa and then went to Ashkelon, where she served first in the Health Centre, until it was given up, then in the Ashkelon Barzilai Hospital. She was Chief Physiotherapist in the hospital from 1966 until she retired in 1989.

Sandra A. Elan (Saber), a Witwatersrand University graduate, came on a special mission to Israel in 1950 to help in the fight against polio. She then went to England for further studies, returning in 1954 to set up a School of Physiotherapy at Assaf Haroofe Hospital at the request of the Ministry of Health. She headed the school till 1961. Subsequently she taught at Assaf Haroofe and the Wingate Institute. She taught proper posture in schools and factories.

Celle Mandel immigrated in 1961 and served in Kupat Holim Maccabi, specialising in geriatrics. She was awarded a prize by the Ministry of Health.

Lola Bar-ness immigrated in 1965 and has worked ever since in the ON School for Cerebral Palsy Patients. She uses the neuro-developmental therapy approach developed in England, and heads the Department of Physiotherapy in "Ilan", Tel Aviv.
Cecil Taitz immigrated in 1969 and joined the Rehabilitation Department of the Tel Hashomer Hospital. There he learned to work closely with the occupational therapist, prosthestist and psychologist in a team using a holistic approach in treating the injured. He also introduced "sports" physiotherapy, which, apart from its therapeutic value, served as a tremendous anti-depressent. In 1974 he started teaching in the new School of Physiotherapy in the Tel Hashomer Hospital. Two years later he became a member of the staff of the Anatomy Department of the Sackler School of Medicine.

Luba Zuk, who had obtained a degree in physiotherapy from Witwatersrand University and also had diplomas in special education and neurodevelopment therapy, immigrated in 1975, and settled with her husband and two children on Kibbutz Tzora, where she served as a physiotherapist. In 1979 the family moved to Ramat Hasharon and she became Chief Therapist in the Child Development Centre of Tel Aviv-Jaffa. Later she joined the staff of the Physiotherapy School of Tel Hashomer Hospital as a senior lecturer and clinical instructor, specialising in treatment of the brain-injured child. She obtained a Master's degree at the Lesley College of Cambridge, Massachusetts and is considered to be one of the country's leading authorities on evaluating and helping children with developmental and learning problems.

PHARMACY

Although Southern African qualifications for doctors and dentists were always held in high esteem by the medical profession and the public at large in Israel, pharmacists who immigrated had a harder time, because they had served an apprenticeship of only two years, whereas Israeli law required a three-year apprenticeship. It took years of dogged fighting by Telfed before Southern African pharmacists' qualifications were recognised. Eventually Telfed succeeded in getting concessions for pharmacists.

In 1988 it was agreed that would-be immigrants could take an oral examination in English to obtain licences to work in Israel. A special panel of examiners went to South Africa in April, 1989 to conduct the examinations, and 66 out of 67 applicants passed.

From the early years of the State, despite the difficulties,
THE HEALING HAND

Southern African pharmacists reached key positions in Kupat Holim and the Ministry of Health. Among these pharmacists were:

- Ted Elion, who came with the Mahal and served as medical quartermaster of Northern Command for three years. Later he became Senior Pharmacist in the Department of Pharmacy of the Kupat Holim head office, responsible for all Kupat Holim pharmacies in the South. He served in Kupat Holim for 30 years;
- Henry Woolfson (who changed his name to Ben Zeev) became Assistant Director of pharmacy services in Beilinson Hospital;
- Danny Gillenberg directs the pharmacy services in the Sharon Hospital in Petach Tikva;
- Tony Joffe became Director of Pharmacy Services in the Meir Hospital in Kfar Saba;
- Seymour Fisher was District Pharmacist in the Ra'anana area;
- Abby Edan was Chief Pharmacist at the Nahariya Hospital for many years.

In the early 'seventies, Issy Isacowitz served on the Ministry of Health's Committee for Establishing a Code of Good Manufacturing Practices and Quality Control for the Pharmacological Industry in Israel. Ten years later he served on a subsequent committee to revise the code.

Some pharmacists in private practice made significant contributions to health in Israel.

- Stanley Bergman, who immigrated in 1969 opened a private pharmacy, but gave it up and went to work for Kupat Holim. He inspired a remarkable new Israeli enterprise - the production of "Medic", a monthly indexed compilation of ethical drugs available on the market. Noting that no lists of drugs were available for physicians, he wrote to all the drug companies, got lists of their drugs, and produced his Israeli pharmacopoeia, which is now found on every doctor's desk.
He edits it and his wife Olga, a physiotherapist, gave up her profession to work on the publication full time with another South African, Shirley Shamos as a partner.

Jeff Kruger, operating two pharmacies in Netanya, became
OPTOMETRY

Southern African optometrists had an even harder time than pharmacists in getting recognition in Israel. The ophthalmologists resolutely opposed any kind of legal authorization for optometrists to test vision for short-sightedness or long vision: they contended that such eye examinations were their prerogative.

In the early years of the State, the Government supported the ophthalmologists' stand. Jack Raphael and Moshe Berman, Southern African optometrists who came to the country in 1949, pioneered in the fight for recognition of optometry.

While they did not win the battle, at least they did get the authorities to turn blind eyes to its(14,13),(980,992)

Evelyn Duval graduated as an optometrist with a B.Sc degree from Witwatersrand University and then did post-graduate work in London. She came to Israel in 1960 and became a member of the Hadassah Ophthalmology Department, where she has served ever since. Her speciality is the low vision clinic. One of her tasks is to train ophthalmologists in optometric work. She has run several courses in Hadassah for Africans, Asians and South Americans, who come to Hadassah for specialist training.

VETERINARY SCIENCE

(See Chapter Four on Agriculture for the contributions of Professors Hilton Bark and Professor Reuven Yagil to the development of veterinary science in Israel.)

NON-CONVENTIONAL COMPLEMENTARY MEDICAL TREATMENT

Menorah Charney, a spiritual healer, has achieved considerable success with non-conventional complementary methods of healing by releasing and marshalling forces and energies of the
mind and spirit. Confirmation of the successful use of these methods by her emerged from experiments conducted at the Kaplan Hospital. Sarah Paz is another spiritual healer attaining very good results with non-conventional alternative methods of healing.
Even before the State was established, the legendary Mark Levin, a Southern African, who settled in Israel in the early 1920's, was well-known as a teacher of English throughout the Yishuv. He became one of the great group of teachers assembled at the famous Herzliya Gymnasia by Dr. Benzion Mossinson, and he continued to teach there for some time after the State was proclaimed. Many of Israel's leaders were taught by him. His pupils still tell stories about how he milked his own cows in the morning, walked to school from Ramat Gan where he lived, a distance of some miles, and brought milk for the pupils.

Nora Miller immigrated in 1936 and taught English in two famous schools – first the Reali in Haifa and then the Evelina de Rothschild in Jerusalem. When World War II broke out, she enlisted and served as an officer in the R.A.F. in Egypt. After the War ended, she settled on Kibbutz Yifat and became a famous teacher of English in the kibbutz regional school. Hundreds of students from kibbutzim in the Emek Yizre'el claim proudly that they were taught by Nora.
Leo Camron (Kaminsky) came to Israel in 1948 with Mahal and after the War ended, taught English for some time in the Herzliya Gymnasia together with Mark Levin. He went back to South Africa, but returned to Israel later and resumed teaching English. He wrote English grammar books that are still in use. Another Southern African who prepared teaching material was Joe Lison.

Ruth Stern, formerly Ben-Amar, nee Saretzky, came with the Mahal and served as a lieutenant in the Medical Corps. After the War, she became one of the first settlers in the newly built "South African" town of Ashkelon, and taught English there for many years before moving to Jerusalem.

Some Southern Africans became principals of schools. Shmuel Dorfan, for several years preceding his death, was headmaster of the Municipal High School in Herzliya and was esteemed by many – and criticised by some – for his sometimes unconventional approach to Israeli pedagogic problems.

Another veteran headmaster was Samuel Wayburn, the principal of Alonei Yitzhak, a Youth Aliyah village, which has both a junior high school and an academic high school; in addition, it operates a small farm, where students learn basic principles of agriculture and love of the land. For many years the school provided high school tuition in English for the children of newly-arrived Southern African immigrants.

Leon Peleg (Fogelewitz) was headmaster of the Givat Brenner regional school for a number of years.

A great innovator in Israeli education is Judith Hill, principal of the Open School in Haifa. Most schools in Israel still follow the East European philosophy of cramming knowledge into willing or unwilling pupils; the open school tries to bring out the best and most original qualities of students.

Inspectorate

Several Southern Africans have attained inspector status. Ilana Neumark, who also lectures on education at Haifa University, Hazel Camron, who designed numerous texts both for high school students and for new immigrants, and Shmuel Dorfan were both general inspectors and special inspectors of English teaching.

The Southern Africans' special contribution

Prior to the creation of the State, English was taught almost
as if it were a dead language. Southern African teachers have done a great deal to revolutionise methods of teaching English in Israel, teaching English to young Israelis as a great living international language, not an academic subject utterly remote from their lives, to be treated with fear and suspicion. It became manifest that these Southern Africans, perhaps because of their socio-cultural backgrounds, were dedicated and innovative teachers of modern English.

Professor Ruth Berman (formerly Aronson), led the "English Language Project" unit, which was sponsored by the Curriculum Planning Centre of the Ministry of Education and Culture and was based at Tel Aviv University. This Unit produced a series of language books called English for Speakers of Hebrew (which came to be known as ESH), which were later expanded to suit all grades and are being used throughout the school system to this day.

In recent years, Professor Berman has transferred her interest to the field of "First Language Acquisition", and has achieved world status in this field. She is now considered one of the foremost experts on linguistics in Israel and teaches at the Tel Aviv University.

Dr. Valerie Whiteson served in the Bar-Ilan language laboratory and together with Belle Friedman, wrote text-books on language.

Judy Dobkin set up English and Resource Centres under the auspices of Interaction, the main Centre being in Ashkelon. These Resource Centres were of particular significance in the communities given attention under the Jewish Agency’s Project Renewal programme.

Teacher training

Ruth Baratz, Dr. Babette Kaplan, Margaret Porat (formerly Kowarsky) and Irma Goodman (formerly a teacher at the Gordon Seminary in Haifa) are members of the staff in the English Department at the Beit Berl Seminary, which provides pre-service training, in-service training and extra-curricular courses for teachers in the field, immigrant teachers, auxiliary teachers and tutors, who volunteer to work with children and to give them supplementary lessons.

Among the teacher trainees are Arabs who need special attention and understanding of their needs and aspirations.
SEVENTY YEARS OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN ALIYAH

Special courses are given to English-speaking immigrants, who come to the college holding degrees in other disciplines, undergo retraining and become teachers in TEFOL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language).

The English Inspectorate of the Ministry of Education and Culture arranged for special training for immigrant teachers and the Southern Africans played a major role in these programmes, including serving as guest lecturers during summer vacations. Carol Goldfus was particularly active in these programmes.

New immigrant teachers are required to do retraining courses to prepare them for their confrontations with a type of education different from that with which they had been familiar in the Diaspora. Entering this strange new world, it was a real relief for them to find that their retraining instructors included Southern Africans.

Lola Katz taught at Beit Berl and then went on to teach adults in the Ministry of Defence. Violet Herbert teaches English phonetics at the Arab Teachers' Seminary in Haifa.

Ephraim Weintraub was the driving-force in the establishment of the English Teachers' Association in Israel (ETAI), which provides voluntary in-service training for teachers, both in the Jewish and Arab sectors.

He succeeded in obtaining material and moral support from the British Council and today ETAI constitutes a highly professional association which has held international conferences on the Hebrew University's Mount Scopus campus and has a membership of over 1,000 teachers. He is currently Chairman. Irma Goodman serves with him as a member of the national executive.

In the early years of the State, before ETAI was established, Ruth Baratz was a founding member of the Committee for English Teachers, a small self-help group, functioning in an era when there was nobody else to whom to turn.

Long before the Ministry produced its English Teachers' Journal, this Committee published a modest magazine called Notes and Papers, which Ruth Baratz edited.

Ziona Shaefer lectures on psycho-drama at Oranim, the kibbutz seminary near Haifa. Hava Gillon teaches art and textile design at the Wizo community college in Haifa and at Oranim.
Educational Television
A major breakthrough in the movement to change the philosophical approach to the teaching of English to make it a living force in Israeli life, came with the introduction of Educational Television in the late 'fifties.

Television had always been looked on with extreme suspicion by the Israeli leaders, who feared that canned information and entertainment would destroy the nation's involvement in the creative arts. David Ben-Gurion had seen one television show and like Queen Victoria, had declared that he was not amused. But when the Rothschilds offered to provide a huge sum of money to set up Educational Television, the authorities yielded, although reluctantly. Even Ben-Gurion could not refuse the Rothschilds the joy of making a large donation for what they conceived to be the greater happiness and improved education of the Israelis.

Sheila Been, originally a teacher at the Herzliya High School, served as coordinator of the English Department (High School Division) at Israel Educational Television for over 15 years.

She was responsible for materials development and the design of "English by Television" courses of study. These television courses are used throughout the country.

She enrolled many Southern Africans to help her in the preparation of material for both teachers and pupils. Professor Ruth Berman was one of the first linguistic consultants for ETV's English programme.

Been served as chairperson of ETAI for some time. She was also secretary of ISRATESOL (the Israeli affiliate of the international organization, TESOL, Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages). She has been sent abroad many times by the British Council to represent Israel at international conferences.

The Mosenson School
Special high school classes, with English as the language of instruction, were arranged for Southern African immigrant youths at the Mosenson school in 1987 by Telfed, with the cooperation of the Ministry of Education and Youth Aliya. The students agreed afterwards that it provided a form of absorption into Israeli society far more painless than anything
SEVENTY YEARS OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN ALIYAH

that they had expected or had dreamt was possible. Many other Southern Africans rendered great service to Israel as teachers, particularly of English, in all parts of the country.
Southern Africans have attained eminence in all Israel's institutes of higher education and science. In the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, from shortly after the State was established, a large group served in the English Department and helped to shape the character of the Department. They set the tone for bringing the English language and literature into Israel, as part of the great English culture that has been such a major force in the history of mankind. Several Southern Africans became professors in the Department. The special interest of Ruth Nevo, Professor of Humanistic Studies was in Shakespeare's problem plays in the light of neo-Freudian theory, and she came to be regarded world-wide as a leading Shakespearian critic. She is also interested in a re-evaluation of the drama of W.B. Yeats. Hillel M. Daleski is a recognised authority on the English novel of the 19th and 20th centuries. His books on D.H. Lawrence and Charles Dickens are seminal works, which have
The page contains text discussing various individuals and their contributions to the field of Southern African Aliyah. It mentions:

- Dorothea Krook, a critic who joined the Department in 1960, wrote several major books and later married a Hebrew poet.
- Joyce Miller, who specialized in drama.
- Dr. Michael Wade, who focused on stereotypes and mythic perceptions between racial groups in South African literature.
- Sheila Deutsch, a lecturer.
- Professor Simon N. Herman, who served as a leading member of the South African Zionist Federation in Johannesburg before immigrating to Israel.
- Dr. Gideon Shimoni, Director of the Division of Jewish Communities in Countries of the British Commonwealth, and his book on Zionism in South Africa.
- Professor Leonora Reinhold, who became a professor of Botany at the Hebrew University in 1966, focusing on mechanisms of membrane transport in plant cells.
THE GROVES OF ACADEME AND SCIENCE

plant hormones, in particular with regard to their role in plant movement.

Professor Peter Hillman, Professor of Neurobiology in the Hebrew University, served previously as Head of the Physics Department in the Weizmann Institute for several years. His main interests are models and biophysical characteristics of transduction in photoreceptors and information processing in mammalian and primate visual systems. He is now also the Director of the Bloomfield Science Museum in Jerusalem.

Professor Wilfred (Ze'ev) Stein, Professor of Biological Chemistry in the Hebrew University, has written authoritative books on membranes and molecules.

Dr. Mona Castel, a member of the Department of Zoology of the Hebrew University, is interested in immunocytochemistry and cell biological analysis of neuropeptides in the brain and pituitary neurosecretion in invertebrates.

Professor Joseph J. Sandler, Sigmund Freud Professor of Psychoanalysis in the Hebrew University's Department of Psychology, is Vice-President of the International Psychoanalysis Association.

Dr. Bruce Oppenheimer is a member of the Hebrew University's School of Education, his research interests being in career education programmes, long-term follow-up of combat stress cases and group work helping people to cope with transition.

Dr. Steven E. Aschheim is a member of the Hebrew University's Department of History, specializing in the ideological and political development of the German political religion; the Nietzschean Myth; the ways in which the Nietzschean heritage shaped and was shaped by the cultural and political concepts of Germany between 1900 and 1945.

Many Southern African scientists joined the staff of the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa.

After he was discharged from the IDF, Prof. Frank H. Herbstein who had served in the Science Corps in Mahal, joined the Weizmann Institute of Science's Department of Chemical Crystallography under the direction of Professor G.M.J. Schmidt. In 1965 he moved to the Technion as a professor in the Department of Chemistry and later became Chairman of the Department. He has served the Technion as
Professor Kalman Altman is a professor in the Technion's Department of Physics. His main scientific interest is in atmospheric physics.

Professor Charles Kuper is a professor of physics at the Technion. His main interests are in theoretical physics, especially low temperature and solid state physics.

Professor Alice Marudas is a professor in the Technion's Department of Biomedical Engineering. Her main research interests are in the physical chemistry and biomechanics of the fluids and tissues of the joints.

Professor Gilbert Herbert is the Senior Professor of Architecture and former Dean of Architecture and Town Planning at the Technion. For over 20 years he has played a leading role in architectural education in Israel and has written four authoritative books and many other publications. He has also served for many years as Director of the Israel Architectural Heritage Centre, which documents the country's architectural history and is an invaluable tool in research.

Herbert worked at the Technion together with the late Professor Moshe "Muzz" Hill, who was killed in an accident while on holiday in South Africa, and who served in the Technion for many years as Professor of urban and regional planning in the Department of Architecture.

Many Southern Africans have served and are serving in the Weizmann Institute of Science.

Professor Mendel Cohen joined the Institute in the early 'fifties to do research in solid state chemistry with Professor G.M.J. Schmidt. During the last 15 years of his life, Professor Cohen was Head of the Structural Chemistry Group in the Institute. Dr. Charles Braudo served in the early years of the State in the Department of Physics.

Professor Wolfie Traub joined the Institute in 1950 and is a
professor in the Department of Structural Chemistry. His main research interests have been in the crystallography of biological substances, including protein crystals and biological fibres such as collagen; the chemical and structural relationship between the inorganic and organic components of bones, teeth and shells.

Professor Leslie Leiserowitz is a professor in the same Department. His main interests are in solid state chemistry, X-Ray and theoretical crystallography, neutron diffraction, crystal chemistry (especially organic crystals), crystal growth and dissolution and the structure of thin films.

Professor Alexander Silberberg is a professor in the Department of Polymer Research at the Institute, and is Head of the Aharon Katzir-Katchalsky Centre, which is concerned with furthering international scientific cooperation and with the impact of scientific and technological advances on society.

Dr. Steven Weiner, after graduating in geology at the Hebrew University and doing a doctorate in geology at the California Institute of Technology, joined the Weizmann Institute, and concentrated on the chemical and structural relationship between the inorganic and organic compounds of bones and shells.

Professor Michael Levitt is a professor in the Department of Chemical Physics of the Institute. His interests include computer studies of protein molecules; obtaining energy parameters from crystal study data.

Professor Michael W. Kirson is Head of the Department of Nuclear Physics, which consists of more than 100 people, including scientists, technicians, engineers and students.

Ever since he arrived at the Institute as a post-doctoral fellow in 1967, his work has been in the field of nuclear structure theory. He has concentrated on the theory of the structure of the atomic nucleus, with particular emphasis on the relationship between different mathematical models of the nucleus, within the context of the many-body theory of interacting systems.

Dr. Errol Gotsman is Head of the Department of Astrophysics in Tel Aviv University.

Dr. Charles Karpas, a physical organic chemist, and Dr. Shimon Arad (previously Simon Wilk), a chemical engineer,
serve the Atomic Energy Commission.
Professor Kenneth Preiss, Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev is an internationally recognised expert in the fields of mechanical engineering and artificial intelligence. He served for many years as a member of the Budgets and Planning Committee of the Council of Higher Education.
Professor David Gordon, Professor of Education at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, headed the Education Department from 1984 to 1988, and is now Head of the Centre for Education in a Modern Technological Society at Ben-Gurion. He is adviser to the Ministry of Education on innovations in the education system, and is a member of the Pedagogical Secretariat of the Ministry. He has written several books and articles, his major work being "Myths of School Self-Renewal".
Dr. Zeev (Woolf) Mankowitz is a member of the Department of Jewish Education in the Melton Centre of Jewish Education in the Diaspora, and is Director of the Centre's Jewish Fellows, and Institute for Training for Diaspora Education. He is a recognised author on the Holocaust and its aftermath and on Jewish education throughout the world.
Three Southern Africans are teaching in the Bezalel School of the Arts in Jerusalem. Professor Shmuel Kaplan is the Head of the Department of Industrial Design. Professor Arthur Goldreich teaches interior design and architecture. Shirley Factor teaches ceramics, graphic design and photography. Doreen Guinsberg taught industrial design and architectural drawing in the Haifa Technion in the 'sixties.
Colin Porter obtained an M.Sc degree in Marine Biology at the Hebrew University and works in fish farming at Kibbutz Ma'agan Michael and in fresh water prawn farming in Jerusalem.
Professor David Kretzmer, of the Department of Law at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, specialises in Constitutional and Environmental Law. He is a founding member and current national chairman of the Association for Civil Rights in Israel. Also in the Law Department of the Hebrew University is Professor Stanley Cohen, an expert in criminology and social work.
Professor Allie Dubb conducted an in-depth survey into the sociological structure of Southern African Jewry in Israel, and his published works added much original information to the scanty material previously available on this subject.
While it cannot be claimed that Southern Africans introduced a specific or identifiable Southern African ethnic art form into Israel, in the same way as the immigrants from Yemen introduced their dancing and filigree carving in gold and silver, numerous Southern Africans made important contributions to the performing, plastic and literary arts.

Jeannette Ordman changed the history of dance in Israel, first as a member of the Batsheva company, afterwards as Artistic Director of her own company, Bat Dor. The Bat-Dor School was founded by Batsheva de Rothschild in 1967, and the company in 1968, with Ordman serving as Artistic Director of both.

Bat Dor made its impact not only on dance in Israel, but throughout the world: the company has toured countries around the globe, including Poland and the USSR.

Ms. Ordman stamped her personality on Bat Dor as a dancer, a choreographer, a planner and an administrator: it is impossible to imagine the company without her, just as it is
impossible to talk about dance in Israel without speaking with profound respect about Bat Dor.

In July 1990, a book about her by Dora Sowden, the well-known South African-born dance critic, was published in English and Hebrew.

Ordman's Deputy Director of the School, Rosaline Subel-Kassel, is a South African, as is Sheila Levi, another senior teacher, who also became Deputy Director, later Associate Director, of the School.

Levi came on aliya after studying dance in Cape Town, London and Spain. In 1969 she instituted Bat-Dor's children's classes and in 1983 set up a branch of the Bat-Dor school in Beersheba. She compiled a ballet syllabus for the Ministry of Education, which was included in the general education system. Barry Swersky served as General Manager of Bat Dor from 1970 until 1987.

Shelley Sheer Frid danced as a soloist in South Africa and Vienna before coming on aliya in 1969; and joined the Batsheva company. She won the "Kinor David" award in 1982 and came second in the International Choreographic Competition in Cologne in 1983. She serves Batsheva as Artistic Director and Rehearsal Director.

Two Southern Africans, Melanie Berson and Heidi Kirsch, are Bat Dor graduates. In the early days Ruth Gitlin was one of the first members of the Batsheva company.
Nadine Brooke came on aliya in 1982 after studying dance in South Africa and at the Royal Ballet School in London. She became a member of the Israel Ballet Company, a classical dance company formed in 1967, which gives about 100 performances a year in Israel and goes on tours around the world. Its repertoire includes such classics as "Cinderella" and "The Sleeping Beauty".

Yvonne Narunsky, a dancer and teacher of dance from the early years of the State, was instrumental in arranging with the Royal Academy of Dance in London that the Academy would send examiners to Israel to test candidates.

Sally-Anne Friedland, who tours the country with solo performances as well as in groups, received the "Kinor David" Dancer of the Year Award in 1985.

Zvia Brummer formed and directs the "Ra'anana Dance Connection". Recently Lynore Blum created a new dance group which is a great success.

One of the students taking evening classes at Bat Dor was Mike Levine, of Kibbutz Tzora. Bitten late by the dance bug, he became so keen on dance that he travelled to Tel Aviv to study at Bat Dor four times a week, after working all day in the kibbutz. Folk-dancing had always been popular in kibbutzim, but modern dance was something different, almost alien, to the traditional kibbutz ideology. Levine joined Yehudit Arnon when she formed the Kibbutz Dance Company and worked with her for years. It was such a success that it was invited to perform all over the country. Eventually it went international.

A Southern African did introduce an ethnic dance form into Israel, but it was Spanish dance, not Southern African – she is Silvia Duran, whose flamenco dancing captured the imagination of the Israeli public.

Dora Sowden, a dance critic for many years in Johannesburg, became "The Jerusalem Post" dance critic. Her constructive criticisms over the years have contributed to the burgeoning of dance in Israel. She was awarded a prize for her contributions to dance by the Friends of Dance in Israel organisation.

Dennis Alexander of Kibbutz Yizre'el is the Administrative Manager of the Kibbutz Movement Orchestra.

Raymond Goldstein immigrated in 1978 after obtaining a
Bachelor of Music degree at the University of Cape Town. He now serves in the Chamber Opera Department of the Rubin Academy of Music and as Musical Arranger at Hechal Shlomo. He specialises in cantorial accompaniments.

Brenda Miller initiated and organises classical music appreciation seminars.

Joe Friedland lectures in the Bar Ilan University's Musicology Department. He conducted the Choir of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra as a guest conductor, and has also been a guest conductor of the Jerusalem and Haifa Orchestras.

The Theatre

Leonard Schach, a famous director in the South African theatre, came regularly to Israel after the State was established and worked closely with the Cameri Theatre. At that time, the theatre in Israel was not sure where it was going. There was still the tradition of plays like "The Dybbuk". After coming on aliyah, Schach was responsible for introducing a modern, post-World War II style of producing highly polished and well-manicured dramas of the highest professional level. He helped Orna Porat to establish the Children's Theatre Company in 1965.

In 1990 he achieved something unique in the millennia of theatre history, something that deserves a place in the "Guinness Book of Records"; he presented the same play - "A Walk in the Woods" by Lee Blessing - in two productions, in two different languages (English and Hebrew), with the same director, in two different countries (South Africa and Israel) at the same time. In 1990 he was honoured by the Cameri Theatre for his 25 years of contributions to the Hebrew theatre.

Joyce Miller, a lecturer in English at the Hebrew University, introduced experimental theatre in English and Hebrew, first at the University and then in the Jerusalem Drama Workshop. She used radical improvisatory methods of voice control and body movements, and also urged actors to contribute their own creative powers instead of being puppets of the director.

Penny Kreitzer also did experimental voice work, based on the concepts of the Roy Hart Company from France, in the
Jerusalem Drama Workshop. Her ideas penetrated into the theatre generally.

One of the plays produced by the Jerusalem group was "Bruria", written by a South African playwright, Aliza Elion-Israeli; this was awarded the first prize in the Acre Theatre Festival. It was taken to the Edinburgh Festival, and received considerable acclaim, both from the critics and the public. Seven years later, English translations of it and of another of Elion-Israeli's plays were staged with great success off-Broadway in New York. One performance was given in Hebrew. The two plays are both still running in Israel. She has written several other plays, acting as well in some of them. Her latest play depicts the history of the Kibbutz Movement.

Joyce Miller and her husband, Dr. Louis Miller, introduced community theatre in disadvantaged areas, primarily as a community health tool, but the companies they established produced some remarkable dramas portraying the lives of people living in such areas.

John Phillips acts in repertory theatres, producing plays in English and has also done a considerable amount of work with Educational Television. Valerie Herbert has played leading roles in several of the productions of the Haifa English Theatre.

A remarkable and original contribution to Israeli life was made by Eric Smith, a Southern African who specialised in puppeteering. Puppet shows have always been popular in Israel, but in the pre-Smith era these had had no pretensions to being anything but children's shows. Smith's remarkable puppets elevated puppet shows to a real art-form, and Israeli puppeteering must now rank among the most original and interesting in the world.

The Plastic Arts

Some idea of how involved Southern Africans are in the plastic arts was provided by a Southern African Arts Festival, organised by Telfed in Herzliya in 1986; fifty-four works by Southern African painters and sculptors were exhibited. Three well-known Southern African sculptors, Moses Kotler, Rhoda Traub and Professor Lippy Lipshitz settled in Israel. Lipshitz, one of the leading South African sculptors of his generation, died in Israel in 1980.
A memorial exhibition in his honour was set up in Herzliya at the Herzliya Museum (Yad Labanim), where there is now a permanent exhibition room of his sculptures, reliefs and graphic work. Two of his larger sculptures are on display in the Ein Harod Museum.

In Israel, Lipshitz created about 15 very modern sculptures, small in design but great in execution. On the day he died he completed a larger work, "The Dying Candle". In 1990 his daughter, Tony Lipshitz-Caspi, published a book containing 40 plates, which portrays her father as sculptor, graphic artist, poet, philosopher and man.

Rhoda and Israel Traub came to Israel with Mahal in 1948, and went to Ma'ayan Baruch. Later they moved to Kfar Monash, and eventually to Zichron Ya'akov. Rhoda had studied sculpture and drawing in Johannesburg and London. She executed the sculptures of the Rothschild Memorial Park in Zichron, and recently published a book of water-colours about early Zichron. Israel Traub, originally a lawyer, switched to painting after service in World War II.

David Fine, a founder-member of Kibbutz Ma'ayan Baruch, achieved a remarkable success with his sculpture "The Arch of Peace" at Tel Hai; this work commemorates the Good Fence at Metulla on the Israel - Lebanon border. The sculpture expresses the artist's dream of a final victory of peace. It consists of Galilee basalt rocks, each weighing over ten tons. He also carved the memorial at the Golani Junction for Southern Africans who fell in Israel's wars. Another kibbutz sculptor who attained considerable success, both in Israel and abroad is Bernie Fink, of Kibbutz Yizre'el.

When Yitzhak Rabin, the Minister of Defence, went to Cairo in September, 1989 to discuss President Hosni Mubarak's ten-point peace proposal with him, he took with him as a present to Mubarak a brass sculpture by Jean Stein, a South African sculptor and painter. The sculpture depicts "The Bird of Peace". On its base is engraved a verse from Psalm 122: "Peace be within thy walls and prosperity within thy palaces."

Michael Gitlin achieved so much success as a modern sculptor using a variety of materials that he has attained international fame. He is regarded as a leading conceptual artist and has been awarded important prizes.
Many painters have made names for themselves in Israel. Painting in Israel has gone through all the stages of evolution and revolution that took place in the arts in the U.S. and Europe. The Southern African painters have naturally been affected by this ferment.

Larry Abrahamson’s innovative work made him internationally known.

One of the most interesting South African painters is Harold Rubin, whose original profession was architecture. His very original paintings always excite considerable controversy. An all-round Renaissance type, he is not content with being an architect and painter: he is in great demand all over the country as a jazz performer on the clarinet and saxophone.

Hava Gillon was awarded the 1989 Professor Herman Strouk Prize by the Haifa City Council for the best painting of the year, "Toys of War", shown in the annual exhibition of the Association of Painters and Sculptors in Haifa and the Northern Region.

Another Haifa artist who has exhibited at several of the Association of Artists group exhibitions, as well as having solo exhibitions, is Doreen Guinsberg, who specialises in painting landscapes of the Sinai and Negev deserts.

Anne Bloch, a veteran settler in Ashkelon, helped to create the Ashkelon Arts Centre and teaches art there. She has exhibited her paintings both in solo exhibitions and in group shows of the Israel Artists and Sculptors’ Association. When she was not painting and when her pediatrician husband, Dr. Archie Bloch was not practicing medicine, they sang in the choirs of the Light Opera Company of the Negev and the Sha’ar Hanegev Kibbutz Choir.

Ziporah Segal, who was born in Israel and raised in South Africa, returned to her roots with her family in 1952. In her landscapes, she tries to portray the light and spirit of Israel. She has had several one-man shows in Israel, South Africa and the United States; one well-known critic praised her for “capturing the spirit of Israel”.

Other painters who have held successful solo exhibitions, both in Israel and abroad, include Maurice Kaplan, Sheila Geffen, Vivienne Silver and Carmen Turyn. David Garb, a photographer, received first prize in 1985 in a calendar.
competition organised by the Israel Advertising Association: he came 20th out of 1,000 photographers who competed in the Tenth International Calendar Competition in Munich.

Ilana Slomowitz is a multi-talented artist who qualified as a dance teacher and was principal dancer for the Mercedes Molina Spanish Dance Company; she then obtained a degree in fine arts; finally she became a ceramist and did murals for many major buildings in South Africa. Immigrating to Israel in 1988, she conducts workshops where participants join her in creative endeavours.

**Literature**

Southern Africans have made very important and diverse contributions to literature in Israel. Major works of English criticism were written by Professors Dorothea Krook, Ruth Nevo and Hillel N. Daleski. (See Chapter Nine on "The Groves of Academe").

Experience with the IZL inspired the writing of two books - Shmuel Katz's "Days of Fire" and Doris Lankin's "The Lady was a Rebel". Katz subsequently wrote another book, "Battleground", of which several paperback editions were sold and which is used as a handbook by the Jewish Agency. For several years Katz served as a publisher, running two firms, Carmi and then Megiddo.

The world's most important award for Yiddish writing, the Israel Manger Prize, was awarded in 1986 to Faivel Zygielbaum, a South African who writes in both Yiddish and Hebrew. Zygielbaum was with Manger and his wife on the day before Manger died.

Olga Kirsch, awarded a top South African prize for her poetry in Afrikaans, continued to write in Afrikaans in her new home in Rehovot, which became a magnet for Afrikaner visitors to Israel.

Riva Rubin, the poet, is one of many Southern Africans living in Israel who write poetry in English. She was awarded the Israeli Writers' Union prize for Creative Writing in a language other than Hebrew. Rubin was a prime mover in the creation of the Israel Association of Writers in English, and continues to be a driving-force in it; she edits its magazine, "ARC", a regular publication of works in English by Israelis. She is on
the steering committee of PEN, the international writers' organisation. Apart from her creative writing, she has also translated many prominent Hebrew poets and other writers.

Dalia Bilu, a translator, won an important prize for translations awarded by the Minister of Education and Culture. Zippora (Fan) Raphael has translated into English several books by the well-known Hebrew writer, Zvi Livne (Lieberman), as well as other books.

A book of poems, "The Jaffa Road", written by Lewis Sowden, who died in Jerusalem in 1974, and who had been one of South Africa's leading editors and writers, was published posthumously in Jerusalem.

Joan Comay is the author of 15 non-fiction books about Israel, two of which became best-sellers.

The late Rabbi Louis Rabinowitz served as editor-in-chief of the monumental 16-volume Encyclopedia of Judaism, published by Keter. For many years he contributed the very popular "Tora and Flora" column to "The Jerusalem Post".

Harold Blumberg performed the Herculean task of editing The Weizmann Letters in several volumes, a major contribution to Zionist history. He has edited many other books in English.

Philip Gillon's book about Eli Eliachar, "On Living with Palestinians - The Credo of Eli Eliachar" deals with the problem of whether Jews and Arabs can co-exist in peace; Eliachar claimed that this was possible. Together with Fan Raphael, Gillon translated into English General Motta Gur's book, "The Battle for Jerusalem", about the capture of Jerusalem in the Six Day War.

The Media

Several Southern Africans attained positions of prominence in the English-speaking media, although not many did so in the general Hebrew-language press, television and radio. The major exception, Shmuel Katz wrote columns in Hebrew for "Ma'ariv", while at the same time he was writing in English for the "Jerusalem Post".

Southern Africans who occupied top editorial positions on Israeli newspapers include Roy Isacowitz, David Richardson, Philip Gillon, Yoram Kessel, Ronnie Hope, Alec Israel, Leslie Susser and Alvin Hoffman.
Several of them, apart from serving in editorial capacities, became well-known columnists in Israeli or international newspapers. Other well-known correspondents and specialist reporters are Hirsch Goodman, Jeff Broide, Norman Spiro, Peter Hirschberg and Joel Gordin. Hirsh Goodman was the driving-force behind the creation in 1990 of a new English language weekly, "The Jerusalem Report", and is its editor. Doris Lankin and Judge Felix Landau wrote the "Law Report" column for "The Jerusalem Post" for many years. Listeners to the English news in Israel or to the Voice of Zion all over the world are familiar with the voices of Freda Keet, Leah Zinder, Roslyn Geltzer, Zvi Pantonowitz and Michael Wade. Zinder, Pantonowitz and Dennis Zinn work for the English News television section of the Israel Broadcasting Authority. Freda Keet was awarded the Seeff Prize for journalists in 1991. Laurance Price is a film producer who has worked for Channel Two and Israel Television and also acts in films. He organised an international student film festival at Tel Aviv University and two other festivals. As far as Southern Africans are concerned, his crowning achievement was his production of an audio-visual show, "A Salute to 60 Years of Southern African Aliyah", for Telfed in the spring of 1990, at the South African Assembly. Danny Roup, a metereologist, son of a Southern African immigrant, has become famous for his charismatic presentation of the weather forecasts on Israel Television.
CHAPTER ELEVEN:

SOUND MINDS AND SOUND BODIES — SPORT

INTRODUCTION:

Sport in the Southern Africans' cultural baggage. Immigrants carry their cultural knowledge with them from the countries where they were born to their new homelands. On the one hand they are determined to merge into the new country, to adapt to its ways, so as to be completely absorbed. On the other hand, immigrants cling to the language, food, habits, artistic and other interests which contributed to the quality of life for them in the lands from whence they came. One of the important items carried in this cultural baggage — particularly in the case of Southern Africans — is sport.

Southern Africans have tried, with greater or lesser success, to preserve the sports they played in "the old country". The same thing, of course, applies to other immigrants. Those who came from India, Australia and Great Britain hope to play cricket; North Africans want to cycle from Metulla to Eilat; the Russians wrestle, lift weights and ponder over chess-boards.
Some sports are held in high esteem in Israel by sabras and immigrants alike: soccer, swimming, track and field, tennis. There are other popular sports, like volleyball, basketball and handball, with which the Southern Africans are unfamiliar, and which have not attracted their interest.

Many sports that Southern Africans learn to play as soon as they can toddle around without their mothers’ help, were virtually unknown among Israelis in 1948, although some of them had been played by the British soldiers and officials of the Mandatory regime. These included bowls, cricket, golf, rugby, hockey and squash. The Southern Africans have placed these sports on the sporting map of Israel.

Louis Gecelter, for many years a leading member of the S.A. Maccabi Council, who settled in Israel and helped to organise the Maccabiah Village, said once: “The Anglo-Saxon sports will enrich the quality of life in Israel.”. This does not mean that the Southern Africans did not make a major contribution to the general development of sport in Israel. Southern Africans helped to build the Maccabiah Village in Ramat Gan. Prior to the building of the Village, accommodating the sportsmen from abroad was a nightmare, both for them and the organisers.

The South African Maccabi Council built tennis courts at the Wingate Institute, the Israeli centre for advanced education in sport and physical training. The Council also provided funds to build a sports hall at Beit Hahayal (the soldiers’ home) in Afeka, near Tel Aviv, which is used by war veterans, many of them disabled. Coming as settlers to Israel, both Leo Kowarsky and Louis Gecelter served on the Executive of World Maccabi.

In Ashkelon, the Southern Africans built the town’s first two tennis courts, where Shlomo Glickstein - Israel’s best player for many years - learned to play his tennis.

Later, under Project Renewal, the Jewish community of Southern Africa helped to finance the building of an Israel Tennis Center in Katamon, an under-privileged area in Jerusalem and also in the development town of Ofakim. Apart from these financial contributions, Southern Africans settling in Israel changed the pattern of the country’s sporting life by establishing specific sports.
Bowls: from Plymouth Hoe to the Banks of the Yarkon

Bowls, the game that Sir Frances Drake played at Plymouth Hoe just before he polished off the Spanish Armada, seemed more remote from Israel when the War of Independence ended than a journey to the moon. In the light of the country's security situation and the desperate state of the economy, with people subject to austerity more stringent than that imposed in Great Britain during the "Blitz" and the Government, uncertain as to whether it could find wheat for the next day's bread, some people thought that bowls was a luxury with which the country could dispense for the time being.

But, like Drake, Max Spitz was convinced that there was always time for a game, however parlous the position. Ably supported by two other Southern Africans, Percy Manham and Jack Raphael, Spitz set out to root bowls in Israeli soil. Their first step was to convince Lazar Braudo, the doyen of the Southern African settlers in Israel, that bowls was vital to Israel's survival. Braudo, a very able businessman, student of Judaism and fanatical Zionist, at one time Chairman of the Anglo-Palestine Bank, forerunner of the Bank Leumi, had never seen a wood in his life. But Spitz was a persuasive salesman, and won Braudo's support.
Together they went to the dynamic mayor of Ramat Gan, Avraham Krinitzi, who did not have the faintest glimmer of an idea what bowls was, but who had a soft spot for Southern African settlers. Spitz showed Krinitzi coloured slides of the Balfour Park bowling green, surrounded by beds of flowers in full bloom. Krinitzi was delighted: he said, "You want a park! Why didn't you just say so? I love parks." He gave them sufficient land on the banks of the Yarkon River to lay down two greens.

Back in South Africa, Alf Blumberg, an international bowler and President of the S.A. Maccabi Council, formed a special committee of friends of Israeli bowls. Dave Millin, a Johannesburg expert on greens, was sent to Ramat Gan to advise on laying of the first green; he brought with him grass from the Houghton Club, Johannesburg, which is still in perfect condition after 40 years. Among enemies of the game whom the Southern Africans vanquished were jackals, ants, moles, vandals and a mud-flood. The Ramat Gan Bowling Club became stronger and stronger.

Africa-Palestine Investments Ltd., a development company established by South Africans, which built the housing estate of Savyon outside Tel Aviv, set up a sports club there, which included the country's second bowling green.

Bowls was recognised as a Maccabiah sport by the Maccabi World Executive in the early 'fifties. The first Israeli Maccabiah team consisted of the three Southern African founders of the sport in Israel - Spitz, Manham and Raphael - and an English recruit, Wellesley Aron, founder of the Habonim movement. They played against teams from South Africa and Rhodesia.

Bowls has been part of the Maccabiah programme ever since. One of the major anxieties of the promoters of bowls was whether they could make non-Southern Africans aware of the fascination of the game. They were therefore delighted when the 1955 women's championships were won by Rina Lebel and the 1956 men's championships by Ben Krivy, neither of whom was a South African. More and more sabras and veteran Israelis were attracted to Drake's game, although it is still dominated by Southern Africans.

By the end of 1989 there were clubs in Ramat Gan, Kfar Maccabiah, Savyon, Ra'anana, Netanya (in the Wingate
Institute), Haifa and Jerusalem. Two more clubs were opened in Ramat Hasharon and Kiryat Ono in 1990.

In 1972, Israel entered the arena of world bowls for the first time. Since then, both men's and women's teams have participated every four years in the World Championships. The teams are predominantly Southern African. An outstanding achievement was the winning of the Rinks Bronze Medal by Israel's women bowlers at the World Bowls Championships in 1980.

Southern African men who have represented Israel with distinction include Len Awerbuch, Leon Blum, Cecil Bransky, Cecil Cooper, Steven Cooper, Irwin Driman, Harry Esakov, Nathan Lazarus, Okkie Rabinowitz, Jeff Rabkin, Gordon Seef, Sam Skudowitz, Jack Trappler and Chunkie Treisman.

Southern African women who became Israeli internationals include Tessa Futerman, Helen Gordon, Maureen Hirschowitz, Miriam Jankelowitz, Bernice Katz, Maisie Kay, Lily Milstein, Isobel Myers, Bernice Pillemer, Lorraine Rabman, Bessie Rosenberg, and Molly Skudowitz.

Bransky's regular inclusion among the world's top 16 bowlers in major world tournaments undoubtedly enhances Israel's prestige. In the 1985 competitions he was runner-up in both the World Indoor Championships and the World Masters Tournament.

Lawrence Mendelsohn, a young Southern African, achieved the rare feat of winning the national championship at the age of 14.

Dramatic innovations in the late 'eighties were the introduction of bowls for the disabled and the blind.

Israel reached the peak of its international achievements in the Seven Nations Tournament in the Isle of Jersey in 1991. Playing against world champion bowlers from the British Isles, Israel won the overall trophy due to outstanding performances by their five-member team, consisting of Cecil Bransky, Jeff Rabkin, Leon Blum, George Kaminsky and Lawrence Mendelsohn.

Southern Africans have been very prominent in the national administration of bowls; among these top administrators were Max Spitz, Jack Rabin, John Goldberg, Louis Gecelter, Kalley Saacks, Mendi Donner and Norman Spiro.
Cricket: King Willow in King David's Land

Before the establishment of the Jewish State in 1948, cricket was played on a wide scale in what was then Palestine. The British forces and members of large British companies like the Haifa Refineries played regular games: there was also a team representing an organisation calling itself the Arab Sports Federation. When the Mandate ended, the departing British took their cricket bags with them and it seemed that the unique music made by willow smiting leather would never again be heard in the Land of the Prophets.

In 1953 however, three Southern Africans - Dr. Bernard Cohen, Philip Gillon and Julie Lewis - got together with an Englishman, Bert Beech and began to play cricket regularly every Saturday morning on the Tel Aviv beach.

A major step forward was the discovery by Bernie Cohen, within the wide confines of the Tel Hashomer Hospital, where Dr. Cohen headed the pediatrics department, of a concrete strip left behind by the departing British in what could charitably be called a field. He also found a cricket mat. After the players had cleared the field themselves, this became the headquarters of the Tel Aviv Cricket Club.

Shortly afterwards, Southern Africans Dr. Jack Medalie and Colin Gillon discovered a secret treasure in the depths of the Jerusalem YMCA - a cricket mat and a bag full of kit.

Way up North in Haifa, Max Kahn, a veteran Southern African settler and high-ranking police officer, discovered that there was a first-class ground, complete with turf outfield, concrete strip, mat and even sightboards, in the grounds of the Haifa Refineries. So he organised a Haifa team. The same ground was also used by members of Moshav Habonim, a Southern African moshav shitufi. Kfar Hanassi, a British kibbutz, cleared a field.

Dr. Henry Sonnabend, Southern African mayor of Ashkelon, laid down a concrete strip in the middle of the town's large central lawn. Indians got grounds laid out in Beersheba, Ashdod, Dimona, Petah Tikva, Yeruham and Lod.

So the stage was set for the development of a nation-wide cricket league, which was run for several years. More than half the players and almost all the captains and organisers, were Southern Africans. In 1955, Israel ("Tuxie") Teeger
brought a S.A. Maccabi side, the first "international" touring cricket team to set foot on the soil of the Holy Land, to Israel. Some "Test" matches, were played. A Southern African, Bill Daleski, Israel's fast bowler, quipped, "When I was a kid in Johannesburg, I dreamt of getting my cap for my country. Now my dream's come sort of true - I've got my yarmulka."

A year later a triangular tournament was organised, with British and Southern African Maccabi teams participating. This time the Southern African team was led by "Kappy" Kaplan, an O.F.S. provincial player and included Max Charnas, who had represented Transvaal.

But then the Sinai campaign in October 1956, brought cricket to an abrupt halt. It was not until 1960 that the game was revived. This time the driving-force was provided by Dr. Cecil Slome, a Southern African. It was during this period that the highest score ever recorded in the four millennia of Jewish history in the Holy Land was made. Jeremy Kark, a 16-year-old schoolboy, who had just come from Southern Africa, scored 199 against Tel Aviv, including 16 sixes.

But cricket lapsed again - in 1961 it was not war but a recession that brought it to a halt.

It was revived again in 1966, by Southern Africans and Indians. This time the men who provided the inspiration were Phil Minster of Nahariya, Yoram Kessel and Leslie Susser of Jerusalem, David Golding of Tel Aviv, Gerald Fredman and Jack Lief of Haifa, Ben Abrahams and other Indians in Beersheba, Ashdod, Dimona, Ramle. South African Kibbutz Yizre'el, on the slopes of Mount Gilboa, built a lovely rural ground. Clubs were formed all over the country. In a surprisingly short time, an extensive league was organised.

In this third revival of cricket in Israel, the support from outside the country has come from Great Britain and not from Southern Africa. The British formed an association called the Friends of Israeli Cricket, which sent several touring teams to Israel and arranged Israeli tours in Great Britain. They also furnished a good deal of equipment.

Mowbray, an English club team which toured Israel in 1968, included famed international Ken Barrington, whose generous help to the Israelis matched his prowess with the bat. The
Israel team was captained by Southern African Hugh Kowarsky. In the following year, Kowarsky led an Israeli team in England, with Alec Meyer, another Southern African, as vice-captain. Several Southern Africans were in the team and Max Kahn was manager.

The S.A. Maccabi Council sent a strong team to Israel in 1971, which proved to be far too powerful for an Israeli side captained by Barney Greenberg, a Southern African.

In 1973 cricket was officially played for the first time as part of the Maccabiah Games. A year later, Israel was elected an Associate Member of the International Cricket Conference (ICC), and Southern African David Golding was elected Israel's representative on the ICC. It was a momentous day for Israeli cricket when Golding officially sat as Israel's representative at the council table at Lord's in June 1975.

An Israel team, captained by Southern African Tony Wiseman, toured England in 1974, playing against several clubs. In 1976, the London Harrow cricket club toured Israel, bringing a great player who endeared himself to all Israelis and gave instruction in cricket clinics around the country - this was Basil D'Oliviera.

In 1979, Yoram Kessel led the national side in England in the Mini-World Cup Limited Over International Tournament. Although the Israeli side did not win any matches, it did much better than anyone had expected, or even dared to hope and the gain to Israeli prestige was immense. Members of the team were presented at Buckingham Palace to Queen Elizabeth II.

Israeli teams toured England again in 1982 and 1986. The 1989 Maccabiah team was led by Southern African Stanley Perlman, who produced some remarkable performances. In 1990, three Southern Africans - Perlman, Kessel and Alan Moss - were chosen for the team that played in the Mini-World Cup tournament in Holland. Perlman captained the side and Kessel, who first represented Israel in 1968, served as both wicketkeeper and assistant manager. Israel won their first Mini-World Cup victory, when they beat Argentine in a very exciting match. Perlman and young Alan Moss were the most successful players in the side.

Ivan Kantor has served as President of the Israel Cricket Association for many years.
There are now a number of teams playing in all parts of Israel, an indication that cricket, in its third revival, had come to stay as a permanent settler in the renascent Jewish State.

**Tennis - The Froman Revolution**

Tennis was firmly established as a sport in Israel by the time the State was proclaimed. There were a number of courts, most of them belonging to clubs affiliated to the Maccabi and Hapoel organisations. The sport was run by the deeply entrenched Israel Lawn Tennis Association (ILTA), the constitution of which basically reflected the respective strengths of Maccabi and Hapoel.

Israel participated regularly in the Davis Cup and the Maccabiah and produced some notable players. Despite these achievements, tennis still ranked way below soccer and basketball in popularity as a participant sport and hardly existed as a spectator sport. Very few schoolchildren ever got near a tennis-court; most clubs were for adults only.

In the 'seventies, tennis was completely transformed; today it is the country's most popular participant sport, with the
possible exception of swimming. The change was caused by what one may call the Froman Revolution.

Dr. Ian Froman, a dentist, was a first class tennis player, particularly good at doubles, who had played as a junior at Wimbledon before immigrating to Israel from Johannesburg in the 'sixties. He set up a thriving dental practice. Soon after he arrived in Israel, Froman was selected to represent Israel in the Davis Cup and he became captain of the squad.

The tennis fever that swept the world like an epidemic in the late 'sixties and early 'seventies gave Froman the opportunity he wanted. Several of the major contributors to the U.J.A. and State of Israel Bonds in the U.S.A., Canada, Britain and South Africa, ordered to exercise or perish by their physicians, became fanatical enthusiasts about tennis. They provided funds; Ian Froman supplied drive, initiative and imagination. Taking indefinite leave from dentistry, he devoted himself to setting up an Israel Tennis Center in Ramat Hasharon, just north of Tel Aviv.

His basic rule is that the youngsters come first; the adults come second at the ITC. Thus he set out to reach Israelis from the age of eight.

The Tennis Center was such a success that Froman and his supporters were able to set up seven other centres, most of them in development towns or the deprived suburbs of cities. Today the eight centres have over 100 courts and the ITC programmes have reached over 100,000 children.

In the 'eighties, the Tennis Centers introduced wheelchair tennis for the disabled, and tennis for the emotionally disturbed. Tennis at the Centers was used with great success to aid the integration of Ethiopian immigrant children into Israeli society.

At the end of the decade, the ITC launched a tennis academy at Ramat Hasharon, where talented young players get special tennis instruction, at the same time carrying on with their studies according to the school curriculum. (Similar systems are used in Sweden and Czechoslovakia.)

Thus the aim of bringing tennis to scores of thousands of children has been amplified to include the subsidiary objective of Israel producing champions.
The ITC in Ramat Hasharon has an international stadium seating 5,000 spectators. Here an annual Grand Prix tournament, part of the regular professional circuit is played, as well as Israel's home Davis Cup games. The ITC system has won the enthusiastic support of Jimmy Connors, Brad Gilbert, Aaron Kricksten, Ilse Nastase, Tom Okker and Harold Solomon; they have all described it as the best thing of its kind in the world. Thousands of youngsters, who have learned to play and to love tennis at the centres, have also learned self-confidence, courtesy, sportsmanship and good manners. Many of these young players have been sent abroad and have acquitted themselves remarkably well, both on and off the courts.

On Independence Day in May 1989, Ian Froman was awarded the Israel Prize, the country's most prestigious award, for his service to Israeli sport. Kollie Friedstein succeeded Froman as Executive Director of the ITC, Froman becoming Executive President. In 1987, Friedstein was also elected Chairman of the Israel Lawn Tennis Association. His son Gil was a leading tennis player.

Archie Davidson served as the first Southern African national secretary of the Israel Tennis Association and even today, at the age of 75, he is still involved in the sport, coaching retarded people from AKIM at the ITC in Ramat Hasharon. Several Southern Africans have represented Israel in competitive tennis.

Apart from Froman, Ilan Sher and Micha Levin were also members of the Davis Cup squad. Jackie Saul, a six-times Wimbledon player when he lived in South Africa and a Maccabiah champion, served as coach to Israel's national team.

Ronnie Sender, the manager of the Haifa Tennis Center, has served as coach to the national women's Federation Cup team and to numerous national junior teams. Durban-born Janine Strauss (nee Schmahmann) was Israel's women's champion in 1974. She and Paulina Peled represented Israel in the Federation Cup and in 1974, they won both their singles matches against Polynesia in the Federation Cup, thus obtaining Israel's first ever victory in the Cup. As a rather piquant aftermath, Janine and her 11-year-old daughter Orit...
won Israel's 1990 All-In-The-Family "Mother and Daughter" competition, thereby earning a trip to the international event in Florida.

**Golf: from Sodom to Caesarea**

Golf was played in Palestine in the days of the Mandate: one famous course, on the shores of the Dead Sea, was known as the Sodom and Gomorrah Club. But the sport died with the Mandate.

The game was revived in Israel by the Rothschild family, which was responsible for laying out a course in Caesarea. Many of the active members of the Caesarea club, including several club presidents and club captains, and key members of the staff, have been Southern Africans.

Many Southern Africans have become champions and have represented Israel in international contests, both in Israel and abroad, including the prestigious World Cup and the Eisenhower Cup International Golf Tournament, and in Maccabiah.

Among these Southern African stars have been Laurie Been, Neil Schochat, Barry Mandel, Leon Etting, Isobel Blumberg, Kay Robins, Monica Singer, Darryl Barnett, Michael Broude, Bing Etting, Brian Cooper, Brian Laden, Gil Mandelstam and Martin Cooper.

The Southern African Presidents were Eli Kirschner, Louis Zinn, Marcus Mandel, Lulu Berold and Uri Aylon. Some South African Club Captains have been: Laurie Been, Dr. Bertie Bernstein, Dr. Bernie Cohen, Alec Davidson, Cyril Kaufman, Mike Manor and Mike Ossip.

The club professional, Charlie Mandelstam, immigrated from Standerton and settled on Moshav Habonim. A very good cricketer, he represented Israel at cricket in the 'fifties. In the mid-'fifties he was chosen to become, as he puts it, "Israel's first golf professional in 4,000 years", and he has held the post ever since. He has taught golf to hundreds of Israelis, including large numbers of immigrants from North Africa, living in the development town of Or Akiva, opposite Caesarea. The Or Akivans, some of them starting as caddies, have become Israeli champions.

Golf was accepted as a Maccabiah sport in the early 'sixties, and has been played at the Maccabiah ever since. Almost all
the members of the Israeli teams have been Southern Africans, their sabra sons or Or Akivans.

**Hockey - A woman scores**

During the early 'fifties, Julie Lewis, a former O.F.S. provincial player, tried to get hockey going as a sport in Israel. Because of the paucity of grounds and equipment, he failed.

Twenty-five years passed before another attempt to establish hockey in Israel was made. In February 1978, Sandi Shall, who had played for Balfour Park before immigrating, made up her mind that she was not going to live without the game she loved so much.

She called a meeting at her home, which was attended by Marion Blumberg, a former Transvaal provincial goalkeeper, and Hazel Spiro.

They gathered together men and women interested in the sport. Help in the form of sticks, balls and goalkeeping pads was provided through the S.A. Maccabi Council, largely as a result of the hard work of Joan Rom, who played for the Witwatersrand hockey team. She organised Friends of Israel Hockey to help hockey in Israel.

At first men and women practised and played in teams together. But, as more and more people turned out, the men and women were separated. By 1988, there were five men's teams and five women's teams.

Hockey was accepted as a Maccabiah sport and both Israel's men's and women's teams performed very creditably in the 1989 Maccabiah. Among the notable players have been Neville Berman and his brother Berel, who were top-level players in South Africa.

**Squash - a "Natural" for Israel**

When the State of Israel was proclaimed in 1948, there were two squash courts in the Y.M.C.A., Jerusalem, two at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and two in Haifa. They were all put to considerable use, although there was no organised competitive squash.

In April 1977, the Bloomberg family, immigrant South Africans, decided that squash was a "natural" for Israel. They decided to set up, as a commercial venture, Israel Squash Promotions Ltd. (I.S.P.), which established a squash centre in Ra'anana. Such centres are a great success in South Africa.
Bloombergs obtained the approval of the South African Government for the transfer of the funds needed for the venture.

A year later they built an even more imposing squash centre, of international standard, in Herzliya, with Hillel Bloomberg as manager. The Ra’anana centre was expanded considerably into a major sports venture. Another centre was built by a South African group in Haifa.

Then the S.A. Maccabi Council financed the establishment of a squash centre in the Maccabiah village. The Wingate Institute has three courts and is gradually introducing squash into its sports curriculum.

Other squash centres were built at Rishon Le Zion and Haifa, and yet another is planned for Jerusalem. The game has taken on so rapidly that there are now four national leagues with eight teams in each league.

Squash was accepted as a Maccabiah sport in the 'seventies. In the 1985 Maccabiah, the Israeli women's team, all Southern Africans, won the bronze medal. Both Israel’s men’s and women's teams acquitted themselves very respectably in the 1989 Maccabiah. Of the 58 players in the Israeli teams, 29 were Southern Africans, including the captain, Trevor Segal. Nadine Mizrachi has been Israel's woman champion on five occasions.

Israel entered the international squash scene when overseas professionals participated in the first Israel Squash Open Championships in February 1983. Top-level players have come again every year thereafter.

A major breakthrough in the drive for international recognition of Israeli youth squash was achieved when Israel was invited, to participate as a full member of the European Squash Rackets Federation’s Annual Youth Team Championships in Oslo in February 1986. The team finished eighth out of 16.

In February 1988, Israel hosted the European championships, and two months later sent a team to the World Junior Squash Championships in Scotland.

Behind the squash boom are many Southern Africans - Hillel and Tzemach Bloomberg, Max Subel, Trevor Segal, Derek Moss, and Isaac Bloch.

The present men’s champion, Tal Ben Schachar, learned his

Rugby - Southern Africa's national sport gets rooted in Israel

After serving in the Mahal, Leo Camron came on aliyah with his wife and children in 1951, and obtained an appointment in the sports department of the IDF. There he launched a propaganda war for rugby and by June 1952, he had managed to organise Israel's first rugby game. It took place in the Sarafand camp between Southern African immigrants and a team of paratroopers. The Southern Africans won 18-6. But, after that, Camron's superiors put the game into a deep freeze.

In 1970 a group of Southern African immigrants at Tel Aviv University formed the first rugby club ever established in Israel. They organised regular training sessions, and later played a friendly match against Kibbutz Yizre'el, where there was a nucleus of former rugby players from Southern Africa. The doctrine of rugby spread, and teams were formed by the Hebrew University and two kibbutzim, Tzora and Nachshon, which ran a joint side. There was also a team in Haifa. Then further teams were put into the field by the Technion and Ramat Gan.

The Israel Rugby Football Union was formed officially in January 1971, with Max Miodownik as the first President. He was later succeeded by Jack Rabin; Norman Spiro was secretary. Camron served as coach and referee. Then Effie Been, a former Transvaal player, arrived to bolster the team. In the 1972 - 1973 season, Israel hosted its first touring side, the "Cyprus Lions", formed by British troops in Cyprus. Israel gained a memorable 14-12 victory in the "Test". The Captain of the Israel team was a Southern African, Barry Judelman, and the Vice-Captain another Southern African, Dudi Silbowitz, of Yizre'el, who was also a promising cricketer. (He was killed in action in the Yom Kippur War, which ended the 1973-74 season abruptly.)

The 1974-75 season was a great success, although it included a defeat by a margin of 70 points inflicted by a Northern
Transvaal team, which contained several Springboks. There were 3,000 spectators. The season concluded on a high note, a seven-a-side memorial tournament in memory of Dudi Silbowitz; this has become an annual event. Teddy Edelstein succeeded Jack Rabin as President in 1978, and later Cyril Morris became President.

In the 1978-79 season, Israel hosted touring teams from Pretoria University, Australian Maccabi, an Argentine team, the Cyprus Lions and Cape Town University, under the management of Jewish Springbok Cecil Moss.

In 1981 an Israeli team toured France and Switzerland. One member of this team was Gary Myers, of Rhodesia. A year later he was killed in action. A memorial game has been held in his memory every year since then.

The game spread to Haogen, Nir Eliyahu, Ra'anana and Kiryat Shemona. Alan Polatinsky was appointed the national coach, working a great deal among juniors. Within a year he had managed to initiate a junior league.

In the 1986-87 season, a team including several Southern Africans toured France at the invitation of the French Rugby Union. They played several matches and lost all of them, but they had a wonderful time and were hailed as great ambassadors of Israel by mayors and Jewish communities.

Netanya began to lure new Southern African immigrants, and they formed an excellent rugby team, as well as a very good cricket side. In the 1988-89 season, they won the league.

In 1988, Israel was granted Associate Membership by the International Rugby Football Board, recognition which brought with it eligibility to compete in the preliminary round of the 1991 World Cup. An Israel team went to play France in this preliminary round. They did not win their match, but participation was a major breakthrough, and Israel was placed definitely on the international rugby map. Southern African Selwyn Hare became Captain of the National team. In 1989, Israel performed very well in the Maccabiah.

The success of the Southern Africans in bringing rugby to Israel cannot be measured by what is seen on the scoreboard, but by what can be seen on the playing-fields of Israel. Teams now include, in addition to Southern Africans, Argentinians, Americans, Britons, Australians and Sabras.
Badminton
Southern Africans have had a hard battle getting recognition for badminton as a sport in Israel. But Jeff Geffen, Doreen Geffen, Mike Rappaport, Bernard Levinsohn, Seymour Fisher and David Singer, went on and on with the good fight. The Badminton Association of Israel was formed in 1976, Jeff Geffen being the initiator and first President: he remained in the post for ten years.
Despite political obstacles, Geffen succeeded in getting Israel accepted as a member of the International Badminton Federation, and as a member of the Plume d’Or European Championships. He served as team manager for the national team on a number of occasions.
In 1977 badminton was included in the Maccabiah, and has remained a Maccabiah sport ever since. The Southern Africans have done very well for Israel in the Maccabiahs and other international competitions.
In 1987 Geffen received the Meritorious Service Award of the International Badminton Federation for his contribution to the sport in Israel.
An interesting development by 1989 is that badminton had become completely sabraized – to the delight of the founding Southern Africans, the game had become very popular among Israelis born in the country.

Car racing
Sherryl Aber is Israel’s only female racing driver and together with her husband Brian, a motor mechanic, she has contributed greatly to the safety of the sport in Israel. They are among the founders of motor sports in the country. Eddie Kaserson is the official representative of the Federal International Motor Racing Association. He is the authority on the control of race meetings and of the annual motor racing national league events.

Road running
A non-profit society was founded by the Ra’anana Roadrunners, under the leadership of Dr. Harold Brozin. An annual 10 km. run is one of the events organised by the Society; it attracts more participants than any other run, except the Tel Aviv marathon.
Bridge
Among the organisers of the Israel Bridge Federation were South Africans Hilda Hope, Hymie Josman, Eitan Levy, Mike Ossip and Basil Sandler. Rose Braude represented Israel in an international competition, and Mike Ossip captained the Israeli bridge team in the Maccabiah Games.

Other sports
The Kowarsky twins, Carol and Margaret, were both Israeli swimming champions in the 'sixties.
Howard Lipshitz has won the Israel National Archery Championships on several occasions. He has represented Israel in many international events, but now he is hard put to beat his son, Giora, a very promising archer, who has won many junior titles.
Sidney Faiga runs a 200-member karate club on kibbutz Moledet, and his sons Roy and Oren Faiga won gold and silver medals at two Maccabiah.
Denis Hanover is another karate expert, who has taught the martial art to scores of Israelis, and has had the added satisfaction of seeing his daughter Orli and his sons Yaron and Guy win Israeli championships.
Greg Krowitz, who came on aliyah in 1979 at the age of 15, became Israeli judo and sambo champion of his age and weight group, and in 1989 won an award from the Gan Yavne Municipality.
Several Southern Africans play in Israel's water-polo team, which had a very successful year in 1989.
Teddy Kaplan, a Springbok weightlifter, represented Israel in the 1974 Asian Games after he came on aliyah. In 1989, he competed in the World Veterans' Games on behalf of Israel.
Max Kahn, of Haifa, is a well-known clay pigeon shot, who represented Israel in the 'fifties in the Olympics.
Southern Africans financed, built and run the American Bowling Centre in Ramat-Gan, and have thus helped to launch an entirely new sport in Israel.
Southern Africans have shown little aptitude for Israeli politics and few have risen to high places in the nation's political echelons. One Southern African who did attain cabinet rank was the late Jacob M. (Jack) Geri, who was appointed Minister of Commerce and Industry by Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion in the early 'fifties, but the appointment was made despite the fact that Geri was not a Labour Party stalwart; it resulted from the prestige of "the South African companies" and the high regard in which Geri was held personally as a man by Ben-Gurion and others. It was certainly not a tribute to his skill as a politician.

Shmuel Katz is the only Southern African who was ever elected to the Knesset. He represented the Herut Party in the first Knesset. He had come to Palestine in 1938 to open a South African consulate office for Michael Haskel, a South African mining man who had obtained an appointment as South Africa's consul in Israel. In fact Haskel never came to Palestine, but remained in Johannesburg; Katz functioned in his place. Both Haskel and Katz were staunch Revisionists.
It is hardly surprising that Katz promptly joined the Irgun Zvai Leumi (IZL).

During World War II, Katz was in England, but he returned to Palestine as soon as the War ended, and became a member of the IZL High Command. Katz was appointed the Head of the IZL forces in Jerusalem. He worked in cooperation with the Haganah and LEHI, but is still very proud of the fact that his troops were the first to penetrate into the Old City. After the first cease-fire he organised a petition of 30,000 signatures demanding immediate annexation of Jerusalem. After Katz finished his term in the Knesset, he gave up politics to concentrate on writing and publishing. But when Menachem Begin was elected Prime Minister in 1977, Begin persuaded Katz to go to the U.S. to convince the Americans that the Israeli Premier was not about to involve the world in war. After his return, Katz served as an Information Officer in the Prime Minister’s office for some time. One of the most successful Southern African public servants was Louis Pincus, who after a long stint running El Al from its inception, became Treasurer of the Jewish Agency. Then he was elected Chairman of the Jewish Agency and also Chairman of the World Zionist Organisation.

Among his numerous creations in these two roles was getting the Jerusalem Programme drafted and accepted as the foundation-stone of modern Zionism. He also built the expanded Jewish Agency and worked out a new relationship between the Zionists and the fund-raisers in the Agency.

In 1987 Mendel Kaplan of South Africa was elected Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Jewish Agency.
Raphael Kotlowitz was Chairman of the Jewish Agency's Aliyah and Absorption Department. He was very active in gaining recognition for the Ethiopian Jews. After immigrating to Israel, Morris Borsuk was elected to the Board of Governors of the Agency.

Several Southern Africans became Chairmen of local councils, although hardly as a result of great skill as party politicians. Dr. Henry Sonnabend and after him, Arye Tager, were elected successive Labour Party Mayors of Ashkelon in the 'fifties. Later Max Decktor was elected a Deputy Mayor of Ashkelon on behalf of the Likud. Leslie Shanan became Head of the local council of Savyon. Dr. Charles Braudo, Dr. Isaac Sher, Leon Charney, David Goshen and David Jacobs were members of that council at various times.

Rabbi Louis Rabinowitz served as a Deputy Mayor to Teddy Kollek in Jerusalem; Rabinowitz represented the Likud from 1976 to 1978.

Nahum Sneh (Skikne) was elected Deputy Mayor of Beersheba and Roz Minster Deputy Mayor of Nahariya. Israel Dunsky was elected Mayor of Kfar Shmaryahu in 1965, and was re-elected several times: in all he served as Mayor for 18 years. Many members of his council were Southern Africans, including the Deputy Mayor at one stage, Sam Levin. Harriet Levin and Merle Guttman, who became Kfar Shmaryahu town councillors, are among the few Southern African women to attain such an office. Three Southern
African barristers who immigrated to Israel before the State was proclaimed attained eminence in the law. Asher Felix Landau was President of the Jerusalem District Court for several years. Leonard Rabinowitz served for years on the Haifa District Court. Colin Gillon became State Attorney in the 'fifties, and held office till his death. Norman Eric Fait served in the Israel Police Force from 1973 to 1991. He achieved the rank of Colonel, serving as Deputy Head of the National Fraud Division. Thereafter he was appointed the Economic Crimes Adviser to the Israel Police Force.

Southern Africans made remarkable contributions to Israeli diplomacy.

After World War II, Moshe Sharett (then Sherstock) brought into his Political Department of the Jewish Agency a group of bright young men from English universities, or their equivalents from the Dominions. When the State was established and Sharett became Foreign Minister, this group provided the nucleus for Israeli ambassadors and high-ranking officials in the Foreign Ministry. Among the Southern Africans who served in the Foreign Ministry with great distinction were Arthur Lourie, Michael Comay, Mordechai Kidron, Harry Levin, Sinai Sidney Rome and Emanuel Shimoni. They set a tone that was modelled on the British tradition of...
diplomacy. While the generals who led Israelis in battle were more in the public eye, these diplomats achieved victories of peace of the greatest importance to Israel.

Harry Hurwitz served as Minister of Information in Washington during the crucial years between 1981 and 1984, when the Reagan administration took over from Jimmy Carter. It was during this period that Israel bombed the Iraqi reactor in Baghdad in 1981, and that Israel later invaded Lebanon, so Hurwitz certainly had an onerous public relations task in the U.S. On his return he was appointed Adviser to the Prime Minister on World Jewish Communities.

Yitzhak Rogow became Director-General of the Jewish Agency's Department of Youth and Hehalutz in 1988. Previously, Alec Meyer had served as Deputy Director-General of the same Department.
The spirit of volunteerism was one of the most powerful influences in the development of Zionism in Southern Africa. Immigrants to Israel faced many personal hardships and problems, but nevertheless they remained imbued with the belief that they had to volunteer to help others.

Even before World War II, Bella Gesundheit started a summer camp for needy children on the beach in Tel Aviv and participated in the establishment of a domestic school and hostel for immigrant religious girls. She also helped to found the Youth Aliyah village of Kfar Batya.

During the War, Abraham and Milly Levy of Haifa did so much voluntary work to help the troops in Haifa that they were officially commended by the British Army. Herzl Zuckerman (Tel Aviv) and Polly Reznek, formerly Salber (Jerusalem) were well-known for their hospitality to Southern African troops.

Katie Kaplan, who had immigrated in 1937 and had settled in Haifa, became President of the Israel Soroptimists after the State was proclaimed and was elected Secretary of the
European Federation of Soroptimists International. She was made a "Freeman" of Haifa.

Ida Kaplan was a member of the Herut Central Committee from its formation, and was Chairperson of the Executive of the Herut Women's Council; she also ran the Herut creche in Ramat Gan.

Many Southern Africans serve Telfed or its branches in honorary capacities, service which has enabled them to facilitate the successful absorption of Southern African immigrants.

Numbers of women who had belonged to the S.A. Women's Zionist Council automatically joined Wizo in Israel, and do considerable amounts of volunteer work through Wizo. Other volunteers serve in YA'AL, the women's Helping Hand providing auxiliary services in hospitals. Many Southern Africans serve as volunteers, helping to develop various sports in Israel.

In 1984, Telfed introduced an official annual prize for Southern Africans exemplifying the spirit of volunteerism. The criteria considered in making the award are the period, consistency and frequency of the service; the topicality of the service; the motivation, the spiritual and physical effort made by the volunteer; the influence on the morale of the community of the voluntary work and the extent to which it inspired others.

The first winner of the Telfed Volunteer Award was Bella Danilowitz of Nahariya, who organised a knitting circle for under-privileged children in the development town of Shlomi. During the Yom Kippur War she and her friends provided cakes, sweets and comforts for soldiers stationed near Nahariya. She served as a voluntary worker in the Nahariya Hospital and as a fund-raiser for Beit Ronit, a home for handicapped children and for a soldiers' recuperative home. She helped to found a Western Settlers' Association in Nahariya, as well as a Conservative synagogue. She received the award in 1985.

The next winner of the Telfed Volunteers Award was Edie Navon, of Jerusalem, who worked tirelessly for Wizo, Hadassah, the Soldiers' Welfare Committee, Alyn, the Ezrat Nashim Mental Health Centre and the Jerusalem Post Toy Fund.
Issy and Dot Isakowitz of Netanya worked through the Telfed Netanya branch on the absorption of new immigrants, visiting them, arranging for them to be "adopted" by "foster-families", organising social activities and contacts for them. In addition, they served as volunteers in the Beit Britcher Mental Health Clinic for children and a home for young handicapped adults. They received the award in 1987.

In the following year Dr. Teddy Edelstein received it for all-round volunteering excellence, including *inter alia* involvement in rugby and H.O.D. lodges.

The 1989 winner of the coveted award was Zipporah (Fan) Raphael who had immigrated to Israel in 1949. The nominating committee concluded: "We believe that not only would Zipporah (Fan) Raphael grace Telfed's award but recognition of her values to the community will be a source of joy to all Southern Africans in Israel and to Zionists in Southern Africa."

In Johannesburg, before coming on aliyah, she had been cultural co-Chairman of the Women's Zionist Council. Immediately after she arrived in Israel, Dr. Mary Gordon made her aware of the plight of the 15,000 Yemenite immigrants in the Rosh Ha'Ayin ma'abara.

She organised a sheltered workshop for the physically disabled and later a club for others where she sold their typical Yemenite embroidery and filigree slippers and other items. (Later Ruth Dayan expanded the idea into the Maskit shops.) Afterwards she did community organisation work in the new suburbs that Amidar built at great haste to replace the *ma'abarot*.

In 1978 she became a founding member of ENOSH (the Israel Mental Health Association), which she describes as "The jewel in the crown of mental health services".

Merle Guttmann, an immigrant from Bulawayo, was given the Telfed Volunteer Award in 1991. Merle was responsible for the creation of ESRA (the English Speaking Residents Association,) a self-help volunteer organisation operating in the Sharon area, which was joined by immigrants from Great Britain and the U.S. as well as Southern Africans. Over 5,000 families now belong to ESRA. Other prizes were awarded to Merle Guttman for her work in ESRA by Rotary Hasharon,
the Hebrew Order of David and the Herzliya Municipality. In 1982 she was awarded the Israel Gerontological Association's prize for her research on Long-Term Care Facilities in Israel. The highlight of her exemplary work in volunteerism was the signal honour of being chosen as recipient of the President's Volunteer Award for 1992. Hilda Friedstein and Joan Comay devoted enormous amounts of energy and imagination to helping the most helpless of all living creatures - the animals of Israel. Friedstein became Head of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in Israel, and Comay founded and heads the SPCA branch in Jerusalem.

Anne Swersky introduced a remarkable idea into the schools. The stereotype of the Israeli is of somebody who will start a hand-waving, screaming, drowning-each-other's words argument at the drop of a hat: she was convinced that it was possible for young Israelis to debate in as civilised a manner as members of the Oxford Union.

Strange though her concept was, the Ministry of Education bought it, and she was able to bring debating societies into the schools, where they proved to be extremely popular among both pupils and teachers. Her teams did so well that she was invited to take them abroad, and did so with great success.

Telfed initiated an annual debating competition in the schools, organised by Swersky's Israel Debating Society, on the subject of immigration and absorption, in the name of the late Judge Joseph Herbstein.

Dentists are providing free dental services to handicapped children in Beit Issie Shapiro in Ra'anana, and in municipal projects for poor families.

Dr. Edward Lipworth makes a large voluntary contribution to the country by travelling once a week to the Urology Department of the Nahariya Hospital, where he operates, does ward rounds and teaches his skills to young doctors. Adele Rubin, ESRA's Vice-chairperson, is also Chairperson of HEN, the Herzliya Women's Lobby and a member of the executive boards of ENOSH Herzliya and ELEM, the organization of youth in distress.

After his retirement, Leo Camron, one of Israel's leading English teachers, took to teaching English to pensioners in
his area. Rona Bar-Am teaches handicapped people English. Lazar Judelman of Netanya devoted himself to raising funds for needy students and for AKIM, the Israel Association for the Rehabilitation of the Handicapped.

Louis Shapiro, honorary Life President of the Haifa Branch of Telfed and his wife Hetta kept an open house in Haifa for thousands of Southern Africans. He did voluntary work through the Haifa Rotary and Variety Clubs. In 1982 the Municipality made him a Freeman of Haifa in recognition of his voluntary services to the city.

Louis A. Krokin of Haifa has served the Haifa Orchestra, Ilanshil, the Moriah Synagogue and the Israel-U.S. Society in several honorary capacities.

Manfred Halberstadt collects "jumble" - but insists on clothes of good quality from his donors - for the old aged home in Givat Hashlosha, Petah Tivkah, where he also gives English lessons to the residents.

Edith Silverman has done voluntary work for Ort, Wizo, Micha, Bnai Brith, the Soldiers' Welfare Committee, running stalls at bazaars, providing transportation, raising funds and teaching flower arranging. She has somehow managed to combine these activities with devotion to bowls.

Several Southern Africans who had been active in the Hebrew Order of David in South Africa, were responsible for the movement becoming rooted in Israel, Archie Polliak providing the first impetus when he immigrated in 1975. Lodges were formed in Ra'anana, Jerusalem and Netanya, all of them headed by Southern Africans. These H.O.D. lodges have made significant contributions to improve the quality of life in their communities.

Bernice Kaplan-Shapiro, apart from service in the Haifa branches of Telfed WIZO and YA'AL (the Helping Hand organisation of Rambam Hospital) is Chairperson of the Voluntary Tourist Service in Haifa.

**Soldiers' Welfare Association**

In 1974 Arona and George Berold were pioneer supporters of the Soldiers' Welfare Association. Joan Lipworth and Polly Leibowitz formed the first English-speaking branch of the Association, and Joan Lipworth became the first Chairperson.
The group raises over $60,000 annually, and helps to provide amenities making life easier for Israeli soldiers.

**Scouts**

The Jewish scouting movement for boys and girls was founded in Israel in 1919. There are now 60,000 scouts in Israel.

Many Southern Africans have contributed to the movement, and have represented Israel at international jamborees. George Berold was Scoutmaster of the Savyon troop, and Joe Garrin of the Ramat Hasharon troop. Jack Rabin took over this troop from him, and became Chief Scout of the Sharon district. He was an active member of the Scouts Executive Committee of Israel for many years.

Many Southern Africans have held high positions in the Rotary and Lions Clubs, WIZO, NA'AMAT, ILAN, MICHA and other welfare and service organizations.

**Beit Issie Shapiro**

Beit Issie Shapiro is a private, non-profit community centre in Ra'anana, serving more than 350 children and adults suffering from mental retardation and other developmental disabilities. It was established in 1981 in memory of the late Issie Shapiro and is run by his family, all South Africans. The special programmes and services provided include early intervention, day care and treatment, creative enrichment, weekend respite, remedial treatment, dental care, toy library, individual computer programmes, vocational rehabilitation and social clubs for young adults. It is officially recognised by the Ministry of Social Welfare and has gained international recognition as a model of how to address the problems of the developmentally disabled.
We hope that readers have obtained a factual, comprehensive and impressive picture from this book of what Southern Africans have contributed to the upbuilding of Israel.

The book should demonstrate that the Southern African aliyah made up in quality for what it may have lacked in quantity.

The book is based on over a hundred personal interviews, innumerable telephone calls and letters, the material available in books, in the Telfed archives, and in issues of the "Telfed" magazine since it was started. Many notices were inserted in "Telfed" inviting Southern Africans settled in Israel to submit particulars about their achievements for publication.

The author and an ad-hoc Editorial Committee made painstaking efforts – over a substantial period of time – to ensure that the facts recorded here are not only accurate but also all-embracing.

The Editorial Committee went over drafts of the book time and time again to check the material for possible errors, omissions and under-statements.

We are nevertheless aware of the possibility that there may be some Southern Africans who feel that justice has not been done to their contributions to Israel.

If there are readers who feel that they have not been fairly treated, we assure them that the unfairness was purely inadvertent and express our profound regrets for it.

Aliyah and the upbuilding of Israel are dynamic developments that will go on indefinitely. It is to be hoped that the "success stories" recorded in this volume will convince other Southern Africans that Israel, even if it is not a bed of roses, is not a wilderness of thorns and that they can emulate the accomplishments of those who have already settled in the Jewish homeland.
NAMES OF SOLDIERS OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN ORIGIN WHO FELL IN THE DEFENCE OF ISRAEL

Commemorative monument near the Golani Junction
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>Age at Death</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Avraham Katz</td>
<td>1938 July 1</td>
<td>aged 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oded Kaploun</td>
<td>1948 April 28</td>
<td>aged 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yehezkel (Hezzie) Berelwitz</td>
<td>1948 May 12</td>
<td>aged 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zvi Lipschitz</td>
<td>1948 May 13</td>
<td>aged 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gideon Rosenberg</td>
<td>1948 May 16</td>
<td>aged 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meir Silber</td>
<td>1948 May 25</td>
<td>aged 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward Shlomo Cohen</td>
<td>1948 May 30</td>
<td>aged 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lionel Morris Bloch</td>
<td>1948 July 10</td>
<td>aged 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louis Hack</td>
<td>1948 October 23</td>
<td>aged 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basil (Benzion) Sanders</td>
<td>1950 July 11</td>
<td>aged 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Levinson</td>
<td>1951 May 10</td>
<td>aged 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaim Chait (Khayat)</td>
<td>1951 September 23</td>
<td>aged 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Mordechai Friedman</td>
<td>1951 October 29</td>
<td>aged 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morris (Moshe) Sidlin</td>
<td>1951 December 25</td>
<td>aged 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joshua Levy</td>
<td>1952 May 30</td>
<td>aged 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yitschak Glazer</td>
<td>1956 November 1</td>
<td>aged 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donald Lemkin</td>
<td>1967 June 6</td>
<td>aged 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orit Lavi (Loewy)</td>
<td>1968 August 12</td>
<td>aged 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zvi Leibowitz</td>
<td>1969 September 1</td>
<td>aged 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adam Weiler</td>
<td>1970 March 31</td>
<td>aged 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Kahan</td>
<td>1970 November 2</td>
<td>aged 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avidah Shur</td>
<td>1973 April 10</td>
<td>aged 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terrence Kaye</td>
<td>1973 October 6</td>
<td>aged 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raymond Lowenberg</td>
<td>1973 October 6</td>
<td>aged 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rami (Nahum Baruch) Katz</td>
<td>1973 October 6</td>
<td>aged 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avraham David Katz</td>
<td>1973 October 7</td>
<td>aged 34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Goldman</td>
<td>1973 October 7</td>
<td>aged 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayer Jacob (Pincus) Bar-el</td>
<td>1973 October 8</td>
<td>aged 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gideon Weiler</td>
<td>1973 October 9</td>
<td>aged 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micha Urie</td>
<td>1973 October 12</td>
<td>aged 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gideon Shanan</td>
<td>1973 October 14</td>
<td>aged 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yigal Ageyev</td>
<td>1973 October 15</td>
<td>aged 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eli (Abramowitz) Aviram</td>
<td>1973 October 16</td>
<td>aged 34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Yitschak Melcer 1973 October 16 aged 24
Elan (Haim) Shapiro 1973 October 16 aged 24
Michael Tamari 1973 October 17 aged 20
David Yonathan Silbowitz 1973 October 18 aged 25
Neil Freed 1973 October 18 aged 25
Rami (Avraham) Rubin 1973 October 22 aged 25
Yochanan Comay 1973 November 24 aged 34
Jonathan Shomroni 1974 September 4 aged 21
Paul Whiteson 1975 January 16 aged 19
John Maurice (Meyersohn) Meir 1976 July 23 aged 49
Howard Chaim Solomon 1977 May 10 aged 19
Shai Wittert 1978 March 15 aged 19
Boaz Adar 1979 January 15 aged 21
Alan Mark Feldman 1979 June 20 aged 19
Guy Golan 1979 September 29 aged 26
Yochai Preis 1980 March 11 aged 21
Ofer Berman 1980 October 8 aged 21
Roi Chemel 1981 September 10 aged 25
Gary Myers 1981 December 16 aged 20
Ronen Eidelman 1982 June 6 aged 21
Ran Zipper 1982 June 11 aged 31
Ron Messerer 1982 June 16 aged 20
Joel (Hack) Lahak 1982 June 25 aged 34
Zohar Lifshitz 1982 June 11 aged 25
Dan Fredman 1983 August 28 aged 25
Sandy Weinberger 1984 October 30 aged 20
Dan Yaron Gottesman 1985 February 16 aged 18
Neil Ben Ater 1986 June 16 aged 20
Idor Rabinowitz 1987 November 26 aged 19
Mark Eilon (Eliastam) 1989 November 6 aged 22
Ilan Kaufman 1990 April 22 aged 27
Tamar Zlotnik 1990 October 1 aged 20
Avi Shemer 1991 March 27 aged 21
SOUTHERN AFRICANS
WHO
SERVED IN MAHAL
SOUTHERN AFRICANS WHO SERVED IN MAHAL

ABEL, Michael Julius / AFTERGOOD, Fred / AHRENSON, Aubrey / ALPER, Lionel
ALPERSTEIN, Chava Marie (now AGMON) / ALPERSTEIN, Hugo (now AGMON)
ANGEL, Aubrey Lawrence / APPEL, Bernard / ARONSON, Benzion / ARONSON,
Irene (now RUBIN) / ARONSON, Noel / AXELROD, Abraham / AXELROD, Rebecca
Henrietta

BADER, Henrietta / BALCHA, Elliott / BALKIN, Menashe / BANIN, Gabriel / BANK,
Jacob / BANK, Dr. Harry & Myra / BARLIN, Lily / BARLIN, Max / BARLIN,
Meyer / BARNAT, Ivan / BASSON, Sidney / BEAGLE, Dennis David / BECKER,
Shulamith (now Mrs. J. HARRIS) / BEHR, Michael Isaac / BEHR, Stanley
BEHRMAN, Eric / BEHRMAN, Jeanne / BEINART, Abraham / BELLON, Simce Isaac
BENADRETTI, Eli / BENATAR, Samuel / BENEDICT, Audrey / BENTEL, Israel
BENTEL, Max / BERN, Joseph / BERELOWITZ, Esther / BERELOWITZ, Chaim
BERGE, Robert / BERGER, Abe / BERGER, Helen / BERGER, Maurice
BERKMAN, Hyman Harry / BERKOW, Abe / BERMAN, Charles Arthur / BERMAN,
Max / BERNSTEIN, Elana / BERNSTEIN, Norman / BERNSTEIN, Evelyn
BERNSTEIN, Ralph / BICK, Sarah / BIRNBAUM, Uri / BLAU, Naphtaly / BLOCH,
Bernard / BLOCH, Goodman / BLOCH, June Mitra / BOTTGER, Milton / BRAND,
Luther / BRAUDO, Muriel / BRAUN, Kenneth Joseph / BRENER, Lily / BRENNER,
Dave Wolf / BROOMBERG, Milly (now JACOBSON) / BRUNTON, Ray / BROUZE,
Leslie / BURGER, Boris Lionel / BUXSNEVSKY, Sleme / BUXSNEVSKY, Sender (now
BEN ELIEZER) / BURGE, Robert / BURMAN, Philip / BUSCH, George David

CAMINSKY, Leopold (now CAMRON) / CAPELLUTO, Ya'acov / CARRUTHERS,
Margaret / CASPARY, Walter / CASPER, Abraham / CAGANOFF, Harry
CELENDER, Monty Samuel / CENTNER, Clive / CHAIT, Chaim / CHAIT, Harold Max
CHALMERS, Cyril Sydney / CHASKELSON, Ronald / CHERNICK, Issy / CHIAT,
Barry / CHIMES, Lazer / CLINGMAN, Abraham Lionel / CLOUTS, Cyril Henry
COHEN, Abe / COHEN, Doreen / COHEN, Feivel / COHEN, Mendel / COHEN,
Mendel David / COHEN, Norman Jack / COHEN, Ronald / COHEN, Dr. Sydney
COHEN, Sylvia / COOPER, Alec / COOPER, Arthur / CORT, Harold

DALESKI, Hillel Matthew / DANKER, Kenneth Leslie / DAVIDSON, Alexander
DAVIDSON, Esmond / DAVIDSON, Leah / DAVIMES, Gerald / DAWSON, Edwin
DINN, Sigmar Bernd / DONDE, Isaac Louis / DRUSINSKY, Harry and Luba (DREW)
DURNER, Alfred / DUCHEN, David / DUCHEN, Raymond / DWORSKY, Barney

ECHILEVITZ, Hettie / EDELSTEIN, Sonia (now Mrs. LEVY) / EISENBERG, Gita
EISENBERG, Hymie / ELIASOV, David / ELION, Saul Theodore / ESAKOF, Ernest
ETTEN, Zelig / ETZINE, Bernard / EVIAN, Chanoch (Harold) / EZRA, Vivian
SEVENTY YEARS OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN ALIYAH

EZRA, Anne

FABRAN, Isaac / FAINMAN, Lawrence / FALK, Robert (now Ben Aml)
FANAROFF, Shlem / FANAROFF, Yaffa / FEITELBERG, Lionel (now Peitan)
FELDMAN, Dr. Harry / FELDMAN, Mannie / FELLOWS, Naomi / FELLOWS, Richard / FINE, David / FINE, Michael Selig / FISCH, Jacob Adolph / FISCH, Mollie
FISH, Felicia Phyllis / FISH, Michael / FISHER, Ivan Frank / FISHER, Geoffrey
FISHER, Julius / FIX, Ivor / FLEISCH, Jack Haymann / FRANCO, Aaron
FRANCO, Simon / FREEDMAN, Jack / FREEDMAN, Nathan / FREEMAN, Morris
Max / FRIEDLAND, Bernard Abraham / FRIEDMAN, Lionel / FUTERMAN, Rolfe

GALP, Moshe / GAMPEL, Leonard / GATE, Freda (now STRAHILEWITZ) / GEBER, Morris / GEFFEN, Chaim / GEFFEN, Louis / GEFFEN, Chone / GELB, Gladys
GENN, Zelig / GENUSSOW, Herzl / GERSHMAN, Leslie / GETZ, Enoch / GETZ, Samuel Louis / GILLIS, Merle Naomi / GINSBERG, Zalman / GITLIN, Dr. Gershon
GLAZER, Hannah / GLUCKMAN, Colin / GOCHEMEN, Denis / GOLDBERG, Berel Montie
GOLDBERG, Leib (now GOLAN) / GOLDBLATT, Daniel / GOLDBLATT, Hymie (now ZAHAVI) / GOLDES, Avraham / GOLDSMID, Julian
HARRY, Walter / GOLSTEIN, Harry / GOLSTEIN, Joseph GOLDSTEIN, Sidney
GOLEMBRO, Grisha / GOLOMBICK, Yette / GORDON, Dorothy (now ELROM)
GOTLIEB, Calelis / GOTSMA, Cyril / GREEN, Hymie GREEN, Sidney / GREEN, Zvi
Harry Louis / GREENBERG, Yitschak / GREVLE, Hyman / GROSS, David Bernard
GROSS, Edmund / GROSS, Jack / GRUNBERG, David / GRUPEL, Moshe (now BEN AMI)

HACK, Louis / HANRECK, Harold John / HANRECK, Phyllis (now PORTUGALI)
HARBER, Hyman / HARRIS, Rebecca / HARRIS, Ralph / HART, Joseph Morris
HASSALL, Harold / HELLER, Charlie and Chaya / HENDLER, Phyllis / HENDLER, Rose / HENOCOWICZ, Luc-Jan / HERBERT, Basil Eric / HERBSTEIN, Dr. Frank
HERMAN, Basil / HERR, Elijah / HERRMAN, Robert Alfred / HERSCH, Leslie Henry
HERSON, Cyril Julius / HERTZBERG, Jack Wilfred / HERZFELD, Laszlo / HIRSCH, Milton / HIRSCH, Otto Paul / HIRSCHFELD, Hans / HIRSCHOWITZ, Lionel David
HIRSCHOWITZ, Dr. Ralph Gustaves / HIRSCHOWITZ, Thecla / HODES, Lionel Harris
HOLLANDER, Walter / HOOPER, Bill / HOPRITCH, Lydia / HOTZ, Elias Philip

ISAACS, Norman Howard / ISAACSON, Arnold / ISAACSON, Harry Mike
ISAACSON, Jack Koppel / Isaacson, Robert Emanuel / ISRAEL, Albert / ISRAEL, Itzic / ISSEROW, Elias
SOUTHERN AFRICANS WHO SERVED IN MAHAL

JACKSON, Joe / JACOBSON, Israel / JACOBSON, Kenneth / JACONSON, Monty
JAFFE, Barney / JAMES, Frank / JAMESON, George / JEDEIKIN, Joseph JOFFE,
Bat Ami / JOFFE, Rubin / JOFFE, Sidney Charles / JOSMAN, Hyman / JUDAH,
David / JUDAH, Elsie / JUDELMAN, Ben Zion / JUDELSOHN, Bernard

KACEV, Jack / KACEV, Delyn / KAHN, Martin / KAHN, Morris / KANGISSER, Max
Lewis / KANICHOWSKY, Percy / KANTEY, Leon / KAPLAN, Albert Norman
KAPLAN, Dr. Cyril / KAPLAN, David Stanley / KAPLAN, Gerald / KAPLAN, Lionel
Leonard / KAPLAN, Ruth / KARANOWITZ, Baruch / KARK Stanley / KARPEL,
Leon / KASSEL, Harry Ruby / KATZ, Abraham Isaac / KATZ, Cyril Theodore
KATZ, Jeffrey / KATZ, Joseph / KATZ, Montague / KATZ, Victor Harold / KATZEN,
David / KATZENELLENBOGEN, Dr. Elliot / KATZEW, Joe / KAUFMAN, Celia
KAUFMAN, Max / KAYE, Eric / KENTRIDGE, Sydney Woolfie (now KENNY)
KEMP, Philip KERBEL, George / KESSLER, Dr. Abraham / KIMMEL, Joe
KIRSCHNER, Isaac KLASS, Dr. Mendel / KLAS, Harry Norman / KLEIN, Lionel
KOFSKY, Wallace KOPANS, Harry / KOTLOWITZ, Mailch / KOTZEN, Louis
KOTZEN, William Abraham / KRAMER, Solly / KRENSKY, Max / KROM, Joseph
KROM, Simcha (now GORDON) / KRUS, Michael / KRUGER, Louis Simon
KUPFERBERG, Benjamin / KURGAN, Hyman

LAN, Judel Joseph / LANDSHUT, Michael / LANDSMAN, Gerald Bernard
LANDSMAN, Ruth / LANESMAN, Ralph / LANGBART, Sydney H. (Shimon)
LAWRENCE, Rina / LAZARUS, Leslie / LEFTWICH, Margalit / LEIBOWITZ, Joe
LEVESON, Julian / LEVIN, Basil Harold / LEVIN, Judy / LEVIN, Meyer Joseph
LEVIN, Mike / LEVIN, Morris / LEVIN, Phyllis / LEVIN, Dr. Stanley / LEVINE,
Julius / LEVINE, Ruth / LEVINSON, Henry (now AYLON) / LEVINSON, Saul (now
BAR LEVAV) / LEVITHAN, Harold / LEVITT, Benjamin Baynes / LEVY, Ephraim
LEVY, Fred / LEVY, Jack Isaac / LEVY, Maish / LEVY, Sidney / LEWIS, Yehud
LIPMAN, Alan Robert / LIPMAN, Robert / LIPMAN, Sydney / LIPSCHITZ, Zvi
LOWENBERG, Robert

MAGID, David / MAGID, Edward / MALBIN, Hymie / MALIN, Baruch / MALKIN,
Melville / MANDELSTAM, Charles / MANDELZWEIG, Gordon / MANDELZWEIG,
Solomon Isaac / MANKOWITZ, Michael (now MANOR) / MANNIE, Kathleen
MANOIM, Sydney / MARIK, Colin / MARCUS, Edel / MARCUS, Leslie
MARCUSON, Jack Ezra Herman / MARGOLIUS, Abraham / MARK Issy Harold
MASEROW, Louis / MATZ, Zafira / MATHESON, Isaac / MATZ, Rudolph
MEDALIE, Dr. Jack Harvey / MEDALIE, June / MEDICKS, Stanley / MEDOW,
Siegbert MELTZER, Dr. Lionel / MELZER, Solly / MENACHE, Rica / MENASCE, Haim
MENDELOWITZ, Maurice / MENT, Maurice / MEYER, David Louis / MEYEROWITZ,
SEVENTY YEARS OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN ALIYAH

Max Aron / MEYERSON, Bernard / MEYERSON, Joseph / MICHEL, Basil / MILLER, Bennie / MILLER, Henry / MILLER, Hyman / MILLER, Leslie / MILLER, Louis MILLER, Sam / MILUNSKY, Horace / MIRWIS, Jacob / MORCOWITZ, Phillip MORRIS, Jack Charles / MYERS, Colman / MYERS, Freda Celia / MYERS, Michael MYMIN, Morris Isaac

NACKAN, John Lesly / NANKIN, Archie / NARUNSKY, Reuben / NASH, Stanley Desmond / NAVIAS, David Ephraim / NELKEN, Richard / NOACH, Isidore NOTRICA, Jack / NOWESENITZ, Philip (now NAVON) / NOWIKOW, Abram NOWIKOV, Sam / NURICK, Abe Harry

OLIVER, Morris David / OSRIN, Harry / OSSIN, Solly / OSTROFF, Maurice OSPOVAT, Leon Zalman / OZINSKY, Philip

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