

**Sent:** Mon, 09 May 2011 18:58:58 -0400  
**From:** david@316group.com  
**Subject:** ILI Discussion on the Impacts of Terrorism in the Middle East with Brigadier General Gal Hirsch  
[BG Gal Hirsch bio.pdf](#)  
[Eeki Elner bio.pdf](#)

Good evening.

In an effort to help you learn more about the Israel Leadership Institute and keep you informed on current events in the Middle East, we invite you to join us on a conference call with one of our graduates, Linor Shachar; one of our board members, Brigadier General Gal Hirsch; and the Executive Director and Founder of the ILI, Eeki Elner.

**The call will be held this Wednesday, May 11th at 11am.**

We will specifically discuss the following topics below:

- The impacts of Osama bin Laden's death on the future of global terrorism and Western national security policies.
- The direct consequences that the raid in Pakistan could have on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Could the current American administration capitalize on this event so as to promote a peace process that Israelis and Palestinians left fallow?
- The likeliness of a reconciliation agreement between Fatah and Hamas and what that could mean for Israeli-Palestinian peace prospects.
- The effects of political changes and uprisings in various Arab countries on Israeli security policy? Experts predict that the fall of the old regimes mean a rise to power of more extreme Islamist regimes.
- The thoughts of the more high-profiled voices in the Middle East and what they are saying about the US operation and execution of bin Laden? As Arab leaders try to overshadow these individuals, they stand trapped in conflict that could cost them their rule.

If you have not already, please RSVP to Lindsay Blair for dial-in information

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I hope you can join us for this 20 - 30 minute call and look forward to talking with you.

Attached are BIOs for both Eeki Elner and Brigadier General Gal Hirsch.

Thank you.

Best,

David

David Myhal

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## Brigadier General (Res.) Gal Hirsch



Brigadier General Gal Hirsch is recognized as one of the most experienced in the Israel Defense Force/IDF in the areas of Counter Terrorism, Counter Insurgency and Guerilla Warfare. He spearheaded Israel's fight against terror for 25 years on all fronts as a Commander of several Elite Units; and as a Field Officer. He is a highly decorated soldier. His overt activities are well known, (the covert ones will never publish); and highly acclaimed in security circles within Israel and its' allies.

BG Gal Hirsch served as Commander of the '**Shaldag**' ('Kingfisher') commando unit and later as **Commander of the 91st Division**; and was responsible for Israel's Northern Border which defended Israel against Terror attacks from Lebanon, mainly the Hezbollah.

Hirsch is experienced in commanding Infantry, Paratrooper and Commando forces; and has personally led Special Forces Units, Battalions, Brigades and Divisions in fighting Israel's enemies. During his military service he was critically wounded in an enemy ambush; was rehabilitated; and returned to the battlefield.

While serving as Commander of the **Israel Defense Force's Officers School**, BG Hirsch devoted himself to the education of the IDF Officers' Corps. Under his development and implementation, Military Leadership and Instruction; as well as Training and Instruction of Combat Commanders, became part of the Core Curriculum.

He is regarded world-wide as an expert in Strategic Knowledge Development; and has written numerous papers on doctrinal issues. He holds an MBA Degree from Tel-Aviv University; and graduated from the Advanced Operational Course in the IDF as J3 in the Central Command.

Brig. Gen. Hirsch devised, planned and led the IDF in its' large scale operations against terror: "**Operation Defensive Shield**". Following the successful implementation of the operation, Hirsch was assigned the planning and establishment of Border-Defense Alignment, opposing suicide-based terrorism. This operation involved Engineering Development; Advanced Technological Infrastructure Construction; and Intelligence and Operational Capabilities for an area extending for hundreds of kilometers.

Retired from the service at 2007, Hirsch established "*Defensive Shield Holdings*". Headed by Hirsch, the company comprises of a team of experts, who have interdisciplinary experience in various fields of military service: stretching from research, development and system analysis; to process and product implementation; together with prominent capabilities in specific fields of content (strategic consultancy, military organizational development, project integration and management, defense oriented projects and more).

Hirsch is the author of "**War Story – Love Story**" (published 2009). The book is the story of his life since his recruitment to the Junior Command Preparatory School, following the wars and operations he fought at, and ending at his retirement. The book has become a **best-seller** within eight (8) weeks.

BG Gal Hirsch is a Senior Board Member of the **Israeli Leadership Institute**.

He's married to Donna, and is a father of three daughters, the eldest serving as an officer at the IDF.

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## Eeki (Itshak) Elner – Founder, Israel Leadership Institute



Eeki Elner's wide spectrum of public activity in the past twenty years includes: fighting civil rights struggles, promoting social entrepreneurship, training individuals for leadership roles, serving in political positions and speaking to audiences worldwide. Elner is an expert in Middle Eastern Geo-Politics, the Israeli political system, constitutional reform and leadership development.

Elner was born in Haifa, Israel, in 1963. Both of his parents are Holocaust survivors. Eeki's passion for social activity began at a young age when he became president of student council in high school and was heavily involved in the absorption campaign of the U.S.S.R. Jews in Israel in the late 1970s. Later, as National Vice President of the youth organization, **B'nai-B'rith**, Eeki formed dozens of Hebrew classrooms for Jewish immigrants who fled the Soviet regime.

Elner fought and was wounded during the first Lebanon War while serving out his military duties in an anti-craft missiles-unit at the IDF. Eeki graduated *cum laude* from Tel Aviv University in political science. While studying at the university, he was appointed as communication-officer to the Israeli Minister of Education. He later served as political advisor to the Minister of Environmental Affairs.

In 1997, Elner became the Executive Director of the “*Constitution for Israel*” movement, leading a wide range of public activities to promote constitutional reforms and the legislation of a Bill of Rights. For his role and leadership during those years, Eeki was named by the media as one of the *Fathers of Israel's Struggle for Freedom of Religious Choice*.

In 2006, **Elner founded the Israel Leadership Institute**, aimed in training and developing the future generations of civic and business leaders for the State. He chose to locate the institute in Sderot, a town bordering the Gaza strip that has become a symbol of Israeli heroism and Zionist devotion. **Sderot has been attacked by more than 10,000 rockets and missiles since 2000.** It has become the target of terrorist organizations from Gaza and has endured numerous attacks, making the town one of the most dangerous places to live in Israel. In setting an example to the ILI students and the Israeli political leadership, Elner himself, moved from Tel-Aviv to Sderot.

In May of 2007, less than a year after moving to Sderot, Elnor faced that danger when a **missile hit his home directly**. Elnor did not allow the attack to disturb his plans or detour his purpose: At the beginning of 2008, the first class session of the Israel Leadership Institute commenced.

As the founder and executive director of the ILI, Elnor has recruited some of Israel's most distinguished scholars, retired IDF generals, and public figures to serve as board members and faculty staff. The Institute is the only one of its kind in Israel, developing leadership skills and entrepreneurship based on a strong Zionist and Biblical vision.

Since moving to Sderot, Elnor has served as a Special Envoy for the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs in representing the region abroad and delivering the message of struggle against terrorism. As Special Envoy, Elnor was sent to meet with the Canadian Foreign Minister, the Irish Deputy Foreign Minister, and the Under Foreign Secretary of the UK and many more officials. He has represented Israel in many international panels and conferences globally. Dozens of international, political and business leaders have visited the Israel Leadership Institute to meet with Eeki and tour the Sderot-region including former Governor Mitt Romney and Woody Johnson, as well as an extensive list of U.S. House Congressional Members: Steny Hoyer, Gus Bilirakis, Phil Gingrey, Bill Cassidy, Keith Elisson, Michelle Bachmann, Shelley Berkley, Scott Garrett, Jean Schmidt, Tom Cole, Bill Shuster, Al Green, Sheila Jackson Lee.

Speaking at the AIPAC Annual conference 2010 in Washington D.C., former House Majority leader, Congressman Steny Hoyer, dedicated the following to Elnor:

*"In Sderot I spoke with Eeki Elnor. After the rockets began falling on Sderot—he moved there. After one crashed through his roof, he stayed, because there is no purer resistance than living everyday in proud defiance of fear. Eeki Elnor is why I know in my heart that Israel will live, and endure, and have peace. And in the words of Abba Eban, has given nationhood its deepest significance and its most enduring grace."*

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