



MDAOnLine

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY

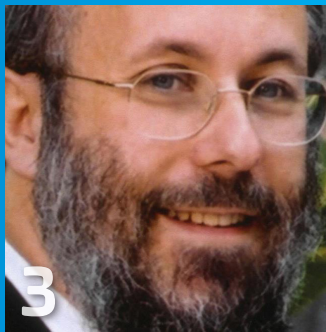
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Picture of the week



Photo: MDA Spokesmen



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An exciting news? Send us to:**

info@mda.org.il



Words from the Director General on Memorial Day and Independence Day 2019

Dear Employees, Volunteers, members of National and Civil Service, Leaders and members of MDA's Friends Societies retirees,

In several hours, Memorial Day for Fallen Soldiers and Victims of Terrorism will begin. As the siren marking Memorial Day blares throughout the country and reverberates in our hearts, we lower our heads, and, together with the bereaved families and entire nation, unite to honor the memory of the 23,741 fallen soldiers and 3,146 victims of terrorism.

On this day, Magen David Adom takes pause to remember the 137 of its employees and volunteers who, committing themselves to the noble cause of saving lives, gave up their own lives and enabled Israel's existence. Every one of our fallen members is a symbol embodying the values of love of others, dedication and volunteerism, and the loss of their lives far too early is indescribable.

Six months ago, deputy and acting president of the MDA Major General (res.) Yochanan Gur passed away. In his last military role, Yochanan served as Chief Logistics Officer in the IDF, and was responsible for rehabilitation following the Yom Kippur War, a war in which he lost his son, Second Lieutenant Yoram Gur z"l, who fought in Sinai as commander and member of the "Cadets Tank" team, and who was posthumously awarded the Chief of Staff citation. Yochanan began his service in the MDA at a period in which the organization was at a low, and dedicated his energies to promoting and developing personnel, instruments and technologies operated by the MDA. Yochanan left his imprint in shaping the MDA and as Chairman of the Committee and acting Director General, spearheaded the organization towards significant, long-term achievements.

The incredible juxtaposition between Memorial Day, a day of overwhelming mourning and grief, and Independence Day, a day of tremendous joy and happiness, is perhaps the most exemplifying characteristic of life in Israel, one that is embodied by Yochana and Yoram Gur z"l. The son who sacrificed his life for the country while the father dedicated his life towards the development, advancement and education of the younger generation. To honor the dedication and devotion of the fallen soldiers and the right they bequeathed to us in their death to live in a free country, we celebrate our independence, freedom and life in Israel.

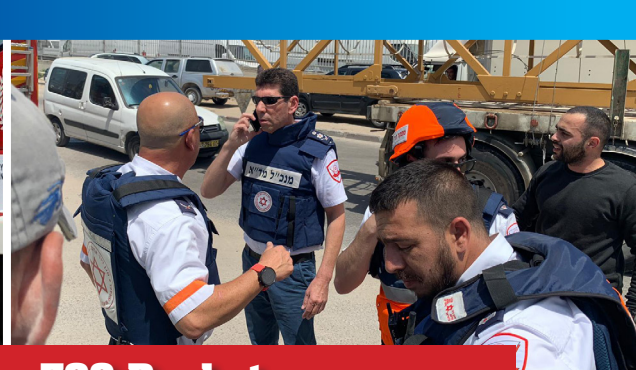
On this, Israel's 71st Independence Day, and the eighty-ninth year of Magen David Adom's activity, we look back and take great satisfaction in the stellar achievements and successes of the past, and the respect that Magen David Adom has earned as a national life-saving organization that works to alleviate human suffering while advancing the possibility of a dignified life in Israel and around the world. On this day, we begin to look to the future, to continued growth, professional and technological development, to achieving the aspirations and continual drive towards excellence and new heights.

As in the past, the future lies first and foremost with the people that comprise Magen David Adom. My heart overflows with pride each and every time I see you and your complete dedication and commitment to saving lives. Just 72 hours ago, we were again called to the front lines, and once again we all fulfilled our mission in an admirable, professional and dignified manner. Because of you – Trustees of Life and first responders, the control center teams and field teams, blood donation teams and laboratory staff, administration and HQ personnel, heads and members of the Friends of the MDA – everyone in Israel knows that they can call Magen David Adom in Israel whenever they need help.

On Israel's 71st Independence Day, I send you my deepest appreciation, gratitude and blessings. May we enjoy many more years of impressive, blessed and cooperative efforts in saving lives in Israel.

Happy Independence Day to You and Your Families

Sincerely,
Eli Bin



36 Hours, 700 Rockets

Days Before Memorial Day- Large Barrages of Rockets Rain on Israel

The first alerts were heard on Saturday, May 4th, in the morning while residents were still enjoying the Shabbat in their homes with their families and friends. The residents are used to such occurrences and understand that they are in for a long day of rockets.

MDA Director General Eli Bin instructed all regions under fire and those neighboring, following a consultation with security forces to raise the alert level so when the first sirens sounded, MDA teams were protected and ready to respond. MDA Stations are fully staffed with both employees and volunteers who immediately reported to save lives even on Shabbat.

There were many reports of property damage, panicked residents, and several injured.

MDA Senior EMT Karl Reifman: "Immediately after the rocket siren, we responded to reports of an injured woman as a result of the rocket attack. Upon arriving on the scene, we found an 80 year old woman with severe injuries to her head and hand. We provided emergency treatment and transferred her to Barzilai Hospital in severe, yet stable condition."

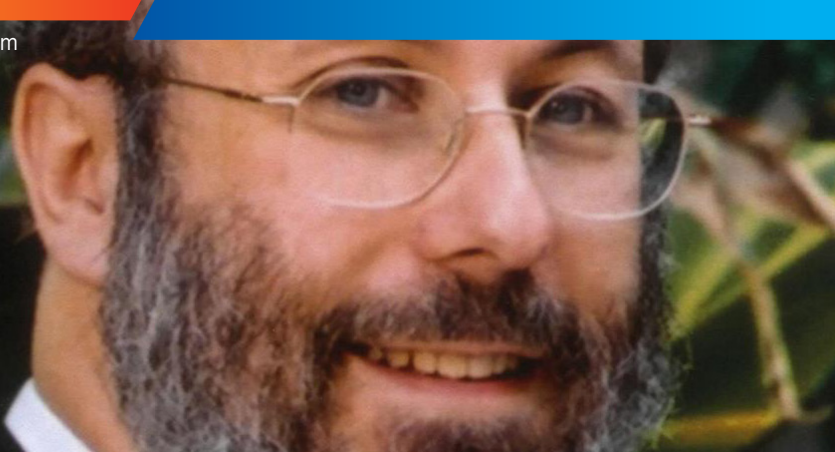
On Sunday, May 5th, in the morning hours, sirens have gone back to instill panic in citizens of southern Israel. MDA teams have been scuttling from scene to scene, treating the wounded and fighting for their lives.

"Immediately after the siren we were launched to a private house that was hit by a rocket," said MDA paramedic Motti Shuv and MDA medics Ben Tetro and Israel Lugasi, who treated the 58-year-old man who died at the hospital. At the entrance to the house we saw a man in the sixties, lying unconscious after being hit in the chest by shrapnel. We gave him medical treatment and evacuated him to hospital urgently while continuing treatment when his condition was critical. Unfortunately, the doctors in the hospital declared him dead".

During the two days of fighting, MDA EMTs and paramedics provided medical care to 135 injured (18 from shrapnel [4 deceased, 3 severely, 2 moderately, 9 mildly], 24 mildly injured on the way to protected areas.

MDA Director-General Eli Bin, who closely followed the activities of the teams at the National Dispatch Center and in the field: "Magen David Adom teams are on high alert to provide medical treatment if necessary. We are in contact with the security forces and the Home Front Command and are constantly assessing the situation. It is only fitting to praise and distinguish the workers and volunteers of MDA for the fact that while everyone was staying in the protected area, MDA I continued to stand on high alert and provide a response at any place and at any time.





MDA Remembers the Fallen - Memorial Day 2019

MDA EMTs and paramedics are deployed all over the country in order to medically secure Memorial Day events, memorial sites and military cemeteries where memorial Ceremonies will be held. MDA has 138 families who lost their loved ones in Israel's wars, hostile acts or during their military service. Just as in previous years the Main ceremony was held in the MDA Headquarter in the presence of the organization's management, bereaved families, employees and volunteers.

One of MDA's previous employees was Rabbi Dr. David Yaakov HaLevi Appelbaum, who was killed in a suicide bombing in Jerusalem in 2003. Rabbi Dr. Appelbaum was born in the US in 1952. He got his Bachelor's degree in psychology in 1972 and his master's degree in biology two years later. As he continued his studies he became a doctor in 1978. In 1977 Rabbi Dr. Appelbaum married and moved to Jerusalem with his wife and two children in 1981. Once in Jerusalem they continued to have an additional four children.

Rabbi Dr. Appelbaum began his career at MDA in Jerusalem in 1983, when he managed the MICU array in Jerusalem, a position he held until his last day. In addition Rabbi Dr. Appelbaum founded and ran the "TEREM" emergency medical center, which operates out of MDA's Jerusalem station. He was appointed Director of the Emergency Medicine Department at Shaare Zedek Hospital in Jerusalem in 2002, and throughout this period he continued his role in the MICU array of MDA.

On Tuesday, September 9th 2003, a suicide bomber blew up the explosives he was carrying on his body in "Hillel" a cafe on Emek Refaim Street in Jerusalem. Seven people were killed in the attack, including Rabbi Dr. David Yaakov Halevy Appelbaum and his daughter Nava Appelbaum, who was killed the day before her wedding. Rabbi Dr.

Appelbaum was 50 years old when he died, leaving behind his wife, two sons, three daughters and his sister. Rabbi Dr. Appelbaum and his daughter Nava were buried side by side in a cemetery in Jerusalem.

Dr. David Appelbaum, who was one of the most important figures in the emergency medicine field in Israel, helped develop the concept based on an urgent care center model, which at the time, already existed in the US. The urgent care center will function as an alternative emergency room, treating a variety of urgent cases that do not require a hospital's resources. He treated hundreds of cases including accidents, traumas, heart attacks and terrorist attack. In one terror attack in Jerusalem he operated on a patient in the field. For courage he showed he received the "Knesset Speaker for Quality of Life" award in 1986. His noble example continues to be a cause for inspiration and admiration within his family, employees, students, colleagues, and thousands of patients who have come to know him and learn from him.

MDA Director-General Eli Bin: "Unfortunately, over the years, since the establishment of the State of Israel, there have been more and more bereaved families. Among the victims, one of the best people in the MDA family, Rabbi Dr. David Appelbaum, was killed along with his daughter Nava in a brutal terrorist attack. Rabbi Dr. Appelbaum's untimely death is an unbearable loss and his memory will continue on with us throughout the years. I stand by the Appelbaum family who are the salt of the earth. They have followed in Rabbi Dr. Appelbaum's footsteps, and volunteered in MDA. MDA workers and volunteers embrace the family and all the bereaved families in the State of Israel throughout the year, and especially on this difficult day, may we know no more sorrow."



A fairy Tale that Became Reality

Most of the MDA workers began their journey as volunteers, some as youth volunteers, but the following story begins in a slightly different way.

For those who do not know, this is Uriel Goldberg.

Uriel started his career in MDA as part of the MDA overseas project in May 2010. Uriel came from his home in London, England to MDA Jerusalem, completed a 60 course, volunteered for several months and fell in love. Fell in love with Israel, fell in love with MDA, people and Israelis.

He returned to England for a short period and returned to Israel and made Aliya, continued to volunteer in MDA Jerusalem and in 2011 became a citizen, completed in emergency medicine course, enlisted in the IDF, served in the Home Front Command and continued volunteering in MDA. Taught the Overseas program and volunteers, and worked in the international department, completed his training as an ambulance driver and this week he successfully completed the intensive Paramedic course.

So in the name of all of us, lots of luck! Glad you are with us and you became one of ours!



Memorial Day Blood Drive in Zichron Ya'akov – 24th Anniversaries

Alongside the national ceremonies marking the national Memorial Day of those who died in battle and terror attacks, MDA will conduct its annual public blood drive in Zikhron Ya'akov, for the 24th year.

This tradition, started in 1997, was initiated and organized on a yearly basis by Mr. Shimon Redlich, a previously local resident, Honorary President and an active member of the Blood Donor Volunteers Organization. This year's blood drive, will be carried out at 4 different locations: The "Hobit" bar and "Nilli" Caf in the center of Zichron, at the "Reserve" and in a blood mobile stationed near the commercial center over Neve Habaron. Since the beginning of the blood drive, 4,500 blood units were

donated and collected by MDA phlebotomists in Zikhron Ya'akov and provided lifesaving treatment for about 13,500 people.

Deputy Director- Blood Services, Prof. Eilat Shinar, said: "The daily blood units 'donation throughout the country are of great importance in saving the lives of the sick and injured. The initiative to raise the community in Zichron Ya'akov and the communities in the area twice a year is exciting and is a role model especially because of the Memorial Day of the fallen soldiers of Israel and victims of hostilities. I call upon the entire public to come and donate blood at the donating locations throughout the country. "



A Shield of Honor from the French Government was given to an MDA Volunteer

About three years ago, Levy Yitzhak Mani, a Chabad Emissary in France, completed an MDA EMTs course. This month, during a Friday evening service while he was in a synagogue in Paris, he implemented the knowledge he gained in the course and saved the life of a man who suffered from cardiac arrest.

He was launched by an App used by France's medical services, which locates volunteers with medical knowledge to an emergency event nearby. Levi Yitzhak quickly arrived and performed resuscitation on a man of about 60 until the arrival of the intensive care unit, thus saving his life.

The following day, Dr. Arnault Lieber, a senior

SAMU official in Paris, contacted Levy Yitzhak, thanked him for his performance and invited him to an official ceremony during which Levy received a Shield of Honor from the French Government and the SAMU organization in Paris.

Levy Yitzhak Mani commented "I am proud to take part in life-saving activities and am excited to receive the Shield of Honor. The training I received at Magen David Adom enables me to take care of my surroundings and save lives in times of emergency. The more people join this circle, the more people we can save."

