

FALAFEL TRIFFT CURRYWURST

Falafel
meets Currywurst

Youth Educational Center
Kurt Löwenstein, Germany
Educational Center
Dialog, Israel



Berlin Brandenburg



12th - 21st of October 2007

Berlin/Westphal

IMPRESSUM

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Dezember 2007

German-Israeli Youth Meeting

„Women and Men of Resistance – Women and Men for Peace“

From the 12th until the 21st of October 2007 in Germany

From the 26th of November until the 6th of December 2007 in Israel

This Project took part in the Competition

“EUROPEANS FOR PEACE“

Founded by

FOUNDATION “Erinnerung und Zukunft“

Partners in this Project

Fichtenberg-Oberschule Berlin, Germany

Rabin Highschool Kiryat-Yam, Israel

Ramot Highschool Bat-Yam, Israel

Educational Center Dialog, Israel

Youth Educational Center Kurt Löwenstein, Germany



STIFTUNG
ERINNERUNG, VERANTWORTUNG
UND ZUKUNFT



Meeting in Germany

We were in Germany from October 12th to October 21st, 2007 in the Kurt Löwenstein youth educational center in Werftpfuhl near Berlin. There was a meeting of 12 Israeli and 11 German students. The title of our project was "Women and men of resistance - Women and men for peace".

In this ten days we spent time in Berlin in host families as well, where we visited the German Resistance Memorial and the Jewish Museum. Of course, in the evenings we went to bars and had a lot of fun.



In Werftpfuhl we had a lot of conversations e. g. about the resistance in the Third Reich. We had the opportunity to listen to testimonies of Hans Coppi, Charlotte Kroll and Ilse Heinrich. In the discussions we talked about the differences between the Israeli and German life-style, plans for the future, patriotism and a lot of other topics.

This little booklet is made by us to document this exciting exchange and to show you what we've done.

For the meeting in Germany we want to thank:

The teamers Betty, Ingrid, Bettina, Anja and the teachers Asher and Nira from Israel
The translator Gunnar
The tourist guides Matthias, Thomas (Former Concentration Camp Ravensbrück) and the guides of the Jewish Museum (Berlin)
The youth educational center Kurt Löwenstein (Werftpfuhl, Germany) and the educational center Dialog (Israel)
The witnesses Hans Coppi, Charlotte Kroll and Ilse Heinrich
The foundation Erinnerung und Zukunft
The host families in Berlin



Process from strangers to friends

Shalom and Guten Tag,
Israel and Germany,
two different countries, cultures, daily lifes, histories and behaviours...

But the two groups of pupils had the same aim: to get to know, understand and trust each other!
And maybe also to learn from each other.

The German group arrived first at the youth educational center "Kurt Löwenstein" in Werftpfuhl and looked forward to meet the Israeli group. At 11 o' clock p.m. they arrived.....!

Some first expressions were: "Oh my god.....strange....."
And even some Israeli thought: "Can I get my money back, please?":-)
The two groups just looked at each other and no one said anything to the other group, except Leeran from Israel, he said "hello" to the Germans =)!

BUT activities brought us closer together. We played games to warm up and worked in smaller groups. Somehow we got to know, learned to accept and started to like each other.
In the evenings we played pool, sang karaoke, danced and had a lot of fun!

Nevertheless there had been some confusions first, for example the "photos": The German group first didn't understand the Israeli group because they made so many photos, every second, in every pose you can imagine....but three days later the German group got used to it and joined the other ones on the pooltable, cars and simply everywhere. So called: "Guten Posers" =)!

Furthermore the groups organized an Israeli and German evening to introduce their country. We listened to songs (Noy is a real good singer =)!), watched movies, played funny children games and we ate very delicious dinners, snacks and sweets!

Of course the days in Berlin in the host families formed deeper friendships. The dinners together at one host family with champagne, Bionade and German beer were wonderful.

Especially the evening in the Shisha-/huka-/nargilla- bar was amazingly much fun!

Because of this new understanding, respect and friendship we could speak open and discuss even difficult issues.

Definitely Germans and Israelis got F-R-I-E-N-D-S and they all are looking forward to see each other again in Israel!



Small Group- Betty and Ingrid

The first days we worked in three smaller groups. Ingrid and Betty were our teamers and the pupils were Morelle, Paul, Yael, Julia, Mirrit, Leeran and Laura.

At the beginning we introduced ourselves, everybody drew a river of live, we spoke about our names and their history and we interviewed each other.

Furthermore we told each other what our grandparents did in the time of the second World War and we tried to find out what we already know about the history, especially about the ideology of the national-socialism, the victim groups, the resistance groups and the daily life. Sometimes it was not easy to talk about history, but it is our task to built new relationships between Germany and Israel.

The next days we learned about Ravensbrück and its meaning in the history of Germany. We also spoke about the witness Ilse Heinrich and tried to find out questions we can ask her in an interview with her at Ravensbrück.



Anja's group

In the first days we worked in three small groups. I have been in the group in which Anja was the teamer. The other participants were Thomas, Lital, Noy, Paula, Katharina, Yael and Sandra.

I think that the workshops in the small group is more helpful than to work in the interviews in a big group because we can learn more about each other. Even if it's about personal life, about one's family history during the holocaust and about one's friends. When I talked about my family's stories I noticed that all of the group were listening to me and were curious about my story. In the discussions we shared our opinions and we shared our family's story and everybody was listening. Although I can see and be with my friends in the big group, in the big group not everybody can tell his story, because of the time problem and I know that in the small group everybody can say his opinion/story and still has time to do other things. Eventually, we had a good time.

The work in our small group

Participants: Sapir, Daria, Lior, Shamay, Joshua, Luisa, Ricarda, Judith
Teamer: Bettina

At the beginning of our time in Germany, we worked in small groups dealing with different topics.

To get to know each other better, we talked about our lives and the priorities in our life.

We started our work about the topic of our youth meeting with a discussion about resistance.

We realized that it is difficult to find one global definition of "resistance" because of the different personal background.

Later on, we talked a lot about how we personally deal with the history of the 3rd Reich. We discussed in pairs about how we heard the first time about the National Socialism and the Shoah. We talked about the history of our families and what they have done and experienced during the 3rd Reich. It was interesting for us, to see that some of us know a lot about the history of their family and often talked to their grandparents while others never talked in their families about it.



Furthermore, we talked about the resistance during the National Socialism and especially the resistance of the prisoners in concentration camps. To illustrate this, we talked about drawings of prisoners and read an extract of the comic "a survivor's tale" in which Art Spiegelman describes his father's experiences during the NS time. By doing that, we could comprehend that an important thing that kept the people alive was the hope they could retain despite the cruelties they experienced.

Then, we prepared our trip to the memorial site of the former concentration camp Ravensbrück. We read texts and presented our results to the whole group who partly worked on other topics.

The work in our small group was really interesting and by working together and talking about what we think, we learned a lot and got to know each other.

Our Programm

On our first day we had workshops to get to know each other. We played games to learn our names and after that we made a house- Rally to get the house rules (e.g. the kiosk is open from 13:00 to 14:00 o'clock).

We talked about Germany and Israel in small groups and spoke about our roots. We found out that most of the ancestors of the German pupils were born in Germany but the ancestors of the Israeli pupils came from all over the world. During the week we had an Israeli and German evening during which we ate local food, watched presentational movies and played typical children games. We also played pool, did karaoke, played table tennis and „kicker“. Every morning we had a warming up outside to wake up...

For two days the Israeli pupils stayed in the German host families in Berlin. In these days we visited the Jewish Museum and the German Resistance Memorial Center, where we interviewed the son of Hilde and Hans Coppi (they were members of the Red Orchestra, a German resistance group).

We also visited the Ravensbrück Concentration Camp where we met Charlotte Kroll and Ilse Heinrich (they were prisoners of the Concentration Camp).

We got much historical and political information but we also did things like eating Döner in Kreuzberg, going to a bar and had a lot of free time for shopping etc.

Ravensbrück

When we visited Ravensbrück we interviewed Ilse Heinrich and Charlotte Kroll.

Here are the interviews:

Mrs. Charlotte Kroll:

Charlotte Kroll was born the 6. of march in 1922. She worked in a factory in Dresden.

She came to the Ravensbrück concentration camp in 1943 because she helped a Russian woman and gave her clothes for her son. On the next day she came to work and her manager told her that someone saw her giving clothes to the Russian woman. Kroll did not know that it is forbidden and went to the jail in Dresden. After one year she was surprised to find out that she is going to the Ravensbrück concentration camp. When she came to the camp she was terrified to see how bad the conditions in the camp were. She saw bald, skiny and sick women.

Everything seemed dark and hopeless, she was sure that she would never come out again.

The SS people took all her property from her and her money and told her to take off her clothes and started to laugh at her. Right after the shower she got underwear, a hat, wooden open shoes and a uniform that she had to use all the time she was in Ravensbrück.

After all this a woman from the SS took her to a cabin, there she got a spoon and a dish.

SS people told her to line up. She got a bed with three floors and on every floor were sleeping three women. She was so surprised and so terrified because of all the bad conditions. It was very cold and she was afraid that she never can go back to her home.

The next morning she got a work in the Siemens factory. She was working from 6 in the morning until 5 in the afternoon. Her job was to make and compose pieces for German submarines and airplanes. If her work wasn't good she was hit. Along all the period she was undernourished.

All the food that was given to her were few pieces of bread. In the camp they didn't know what was happening outside unless someone new came to the camp and told them.

She had to wear the same clothes all year long, showered in freezing water if she showered at all. In the evenings they were sitting and trying to clean their hair from the lice.

After half a year there was a meeting and the German decided to release her.

Every wednesday was „punishment day“ for them and she was surprised to see the SS women coming to her on friday.

Kroll was sure that the SS women will punish her but she was surprised to find out that she is released to go to her home. All of her property, except the jewellery, was returned to her and with other women they returned to their homes.

In 1993 she came back for the first time to Ravensbrück and now she lives with her family in Germany.



Mrs. Ilse Heinrich

Ilse Heinrich was born in 1924. She was in Ravensbrück concentration camp at the end of the war. She got into the camp because she was defined as 'anti-social' by Hitler.

Her brother learned at school and she worked on farms, her stepmother didn't appreciate her much. Ilse Heinrich disliked the work on the farms and always tried to run away until the police caught her and she was sent to a working camp.

In August 1944 she was transferred to the concentration camp Ravensbrück. When she came to the camp she was shocked of the horrible conditions. The SS told her to go to the shower and to give her property to them. She was standing naked in the room and the SS started to laugh at her. She got underpants, a uniform and wooden open shoes. Then she went with an SS woman to the place she would sleep that couldn't be called home. In her shed it was freezing. She lied on the uppermost bed and saw ice stalactites that were frozen upon her head. Every morning there was roll call and counting in the freezing weather when they wore only thin dresses.

Her first punishment was to not eat for 8 days. She had to look at everybody eating their dinner and that because she took rotten potatoes from the trash and ate it. Her second punishment was to stand outside in the freezing weather. After the SS people poured cold water on her, she had to stand until the water was frozen. Even today her fingers are ruined. She got that punishment because she didn't know how to knit socks. Another time when she worked at the factory the SS officer thought that she didn't work as well as he wanted and then he hit her until she thought she would die. In 1945, almost at the end of the war the camp was full of people and the death marches started. Ilse Heinrich was in the hospital and the SS believed that she would die there and so she wasn't sent to the death march. Because of this reason she survived.

When the war ended the nurse from the hospital took her to an abandoned building. She felt hope. But it was different. After five days a drunk Russian soldier reached the building and raped her. It was the most horrible thing of her life. When she came back home she was sick and weak and hurt. Her stepmother didn't want to accept her. Then she ran away to a farm. Unfortunately, the police caught her and brought her back home. In 1948-1949 she found a job in a factory. In 1951 she started her life again. She went to the city and then she passed to the west side of Berlin. She understood that it's her last chance to pass to the west side of Berlin. After three months she got married and today she has three children and a good life.

When the witnesses told us their stories we felt sad. Their stories were very interesting, We wanted to listen to stories of witnesses and tell them to other people.



From a circle of friends to a group of resistance



Hilde Coppi (born Rake) is born May 31st, 1909 in Berlin.

Hans Coppi is born January 25th, 1916 in Berlin

The parents of Hans Coppi are members of the KPD (Communist Party of Germany).

1931/32 Hans Coppi becomes a member of the „Roten Pfadfinder“ and of the Communist Youthorganisation of Germany (KJVD).

1934 Hans Coppi is arrested by the Gestapo. Without a trial Hans Coppi is sent to a concentration camp for two months.

Afterwards he is sent to a youth prison.

Hilde Coppi gets friends, who are members of the KPD.

1935 Hans Coppi is deported from the youth prison. Later Hans stays in contact with his circle of oppositional friends.

1936 He is author of leaflets, which inform about the plans of the NSDAP.

1939 Hans Coppi is declared as a „Wehrunwürdiger“, so he is not „allowed“ to go to the German army (Wehrmacht).

Hilde Coppi starts contacting resistance groups and gets to know her later husband Hans Coppi.

Since 1940 Hans Coppi is head of a resistance group and works together with Schulze-Boysen, who is an officer in the German Air Force ministry.

1941 By order of the Schulze-Boysen-Harnack-Group, Hans Coppi works as a wireless operator and tries to communicate with the Soviets Union. But it fails.



Hilde Coppi has listened to Radio Moskau, which is forbidden, and sends messages to the families of prisoners of war, so she disproves the statements of the Nazi-Propaganda.

September 12th 1942 Hans and Hilde Coppi are arrested, because they are members of the Red Orchestra (the Gestapo generalised all groups of leftwing resistance under this name)

November 27th Hilde Coppi gives birth to her son, Hans Coppi Jr.

Dezember 19th Coppi is sentenced to death.

Dezember 22nd: Hans Coppi is executed in Berlin-Plötzensee.

August 5th, 1943 Hilde Coppi is executed in Berlin-Plötzensee, too.

October 16th, 2007 Our German-Israeli-Group visits the museum of German resistance. There we meet Hans Coppi Jr. and talk to him about the German resistance, especially about his parents.

He tells us that the circle of unpolitical friends of Hans and Hilde Coppi becomes a resistance group after 1934.

Discussion about patriotism

In our week in Germany we discussed about patriotism, because we found out that there are different point of views in our group while preparing poems about the fatherland for our ceremony in the memorial site in Ravensbrück.

בושח הז המכ

מדאלש בושח הז המכ
ומצע לע נגהל תיססבה תוכזה הייהת
מתס דכ דפשי אל זמדשו
ודעב מחלהל לכוי תוחפלש

מוקמ דל הייהיש בושח הז המכ
ול דיישו חוטב התאש
ריקה לע לצ מע הייחת אלו
דפהמ וא האנש לש

תרשואמ ינא המכ
רוזחל הנדמ יל שיש
תמלשומ אל ללכ איהש תורמלו
לכה תא ותא הנעמל

היהא דימת ובש מוקמ שי ממצעב יכ
היוצר
הנגה תוכז יל היהת הרקי אלש המו
חטבל רבד דועו
חבזל נבצכ לבוא אל



The first step for us was to find a definition of the word patriotism and we agreed upon one definition: Patriotism means that you think positively about your „fatherland“ and that you are willing to support it.

While discussing about patriotism in the group, there were different points of views and not even the Israelis or the Germans could agree upon one opinion. So we learned that patriotism is something really private and we want to name some opinions of members of our group.

Many Germans think they are not able to be proud of their fatherland and they do not feel a real bond to their country. This is often related to the German history. Some of us thought about the German patriotism that you cannot really express love to Germany because of being afraid of the possible reaction of others: They could think they are nationalists and be angry with them.

Wie wichtig es ist

Wie wichtig ist es,
Dass jedem Menschen das Ele-
mentarrecht auf Selbstverteidigung
zusteht
Dass sein Blut nicht einfach vergos-
sen wird
Dass er dafür kämpfen kann

Wie wichtig ist es, dass du einen
Platz hast,
wo du sicher bist und an den du
gehörst
Und dass du nicht mit dem Schat-
ten
Des Hasses und der Revolution
lebst.

Wie glücklich bin ich,
Dass ich ein Land habe, zu dem
zurückkehren kann,
Und obwohl mein Land nicht voll-
kommen ist
Für dieses Land bin ich bereit, alles
herzugeben.

Denn es gibt einen Platz, wo ich
immer willkommen sei,
Und was auch geschehen wird, ich
habe ein Verteidigungsrecht,
Und noch eines ist sicher.
Man wird mich nie wie Vieh zum
Schlachten führen.

All the Israelis said that they are willing to defend their country to a certain point. Most of the Israelis think in a positive way about their country. For us Israelis, this opinion is also linked to the history of our country and the need for protection of our country against enemies. Some of us would die for our country, however, others do not want to fight with weapons because of their ideology.

The Germans cannot imagine a war in their country and due to this fact, only a few of us think they would defend their country in a war. Most of us deny the necessity of a German army because we do not fear an attack on Germany: In contrary to Israel, Germany is not surrounded by hostile countries and that is why there is no need for a daily fight for our country.

We also discussed about the priority of the family or the fatherland and we asked ourselves whether we would rather defend our country or our family. For most of the Germans, the family is much more important than the identification with the country. For most of the Israelis, the country represents the family and just by defending their country, they defend their families, too.

To sum up, in our controversial discussions, we had different opinions caused by the history of our countries and our present personal attitudes and experiences. The opinions we wrote down in this article were the opinions mentioned during our discussions.



Lital in the hostfamily

From monday evening to wednesday morning Lital was sleeping at my family's home. On monday evening my family went with her to Berlin. There we went to the Brandenburger Tor and took some kind of photos. After that we went to the main station in Berlin, where we went in a Mc Donald's. In the main station we went to the shops and visited them. At the late evening I went with her and my family to the "Television tower" and looked down to "Berlin at night". On Tuesday evening Lital and I came home at 7 o'clock pm. On that day Lital and I went shopping in the "Bernauer Passage". There we passed two hours. When we arrived at home, my family surprised me and Lital: we went bowling in Bernau. At bowling we had a lot of fun. Then we went home at 11:30 o'clock pm. At home my mother had a second surprise for her. At 12:00 o'clock pm, I went with Lital into the kitchen and there was standing an Birthday Cake. Her eyes were blinding. Then she opened her presents and there was bracelet, which we had seen on monday at the TV Tour. She wanted to buy it, but it was too expensive for her. That was the time in my family with Lital.

Sandra



In my opinion, during the meeting in Germany
the most important issues were...

- * finding new friends
- * to discuss about the different and similar topics in Germany and Israel
- * to learn more about the history and work together as one big family for the future
- * to learn more about an other nationality and to fight against prejudices
 - * to find new friends
- * to discuss about patriotism and to learn something about the NS-Regime and some unnormal things about their terrible crimes
- *to discuss about what we can learn from the witnesses and what role resistance can play in our daily life
 - *too see that it is important to act against discrimination



The participants

Mirit Ben Shmuel

Mirit is an Israeli girl. She was born on the 21st August 1992 in Kiriat Yam, now she is 15 years old. During the time in Germany she stayed at Julias house. Like all exchange students, they went to a shisha bar too. But Mirit is not a fan of smoky rooms. In Berlin she liked a lot the viraty of the grafitti and of course the shopping mals. Mirit is a friendly and really funny person. She like every kind of art e.g. paintings and skulpurs that' s also one of her hobbies next to watching TV and surfing in the Internet. Dogs and Dolphins are her favourit animals. One time she had a dog but unfortunately he died. She misses her family and Israel a lot. To her family belongs also her borther who is 13 years old and her sister who is 7 years old. Germany is too cold for her, Mirit loves the summer-time. For her the most important sentence is: „ The life is a gift, enjoy the presents.“

Luisa



Luisa Engel

Luisa is 17 years old, she was born in Venezuela in 27 of January 1990. She is taking apart in the scout, she plays piano and flute, she has 3 brothers. She is nice, friendly and funny. She has a cat, and a poaler bear. She has a boy friend and she like the winter. I liked her a lot...

Mirit Ben Shmuel.



Itay Zusmarovitch

He comes from Kiryat-Israel. (near to Haifa) He is 16 years old. His hobby is to play the guitare and he knows it really well. I had so much fun with him, because we made so many funny things. All of us like him, ,cause he is very nice and polite to everybody. It is so exciting when he sings like he did on the Karaoke evening. He is very self-confident. He also can dance very well and all persons enjoyed it. Everytime when it was a little bit boring in the group he could make some jokes and the atmosphere was immediately good again. I'm so glad, that he lived the two days at my home. It was a great time together and I can't wait to see him again in Isreal.

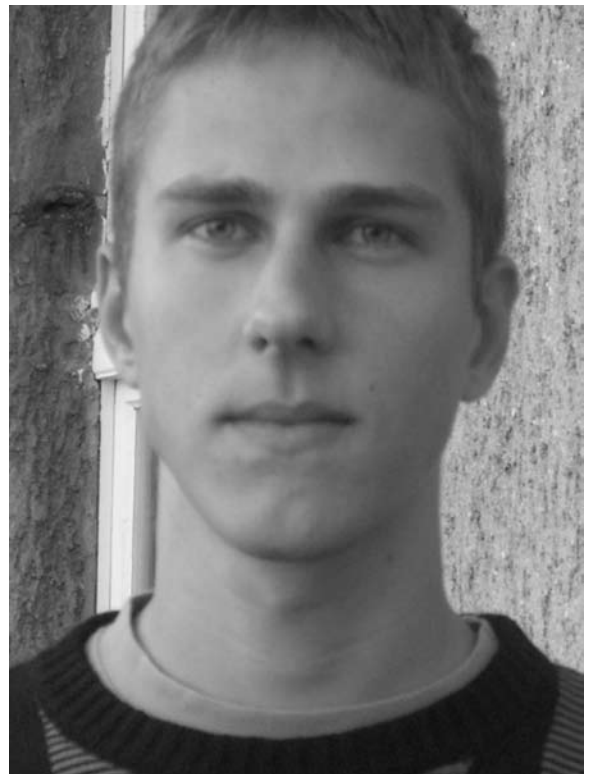
Thomas



Thomas Dreblow

Thomas is very nice guy and charming guy. We can talk with him and have with him a good time. He is a very polite and always thinks about others. Thomas is a very funny guy (and also knows how to do magic tricks) and we like to „run jokes“ with him. Thomas also knows many languages. eventually he is a good guy;))

Itay



Daria Horesh

Daria is 17 years old and lives in Bat-Yam. She has one younger sister who is six years old. In her freetime, Daria likes to surf and play tennis. She lives right next to a mall and when she doesn't know what to do with her time, she just goes shopping. :-)
In one year, she will finish school and then, she will go to the army. Afterwards, she would like to travel to Hawaii and Australia (to surf, of course :-)). She dreams about becoming designer and right now, her favourite subject in school is Art. Daria stayed in my family in Berlin and had a lot of fun with my big, fat and ugly cat. She likes animals and had a lot of when she was younger, but unfortunately, she does not have any animals right now. In Berlin, we did a lot of things together like having dinner or going to bars. She survived the German food and learned to love a typical German drink: Bionade! I'm looking forward to going to her to Israel and I hope we will stay in contact.

You are always welcome in Berlin!

Judith



Judith Rohde-Liebenau

Judith is 19 years old, she lives in Berlin, her favourite subjects at school are politics and geography, she is also vegetarian. At first when I came to her house it was some kind of scary, because I didn't know her very well, but after a few hours we started to talk and to know each other and I discovered that she is a very cool girl (:When I was at her house I met her parents and her brother & her sister and they were all very nice to me and I felt very comfortable, like at home. Judith has 2 fat cute cats, and I fell in love with her. One cat's name is Fivell (After this 2 days I really like to be with Judith and I felt like I know her more than 2 days. I'm very glad that I met Judith and I hope that when she comes to Israel we will have a lot of fun and we will keep in touch)

Daria



Yael Ioselevich

Age: 15 years old.

Family: one little sister, she has a cat.

Hobbies: listening to music, play tennis, doing shopping and watching TV.

Yael like mother's food, she's friendly and she like to see all the things that makes her happy. Yael like to write stories and poems. In the future she would like to be a doctor.

She was the exchange partner of Paula.

Katharina

Katharina Raum

Katharina Raum is also known as Flippi. She is easily to be recognized due to her pinkish-red and very long hair. She lives with her parents, her older brother, her cousin and the families' cat in Berlin. Flippi loves Metal and Rock music and very much enjoys going to concerts and clubs. She is a talented artist and takes it very seriously to help other people. She is caring, creative, a coffee junkie, individual, a bit vain and a bit lazy but always reliable. Flippi dislikes ignorance, Indie music, hot weather and being pigeonholed because of her appearance. Unfortunately, she was ill for some time during our meeting...

Paula



Sapir Peleg

Sapir is 17 years old and comes from Bat-Yam. She has a little sister who is 9 years old and a little brother who is 15 years old. Sapir likes to go out with friends and to go shopping. Next year, she will finish school. Then, she will go for two years to the army.

Afterwards, she wants to go to the university but she does not yet know what to study. She lived in family in Berlin and got to know my turtle (no, Sapir, it is not a frog and it won't jump into your bed!:-)) and of course, also my family. One evening, we invited some of the Germans and Israelis and had dinner together and had a lot of fun. We went to German bars, went shopping and visited different places in Berlin.

In Berlin, she loved to sit upstairs in the double-decker buses.:-) We really got to know each other and I hope we will meet again after the time in her family in Israel. So, just visit me in the wintertime to see the German snow!

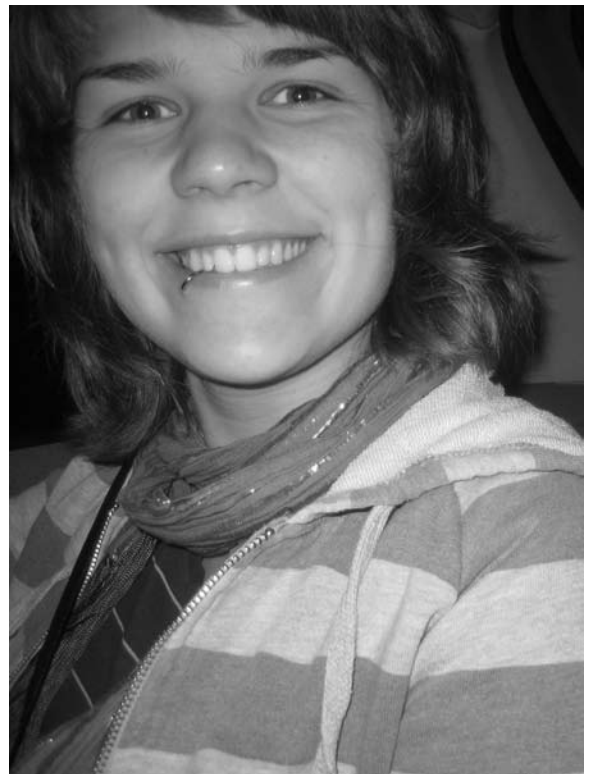
Ricarda



Ricarda Lindner

Ricarda lives in Berlin and she is 19 years old. First I didn't know her very well, but we talked a lot and we got to know each other. Ricarda has a very cute house and I really enjoyed to live at her house in this 3 days. I also met her boyfriend. His name is Jeldrich, he is 21 years old and he is very nice. My friends and I went with Ricarda and her friends to the ,Shisha-Bar'' and we really enjoyed it. We spoke a lot in the bus stations and in the bus, and she told me a lot of things about Germany and about herself. For example, she told me that she is vegetarian and she loves pigs, and that she had been in France for a year. Ricarda invited her friends and my friends for dinner and the food was really good. Her mother gave us the ,Bionade'' – and we really liked it. Ricarda has a turtle at her house – in the room I where I slept. I also think she has a cool room =] I am very happy that I met Ricarda because I really enjoyed to stay at her house and hang-out with her friends, and especially speak with her. I hope we will keep in touch after I go back to Israel and I hope she will enjoy it in Israel!

Sapir



Noy Eisen

Noy is a very talented singer. I very much enjoyed her company during the time in Werftpfuhl and especially while we were in Berlin, walking from the train to my house, to Julia's place and everywhere else. She is 15 years old and lives in Kiryat Yam. She has two older brothers, one of them is currently living in Los Angeles, USA, in order to promote his famous band „Infected Mushroom“. Her two dogs are called Pan and Mokka. Noy is the singer of the band KYD, she also likes to dance and to play piano. When she is nervous, she meditates. Loving the noisy, modern life, her favorite places are big cities, especially Los Angeles but also the ocean coast. She appreciates the small and beautiful things in life, music, chocolate, junk food and the colour pink make her happy. On the other hand, she dislikes lies, darkness and hardrock. She lives according to her motto „Life is a gift, enjoy the present“.

Paula



Paula Mittrowann

She is 19 years old, she likes traveling, music (Rock, classical music), playing piano, painting and she knows little Innish. Her fears are: to take a part in an accident, and spiders. Her favorite food is sweets and she like the most, Curry wurst, and coffee. She loves cats, and She would like to be a journalist. After a short meeting with her, she invited me to sleep at her home, and i was really excited. On monday, i went to her own house and i met her family. She has a big sister who is living in Finland, and a little brother. The meeting with her parents was really excited, i enjoyed a lot at her. She has grate family and lovely house. Paula is very creative girl, she's painting really good, friendly and nice. I liked her a lot.

Noy I-zen.



Yael Levezov

Yael is one of my exchange students and this short two days she was at my home I really got to know her. She is a friendly person with whom you can have a lot of fun. Well I had! Yael is 15 years old and has a little sister. Her favourite subject is biology and she wants to become a doctor. Her dream is to study in Miami. She likes to play tennis and likes dogs. I really enjoy the time with her.

Julia



Julia Hussels

I saw Julia in the first time in our group and than we started to talk and meet each other. One of the days, it is was Sunday she came to me and to Mirit in the breakfast and invited us to her home. In the first evening that we came to her home all the family was at home and met us very beautiful. After that all the friends came to Julia's house and made a big dinner. After the dinner we went to a bar that looked like a beach, it was my first time in a bar in all of my life. It was a great experience, i drank very tasty beer. We came back to her home in 12:30. In the day after we went to the resistance memorial and there we studied about the life of Hans Coppi. After that we went to the Jewish museum and it was terrifying. In this evening we came back to Julia's home and there we have dinner with all the family. (the food was very tasty). After the dinner we went to the shisha bar. It was very cool place that we don't have in Israel. And the last day we went to the concentration camp and there we interviewed temporarily witnesses. It was horrible to hear their stories. And the end we came back to Werftpfuhl.

There were wonderfull days.

Yael



Leeran Seeton

That's Leeran. He is a cool guy from Bat-Yam (Israel). He laughs often at stupid actions and things ("smile- it's all for the best!"). It makes a lot of fun to be with him in the Kurt-Löwenstein-Center and in Berlin. Before we met ourselves in Germany, he sent e-mails to some of the group, that's why we knew some basics about him. It was nice to met him.

Paul

Paul Kosellek

Paul is a very serious, polite, responsible and very nice 17 year old guy who lives in Berlin. He has a very nice family. They accepted us extremely well and made the staying at his house very lovely. He's very intelligent and he's a member of the protestant church. He was a member of the HK-team by the Kirchentag in Colonge so he wears his Helfer (Helper) shirt. Paul plays drums for 9 years, and he's a good one either! His favorite music is Ska, Folk, Rock and Metal. We bonded from the first moment we got to talk to each other and we are very glad that we got to know one another and became friends. We thank you for the lovely time and extremely looking forward to your arrival in Israel.

Leeran & Shamay



Shamay Israilov

When I remember Shamay I see a typical Israeli student with his big back. =)
Shamay is a nice guy, who is interested in a lot of things. He never loses his opinion in discussions, but he accepts other opinions and is open-minded for new things, so it makes a lot of fun to talk with him about different subjects.

Thomas & Paul



Lisa Gebert

Lisa is 19 years old and she lives In Berlin. She has a younger brother whose name is Busso. Although I met Lisa only on the second part of the project I find her very nice and enjoyable girl. I really liked having her over at my place and my door is always open for her to come back and I hope she will come to Israel again.

Lisa is absolutely wunderbar =]



Morelle Heller

My "mami" Morelle is 16 years old and she comes from Bat-Yam near to Tel Aviv in Israel. There she lives with her lovely mother in an apartment. For six years she played volleyball, so she is very sporty. When she finishes with school and army, she would love to go to Los Angeles, to develop herself. Morelle loves HipHop and she really knows how to shake her "tus-sik"=)! We had so much fun and laughed all the time. I love it when she says: "Küss mein klein weißen Harsch!" ^ ^ She is very friendly, smart and crazy (of course in a good way=)). Furthermore she never plays a role, she is always herself. I know that she is a very honest person! The days with her were wonderful and I'd really like to stay in contact with her and see her as often and soon as possible.
Ani ohevet otach!

Laura



Laura Pajor

Laura is 18 years old and she lives alone. I think it's very hard to manage by your own and I admire her for that. She's the sweetest and the funniest girl ever and when she hosted me in her house she made me feel so comfortable and i'm very grateful that i got to know her. Even though we were so strange to each other in the beginning she's my new shnoki (mami) and I eich libi dich. I love talking to her cause I feel like I know her for years. She is so friendly and she makes me laugh so hard when she talks Hebrew especially when she says ya tachat :) I hope we'll keep in touch and I hope she will visit me in Israel. She's my popsy, shnoki, baby, mami, capara lich eich libi dich. Take care friki chica im going to miss you a lot.

Morelle



Lital Franko

Lital was born on 17th of October 1990. Now she is seventeen years old. At first I want to say, that it was a fantastic time with her in Germany. Lital is living with her parents and her brother in Bat- Yam. Her brother is fourteen years old. She has no pets and she can not play an instrument (for example: guitarre). But I think, that she would like pets. But I think, that she loves dogs. She is an vegetarian. Lital is quiet and a reserved person. I like Lital, because she is smiling everyday, she looks like me, because I am smiling, too. I can see in her, that she is an happy person and she is very interested in seeing other countries. And she is interested in getting to know the culture of other countries, too. I think, that she is a person, which likes to speak with other persons. We had very nice days. I was so happy and lucky. If I had seen her smile, when the Birthday cake was standing at the table with seventeen candles, her eyes were blinding. That has said my family about Lital: My mum said to me, when Lital was at the first evening in my family, that she is a real impressive person. And my dad has said, that Lital is welcome everyday, very night and every year, too. They like Lital very much. I hope that these friendship is kept for ever in my life.

Sandra



Sandra Kubiak

Sandra is 16 years old, she comes from Zpenick – city near Berlin. At first I thought she was too quiet and I was afraid because I didn't know her at all but then we went to her house and talked. She finally opened up to me – she told me about her family, her dog, herself and we became friends. On the first day at her house we traveled to Berlin, visited the Reichstag and the TV tower, ate and had a lot of fun. On the second day we went bowling and sopping and on midnight it was my birthday and her parents baked me a cake, sang happy-birthday and I was really touched. I really liked her house, her room, her family and I'm very glad that I had the opportunity to meet her. I hope we will stay friends and I'm already waiting for her to come to my house and meet my family. I hope that when she comes to Israel she will have fun and I'm really really looking forward to it.

Lital



Lior Balan

Lior is a nice and funny guy. He's 16 years old. He is living in Kiryat Yam near Haifa.

He wants to live in Israel when he will be an adult. He came to this project from his school. He learns in school physics and robotics.

His hobbies are doing sports like boxing or running and also to play PC games. His favorite music styles are hip-hop and reggae. He has got one brother and one sister. I got to know him in the small group of Bettina.

Joshua

Joshua Enslin

Joshua is 14 years old and knows a lot about politics. He is a member of a group called „Friedens AG“. His favorite subject is political sciences. He discusses a lot with all the members of the exchange group about the political systems. He lives in Berlin-Steglitz in a nice building with his father. His hobbies are listening to music and program websites. He doesn't have any brothers or sisters. I got to know him in a small group that we worked in and I found him as a very friendly person who is open to new opinions and would like to hear other opinions.

Lior





When you want to know more about the Israeli part of the project, start to the read the booklet in the Israeli way (from right to left).

When you want to know more about the German part of the project, start to the read the booklet in the German way (from left to right).





Experiences in the host families: it was a great time!

Our time in Bat Yam

At the first day in Bat Yam we split up and we went to the host families.

After dinner we all got together and took a bus to Tel-Aviv-Harbor, where we ate at "Max Brenner's chocolate restaurant". Everybody had a good time and the Germans were impressed by the uniqueness of the place, the delicious chocolates and the whole Tel Aviv scenery.

On the second day we had a guided tour through Tel Aviv and Jaffa by our school teacher Arye. We visited the ancient part of Jaffa, the flea market and the Jaffa beach. After the tour we returned to Bat Yam and ate lunch at "Sharabi's", a local restaurant. Then most of the group went to the sea, saw a bunch of surfers and took pictures of them. Moreover, we took pictures of the sea and the sunset, sat on the beach and walked along the boardwalk.

At the evening we had dinner at Morel's house. The whole setting was perfect, the food was great and everybody enjoyed. We finished the Bat Yam visit at a restaurant named "Boca" which was right on the sea shore and then went back to our homes.



Our time in Kiryat Yam

On Sunday evening, 2. december, we arrived at the Rabin School in the evening and the parents welcomed us. Afterwards, we ate dinner with the families and then we went to a bowling center. There we met a lot of other Israeli people and we had a lot of fun in the center. Later on we went by taxi to a park, where a lot of Israelis who wanted to meet the Germans were. In the next morning the group met in the school very early. We went to the Israeli-Lebanese boarder and walked on the beach of Nachariya.

Afterwards we went to Acco and visited the market there. On the Shuk we bought souvenirs and then we had a great meal together. From Acco we went directly to a shopping mall. In the afternoon we spent free time in the families. Some of us went to a restaurant or ate together with the whole family at home. In the evening we went to a birthday party and had a great time. In the next morning we had to say goodbye to the families and then we drove to the Kibbutz Nahsholim to prepare our booklet.

Our duty is to remember: the visit in Yad Vashem

Sunday, 2/12/2007, we visited the museum Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, the capital city of Israel, and we remembered the Holocaust and the Jewish victims.

At the beginning of the museum we saw the background of the war - the rise of Hitler to the leadership and the beginning of the persecution of the Jews in Europe.

For us, the Israelis, this subject was not new and we knew all the stories that were there.

In every step we made the topic seemed to become harder, darker, and more complicated.

When we reached to the part of the death camps we were frozen - we saw films, pictures and the other documents from that time. Some of us started to cry.

Very hard for us was in Yad Lazeled – there we heard the names of the children that were killed. We were in a dark room with a lot of candles that represent their souls.

The conclusion of the Israeli Group:

When we arrived to the last part of the museum that actually was the end of the war, we saw the happiness in the witness' eyes. They seemed starved, sad, weak and very thin, but we could see the hope in their eyes, and we saw Jerusalem OUR capital city ... that was very exciting and we felt safely and hopeful. No words can express our feeling at the ceremony, that we made together with the German students. We felt connected to our history and we believed in our texts that we read. Everybody was excited. Now we just can say that we are peaceful because we always have a country that we can come back to, and we always feel there wanted and belong to.



The German group – Our impression from Yad Vashem

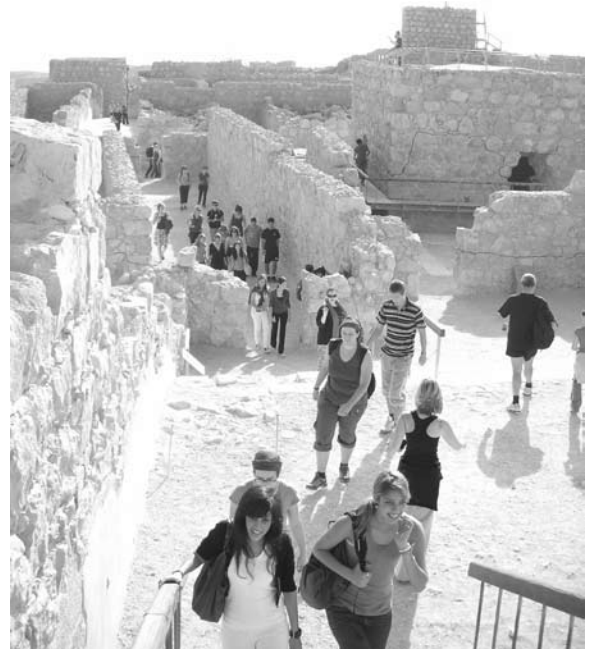
Yad Vashem had a strong impact on all of us. We were impressed by the way the information was presented. In contrast to other memorials we visited before Israel the atmosphere was a lot more emotional here in Israel. For some of us being a German became much more present, and released a shameful feeling. Even speaking German became strange.

The ceremony we made in together with the Israelis in the valley of the communities, was a good possibility to express our feelings and our respect to the Holocaust victims.

We are thankful that we had the opportunity to make this experience in Yad Vashem.



Afterwards we drove to The Masada, a symbol of resistance and freedom. In the 1st century a.c. the whole area of Israel had been occupied by the Romans except Masada, a fortress built in the Negev on a high plateau. There was a group of Jews – the last resistance fighters - on this fortress who resisted the Romans. For three years they could resist the Romans. Then the Masada got overthrown. The Jewish group killed themselves (except of two persons who escaped) instead of becoming slaves of the Romans. Nowadays there are the ruins of this fortress which are visited by almost every tourist and Israeli citizen. Its symbol is underlined by the sentence: "The Masada shall never fall again!"



For the refreshing we went to Ein Gedi where we swam in the Dead Sea. It was really great but also a strange and oily feeling. Besides four of us cut their legs and feet reasoned by the stones at the beach. So some of us had a bloody afternoon :-).



In the evening Ismail our driver drove us to a Youth Hostel in Jerusalem where we celebrated the birthday of one of the group members with games, music and cake on the balcony. Interrupted by the rain we went to sleep at 2 o'clock a.m.

Written by Thomas and Laura

Peace in a different way – the Israeli-Arab cooperation at the Dead Sea

On Saturday the 1st of December we had a conversation with Shlomo Drori about the history of Israel, a way to peace and the dead sea's role in it.

Israel has no resources like for example coal in Germany and therefore there had in former times only been agricultural settlements without industrialisation.

Shlomo Drori who had been once be a member of the Israelian security service and worked a long time in the dead sea industries told us that the Dead Sea has more to offer than salt. Being full of magnesium and other minerals it gave the opportunity for industries producing potashes (Kalisalz) which is a major part of fertilizers used for the growth of plants like wheat.



But by connecting a watersystem for Israel - and it is known that there is a huge problem with the water in Israel - the Dead Sea shrinks. In its area one can measure 45 C in the summer. Therefore the Dead Sea's sealevel drops one meter per year because of this heat. Every winter this one meter usually got refilled: 60% by the Jordan, 10% by the rain, 20% by little rivers and 10% by Israelian floods.

Since 1904 the Jordan is used as a resource of drinking water. Due to this fact since then the Dead Sea's sealevel dropped 18 meters. But this is a real problem: In Shlomo Drori's opinion the future of Israel is not winning a war indeed it is to cooperate with an Arabic state. In his vision, Shlomo Drori sees Israel exporting its technological knowledge to poorer Arab States. With this exports, the living standards in the Arab States could be raised. The Arab States would then recognize, that Israel is not their enemy, but their helping hand. The Arab States should recognize that Israel can bring them progress and better living. This vision is not totally vision: there are industries, that produce potashes in Israel and in Jordan.

Furthermore, because of the Dead Sea's industrial importance for Israel and also for Jordania, a connection with the Red Sea is needed or the Dead Sea that is going to evaporate and dry.

The Kingdom of Jordania and Israel would have to work together on this project. Therefore the result maybe would be peace between the Arabic world and Israel. Shlomo Drori is an 84 year old optimist with economical visions, a very cute old man. The discussion with him was really educating.

From a Resistance Fighter to a Peace Fighter: Uri Avnery

Uri Avnery was born in Germany in the city Beckum as Helmut Ostermann.

He changed his name into Uri Avnery after his brother's name who died in the holocaust.

Uri came to Israel in 1933, when he was 15 years old, he joined to the Irgun, an jewish underground movement. The Irgun fought against the British Mandate in Palestina to establish a Jewish State. After some time, Uri left the Irgun because of the fact that he disagreed with the ideology of the Irgun, which became more and more anti-arabic. The Irgun helped him to understand the modern terrorism.



After the war of independence, he founded a magazine "ha'olam ha'ze" (in english "this world").

Uri was a member of the kneset – the israeli parliament- for 10 years and then, in 1993 he founded the peace movement "Gush Shalom" (in english "peace bloc") as an extraparliamentary organization, an organization that doesn't belong to any party, either left or right wing.

"Gush Shalom" aims and philosophy

- Members of the "Gush Shalom" are not paid.
- Separation of state & religion.
- To have two states: Israel and Palestine with one international capital city, Jerusalem.
- To have a peace agreement with Palestine.
- To go back to the border lines of 1967.

Impressions



The lecture was interesting, one that you don't get to hear very often, and it was fascinating. It's hard to discuss about such things like the conflict between the palestines and israelis, but Mr. Avnery explained it very well and gave good examples to convince us that his opinion is right. He said, that there is NOT ONE TRUTH in the conflict, but the Israeli truth and the Palestinian truth, that are completely different. So the aim of Gush Shalom is to make the two groups sensitive for the perceptions

of the history, the fears and the hopes of the others. In spite of the good lecture, not all of us, the German-Israeli group, were convinced. Some of us disagreed with some points that Uri Avnery mentioned in the lecture. But at all it was interesting to see the point of view of a peace activist.

Menachem Begin and Harry Horvitz – a conversation with an old friend of Begin

Menachem Begin was born in Bessarabia on August 16th 1913 and died in Israel in 1992. He was the Prime Minister of Israel from 1977 until 1983.

Before he won the elections in 1977 he was a member of the Israeli opposition for 29 years and took part in eight different election campaigns with his party LIKUD, formerly known as MA-CHAL.

Begin only came to Israel in 1941 and before that he was imprisoned in the USSR for revolting against the communists. After two years in Russian working camp he was released along with all other Polish prisoners who were willing to fight against the Germans under the command of Polish general Anders.

In Israel he was the leader of ETZEL, an underground Israeli movement that fought against the British Mandate, from 1944 to 1947. During his command there were 300 attacks against the British Mandate, with the famous one being the attack on King David Hotel, which was the Headquarters of the British at this time.

He was a man with a vision, a man with a way and a man with a plan.

Begin was a man of peace. During his time as Prime Minister Begin tried his best to rule according to his beliefs and values in every aspect. Social justice, economic liberty and education for every child were his main objectives.



One of his most important achievements was the peace agreement signed with Egypt in 1978. It was Israel's first peace agreement with an Arab country and Begin had an enormous and vital part in it. For this achievement he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize later on. Harry Horvitz was a very close friend of Menachem Begin and is the founder and president of the Menachem Begin Heritage Center in Jerusalem. Horvitz also was the head of Begin's chamber

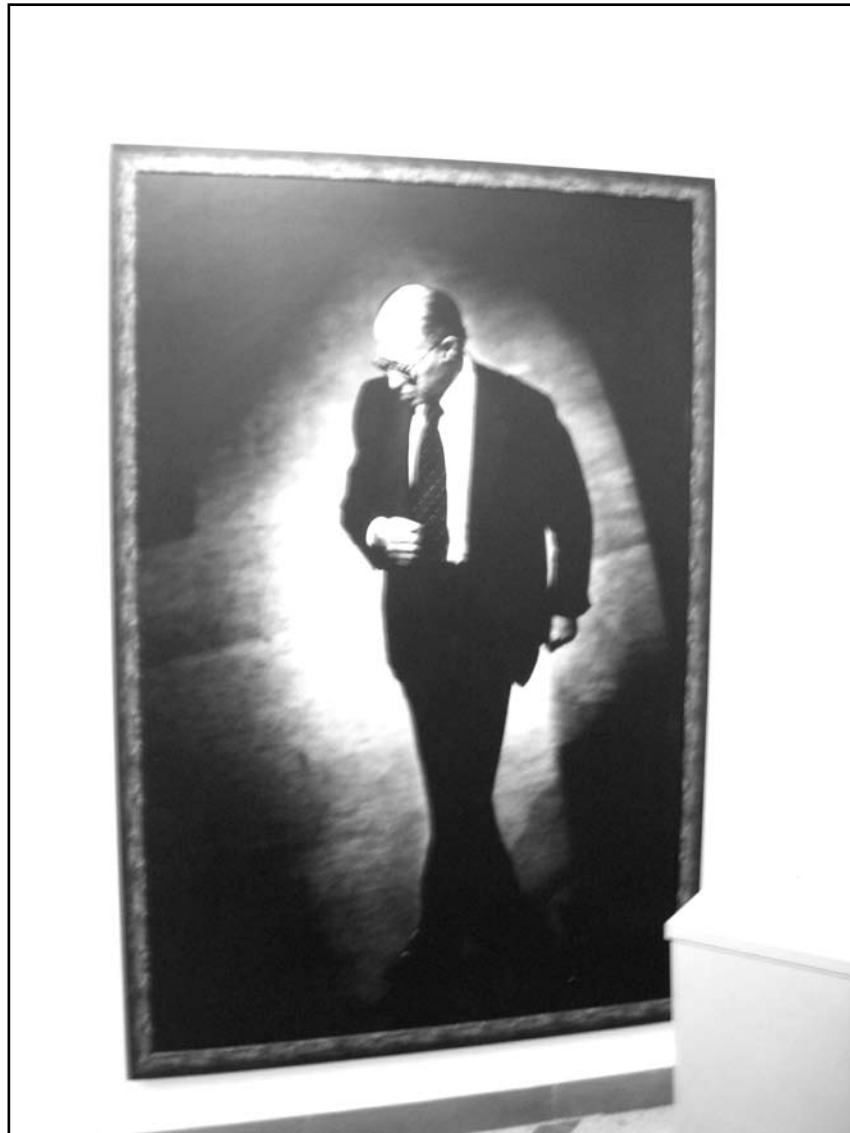
while he was the Prime Minister. During the conversation with him we learned a lot about Begin as a man, a politician and a friend. According to Horvitz Begin was not only a fantastic Prime Minister but was also always willing to help and was an exceptional friend and human being. The talk with Mr. Horvitz was very insightful, educating and interesting. He struck us as a very kind and intelligent man and the conversation was one of the highlights of the whole Israeli part of the project.

Jerusalem and the Menachem Begin Heritage Center

On Thursday the 29th of November, we travelled in the early morning from the Kibbutz Nachsholim by bus to Jerusalem. There, we visited the Menachem Begin Heritage Center.

In the center, we had an audio guide tour through the museum about Menachem Begin's life. The Israelis had a tour in Hebrew and the Germans in English. The museum was very modern and had a lot of visualizations and special effects. Due to this fact, it was really interesting and easy to follow the tour through the museum. Begin had a great impact on the Israeli history and because of the really good museum, it was easier for us to understand Begin's heritage. The Menachem Begin Heritage Center is a very successful one. It is visited by more people every month than every other similar center around the world and more than the presidential libraries in the USA. After the tour, we met Harry Horvitz, who worked with Menachem Begin for many years and was a close friend of him. Harry Horvitz told us a lot of interesting facts and anecdotes about Begin and his heritage.

In the afternoon, we went to the center of Jerusalem and there, we bought souvenirs and ate Falafel and Shawarma. Then, we went by bus to Jaffa. After arriving in the beautiful and very modern youth hostel, some of us went with Michael to the old city of Jaffa and the flea market. We ate the best bakery products of Israel with Zatar while enjoying the panorama of Tel Aviv. In the night, we went to a beach bar in Tel Aviv. It was a very interesting and nice day.



Menachem Begin – a picture in the Heritage Center

The Kibbuz of the Ghetto-Fighters: Resistance during the Holocaust, Rememberance and Peace Work in Israel

At the 28th of November we took the bus to Lochamei Hagetaot (the Kibbuz of the Ghetto-Fighters), there we visited the local museum. We discussed about our point of view about the future and what has to be change in the future. Later on we talked about the Jewish life in the Warsaw Ghetto. We saw, that there was Resistance during the Holocaust. Some of those Ghetto-Fighters who survived the Holocaust came in the late 1940 years to Israel and founded the Kibbuz, where they wanted to commemorate the victims, but also the resistance fighters against the Nazis.



Remarks of the participants during the summary round in Lochamei Hagetaot

It was impressing that this museum can be seen from everywhere, from the Galilee, the Lebanese border and so on.

I have never heard about the fight about the name of Lochamei Haegtaot. [The state didn't want to allow in 1948 to give a kibbuz such a name]

The muuseum presents the Israeli point of view on the uprising in Ghetto Warsaw, which was very interesting.

The archive was impressing – it combines history with new technology.

Most of the Israelis have been here, however every time it is possible to learn something new. It was important to bring the Germans to this Museum.



I was very shocked, when I found out, that in all the text in the Museum is written "Germans" and not "Nazis" I am not sure that no one paid attention to it, however it is a personal point of view. It is possible to understand that the survivors wrote "Germans". But it is important to write the point, that the writing of "Germans" is a decision on purpose.

After eating Falafel and Shwarma, we had a guided tour in Haifa including the Bahai Gardens and the German Templar Colony.



The first day in Israel: Our meeting in Nahsholim

The German delegation arrived at 3.00 a.m. at the airport of Tel Aviv. At 6.00 a.m. we arrived in the Kibbutz Nahsholim. We went to the rooms (small houses), had some breakfast (it was so much and different from our breakfast!) and instead of taking a rest most of the students were lying on the beach. It was so warm – in the end of November!

At 12.00 a.m. the students from Bat Yam arrived and all together we went to the super market. Later on the students of Kiryat Yam arrived in Nahsholim. We were happy to see us again.

Before the official beginning, the German students had a meeting with Hanna Tidhar, head of the Dialog-Institute. Hanna told us about her biography and about the reasons, why she engaged herself in the german-israeli youth-exchange.

Then the program started. We all together had an meeting with Hanna and Michael Schwennen, head of the seminars at the same institute. We got the task to work out some information about Uri Avnery and Menachem Begin. After this we compared what we found out about this two persons. We also worked out some questiones about Mr. Avnery and Mr. Begin.



Our first Impressions

Of the Germans:

- very good weather
- a really pretty beach
- there was relative warm water in the mediterranean sea
- there were pretty bungalows
- there were nice gardens
- there was a good atmosphere
- we were looking forward to meet the Israeli group

Of the Israelis:

The israeli impression from Nahsholim was very good. We were all glad to be here in such a beautiful place with a sea, good rooms etc.

We were very happy to see all of our friends from Germany here in Israel and we wanted to host them in the best conditions. We wanted to show them Israel and also to have a good time with them.

It was a little bit strange to get back to talk in English and also to begin the presentation but we were fine with it. Eventually we hoped to have a good trip and now I can say it was very good.



German-Israeli Youth Meeting

„Women and Men of Resistance – Women and Men for Peace“

From the 12th until the 21st of October 2007 in Germany

From the 26th of November until the 6th of December 2007 in Israel

This Project took part in the Competition

“EUROPEANS FOR PEACE“

Founded by

FOUNDATION “Erinnerung und Zukunft“

Partners in this Project

Fichtenberg-Oberschule Berlin, Germany

Rabin Highschool Kiryat-Yam, Israel

Ramot Highschool Bat-Yam, Israel

Educational Center Dialog, Israel

Youth Educational Center Kurt Löwenstein, Germany



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ERINNERUNG, VERANTWORTUNG
UND ZUKUNFT



IMPRESSUM

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Dezember 2007

currywurst
meets falafel

מפגש
מפגש

Educational Center
Dialog, Israel
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26th of Novemberes - 6th of Decembes
2007

Israel

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