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**1**

In an expression of solidarity with the IDF soldiers and residents of the South and Center currently under rocket attack, the University of Haifa's 30 story Eshkol Tower has become an Israeli flag. Throughout the conflict, the Tower's 30 floors will be lit up in the shape of the flag, with the Star of David at its center. The Tower, atop Mount Carmel, can be seen throughout the area and in settlements in the North for miles around.



The University of Haifa sends its deepest condolences to the families of the soldiers and civilians killed in recent days, and wishes a speedy recovery to the injured.

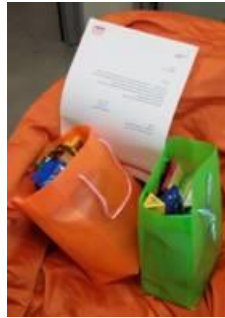
**2**

Wall-to-wall. Friends of the University abroad express solidarity and send their support to the citizens of Israel, including the University staff, during these difficult times; they support the IDF soldiers and wish them a safe return home, hoping for a quick return to the calm and safe day-to-day routine. The University's President, Amos Shapira, sent a letter (attached) concerning the security situation.



3

The Human Resources division undertook to help those University staff members who had been called up to reserve duty: senior academic staff, junior academic staff and administrative staff. Each of those recruited received a personal gift, with the hopes of sweetening a bit for him the difficult days ahead.



5

Despite the security situation, a delegation of American students from the Arizona State University did not cancel their annual trip to Israel, and the students met last week with Ami Ayalon, Chairman of the University's Executive Committee, for a lecture on national security. The delegation is being hosted here by the TAM-C Solutions Company. These are students who have graduated from the criminology school, and the visit here was meant to give them lectures and first-hand information on terrorism and national security. The current visit was of course planned a long time before operation "Protective Edge" began, but according to Dr. Charles Loftus, one of the visiting lecturers from the program, the security situation did not deter the group for a minute. "A large number of the graduates are police officers and firefighters, so the situation certainly did not deter us."



4

The Administrative Staff Association, in cooperation with the Student Union, undertook a donations drive to purchase equipment for the soldiers fighting in Gaza. So far, 150,000 NIS has been donated for equipment such as cell phone chargers, toothbrushes and toothpaste, soup, shampoo, deodorant, shaving foam, undershirts, towels, and more. The Friends of the University of Haifa in France also undertook to help with a donation to the students fighting in the front lines.



6

38 students of the IDF's National Security College received their degrees from the University a couple of weeks ago. For over 25 years now students of the College have been studying for their master's degrees in the University's School of Political Sciences. The Chief of Staff, Minister of Defense, Minister of Public Security, Prof. Gabriel Ben-Dor who is the Head of the National Security Studies Program, and others participated in the ceremony. "I am certain that the current situation shows us how important is the strength of the citizens of southern Israel and the entire country. This was also the case in 2006, during the Second Lebanon War, when the might of the North stood strong for Israel," said University President Amos Shapira.



**7**

2,500 years after sailing the seas of the Mediterranean, and 30 years after its remains were found and recovered by Dr. Elisha Linder Z"L, the ancient ship from Ma'agan Mikhael – a merchant vessel from the Hellenistic period – is close to coming full circle. The building of the ship's replica was launched in a festive ceremony that took place in Akko's school for naval cadets. This is a project of the Leon H. Charney School of Marine Sciences Department of Maritime Civilizations and the Leon Recanati Institute of Maritime Studies, led by Prof. Yaacov Kahanov and managed by Dr. Deborah Cvikel, in which an exact replica of the ship will be built using the same tools and the same work methods in which the original ship was built. The goal is to build a ship that will return to sail the sea. The building of the replica was made possible by donations raised by the Institute and in cooperation with Akko's school for naval cadets and the Antiquities Authority.

**8**

The American-based David and Inez Myers Foundation answered the University's call and joined the University in supporting the returning scientists and their absorption in the Israeli academia in the scope of \$1 million over the next five years. The Myers Foundation has been donating for years to student scholarships for students of Ethiopian origin and to the Community Leadership programs; at its head sits Lee Kohrman, a true friend and supporter of the University.

