

Friends of the Israel Defense Forces  
Maryland Chapter  
Mission Bibliography  
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*The Battle for Jerusalem.* By Lt. Gen. Mordechai Gur. 1974.

Moti Gur was the Field Commander in the retaking of Jerusalem in 1967 during the Six Day War. The goal in the battle was the Temple Mount including the Kotel (Western Wall), possession of which was a 2,000 year-old Jewish dream. The crossover point, from Jewish West Jerusalem to Jordanian-occupied East Jerusalem was Ammunition Hill, where the Paratroopers encountered fierce resistance from the Arab Legion, including hand-to-hand combat, in a network of bunkers and trenches. Finally, Gen. Gur reported to headquarters that, "The Temple Mount is in our hands. Repeat. The Temple Mount is ours."

*The 188<sup>th</sup> Crybaby Brigade.* By Joel Chasnoff. 2010.

Like many American Jews, Joel holds a life long idealist's image of Israel and the tough as nails Israel Defense Forces (IDF). Raised in Chicago in a Zionist family, after graduating from the University of Pennsylvania and falling in love with an Israeli girl, Joel decides that enlisting in the IDF is his next step in life. The book is an easy-to-read, funny and down-to-earth account of his experiences in a storied Israeli tank brigade facing down Hezbollah.

*Six Days of War.* By Michael B. Oren. 2002.

The Six Day War was the pivotal conflict that shapes the Middle East today. This book is widely regarded as the seminal work on the subject. The author, American and Princeton University educated, joined the IDF and fought in Lebanon. After serving in the government of the late Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, today Michael Oren is the Ambassador of the State of Israel to the United States.

*Start-Up Nation.* By Dan Senor and Saul Singer. 2009.

Did you know that after the US, Israel has the most companies listed on NASDAQ, the largest number of Noble Laureates, or is the recipient of the largest amount of venture capital per capita? Yes, Israel has become a high technology powerhouse. Innovative, creative, dynamic, and entrepreneurial: this book is about Israel's economic miracle. Israel's economy and the IDF are closely intertwined. Find out how and why.