

Strategic Cooperation Heightens U.S.-Israel Partnership

For decades, the United States and Israel have shared a deep strategic relationship aimed at confronting the common threats to both nations. During the Cold War, the United States and Israel collaborated in limiting Soviet influence in the region. Today, in the post-9/11 world, the United States and Israel are working together more closely than ever before to defeat the common threats of radicalism, terrorism and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

The Two Allies Train Together for Common Challenges

The close strategic relationship between the United States and Israel originated with the allies sharing key intelligence around the time of the 1967 Six-Day War. This partnership was later broadened and formalized in the early 1980s when President Ronald Reagan and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir announced the establishment of the Joint Political Military Group to coordinate planning against threats faced by both nations in the Middle East. Later in the decade, Israel was formally designated as a major non-NATO ally of the United States.

Today, the United States prepositions military equipment such as ammunition and armor in Israel, and the two allies engage in joint military



The Arrow anti-ballistic missile is a cornerstone of U.S.-Israel strategic cooperation.

exercises involving American and Israeli land, sea and air forces. Twice annually, U.S. Marines conduct desert warfare training with their Israel Defense Forces (IDF) counterparts, and American soldiers and security officials have received Israeli instruction on urban combat techniques. U.S. pilots hold mock dogfights with the Israeli Air Force and have tested aerial combat tactics and practiced refueling. Research-and-development collaboration

between the United States and Israel has produced innovative technologies and security techniques that are now protecting American and Israeli lives.

In addition, Israel and the United States have cooperated on a wide range of intelligence sharing programs, including work on monitoring Iran, al-Qaeda and other terrorist groups. Such collaboration has played a critical role in stemming extremism in the region and boosting Israel's role as an indispensable player in the war against radical Islam.

The United States and Israel Cooperate on Missile Defense

The close partnership between the United States and Israel has yielded leading military technologies such as the Arrow, anti-ballistic missile-defense system that is currently deployed in Israel. Jointly developed by the two allies, the Arrow is among the world's most sophisticated missile shields.

It is the only operational system that has consistently proven that one missile can shoot down another at high altitudes and supersonic speeds. Israel and the United States are also collaborating on the development of a quick-reaction defense system, called "David's Sling," to address the threats posed by a myriad of short- and medium-range missiles and rockets.

In addition, as the potential threat of long-range nuclear-armed ballistic missiles from rogue regimes looms, Israeli and U.S. missile-defense agencies and industries are developing a more sophisticated missile defense-system that can target enemy missiles at the highest reaches of the atmosphere.

Israeli Technologies and Techniques Help U.S. Soldiers on the Battlefield

Strategic cooperation has also made other, important Israeli military innovations available to the United States, which is currently putting these systems to use in the Middle East.

SAVING LIVES: Israeli Technologies, Techniques Used in Iraq and Afghanistan



Bradley Reactive Armor Tiles

Hundreds of U.S. soldiers have been saved by the Israeli-developed armor plating that explodes outward, diffusing the impact of incoming fire.

Litening Pod

Israeli-developed and American-produced, this sophisticated system has revolutionized the targeting and navigation capabilities of American aircraft.



The Emergency Bandage

Used widely in Iraq, this state-of-the-art Israeli bandage enables medics to dress a wound while simultaneously stemming bleeding.

Hunter UAV

The Israeli-developed drone has been used daily by U.S. commanders in Iraq and Afghanistan to gather critical intelligence.



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Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and Litening Targeting Pod

The American military routinely deploys Israeli-developed unmanned aerial vehicles, which have logged thousands of hours in Iraq and Afghanistan. U.S. planes in both countries have been equipped with the Litening targeting pod, an Israeli-origin system with infrared sensors that identify ground targets and enable pilots to fly at night and in bad weather. The Litening made it possible for American fighter pilots to deliver the munitions that eliminated al-Qaeda's top leader in Iraq, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

Bradley Reactive Armor Tiles and IED Protection

Israeli-developed reactive armor tiles, which explode outward upon impact, have been used to

protect American armored personnel carriers in Iraq, saving hundreds of servicemen from potential death or injury. America and Israel have also cooperated to reduce the threat posed by improvised explosive devices, increase the accuracy and safety of multiple weapon systems, and improve aircraft self-protection and personnel safety.

Advanced Medical Training and Products

Israeli battlefield medical expertise has yielded an increase in the survival rate of severely injured U.S. combat troops through both training and medical products heretofore unavailable. Beyond the hardware, Israel has opened its doors and its expertise to U.S. military doctors researching efforts to mitigate the effects of Post-Traumatic Syndrome and the psychological issues challenging amputees during rehabilitation.