



Operation "Buds of Hope" **Rwanda, July 1994**

What happened?

A severe civil war led to over 2 million refugees in Rwanda.

What did the IDF delegation do?

Personnel from YACHZA (National Rescue and Emergency Unit) and IDF doctors established a field hospital, provided medical equipment and medications to refugees.

What was special here?

This was one of the IDF's first aid missions in Africa – with a clear goal: to save lives and help in a place where there was almost nothing.

IDF AROUND THE WORLD

Give. Everywhere.

Information cards
IDF aid missions



צה"ל
ISRAEL'S ARMY

Educational Kit About the
IDF and National Service



Attack on the Jewish Community Building - Buenos Aires, Argentina, Summer 1994

What happened?

A deadly Hezbollah attack against the Jewish community.

What did the IDF delegation do?

A rescue team from the Home Front Command arrived to assist the Jewish community. The team rescued 80 bodies from the rubble.

What was special here?

The lessons from this attack led to dramatic advancement in IDF rescue infrastructure and capabilities, and strengthened ties with Diaspora Jewry.

IDF AROUND THE WORLD

Give. Everywhere.

Information cards
IDF aid missions



צה"ל
ISRAEL'S ARMY

Educational Kit About the
IDF and National Service



U.S. Embassy Attack Nairobi, Kenya, August 1998

What happened?

Al-Qaeda attacked the U.S. Embassy (its first attack against an American target) – dozens killed and hundreds wounded.

What did the IDF delegation do?

- 26 doctors provided medical treatment to hundreds of wounded
- Rescued 3 survivors and 96 bodies from the rubble
- Representatives from the Foreign Ministry and Prime Minister's Office participated in the mission

What was special here?

This was one of the first times the IDF operated in a terror incident outside Israel, as a professional and humanitarian force.

IDF AROUND THE WORLD

Give. Everywhere.

Information cards
IDF aid missions



צה"ל
ISRAEL'S ARMY

Educational Kit About the
IDF and National Service



Operation "Rescue Rope"

Turkey Earthquake, August 1999

What happened?

A devastating earthquake – thousands killed, thousands more wounded.

What did the IDF delegation do?

- Rescued 12 survivors and 146 bodies from the rubble (including 10 Israeli tourists)
- The mission established a field hospital where 1,200 wounded were treated, approximately 40 surgeries and 15 births were performed
- The mission operated in the field for a week

What was special here?

This was a large and comprehensive mission, combining rescue and medicine under difficult conditions.

IDF AROUND THE WORLD

Give. Everywhere.

Information cards
IDF aid missions



צה"ל
ISRAEL'S ARMY

Educational Kit About the
IDF and National Service



Operation "Rescue Rope 2" Greece – September 1999

What happened?

A powerful earthquake struck the northern Athens area in Greece, causing heavy destruction, building collapses, and trapping residents under rubble.

What did the IDF delegation do?

Within hours, an aid mission of 75 Home Front Command personnel flew to Greece – specialists in rescue and emergency who worked in the field to locate and rescue survivors. The forces used advanced technological means and years of experience gained in disaster zones around the world.

What was special here?

The mission was small but very effective. Under conditions of pressure, short time, and destroyed terrain, the fighters managed to operate with professionalism, sensitivity, and speed. The operation demonstrated the IDF's ability to act quickly and save lives even far from home.

IDF AROUND THE WORLD

Give. Everywhere.

Information cards
IDF aid missions



צה"ל
ISRAEL'S ARMY

Educational Kit About the
IDF and National Service



Operation "Brotherhood of Nations" Turkey, November 1999

What happened?

A severe earthquake in northwestern Turkey – hundreds killed and trapped.

What did the IDF delegation do?

- 250 rescuers + 100 doctors assisted in rescue operations
- Rescued one survivor, located 22 bodies
- The mission worked alongside rescue teams from 19 countries

What was special here?

International cooperation that the IDF led professionally and at grass roots.

IDF AROUND THE WORLD

Give. Everywhere.

Information cards
IDF aid missions



צה"ל
ISRAEL'S ARMY

Educational Kit About the
IDF and National Service



Operation "Extended Hand" India, January 2001

What happened?

A powerful earthquake in northwestern India, with many casualties and heavy damage.

What did the IDF delegation do?

- The mission included 170 medical personnel and over 65 tons of equipment
- A field hospital was established, treating 1,600 wounded, performing 52 surgeries and 12 births
- That same year, the Home Front Command conducted a natural disaster management course in India

What was special here?

A mission that brought both medicine and knowledge, with long-term impact on disaster response in the country.

IDF AROUND THE WORLD

Give. Everywhere.

Information cards
IDF aid missions



צה"ל
ISRAEL'S ARMY

Educational Kit About the
IDF and National Service



Mombasa Attack Kenya, November 2002

What happened?

A car bomb explosion at the Paradise Hotel in Mombasa killed 15 people, including 3 Israeli tourists.

What did the IDF delegation do?

150 soldiers and officers from the Home Front Command assisted in operations to locate trapped individuals and in activities to locate approximately 250 Israelis staying in Kenya, following warnings of additional attacks.

What was special here?

A rescue operation under security threat, while protecting human life thousands of kilometers from home.

IDF AROUND THE WORLD

Give. Everywhere.

Information cards
IDF aid missions



צה"ל
ISRAEL'S ARMY

Educational Kit About the
IDF and National Service



Taba Attack

Sinai, October 2004

What happened?

A car bomb explosion at the Hilton Hotel – part of the hotel collapsed causing many casualties.

What did the IDF delegation do?

A Home Front Command rescue unit worked at the site for 3 days in cooperation with Magen David Adom (MDA), ZAKA (Disaster Victim Identification), and fire and rescue personnel, until confirming there were no additional trapped or dead.

What was special here?

An intensive rescue operation across the border with integration of civilian and international forces.

IDF AROUND THE WORLD

Give. Everywhere.

Information cards
IDF aid missions



Educational Kit About the
IDF and National Service



Cyprus Fires Summer 2007

What happened?

A wave of massive fires raged across Cyprus, threatening villages and residents. The fire spread rapidly and local rescue forces struggled to control it.

What did the IDF delegation do?

Home Front Command teams were sent to the neighboring island to assist in fighting the fires, both in the firefighting operations themselves and in coordination between field elements: Cypriot rescue forces, civilian aid teams, and operating companies.

What was special here?

The IDF's expertise in crisis management and emergency situations made the response efficient, fast, and life-saving.

IDF AROUND THE WORLD

Give. Everywhere.

Information cards
IDF aid missions



Educational Kit About the
IDF and National Service



Operation "Edge of the World" Haiti, January 2010

What happened?

A devastating earthquake that claimed approximately 250,000 lives and left more than a million people homeless. Another 250,000 citizens were later affected by epidemics that broke out due to poor living conditions as a result of the earthquake.

What did the IDF delegation do?

Established a field hospital, treated tens of thousands of casualties, until transferring care to the Haitian government.

What was special here?

One of the largest and most impactful IDF missions ever – in a difficult setting.

IDF AROUND THE WORLD

Give. Everywhere.

Information cards
IDF aid missions



Educational Kit About the
IDF and National Service



Japan Earthquake March 2011

What happened?

An earthquake and tsunami caused heavy damage and affected the operation of 4 nuclear reactors (in Fukushima City), with radioactive material leakage.

What did the IDF delegation do?

- Assisted Japanese rescue forces
- Evacuated residents from the disaster area
- Helped in rehabilitation of destroyed areas

What was special here?

Working under exceptional conditions, including radiation danger.

IDF AROUND THE WORLD

Give. Everywhere.

Information cards
IDF aid missions



צה"ל
ISRAEL'S ARMY

Educational Kit About the
IDF and National Service



Operation "Islands of Hope" Philippines, November 2013

What happened?

A severe typhoon struck entire villages and regions.

What did the IDF delegation do?

- Established a field hospital that treated 2,600 wounded and sick, performed 60 surgeries and 30 births
- Rehabilitated water infrastructure in 10 villages
- Rehabilitated and renovated public buildings (including 4 schools)
- Assisted the local education system until returning it to regular operation

What was special here?

A multidisciplinary mission – not just treating the wounded but also rehabilitating communities.

IDF AROUND THE WORLD

Give. Everywhere.

Information cards
IDF aid missions



צה"ל
ISRAEL'S ARMY

Educational Kit About the
IDF and National Service



Operation "Light to the East" Nepal, April 2015

What happened?

A powerful earthquake destroyed entire villages, caused 8,000 deaths, tens of thousands of wounded, and tens of thousands left homeless.

What did the IDF delegation do?

- The mission established a field hospital that admitted thousands of wounded, performed 90 surgeries and 8 births
- Assisted in rescuing trapped individuals and locating Israeli citizens in the disaster area
- Additionally, 130 community treatments were performed outside the hospital, social activities for children were organized, and workshops were held for local education teams and social workers
- The mission stayed in the disaster area for 16 days

What was special here?

A mission that brought immediate help, knowledge and expertise for the long term, and a human embrace that extended far and wide.

IDF AROUND THE WORLD

Give. Everywhere.

Information cards
IDF aid missions



צה"ל
ISRAEL'S ARMY

Educational Kit About the
IDF and National Service



Operation "Distant Shofar Call" Mexico, September 2017

What happened?

A severe earthquake that caused the collapse of dozens of buildings and hundreds of deaths in the heart of Mexico City.

What did the IDF delegation do?

The mission that arrived in Mexico as part of an annual exercise, shortly before the earthquake, immediately turned to assist local forces in rescue operations and medical aid. 70 rescue and aid personnel operated in the area where 44 buildings collapsed.

What was special here?

The early arrival turned into real-time life-saving, in an unexpected location.

IDF AROUND THE WORLD

Give. Everywhere.

Information cards
IDF aid missions



צה"ל
ISRAEL'S ARMY

Educational Kit About the
IDF and National Service



Operation "Iron Shield" **Brazil, January 2019**

What happened?

A bridge collapsed at an iron ore mine in Minas Gerais, which caused a massive mud river that trapped hundreds of miners.

What did the IDF delegation do?

Approximately 130 soldiers and officers, regular and reserve, assisted in locating and rescuing trapped individuals.

What was special here?

A particularly complex rescue operation under difficult terrain conditions.

IDF AROUND THE WORLD

Give. Everywhere.

Information cards
IDF aid missions



צה"ל
ISRAEL'S ARMY

Educational Kit About the
IDF and National Service



"Brothers' Hand"

Aid Mission – USA, July 2021

What happened?

Collapse of a 12-story residential building in Miami, causing the death of 97 people.

What did the IDF delegation do?

For two weeks, the mission assisted in rescue operations and provided support and accompaniment to families of the missing.

What was special here?

The mission greatly influenced rescue doctrine in the USA, and a deep connection was formed with the country's elite rescue units.

IDF AROUND THE WORLD

Give. Everywhere.

Information cards
IDF aid missions



Educational Kit About the
IDF and National Service