

Air Force Chief, Ezer Weizman, had set a precedent when he doffed his uniform and the very same week in 1969 became Minister of Transport, representing the Herut Party led by Menachem Begin. When his party left the Government in July, 1970, in protest against a Cabinet decision to accept the American Peace initiative, he became a Director of Maritime Fruit Carriers, a giant company by any standards. In 1968, Aluf Uzi Narkiss was appointed Head of the Jewish Agency's Immigration Department. He staffed seven of the fifteen top posts in his department with ex-army people. Most of the generals have brought other army officers along with them. After the conquest of the West Bank, and since retirement from his post as the first military Governor of "Judea and Samaria", Chaim Herzog has penetrated a variety of civilian occupations: heading a public corporation called G.U.S. (air conditioning motors and spare parts, elevators, textiles, etc.); a member of the Executive Committee of Israel Aircraft Industries, of the Industrial Development Bank, and of the company that publishes Encyclopedia Judaica.

Identifying the locations of some ex-generals in the civilian economy and employment structure is very indicative of how civilian and military labor forces are becoming increasingly interwoven. Peri attributes this phenomenon partly to the fact that the Israel Defense Force is a civilian army based on the reserve force and thus does not permit a barrier to be erected between military and civilian society; and partly to the increasing technological sophistication of the Israel army, hence the need for constant innovation, and the importance of vitality. Thus, the imperative of early retirement of standing officers in their mid-40s, resulting