Meir Romem
Consul General
of Israel to the Southwest

Meir Romem has a strong background in education, politics and the military. Has been Consul General of Israel to the Southwest for more than two years.

Born in Tel-Aviv in 1941, he served with the Israel defense forces between 1959 and 1961. He then went to Hebrew University in Jerusalem where he majored in Political Science and Islamic studies.

After graduation, Consul General Romem studied at Haifa University (a masters degree in Political Science) and again at the Hebrew University (masters degree in Middle Eastern studies).

He joined the ministry of foreign affairs in 1963 and has served in such capacities as Political Assistant to Foreign Minister Abba Eban, as instructor at the National Defense College, and Director of a Division at the Center for Political Research.

In addition, Meir Romem has served as the deputy chief of Mission at the Embassy of Israel in Stockholm, Sweden.

Consul General Romem is married to Dr. Rosaland Romem and has four children. We owe Al Pollans a debt of gratitude for arranging this program.

Fox Broadcasting Co. won the right to broadcast football games from CBS because it promised "rejuvenation, exposure and promotion," Rotarians were told Wednesday.

Becky Swett, director of the Western-Central Region Network for Fox, did not spare the superlatives in describing the Fox broadcast team and its Big Boss, Rupert Murdoch.

The Fox announcers are "the perfect combination" of old veterans and fresh new talent. Fox "owns" the young American. The coverage? "Once again the word best must be used," she said.

Miss Swett had thoroughly prepared her presentation and, with the help of former club member Ken Smith, laced her talk with film clips - including a great Top Ten list by David Letterman.

Other clips illustrated the way Fox will attempt to promote some of the football players who will be in uniform on Sundays. All in all, a very entertaining look at television today.

For the first time during the presidency of Tommy Polk, the program ran a little long and the audience got pretty restless around 1:10. But, most seemed to find the combination of football talk and television jargon a fun way to spend their time.

Announcers were "on-air talent." The television stations acquired last year by Fox would have "enhanced localization in their news programs." Demographics became "Demos."

Probably a good thing our own CBS executive, Larry Beaulieu, couldn't make this meeting. He might have been "Out Foxed."

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INT'L. YOUTH EXCHANGE

From the photos above and below it's easy to see that our youth exchange students are enjoying their stay in Beaumont. The photo above was taken in Galveston at their first "required" district orientation. The bottom photo was taken at a Pizza Party hosted by Pres. Tommy and JoAnn Polk at their home.

Petra Mertinova, from Prague, Czech Republic, is hosted by Paul and Peggy Holmes and daughter, Leah. She is attending West Brook, where her school counselor is Mrs. Barbara Courville. Her Rotarian counselor is Sandra Ellington. Petra's other host families are George and Lana Wynne (our guests this last week) and Azim and Marie Keramati and daughters, Layla and Kristina.

Ingo Karasch from Syke, Germany, is sponsored by the Rotary Club of West Beaumont, and his host family is Harland and Barbara Merriam and sons, Josh and Aaron.

In addition to the Czech Republic and Germany, district exchange students hail from Finland, Sweden, Poland, Slovak Republic, Japan, the Philippines, Mexico, Brazil, Hungary, Belgium and Italy.

Jim Tarbett, International Club/YouthExchange Chairman, and Sandra Ellington attended the orientation in Galveston.
Having Rotary Scholar George Wynne, Jr., at the podium brought back campus memories for Frank Eastman and Eddie Edson. Frank’s were not of the academic variety but Eddie reported his son is making straight A’s at Oklahoma. Several people were wondering what the yellow stuff in the buffet line was. Our thanks to Carolyn Howard, who handled Rotarygrams last week and did so without a bobble. Louis Torres got a free physical exam last week from his son, Bud, a physician now living in the Dallas area. Bud tried to score points with his Dad by advising him that the exam normally would have cost $160. "I told him that was only a drop in the bucket of what it cost me to raise and educate him," Louis said.

Fred Young told about a recent round of golf where he and his partner found things were not going their way so they just walked back to the first tee and started over. Wish you could do that in tennis. Gary Marks admitted he "lives" on the golf course. "I have to play every day," he said. Even Jimmy Simmons, who gave up the game when he was in his early twenties because it frustrated him, is taking up golf again. He is soliciting advice about clubs; so give him a referral if you have THE answer. Jim Rieker is one of those Rotarians who is welcome at every table. Always a gentleman. Jim Bankston led our invocation Wednesday. John Reimers helped us pledge our allegiance and Bessie Chisum introduced guests in a very professional way.

In keeping with our theme for this Rotary year, who not... BE A FRIEND by proposing a new member. Check with the Rotary Office for available classification information.

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