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"My friends say, 'In a time like this, what are you doing talking to Arabs?'" she said. "I say you don't make peace with your friend, you make peace with your enemy. These are the ones we have to talk to."

In six months, Vered will begin serving in the Israeli Army as part of a special combat unit for young women. She feels that it is her duty to serve in the Army, but she will also continue to work for *Crossing Borders*.

"It makes me realize that it is going to be a hard, long process, but through these courses [*Crossing Borders* program] it begins," she said. "The thing that people talk about, peace, this is where it begins, by me introducing myself to a Palestinian."