

## **Ezer Weizman**

### **President of Israel**

Ezer Weizman was born in Tel Aviv in 1924.

He began a military career in the British Royal Air Force as a fighter pilot during the Second World War. He was a co-founder of the Israeli air force in 1949 and served in it until 1966, the last eight years as commander. From 1966 to 1969 he was head of operations and deputy chief of staff.

From 1977 to 1980, Mr. Weizman was Minister of Defence. For the next four years he pursued a business career. He came back to politics in 1984, establishing the Yahad Party, and was appointed Minister without Portfolio. In 1985, Mr. Weizman was appointed Minister for Arab Affairs. He then served as Minister of Science and Technology between 1988 and 1990. He was part of the government until 1992.

In 1993, the Israeli parliament elected Mr. Weizman President of Israel. He was elected to a second term in 1998.

Mr. Weizman is married.