



# NEWSLETTER

Number 3

AMERICAN NEAR EAST REFUGEE AID, INC.

October 1969



A hungry little refugee shares her bit of bread with her baby brother. Your sponsorship of a child through Project Ryaiat will assure that the child will grow up to lead a useful, productive life.

## AJME Christmas Cards Available

ANERA has on hand 20,000 of the very attractive Christmas cards printed by AJME in Beirut. Proceeds from the cards support the charitable work of AJME in the occupied territories. ANERA is now accepting bulk orders on consignment, with the request that full value be returned. Some cards have Arabic inscriptions. This is an ideal project for a local committee to take on. ORDER NOW!

## PROJECT "LOVING CARE"

Since our last Newsletter, an idea has come to our attention which we wish to pass along to you with our heartiest endorsement. The idea is a plan to have Americans sponsor Palestinian refugee children in Jerusalem who have lost the breadwinner in their family. It is called Project Ryaiat, (loving care).

Project Ryaiat works much like the Foster Parent Plan which became famous after the Second World War. Each sponsor is asked to pledge a *minimum* of \$10 a month for a period of at least three months. In return, the sponsor will receive a picture of the child and regular reports on his or her development.

The Project grew out of the attempts by Mr. Reja-e Busailah, an English teacher at the University of Indiana, and his wife, to adopt children from among the Palestinian refugees. Mr. Busailah and his wife quickly realized how much of the personal element was missing from donations to causes, no matter how worthy. As Mr. Busailah wrote to us, "It is hoped that by this approach (Project Ryaiat) some kind of personal involvement would be created between the sponsor and the sponsored that should lead to a variety of necessarily salutary consequences."

ANERA couldn't agree with Mr. Busailah more. This is your opportunity to get involved in a very personal way without emptying the family treasury. We urge all of you who read this to use the application blank in this Newsletter and apply for a sponsorship as soon as possible. You and a refugee child in Jerusalem will both be the better for it.

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## WORLD REFUGEE CONFERENCE SET

On November 18th and 19th, the National Conference on World Refugee Problems will be convened at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington. The meeting of voluntary agencies was conceived and planned by the United States Committee for Refugees; ANERA has agreed to serve as a sponsor. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the changes in the World's refugee problem in the ten years since the end of World Refugee Year in 1959.

The working sessions of the conference will be divided into three panel discussions followed by general discussions. The first panel will deal with the problem of definition. Specifically, what is a refugee? The second panel will discuss Refugee Assistance Programs and patterns of Inter-Agency Cooperation in dealing with the refugee problems. The last panel will treat the subject of Citizen Participation. It will attempt to answer the question of how citizens can play an effective role in aiding refugees.

In addition to the working sessions, refugee problems will be discussed in background papers prepared by distinguished experts on the various refugee situations around the world. The paper on the Palestine refugees will be prepared by Dr. Harry Howard, Adjunct Professor of Middle Eastern Studies at American University and member of the ANERA Board of Directors.

The conference will end with a presentation of the findings and a dinner on the evening of the 19th.

Other organizations serving as Conference Sponsors are: The American

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# 65 ANERA SCHOLARSHIPS GRANTED

Just within the last two weeks, ANERA has made two new grants to add to its growing list of contributions to aid the refugees. The larger grant is \$35,000 to UNRWA for vocational training scholarships. This money will provide 65 scholarships.

While this is ANERA's first cash grant to UNRWA for scholarships, it is not ANERA's first effort to aid in the education of refugees. In June of this year, more than \$27,000 of a total of \$111,130 went to education.

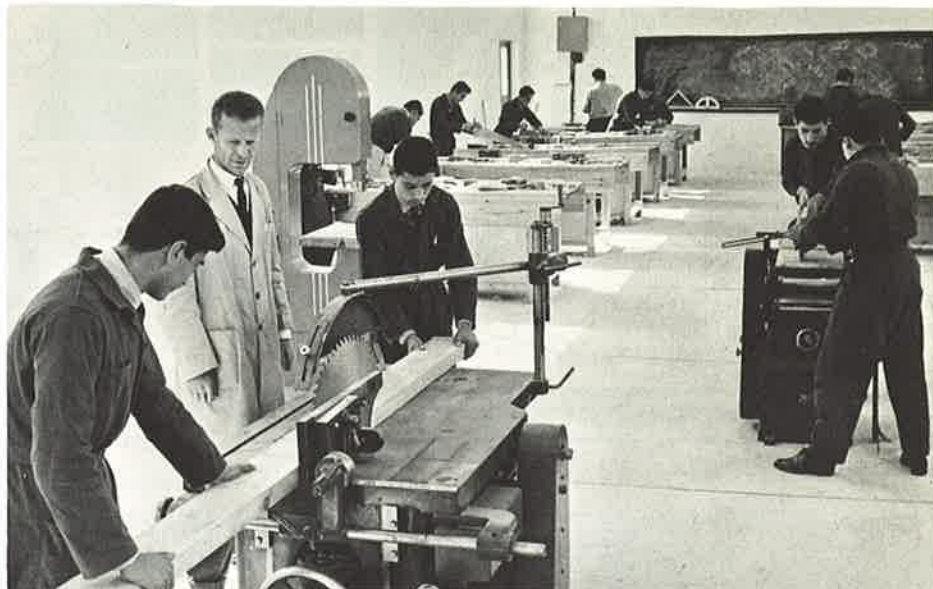
In addition to the grant for education, \$5,000 has been allocated to buy badly needed dental X-ray equipment for Dr. Lamieh Baraqah, a UNRWA staff member, who works in the Zerqa Health Centre at the Zerqa Refugee Camp in Zerqa, Jordan. The dental centre will serve more than 50,000 refugees.

This brings the amount of money granted by ANERA to more than \$160,000.

## ARABIC COOKBOOK FOR SALE

The Seattle chapter of ANERA has told us that they are raising money for their local chapter by selling an Arabic cookbook for \$2.50. They get the cookbook from a San Francisco area women's organization called Najda for a one dollar donation to Najda's scholarship fund for Arab refugees. ANERA Seattle reports that they have been able to sell the cookbooks quite easily. Further, they point out, the cookbooks make a part of Arab culture available to the persons not familiar with it. ANERA chapters or individuals interested in making a similar arrangement with Najda should write Mrs. Annette Kubba at the address below.

Mrs. Annette Kubba  
11 Ridgewood Drive  
San Rafael, Calif. 94901  
Tel: 415-454-4885



Carpentry is among the trade courses offered at UNRWA's Damascus Vocational Training Center. ANERA scholarship grants will aid UNRWA in giving training to 65 young refugees.

## CLOTHING FOR REFUGEES NEEDED

Over the past year ANERA has received many requests for information about sending used clothing to the Palestinian refugees. We in turn have contacted several organizations which ship clothing in order to pass the information along to you.

All the organizations make certain requirements concerning the condition of the clothing which they will accept. Basically, they require that the clothing be ready to wear on arrival. This means that it should be in good repair with no buttons missing, and should be clean and pressed.

The names of the receiving organizations, their addresses, and some information about them are below:

**The Mennonite Central Committee** has three collection points in the United States. They are: Ephrata Clothing Center, 150 West Fulton Street, Ephrata, Pa. 17522; North Newton Clothing Center, Box 235, North Newton, Kansas 67117; Reedley Clothing Center, Box 168, Reedley, Calif. 93654. ANERA has copies of their instructions available or you may write to them direct. ANERA suggests that you specify that the clothing is for the "Jordan East Bank MCC Director" as they also ship to Algeria and Korea.

**American Friends Service Committee** cannot accept shipments of clothing earmarked for a specific place, but they do ship to the Middle East and would be happy to accept contributions to their general stock. They are in particular need of warm clothing for men and school-age children. The address is: American Friends Service Committee, 23rd and Arch Streets, Philadelphia, Pa. 19103.

**Lutheran World Relief, Inc.** also cannot accept general adult clothing earmarked for the Middle East. They are limiting their general appeal to children's clothing for this year and are running a special project for children's clothing for the Middle East. It is called "Project Dorcas." It involves buying pre-cut cloth from LWF and sewing it to make the clothing. For information write: Dorcas Project, Lutheran World Relief, Inc., New Windsor, Maryland 21776.

**Church World Service** also collects clothing but usually through church organizations. They suggest that you get further information through your local parish.

**Catholic Relief Services** does not collect clothing on a year-round basis. They make one appeal between Thanksgiving

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Delegation from the Summer Conference on Arab Refugee Relief visiting Under-Secretary of State Elliott Richardson. From left to right around the table: Rev. Humphrey Walz, Miss Mary Anne Sigler, Dr. John Davis, Under-Secretary Richardson, Frank Maria, John Richardson, Oliver Smith.

## ANERA HOSTS FALL CONFERENCE

ANERA will host a Fall Conference on Arab Refugee Relief in New York on November 6th and 7th. This meeting is being held at the request of the fourteen church-related and other voluntary organizations who attended a similar conference in Washington in July. The New York Conference will convene at the United Nations Church Center for a working session the evening of Thursday, November 6th and will continue all day Friday. Tentative plans are being made for a public luncheon on Friday, provided a prominent speaker can be arranged.

The July conference, the first such meeting in this country of the major church-related and other voluntary organizations active in Arab refugee relief, reached consensus on several major points. It was agreed that the financial crisis facing UNRWA has serious implications for the future welfare of the Palestine refugees and that greater assistance for the Palestine refugees must be sought from all available sources. The delegates also felt that there was a need to promote

better understanding in America of the Palestine refugee problem, starting with a greater exchange of information and publications among the participants at the meeting. The conference closed with a delegation visiting Under-Secretary of State, Elliott Richardson, and presenting a unanimous policy statement from the conference urging greater U.S. Government support of UNRWA.

Limited participants in the New York Conference will include: Church World Service, the Catholic Pontifical Mission for Palestine, Lutheran Liaison Office in New York City, the American YWCA, the International Committee of the YMCA for the United States and Canada, the Mennonite Central Committee, The Islamic Center of Washington, D.C., the Armenian Church of North America, the Syrian Antiochian Orthodox Church of North America, the Musa Alami Foundation of New York, American Middle East Rehabilitation, Inc., Americans for Middle East Understanding, Inc., and American Near East Refugee Aid, Inc.

## Dr. Davis Makes Second Trip for ANERA

ANERA President Dr. John H. Davis left on September 11th for a fact-finding mission to the Middle East with stops in Europe for public addresses. The purpose of the trip is to take a first-hand look at the refugee problem, particularly since winter is coming on. During the trip, he plans to visit Lebanon, Jordan, the U.A.R., Syria and the occupied territories, where he will also evaluate projects being considered for future ANERA grants.

En route to the Near East, Dr. Davis delivered a major address at the British Labor Party Conference at Brighton, England. The invitation to speak was extended by the Anglo-Jordan Alliance, whose members are Labor M.P.'s, Miss Margaret McKay, Mr. William Wilson, Mr. David Watkins, Mr. John Ryan and Mr. David Ensor.

Dr. Davis will return to this country in time to speak at the 300th anniversary of The Old South Church in Boston, Massachusetts on October 26th.

## OTHER NEWSLETTERS AVAILABLE

ANERA has available a small supply of copies of a Special Issue of the "Middle East Newsletter," published by the Americans for Justice in the Middle East. This issue focuses on the Palestinians as a people, and provides eloquent evidence to their current alienation and hopes for a return to Palestine. ANERA feels that an important ingredient in a fuller understanding of the Palestine refugee problem is awareness of the long and close identification of the Palestinians with their land prior to the dispersions of 1948 and 1967.

Americans for Middle East Understanding (AMEU) has a lead story in its

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**"LOVING CARE"** (Cont. from page 1, col. 2)

**Application for Project Ryaiat**

- We would like to sponsor an Arab child in Jerusalem by contributing dollars (Min. \$10) per month.
- We would like to be sponsors for  three years  two years  
 one year  six months  three months
- We would like to remit our monthly contribution  monthly  quarterly  
 annually
- We enclose herewith our first payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- We cannot sponsor a child at this time, but we would like to help a child by contributing \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ Contributions are tax deductible

*Checks should be made payable to Red Crescent Society/Project Ryaiat. Sent to: Project Ryaiat, Greater Kokomo Association of Churches, 516 West Walnut, Kokomo, Indiana 46901.*

**CONFERENCE** (Cont. from page 1, col.3)

Council for Judaism Philanthropic Fund, The American-Korean Foundation, American Middle East Rehabilitation, Inc., Church World Service, Catholic Relief Service - U.S. Catholic Conference, CARE, Foster Parents' Plan, Inc., Hadassah, Mennonite Central Committee, National Council of Jewish Women, The Thomas A. Dooley Foundation, Inc., YMCA, YWCA.

**CLOTHING** (Cont. from page 2, col. 3)

and Christmas. They also will not guarantee that the clothing you send will go to the Middle East, since it is put into a general supply pool and sent to many parts of the world. Clothes should be taken to the nearest Catholic Church during the clothing drive.

**NEWSLETTER** (Cont. from page 3, col. 3)

newsletter, "The Link," regarding the current UNRWA financial crisis and its serious implications for the welfare of hundreds of thousands of Palestinian refugees receiving UNRWA assistance. This issue of "The Link" also reports on the ANERA conference held in July, which brought together representatives of fourteen church-related and other voluntary organizations long active in assistance to the Palestine refugees.

**"AFTERMATH"  
AVAILABLE**

ANERA now has two prints of the UNRWA film, "Aftermath," which may be reserved in advance. The film is also

available from Association Films, Inc. at the following regional addresses:

*North West*  
25358 Cypress Avenue  
Hayward, California 94544

*North Central States*  
561 Hillgrove Avenue  
La Grange, Illinois 60525

*South East*  
2227 Faulkner Road, N.E.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30324

*South West*  
2221 South Olive Drive  
Los Angeles, California 90007

*Mid West & Mid Atlantic*  
324 Delaware Avenue  
Oakmont, Pennsylvania 15139

*South Central States*  
1621 Dragon Street  
Dallas, Texas 75207

*North East*  
600 Grand Avenue  
Ridgefield, New Jersey 07657

**"RIVER WITHOUT BRIDGES"**

A landmark study of the 1967 Palestine refugees, compiled from in-depth interviews at Zeezya Camp in Jordan by a team of AUB students led by Sociology professors Peter Dodd and Halim Barakat. Provides significant insights into the crucial questions of who the refugees are, why they became refugees, and what their hopes are. Published by the Institute for Palestine Studies in Beirut, 1969. Available from ANERA at \$1.00 each.



**AMERICAN NEAR EAST  
REFUGEE AID, INC.**

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