



# NEWS LETTER

American Near East Refugee Aid

Number 43, July-September, 1977

## WE'RE AT A NEW BEGINNING

As in past years, this issue of the ANERA Newsletter is mainly a report on ANERA's activities during the past fiscal year (July 1, 1976-June 30, 1977). It has been delayed because of important developments at ANERA—a new President, the moving of the AMER Medical Division office from New York City to ANERA's office in Washington, D.C., the Annual Board Meeting, and a flood of mail—which have all taken place over the past couple of months. This issue of the Newsletter is a report to you—Americans concerned with the human rights of the Palestinian people.

But before beginning this report of ANERA's activities in fiscal year 1977 and new developments in fiscal year 1978, we want to tell you about something very important.

This fall ANERA sent out a mailing about the human rights of the Palestinian people to over 200,000 Americans. This mailing, combined with the recent statements of concern for Palestinian human rights expressed by the American Government, has resulted in a deluge of donations and letters of support for ANERA from a broad spectrum of the American people.

From your letters, we know you are neither anti-Israel nor do you agree with everything the Palestinians have to say. You are people who are concerned about human rights. You are concerned that the Palestinians have been treated unfairly in the past; you are concerned that they have been denied even a part of their historic homeland and the rights that go with such a homeland...rights like self-determination, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. You seem to think the Palestinians and their rights as human beings should be given more attention by our own government and the world at large.

While your letters of concern have been flooding ANERA's office, something else has been happening elsewhere in Washington, D.C. Right now, offices of government officials are being flooded with letters of a different type... letters criticizing our government's efforts to give more attention to the human rights of the Palestinians. These letters are having a tremendous impact. If our government is to continue its policy of concern for Palestinian human rights, government officials need to hear from you. Your support is needed right now.

The best way of letting our Government know of your concern for Palestinian human rights is by writing thoughtful letters and telegrams or by telephoning government offices, stating your own views whatever they may be, about Palestinian human rights. Good people to contact, their addresses and telephone numbers are:

Your own Senator  
c/o U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
202-224-3121

Your own Representative  
c/o U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
202-224-3121

President Jimmy Carter  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Washington, D.C. 20500  
202-456-1414

The Honorable Cyrus Vance  
Secretary of State  
U.S. State Department  
Washington, D.C. 20520  
202-632-9630

If you would like further information or wish to communicate your thoughts to ANERA, feel free to drop us a note. Information especially focusing on Palestinian human rights appeared in Newsletters #38 and #42; ANERA can send you other information which might also be helpful.

So before you begin to read further, you may wish to get out your pencil and paper or reach for the telephone to contact the people above.

For 30 years the human rights of the Palestinians have been overshadowed by other concerns in the Middle East. Now the subject is beginning to get the thoughtful attention the Palestinians deserve.

We're at the beginning...this won't be the last time your support is needed. We're at the beginning...and now is the time to begin standing up for human rights for the Palestinian people.

# ANERA'S NINTH ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

On September 17, 1977, the Ninth Annual Meeting of the ANERA Board of Directors was held at the University Club in Washington, D.C. An informal dinner and discussion meeting at the College of Preachers, Washington National (Episcopal) Cathedral was held the evening of September 16 for Board Members and their spouses.

At the Ninth Annual Meeting, the Directors elected new Board Members, ANERA's Officers and Members of the Projects, Executive, and Medical Committees. The Directors also reviewed the past year's activity and approved ANERA's policies and budget for the coming year.

John P. Richardson, who began working for ANERA in 1968 as Executive Director, had announced his intention to resign as ANERA's President at the Ninth Annual Meeting. At the evening discussion meeting, Mr. Richardson was presented with a plaque commemorating his 9 years of service. The Board expressed gratitude for his work with ANERA and best wishes in his new position as Director of Public Affairs for the National Association of Arab Americans. Mr. Richardson will remain with ANERA as a Member of the Board of Directors.

The Board's discussion of ANERA's work in the Gaza Strip and West Bank was greatly assisted by Henry Selz, ANERA's Middle East Representative located in Jerusalem, who was present by invitation at the Board Meeting. Special attention was given to ANERA's program in the Occupied Territories and to potential projects during the coming year.

In his policy statement to the Board of Directors, Chairman Evan M. Wilson remarked, "Since it is not likely that an overall settlement of the Middle East conflict will be achieved in the months to come, ANERA will have to maintain its operations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip within the context of ongoing military occupation. Therefore, we will continue functioning as we have been, maintaining an essentially correct relationship with the Israeli authorities and concentrating on the kind of projects—both humanitarian and developmental—that have been characteristic of our recent program. . . the overall stability of the West Bank/Gaza Strip can be aided by ANERA's developmental efforts. . . only a stable and strong West Bank/Gaza Strip can make a significant contribution to the future of the region."

## ANERA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 1977-1978

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Attorney, Honorary Consul of Jordan  
Detroit, Michigan

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Consultant. Former Ambassador to  
Saudi Arabia  
Washington, D.C.

### **Mansour Armaly, M.D.\***

Chairman, Department of Ophthalmology,  
George Washington University  
Washington, D.C.

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Insurance Executive  
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Middle East Working Group,  
National Council of Churches  
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Mobil Oil Corporation  
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Educational & Training Services  
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School of Medicine. Director, Children's  
Chest Clinic, Bellevue Hospital  
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Foreign Affairs Representative  
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Association of Arab Americans.  
Former ANERA President  
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Washington, D.C.

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Georgetown University  
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Washington, D.C.

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Former Assistant to the Cultural  
Attache, American Embassy (Cairo)  
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Consultant. Retired Diplomat and Former  
AID Mission Chief  
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### **Mrs. Frances O. Snodgrass**

Vice President, Middle East  
Editorial Associates  
Leesburg, Virginia

### **Donald L. Snook**

Public Affairs Advisor,  
Esso Middle East  
New York, New York

### **Dr. Richard Ward**

Dean, College of Business and Industry,  
Southeastern Massachusetts University  
North Dartmouth, Massachusetts

### **Evan M. Wilson\* +**

Author and Retired Diplomat  
Washington, D.C.

\*Member of the Executive Committee  
+Member of the Projects Committee

## ANERA'S NEW PRESIDENT

ANERA is pleased to announce the selection of Dr. Peter Gubser as the organization's new President. Well-qualified for his new position with ANERA, Dr. Gubser most recently served as the Assistant Representative of the Ford Foundation in Beirut, Lebanon and Amman, Jordan.

At the Ford Foundation, Dr. Gubser's responsibilities included working with other professional staff and local consultants in project and program development and management and co-ordinating Foundation activities with other foreign assistance agencies such as the U.S. Agency for International Development, U.N. organs and with local institutions and governments. He also helped develop and manage social science grants in the Middle East and participated in social analysis for the Foundation's Middle East headquarters.

Prior to joining the Ford Foundation, Dr. Gubser was an Associate Research Scientist with American Institutes for Research, a non-profit Washington-based organization.

In pursuit of his studies in the Middle East, Dr. Gubser spent 15 months in Zahlah, Lebanon, conducting field research on the town's socio-political structure and dynamics and 12 months in Al-Karak, Jordan, conducting field research on politics and change in the area. Material from both studies has been published in the form of a book and articles for Middle East-related journals.

Dr. Gubser graduated from St. Antony's College, Oxford University, Great Britain in January, 1970, with a D. Phil. in Social Studies (politics). His thesis topic was "Power and Politics in a Small Arab Town — A Study of Al-Karak."

Dr. Gubser also received a M.A. in Middle Eastern Studies from the American University of Beirut, Lebanon in June, 1966, and his B.A. in Political Science from Yale University in 1964.

Born in Tulsa, Oklahoma in May, 1941, Dr. Gubser is married to Annie Yeni-Komshian Gubser, a school teacher and daughter of Dr. Hovsep Yeni-Komshian, a long-time medical doctor and professor at the American University of Beirut. The

Gubsters and their two daughters, Sasha and Christine, live in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Gubser's selection was approved by the Board of Directors at its Ninth Annual Meeting, September 17, 1977. In assuming his new duties, Dr. Gubser remarked, "ANERA obviously performs a much needed service for the Palestinians, both those in a refugee and non-refugee status. Helping people who are seriously oppressed in not only a political sense but also in their social and economic lives, is a humanitarian task of concern to the American people. In my new position with ANERA, I hope to help the ANERA Board of Directors and staff facilitate the execution of this task, seeing that necessary aid from the U.S. reaches the Palestinians and that Americans are aware of the plight of these people."

Although Dr. Gubser has only been with us a short time, he has already won the respect and affection of his colleagues at ANERA.

## ANERA GRANTS, FISCAL YEAR 1977

In fiscal year 1977, ANERA gave a total of \$639,771 (\$554,515 in grants and \$85,256 in gifts in kind) to projects primarily assisting Palestinians in the Middle East. This is nearly \$28,000 more than was given in fiscal year 1976. The following projects received ANERA assistance in FY 1977:

### I. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Bethlehem Charitable Committee Bethlehem, West Bank	provide a revolving loan fund for small business people, farmers, & others in Bethlehem at low interest rates	\$ 1,155
Birzeit University Birzeit, West Bank	grant to the Economic Research Council to assist in initiating a study of the labor market & labor potential in the Occupied Territories	\$ 2,500
Hebron City Government Hebron, West Bank	for construction of a new municipal library serving Palestinians in the city of Hebron	\$ 29,600
National Alliance of YMCA's Beirut, Lebanon	purchase sleeping tents destroyed in the Lebanese War for Camp Faris, a summer camp for Palestinian & Lebanese children of different social, economic, & religious backgrounds	\$ 6,000
Palestine Women's Union Gaza, Gaza Strip	libraries, daycare centers, literacy programs, training of refugee women, & other special projects	\$ 2,000
Shufat Youth Activities Center Shufat, West Bank	establishment of a youth activities center for Palestinian young people in Shufat Refugee Camp	\$ 5,000
World Alliance of YMCA's Amman, Jordan	leadership & sports programs for Palestinian young people in refugee camps in Jordan	\$ 5,000
YMCA Jerusalem, West Bank	repair of roofs at vocational training center & YMCA facilities in Jericho	\$ 4,000
YWCA Jerusalem, West Bank	diversified programs including cultural activities, sports programs, & vocational training in business & dressmaking for Palestinian women	\$ 4,000

**TOTAL, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS..... \$ 58,155**

## 2. HEALTH SERVICES GRANTS

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Arab Women's Union Nablus, West Bank	equipment & training for Palestinian men & women in practical nursing	\$ 35,000
Palestine Red Crescent Society Beirut, Lebanon	establishment of a practical nurses' training course for survivors of Tel Zaatar	\$ 5,000
Red Crescent Maternity Hospital Jerusalem, West Bank	equipment for the operating room & ancillary facilities; the Hospital serves Palestinian women who would otherwise be unable to afford maternity care	\$ 50,000
St. George Orthodox Hospital Beirut, Lebanon	drugs & medical supplies for victims of the war in Lebanon	\$ 5,275*
St. John's Ophthalmic Hospital Jerusalem, West Bank	establish a specialized ophthalmic (diseases of the eye) nurses' training course for Palestinian nurses already employed in hospitals in the Occupied Territories	\$ 60,400
United Nations Relief & Works Agency Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, & the Occupied Territories	drugs & medical supplies for Palestinian refugees	\$ 79,981*

\*These figures are the value of gifts given in kind

**TOTAL, HEALTH SERVICES GRANTS.....\$235,656**

## 3. EDUCATIONAL GRANTS

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b>A. University Education:</b>		
Beirut University College Beirut, Lebanon	scholarships & general support in the aftermath of the Lebanese War	\$ 5,000
Bethlehem University Bethlehem, West Bank	scholarships for needy Palestinian students	\$ 2,000
Birzeit University Birzeit, West Bank	scholarships for needy Palestinian students & general support of the University	\$ 10,000
<b>B. Vocational Training:</b>		
Al-Bir Society Jericho, West Bank	equipment & training for Palestinian refugees in carpentry, blacksmithery, shoemaking, upholstery, & leather work	\$ 30,000
Arab Women's Union Beit Sahur, West Bank	equipment & training for Palestinian women in sewing & knitting	\$ 25,000
Arab Women's Union Ramallah, West Bank	equipment & training for Palestinian women in sewing & knitting	\$ 43,000
Industrial Islamic Orphanage Jerusalem, West Bank	food, clothing, shelter, medical care, general academic education & vocational training in carpentry, painting, printing, book binding, rattan furniture construction, upholstering, tailoring, & shoemaking for Pales- tinian orphans	\$ 30,000
Kalandia Handicraft Cooperative Kalandia, West Bank	materials, equipment, & training in sewing & knitting for Palestinian refugee women	\$ 15,000
Near East Council of Churches/Vo- cational Training Centers Gaza, Gaza Strip	equipment, supplies, & training in carpentry, furniture construction, metal work, welding, upholstery, knitting, sewing, typing, & office man- agement for Palestinian men & women	\$ 25,000
Red Crescent Society Jenin, West Bank	supplies & training in sewing, knitting, typing & office management for Palestinian women	\$ 6,400
Red Crescent Society Tulkarem, West Bank	equipment & training in sewing, knitting, hairdressing, typing, & office management for Palestinian women	\$ 30,000
Salesian Technical School Bethlehem, West Bank	equipment & training for Palestinian refugees as mechanics, electricians, tailors, carpenters, & technical artists	\$ 50,000
Sisters of Mercy Bethlehem, West Bank	equipment & training for Palestinian women in sewing, knitting, & tailoring	\$ 6,000
United Nations Relief & Works Agency Occupied Territories	scholarships to Palestinian refugees in teaching, carpentry, mechanics, welding, & business education	\$ 11,100
Women's Charitable Society Jericho, West Bank	equipment & training for Palestinian women in sewing & knitting	\$ 20,000

### C. Elementary & Secondary Schools/Orphanages:

Gaza College Gaza, Gaza Strip	scholarships to needy Palestinian refugees for secondary education	\$ 3,000
Institute Effeta Bethlehem, West Bank	provide audiophonic laboratory & playground for use in teaching children with severe hearing deficiencies to speak, read, & write	\$ 11,000
Jeel Al-Amal Bethany, West Bank	education, food, clothing, & shelter for orphaned & destitute Palestinian children	\$ 3,000
Marjoyoun National College Marjoyoun, Lebanon	scholarships for needy students & reconstruction necessary in the aftermath of the Lebanese War	\$ 4,000
Rawdat El-Zuhur Jerusalem, West Bank	elementary education & health care for destitute Palestinian children	\$ 5,000
United Nations Relief & Works Agency Karameh, Jordan	elementary scholarships for Palestinian refugee children	\$ 11,460

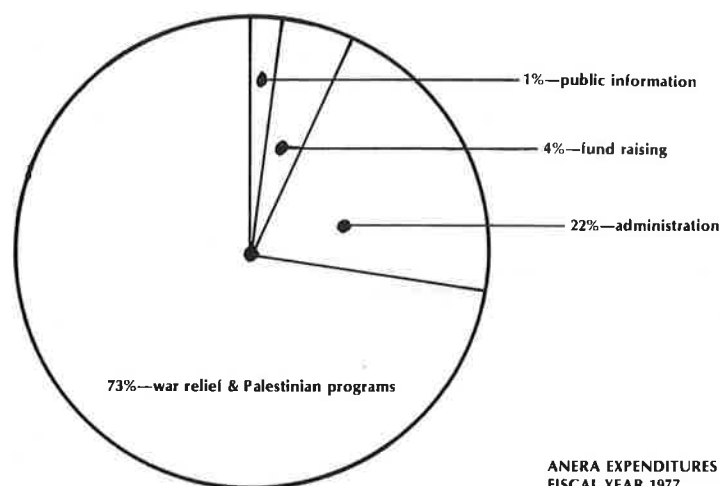
TOTAL, EDUCATIONAL GRANTS.....\$345,960

## ANERA'S FINANCES

In fiscal year 1977, organizations, corporations, and individuals throughout the United States contributed generously to the work of ANERA. These contributions from Americans represent more than just dollars—they demonstrate a concern for humanity which transcends political and cultural barriers. This demonstration of American concern is especially important during these critical times in the Middle East.

ANERA is annually audited by the accounting firm Ernst and Ernst; copies of ANERA's audit for fiscal year 1977 can be obtained by contacting the ANERA office.

ANERA is proud to note that during the past fiscal year, only 26% of ANERA's income was needed for administrative and fund raising expenses. This is a good record among small charitable organizations and is made possible by the generosity of ANERA donors and the efficiency of the ANERA staff.



## THANK YOU

To the 21,000 organizations, corporations, clubs, churches, and individuals who have given to ANERA, here are a few words from some of those people you have helped:

**"I wish to thank you very much... and to express on behalf of all the inhabitants of Hebron, our gratitude for your generous donation...."** (The Honorable Fahd El Qawasmi, Mayor of Hebron, Hebron, West Bank)

**"Thank you so much for your enormous help... towards the cost of our teaching programme for the locally recruited trainee nurses in our Nursing School... We are most grateful... Our teaching course has started well."** (Dr. T. Keith Lyle, Hospitaller, The Order of St. John, St. John's Ophthalmic Hospital, Jerusalem, West Bank)

**"As a result of the continuous tension... we were forced to suspend classes... things got worse... the school and surrounding region were badly shelled. Damage to our buildings has been extensive... nearly all windows and doors have been broken... fortunately no human lives were lost... We hope that the situation in Marjoyoun and South Lebanon will be cleared up before long. The whole country has gone through a traumatic experience and Marjoyoun has still not found peace... Sending you our very best wishes."** (Labib Ghulmiyyah, Marjoyoun College, Marjoyoun, Lebanon)

**"I would like to express once again our deep appreciation for all your contributions in the past and in particular your last one... Your contribution was the first we have received towards refurbishing and reactivating Camp Faris... God be with you all."** (Ghassan Sayyah, National Association of YMCA's, Beirut, Lebanon)

**"It gives me the greatest pleasure to write and tell you that the boys in Jeel Al Amal have been increased to 108... Thank you for all your kindness and help. Jeel Al Amal and its boys will always remember you as a friend and benefactor."** (Mrs. Alice B. Sahhar, Jeel Al Amal, Bethany, West Bank)

## SPECIAL GIFTS

During the past fiscal year, special gifts from friends and relatives have been given to ANERA in honor or in memory of the following people:

### In Memoriam

Rurik Farradj  
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert S. Goold  
William Rankin Johnston  
Dr. A. Willard Jones  
Thomas Kouzes  
Dr. Paul W. Lapp  
Leon E. Lewis, Sr.  
Harvey & Florence Livingston  
Mrs. John T. Longley  
Shmouny Mackraz  
Conrad McKnuckles, Jr.  
Azziz Nahhas

Anna P. Oleinikoff  
Dr. Stephen B.L. Penrose, Jr.  
Dr. Wendell Phillips  
Mrs. Emily Riesch  
The Baudendistel & Rust Families  
The Saba's  
Mrs. Marion L. Stern  
Mrs. W.F. Stinespring  
Mrs. Cora E. Vernon  
Mrs. John Wesley Wagner  
Elizabeth Rankin Wall  
Dr. Lester R. Whitaker

### In Honor

Mrs. Elizabeth Hay Bechtel  
Santa Barbara, California

Dr. Fahd Shurayh  
Beirut, Lebanon

Dr. & Mrs. Winston Trever  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

The following are some of the groups donating to ANERA during the past fiscal year:

All Saints Episcopal Church  
East Lansing, Michigan  
American Committee for Justice  
in the Middle East  
Boulder, Colorado  
Arab American Association  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
Archdiocese of the Syrian Church  
Hackensack, New Jersey  
Church of the Nativity  
Brandon, Florida  
Cambridge Committee of AMER  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dominican Sisters  
Congregation of the Holy Cross  
Edmonds, Washington  
Oak Grove Methodist Church  
Atlanta, Georgia  
St. Anne School  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
Seattle Chapter of ANERA  
Seattle, Washington  
Wausau Chapter of ANERA  
Wausau, Wisconsin

## NEW BOOKS

In response to the urging of his colleagues, Dr. John H. Davis, ANERA's Chairman Emeritus, has updated his well-known book. *The Evasive Peace: A Study of the Zionist-Arab Problem*. Dr. Davis is a former Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and former Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestinian Refugees. His book reflects his first-hand knowledge of the plight of the Palestinians and *The Evasive Peace* has been described as a "perceptive and clear-cut analysis" of the Middle East crisis. The book is \$5.95 (plus 50 cents for postage and handling) and can be ordered from Dillion/Liederback, Inc., 14591 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio 44107.

*The Palestinians: Portrait of a People in Conflict*, by Frank H. Epp with photographs by John Goddard, has often been quoted in the ANERA Newsletter. Now published in the United States, the book is especially valuable because it draws on 172 interviews with Palestinians throughout the world. Dr. Epp has long been associated with the Middle East and is now President of Conrad Grebel College at the University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. *The Palestinians: Portrait of a People in Conflict* is \$10.00 and may be ordered from: Herald Press, Scottdale, Pennsylvania 15683.

While both books may be ordered from the publishers, Newsletter readers may wish to order through local bookstores, as this encourages those bookstores to stock books on the Middle East.



AMERICAN NEAR EAST REFUGEE AID

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733 15th St., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005

**WE'RE AT THE BEGINNING**

### ANERA OFFICERS, 1977-1978

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The Hon. Evan M. Wilson, Chairman  
Dr. Mansour Armaly, Vice Chairman  
Dr. M. Hadi Salem, Vice Chairman  
Dr. Peter Gubser, President  
Ms. Sara C. Gentry, Vice President  
Mr. Harold D. Snell, Treasurer  
Mrs. Joyce M. Stewart, Asst. Treasurer  
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