

ANERA

NEWSLETTER

AMERICAN NEAR EAST REFUGEE AID

NUMBER 81, JANUARY TO MARCH, 1988

dateline: the West Bank and Gaza Strip 1988

LIVING THE UPRISING

When I told my friends I was going to spend two weeks in the West Bank and Gaza Strip looking at economic development projects, they wondered about my sanity. As one friend put it "I know you are interested in positive action, Paula, but GAZA?" We'd all seen those television newscasts this winter, and I have to admit I was a bit worried about being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

I needn't have worried. Lance Matteson, our Jerusalem office director, advised me to ignore the violence. After all, he said, life has to go on. Come on over and see how we live.

His invitation struck a chord. What kind of people work for change under such hardship? Who runs schools with no budget? Who ministers to the sick, takes care of the needy? How about those people who go to work every day, who write, speak, take care of their families: does anyone laugh yet, or plant flowers?

Armed with a suitcase full of office supplies, I took off for the Middle East in March. The following are excerpts from my travel diary. I probably shouldn't have told my mother I was going, though.

Paula Stinson, East Jerusalem, March 1988



IN MEMORY

OF

**DR. JOHN H.
DAVIS**

Dr. John H. Davis, ANERA's first chairman and president as well as a long time friend of the Middle East, died February 28, 1988 at his home in Falls Church, Virginia.

Dr. Davis served the cause of peace, justice and humanitarianism in numerous ways in the ever-troubled Middle East. At each organization with which he served, he left a strong imprint, a legacy of excellent work, and associates who always welcomed him back. As Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), he directed the services for one and a half million refugees and particularly focused on their all-important education -- especially practical vocational training -- to aid

individuals and families for their futures. As Vice President of the American University of Beirut, he assisted in that noble effort of offering liberal education in the Middle East, which also helps establish basic communication links between that part of the world and the West as well as translate their respective cultures and technologies. As variously President, Chairman, and Chairman Emeritus of American Near East Refugee Aid, he helped create greater American awareness of the plight and potential of the Palestinian refugees and equally important, helped increase the total assistance from Americans to Palestinian refugees and other needy individuals in the Arab World. As Chairman of the Musa Alami Foundation of Jericho, U.S.A., which serves orphaned children in the West Bank, and as Board Member of Faith and Hope, which serves disabled Egyptians, Dr. Davis contributed his energy and leadership to the welfare of Middle Eastern people and helped make them aware that Americans care.

With more people working and serving like Dr. Davis, that desired peace and justice in the Middle East might be attained.

Dr. Davis is survived by his wife of 59 years, Edna B. Davis, two sons, James F. and H. Lowell Davis, and two brothers, James H. and Robert S. Davis.



What about the Children?

West Bank schools have been closed since January. These children are orphans still living at Dar El-Tifl, one of two ANERA-assisted schools I visited. At both,

"I have faith, I have love. I have spirit"

Teacher, Rawdat El-Zuhur school

administrators struggle to meet on-going expenses. Teachers visit children in their homes until they can return to class. Rations are distributed to needy families.



dateline: the West Bank and Gaza Strip



Sweaters are Sewn

ANERA works with several dynamic women's organizations. The women of Hebron knit sweaters, teach sewing, and produce traditional embroidery. For many families the work of these women is their only source of income during the troubles. Families are large, and, on the West Bank, "if you don't work, you don't eat."



ANERA photo

Grapes are Grown

Things were already tough for the farmers. Bad weather last year and severely restricted markets for their grapes resulted in meager income. Now stores are only open a few hours a day and travel is difficult.

They continue to farm. People come to their fields to buy. Villages barter needed goods and services. Neighbors help neighbors. Our ANERA visit yielded an update on the grape-blight project - half the new plants are in the ground and doing well.



ANERA Staff in Action

This is a dedicated team. Ibrahim knows how to make projects work; Adnan has worked with co-ops for 20 years; Kamal helps farmers grow crops. Together, they go out

"I don't abandon my members at this time"

Chairman, Poultry Co-op

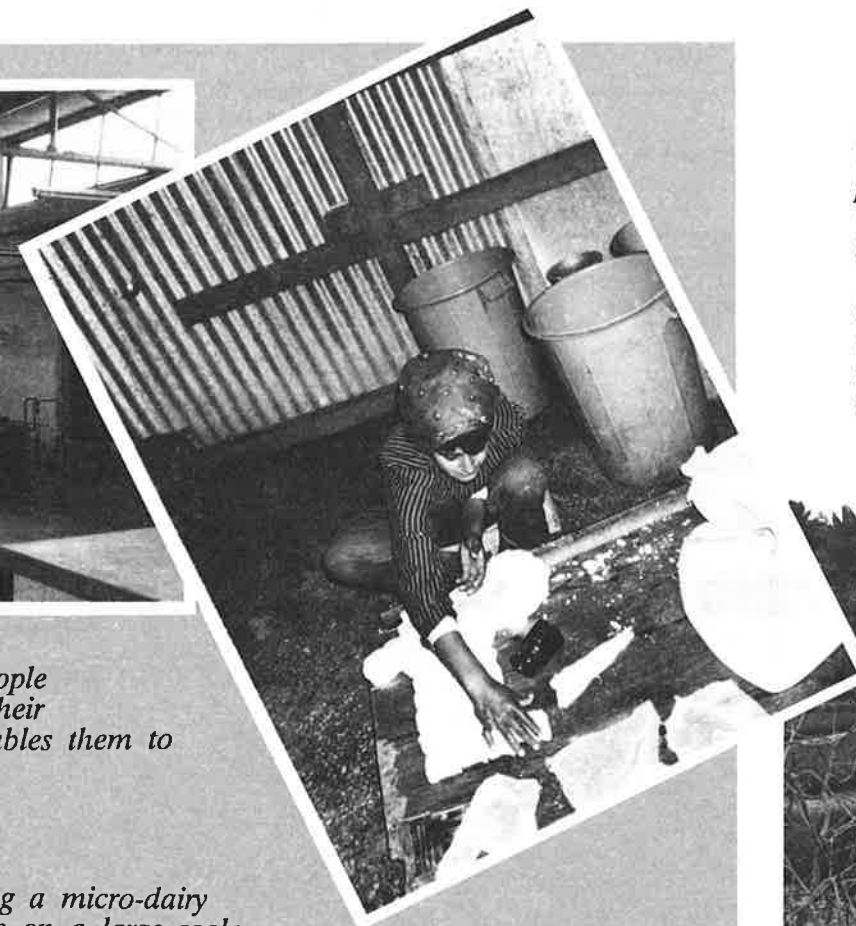
each day the roads are open. They talk to people, listen to problems, help with solutions. "Pay back your loans so you have capital for next year"; "Start small"; "Maybe we can help you with the paperwork, the permits, the impediments to marketing." Together they work with 42 different organizations.

Palestinian Cows give Palestinian Milk



Beit Nuba is a poor village. The people are tenacious in their quest to earn their own living. Their livestock co-op enables them to earn more money from less land.

With ANERA's help they are installing a micro-dairy to produce and sell yogurt and cheese on a large scale. This young girl won't have to labor by hand, and the cheese she produces will be sanitary.



IN MEMORY OF:

Mrs. Anna Asfer, Najiy Bahou, Marie Sawabini Barakat, Mr. Khalil Bashir, Mr. Homer Byington, Jr., William Buckley, Joseph Condo, Mr. James Costello, William C. Espy, Siam & Victoria Estfan, the Fallen Palestinians, Haj Mahmoud & Naimeh Farah, John B. Faust, Rowena Ferguson, Violette Freiji, William Averell Harriman, William P. Hodnett, Sr., Harry N. Howard, Frank W. Jackson, Malcolm Kerr, Margaret Bliss Leavitt, Dick Leonard, Dr. Joseph & Jo-Jeanette MacDonald, Mary Haddad Macron, Ragael El Mallakh, Matthew John McCarron, William R. McIntyre, Janet Michelmore, Dr. Richard Mitchell, Dr. & Mrs. Leonard Moore, Isabelle J. Othman, Mr. & Mrs. L. J. Pinto, Pierre M. Purves, Martha & Olivia Whitney, Mrs. Wiznat, Edwin M. Wright, Gene Yatlee, Fuad Zaru

IN HONOR OF:

Cynthia Ali, ANERA-20 years of service, Dr. Sam Asfer, Mr. George Barakat, Dr. Harrell F. Beck, Tomi Chavez, Mary Codella, the Dalai Lama, Muhi El-Dint, Robert E. Dutcher, Mr. & Mrs. D. L. Hendry, the innocent and forgotten, Jesus Christ, Justice for the Palestinians, Robert Kennedy and Family, the Kerr Family, Mitchell A. Kurker, Matthew John McCarron, Ruth La Monte, Lebanese & Palestinian refugees, Ami Levy, Daniel Medwar, Miriam S. Pederson, People of Gaza, Sargis & Miriam Sayad, May Shamout at Dar el-Tifl, Nancy da Silveira, Mary Frances Thomas, Dr. Wado & Mrs. Sawabini, Thomas Wakin, Mrs. Salem Cox Whittington, Evan M. Wilson, Youth dying in West Bank & Gaza, June Zeibak

MARRIAGES: Janaan Hashim & Dr. Ra'ed Abdulla, Dr. Roger Moushabak

TO ALL THOSE WHO MADE DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF: Dr. John H. Davis, Emelie J. Hourl

Enclosed is a gift for ANERA's general work in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and Lebanon

_____ \$15 _____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$500 _____ \$1000

NAME _____ I would like to provide a 1-year scholarship for a child in East Jerusalem (\$85 per child)

ADDRESS _____ I would like to provide a 1-year scholarship for a child in Beirut, Lebanon (\$100 per child)

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____ Sponsors receive a photo of the child and a letter from the school during the year.

Contributions to ANERA are tax-deductible and should be sent with this form to the ANERA office.
Thank you for your help.

Text and photos by Paula Stinson, ANERA's Vice-President. Design assistance and production by Monica Freres. Last issue we omitted a photo credit for Jonathan Midura, ANERA intern from Georgetown University.



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ANERA OFFICERS, 1987-88

The Hon. L. Dean Brown, Chairman
Dr. Peter Gubser, President
Ms. Jane W. Schweiker, Treasurer

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