Iraq invaded Kuwait on August 2, 1990, plunging the region into chaos, and sending tens of thousands of people fleeing for safety. This story is not over. As we write, American and multinational forces stationed in Saudi Arabia wait for a possible war with Iraq—but the story of Asian workers stranded in the Jordanian desert is a one with a happier ending. ANERA, originally founded to help refugees and victims of conflict after the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, is proud to have helped again.

Just as no one foresaw the invasion, no one was prepared for the consequences. Overnight, thousands of Asian and Arab guest workers found themselves under military occupation. Their lives shattered and fearful of war, they fled toward Jordan and the only border open to them. The crush of people began piling up immediately in a desolate, desert “no-man’s land” between Iraq and Jordan.

Over 350,000 people poured into Jordan in the first few weeks. Egyptian and Palestinian workers passed through quickly, or remained in Amman. But two thirds of the refugees, those from India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, the Philippines and Thailand, had no way to return home. Many had lost everything they owned and could not afford the airfare. Their countries were unable to provide planes or assistance.

Conditions in the desert quickly became desperate. Each day, thousands more arrived to find hastily built camps that lacked enough tents, water, food or sanitary facilities. Sandstorms, 110 degree temperatures during the day, frigid nights, and snakes and scorpions added to the misery. Jordan, already reeling from the effects of the Iraqi trade embargo and drop in remittances, could not by itself cope with the massive influx of people and called on the international community for help.

In response to a direct request from Queen Noor, ANERA mobilized to help support Jordanian institutions. First, we sent $12,000 to the Jordanian Red Crescent Society, one of the coordinating organizations. Interchurch Medical Assistance, E.R. Squibb, Sterling Drug and Direct Relief International donated over $125,000 worth of medicine and medical supplies for the refugees through AMER, ANERA’s medical division.

This was only the beginning. In late August ANERA circulated a medical needs list to other relief organizations. We also sent press releases to over 300 newspapers, radio and television stations, and appealed to our donors, and to 80,000 prospective donors, for help. The response was gratifying. Over 500 people donated $20,000 in less than a month. Dr. Peter Gubser, ANERA’s President, delivered the funds to the Jordanian Red Crescent Society in Amman in October.

In less than one month, over 750,000 people escaped through Jordan. Thanks to the Jordanian government, the Jordanian Red Crescent Society, American and international donors, and Jordanian charities, clubs and mosques, the crisis in the desert is under control and the transit camps are almost empty. The International Organization for Migration took the lead in organizing flights that transported the evacuees home. Carrying up to 10,000 people per day, this was the largest civilian airlift since World War II. Refugees arriving at the border are now provided for and sent on their way in a matter of days.

However, the situation in the Gulf remains volatile and some say war is imminent. Whatever happens, ANERA remains to serve. Our development programs in the West Bank and Gaza Strip will continue. The cutoff of Kuwait funds and remittances has devastated an already weakened Palestinian economy. We will continue sending financial and medical aid to Lebanon. Should emergency efforts be needed again to assist refugees and casualties of war, ANERA is ready to help.
In fiscal year 1990, extending from June 1, 1989 through May 31, 1990, ANERA and its AMER Medical Division gave assistance totalling $3,096,195 to institutions providing economic and community development, education and health services to Palestinians and Lebanese in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, Lebanon and Israel. Of the total, $2,664,341 was in grants and services, and $431,854 was in medical supplies and shipping.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Women's Service Organizations
mother/child health care, food for the needy, literacy programs and vocational training for women. Arab Women's Unions (Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Ramallah, West Bank), Kalandia Refugee Camp Cooperative (Kalandia, WB), Young Women's Christian Association (Jerusalem, WB), Young Women's Muslim Association (Jerusalem, WB).

$48,000

Municipal Projects
construction of slaughter houses, wholesale and retail fruit and vegetable markets, light industrial complexes. The projects are with the municipalities of Beit Jala, El-Bireh, Halhul, Nablus, Ramallah, Tulkarem in the West Bank and Gaza City and Khan Younis in Gaza.

$750,260

Revolving Loan Funds
revolving loan funds to assist Palestinian farmers, artisans and shop keepers to generate employment. Association for the Development of Palestinian Camps (Beirut, Lebanon), Bethlehem Societies Committee for Rehabilitation and Development (Bethlehem, West Bank), Beit Lahia Agricultural Cooperative (Beit Lahia, Gaza), Center for Jewish Arab Economic Development (Jerusalem), Nablus Agricultural Marketing Cooperative (Nablus, WB), Ramallah Agricultural Cooperative (Ramallah, WB).

$82,000

Irrigation
establishment of irrigation infrastructures and networks in the West Bank. Agricultural Engineers Cooperative (Jericho, West Bank), Irtas Irrigation Cooperative (Irtas, WB), Kufr Malik Agricultural Cooperative (Kufr Malik, WB), Nazlah Sharqiyia Agricultural Cooperative (Nazlah Sharqiyia, WB), Zbeidat Branch Jericho Agricultural Cooperative (Zbeidat, WB).

$138,106

Agricultural Produce Marketing
partial funding to assist cooperatives to improve their ability to process food stuffs and market produce. Project locations in the West Bank are Beit Nuba, Hebron, Jericho, Nablus, Nassariya, Sawahreh Sharqiyia, and Tulkarem as well as Khan Younis in Gaza.

$553,721

Land Improvement and Mechanization for Agriculture
partial funding to establish mechanized units to cultivate or reclaim land. Projects in the West Bank are located in Beit Jala, Beit Ur al-Tahta, Deir Nitham, Ein Yabroud, al-Jib, Kufr Neimeh, Qalqiliya, Ramallah, Tarqumiya, and Tulkarem.

$306,377

Grassroots Community Organizations
libraries, clinics, literacy programs, vocational and leadership training, assistance to handicapped and orphans and employment generation. Aqbat Jaber Refugee Camp Cooperative (Jericho, West Bank), Arab Center for Rehabilitation of the Handicapped (Bethlehem, WB), Galilee Society for Health and Services (Rama, Galilee, Israel), Hakawati (Jerusalem, WB), House of Hope (Shefa-Amr, Galilee, Israel), Islamic Industrial Orphanage (Jerusalem, WB), Institut de Re-Education Audio-Phonétique (Lebanon), Princess Basma Crippled Children Center (Jerusalem, WB), Red Crescent Society (Gaza), Sair Electrical Cooperative (Sair, WB), Sheltered Workshop for the Blind (Jerusalem, WB), YMCA (Gaza), YMCA (Amman, Jordan).

$143,373

Total Community and Economic Development
$2,021,837

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

provision of training and consultants in agriculture, urban economic development, credit, health, and education.

Total Technical Assistance
$137,620
HEALTH SERVICES

Relief Organizations
providing assistance to the victims of conflict: food, shelter, clothing, blankets, clinics. Amel - Council for Lebanese Development (Lebanon), Lebanese Red Cross (Lebanon), Orthodox Society for the Relief of the Sick (Jerusalem, West Bank).

$25,000

Hospitals and Clinics
hospital and clinic services for Palestinians and Lebanese. Al-Ahli Arabi Hospital (Gaza), Beit Jala Dental Clinic (Beit Jala, West Bank), Patient’s Friends Society in Hebron and Jenin, West Bank.

$245,000

Total Health Services

$270,000

IN-KIND MATERIALS

Pharmaceuticals and Books
medicines and health materials for hospitals and clinics. American University of Beirut Hospital (Lebanon), Middle East Council of Churches (Lebanon), United Nations Relief and Welfare Agency (Middle East), Lebanese Red Cross (Lebanon), Lebanese Permanent Coordinating Committee (Lebanon), Jerusalem Hospitals.

$424,854

Shipping Costs

$7,000

Total In-Kind

$431,854

TOTAL

$3,096,195

The ANERA staff is grateful for the generous donations this year from individuals, organizations, corporations and foundations.

The “pie” at right represents ANERA’s expenditures in fiscal year 1990, which total $4,266,524. ANERA’s FY 1990 annual audit may be obtained by contacting the ANERA office.

ANERA is proud that only 10% of its income was needed for fundraising and management. This is an excellent record among charitable organizations and is made possible by the generosity of ANERA donors and the efficiency of the ANERA staff.
ANERA has received gifts...

In Honor of:
Alpha Delta Kappa ■ Jesus Christ ■ Nancy Conger ■ the birth of Katherine Susa Gill ■ Philip & Eugenia Granata ■ Justice ■ Dr. Moner Kalla ■ Dr. Raymond Kersel ■ NY Cispes ■ Palestinian refugees ■ Alexander Paul’s first birthday ■ Heidi Roesnelmyer ■ the Ryan Family ■ Patricia & Elmar Schiebel’s marriage ■ Dr. Richard Scott ■ Lillian Zugby’s birthday

In Memory of:
Julia Abbott ■ Neva D. Adriance ■ Wadad Cortas ■ Benjamin Hager ■ James Houghteling ■ Mrs. Joyce Mamalis ■ Eid Moustafa Mohamed ■ Victor Sawabini ■ Olive and Harry Snyder ■ Dick and Bessie Strasburger ■ Adeline Volpi ■ Thomas Wakin ■ Martha and Olivia Whitney

Special Thanks from ANERA to:
Ruth Adomeit ■ Saeed Badeeb ■ Kamal Boullata ■ Patricia Bradley ■ Rosalie J. Coe Weir ■ Chedlia Dridi ■ Mr. and Mrs. Ron Farrah ■ Jody Ginsberg of Wordscape ■ Nicholas Halaby ■ Dr. Osamah El-Khatib ■ Dr. Tareq Al-Khatib ■ Vadim Korogodon ■ Dennis Malthie at The Christian Science Monitor ■ Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Mansour ■ Madge Pendleton ■ Najeeb Sinunu ■ Al Staats ■ Mr. and Mrs. M. Suidan ■ Kim Villov ■ Ogden Williams ■ welcome back to Decdy Magill

Enclosed is a gift for ANERA’s projects in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Lebanon.

$15 $25 $50 $100 $500 $1000

☐ I would like to provide a 1-year scholarship for a child in Gaza. ($100 per child)*

☐ I would like to provide a 1-year scholarship for a child in Beirut. ($100 per child)*

☐ I would like to provide a 1-year scholarship for a child in East Jerusalem. ($100 per child)*

Name:

Address:

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!

A belated welcome to Lowell Hoover, ANERA’s Assistant Accountant.

ANERA
1522 K Street, N.W. #202
Washington, D.C. 20005

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