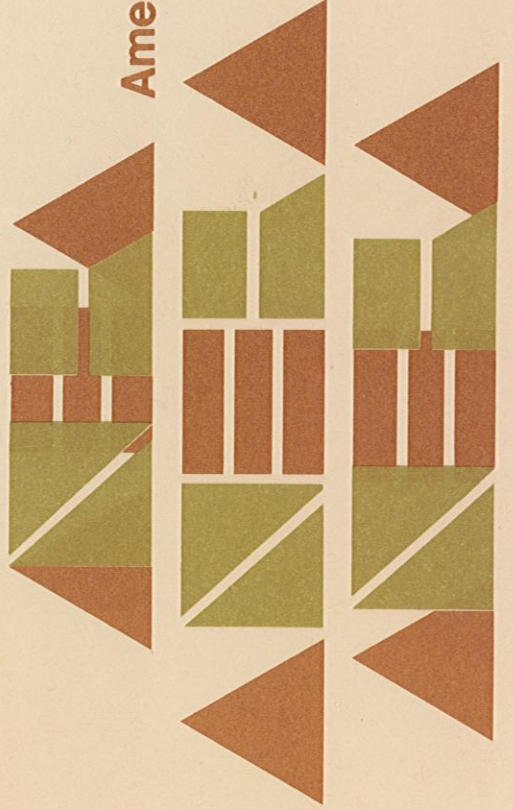


American Near East Refugee Aid

# ANNUAL REPORT

1974-75



American Near East Refugee Aid  
900 Woodward Building, 733 Fifteenth Street, N.W., Washington D.C. 20005

Tel.(202) 347-2558 Cable: ANERAID

ANERA has concentrated during the past year, even more than heretofore, on assisting the millions of Palestinian Arabs living under occupation on the West Bank of the Jordan River and in the Gaza Strip. Since 1967 these people have lived under Israeli occupation, enduring the hardships and privations of military government and stunted economic opportunity. Since October 1973 these areas have been subjected to mounting inflation that now totals more than 100 percent and currency devaluation, rising taxes and import duties—duties that on certain important items run as high as two and three hundred percent.

The impact of these and other factors has been devastating on the native Palestinian population in the occupied areas. Particularly hard hit have been Arab institutions that serve these people with services such as education, welfare and help for the handicapped. During the past year much of ANERA's effort has centered on helping these institutions to survive and to function effectively. The sections of this Annual Report that follow will summarize what ANERA has attempted and what has been accomplished.

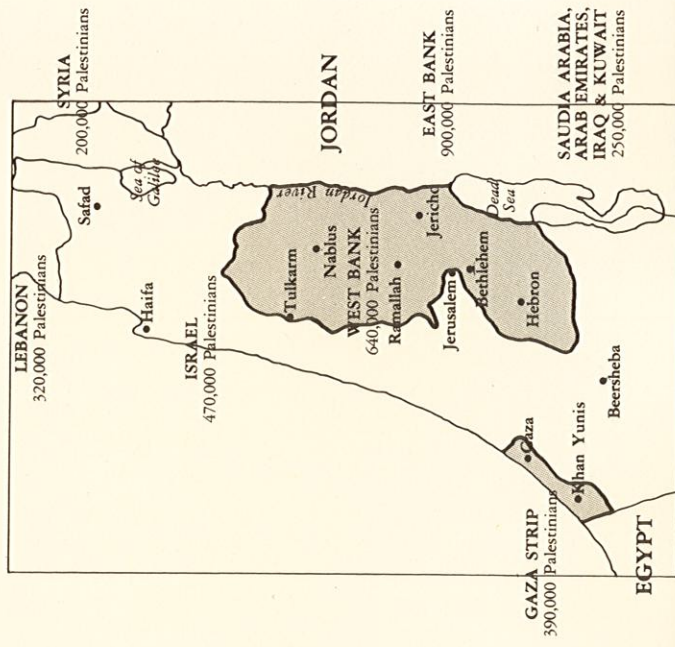
John H. Davis  
*Chairman and  
Chief Executive Officer*

ANERA is unique among American organizations active in humanitarian work in the Middle East. Having started in 1968 and being unaffiliated with any large institution, ANERA seeks its support from individuals and institutions with an interest in the Palestine refugee issue. During the past fiscal year ANERA successfully applied for a grant from the Agency for International Development (AID) which ANERA is now utilizing to assist key vocational training centers in the occupied West Bank and Gaza. The objective is to help keep these institutions operating so that when occupation ends, they will be able to contribute to development of the area under Arab sovereignty. During 1975-76 ANERA will explore additional sources of program support for institutions providing services to Palestinian refugees.

John P. Richardson  
*President*



# THREE MILLION PALESTINIANS SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE MIDDLE EAST



## Historical Background

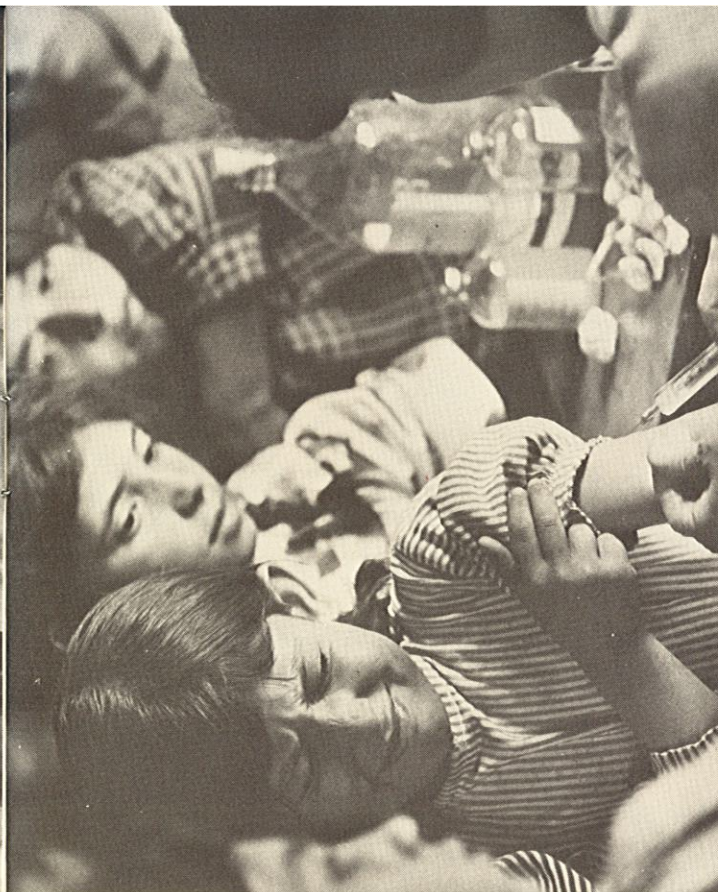
The Palestine refugee problem is the result of political-military conflict in Palestine. The Palestine refugees are those Palestinian Arabs, and their offspring, who fled or were driven from their homes at the time of the 1948 and 1967 Palestine wars. Unlike most civilians who leave their homes in wartime, the Palestine refugees have never been permitted to return to their cities and farms, now inhabited by Israelis. A United Nations survey in 1949 estimated the number of refugees at 750,000; more than 1.5 million are today registered with UNRWA, the United Nations organization providing basic services to the needy, and thousands more never registered with UNRWA. Member states in the United Nations, including Arab states, contribute to the UNRWA budget. Repeated UN resolutions call for the right of the return of the refugees to their homes; the United States has consistently supported this position. The Palestinians, both refugees and those still in their original homes, are an intelligent and hard-working people now demanding political rights in their homeland.



# PROJECT ACTIVITY

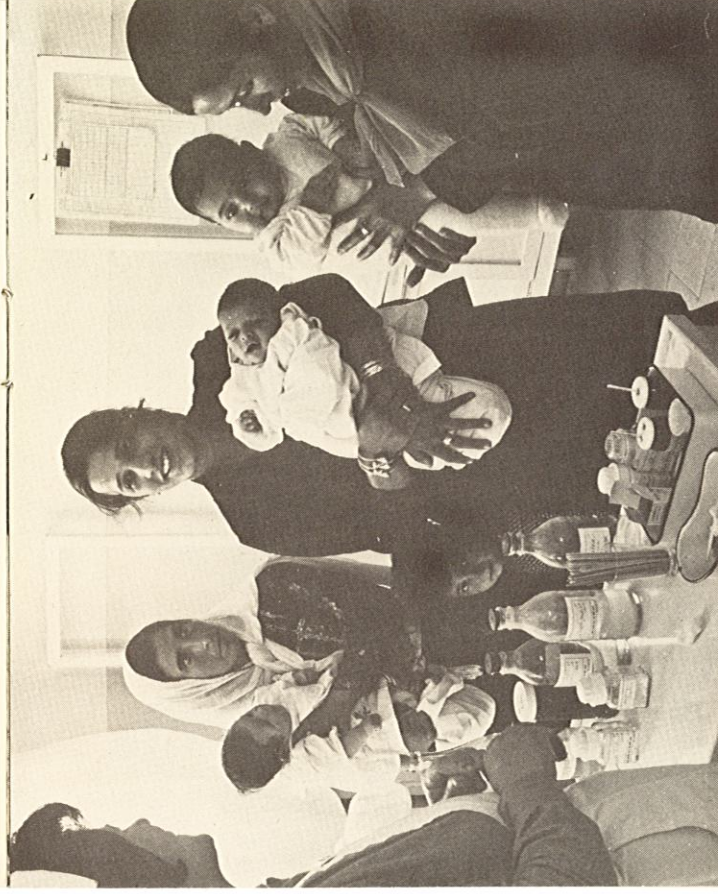
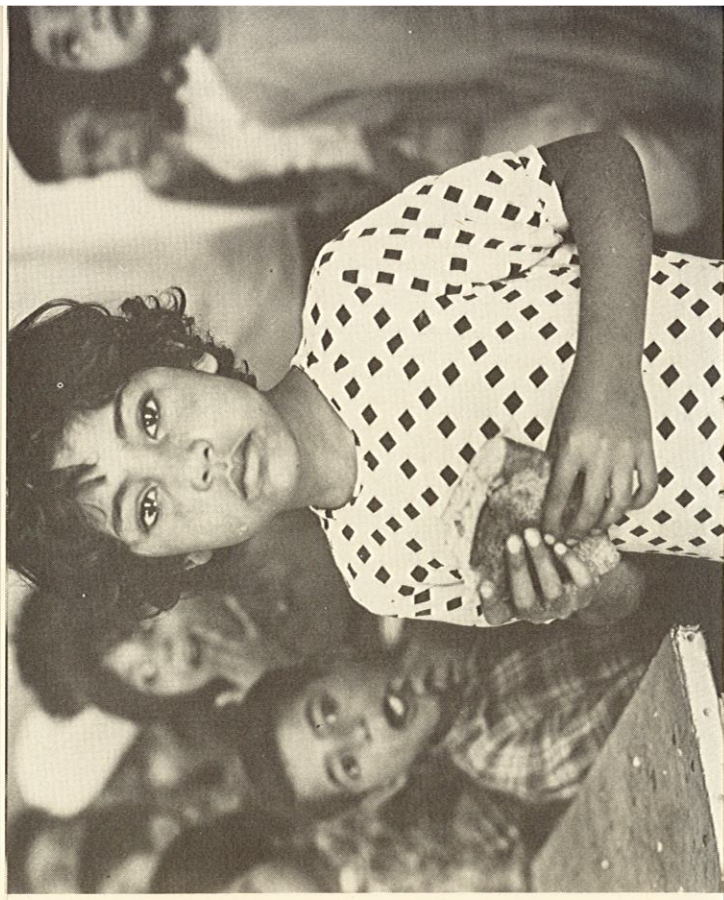
During the past fiscal year ANERA and its AMER Division gave assistance in cash and kind totalling \$144,750 to organizations and institutions providing the Palestinian refugees and other needy individuals with educational training and medical relief. Of this amount, \$86,500 was in cash grants and \$58,250 in medical supplies. An additional \$34,800 in medical supplies are ready for shipment. The following organizations in the Middle East received assistance from ANERA last year:

- American University of Beirut (*Lebanon*)
- Beirut University College (*Lebanon*)
- Bethlehem University (*West Bank*)
- Birzeit College (*West Bank*)
- Birzeit Charitable Society (*West Bank*)
- College des Freres (*Jerusalem*)
- Dar Al-Awlad (*Jerusalem*)
- Deir Ammar Summer Camp (*West Bank*)
- Four Homes of Mercy (*West Bank*)
- Gaza College (*Gaza*)
- Industrial Islamic Orphanage (*Jerusalem*)
- Jeel Al-Amal (*West Bank*)
- La Jeunesse du Marjayoun (*Lebanon*)





- Marjoyoun National College (*Lebanon*)
- National Alliance of YMCA's (*Beirut*)
- Palestine Red Crescent Society (*Beirut*)
- Palestine Women's Union (*Gaza*)
- Project Ryaia (*West Bank & Gaza*)
- Rawdat El-Zuhur (*Jerusalem*)
- Society of In'ash El-Usra (*West Bank*)
- UNRWA
- World Alliance of YMCA's (*West Bank*)
- YMCA (*Jerusalem and West Bank*)
- YWCA (*Jerusalem and West Bank*)



## PALESTINE RED CRESCENT SOCIETY

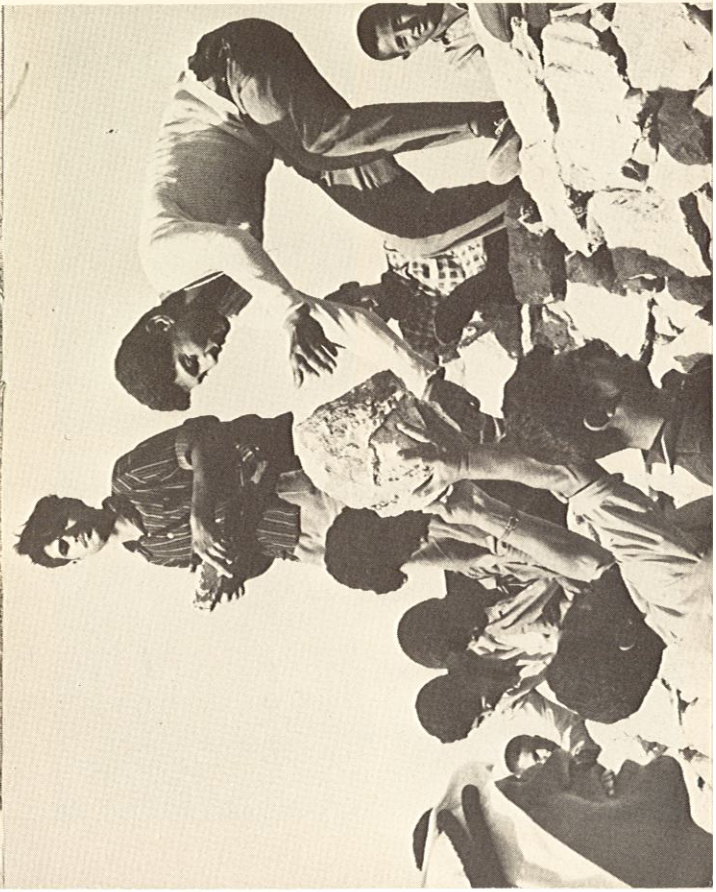
The Palestine Red Crescent Society, established in 1969, is the Palestinian equivalent of the Red Cross. It was modelled on the principles of the League of Red Cross Societies and the Geneva Conventions to provide medical and social services to the Palestinians and other war victims. Services consist of medical care in clinics and hospitals, social welfare through rehabilitation, and labor and employment through training with operational facilities in Lebanon, Syria, Iraq and Egypt. The ANERA Projects Committee approved a grant of \$2,500 to the Palestine Red Crescent Society in support of its humanitarian work among Palestinians and other needy individuals in the Middle East.





## BIRZEIT COLLEGE

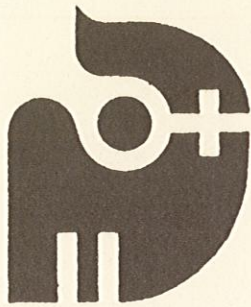
Birzeit College is the preeminent institution of higher learning in the occupied West Bank and Gaza. It has a predominantly English-language curriculum with a student body of 400 and now offers a two-year Associate Degree, with most of its graduates completing studies elsewhere in the Arab World and abroad. The college is in the process of building a new campus outside Birzeit and expanding its program to include a Bachelor's Degree, with the first graduating class in 1976. ANERA's grant of \$6,735 will help to ensure the continuing success of the college in its educational mission.



## LA JEUNESSE DU MARJOYOUN

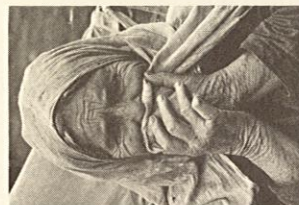
La Jeunesse du Marjoyoun serves the region of South Lebanon centering on Marjoyoun, which has a population of 30,000. Since 1967 Israeli attacks and bombings in the south of Lebanon have forced many families to move. Homes and businesses have been destroyed, and the suffering population is under extreme tension, fear, and uncertainty. The objective of La Jeunesse is to alleviate this stress and to provide help to needy students, assistance to the poor, and a summer camp for the young people. A civic center is being planned which will provide facilities for lectures, meetings and sports and will thus serve as a community center for cooperative endeavors during troubled times. ANERA has given a \$1,000 grant to La Jeunesse du Marjoyoun in support of its community efforts.





# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR

## 1975



The life of a Palestinian refugee woman is full of the cruelest experiences of life—the loss of her home, loved ones, and the rearing of her children as refugees. Significant among ANERA-assisted programs are those which have been created and maintained by women. The resourcefulness and ingenuity of these women—all but a few of them Palestinians—in establishing hospitals, schools/orphanages, and community development projects stem from deep conviction. In International Women's Year, ANERA gives special recognition to Palestinian women and especially to ANERA-assisted programs run by women for women. Summaries of the work of four of these organizations follows.





# YWCA JERUSALEM

The YWCA early recognized the need for basic education and vocational training as a way of helping young women overcome the burdens of living under occupation. The YWCA provides a wide program of classes in office practice, home economics, child care, languages, and dressmaking. Summer camping affords 60 young women per session exposure to gymnastics, drama, reading, and handicrafts. The YWCA also maintains three kindergartens which serve to fill the gap before primary school. ANERA approved a grant of \$4,000 to the YWCA in support of its programs which enrich the lives of the people in the area.



# SOCIETY OF IN 'ASH AL USRA

The Society of In'ash El-Usra is a women's organization serving rural and urban sectors of the Ramallah-Bireh district of the West Bank. The aims of the Society are to raise the financial, cultural, and educational standards of women, to create financial independence, to help the needy, and to develop and encourage the country's handicrafts and industries. In'ash El-Usra maintains a nursery for needy children, a sewing center and showroom, financial sponsorship for orphans, a home products project, and a shirt and pyjama factory. Income from the sale of Society products supports the continuation of the Society and helps needy women trained in its programs. ANERA this year granted the Society \$1,000.



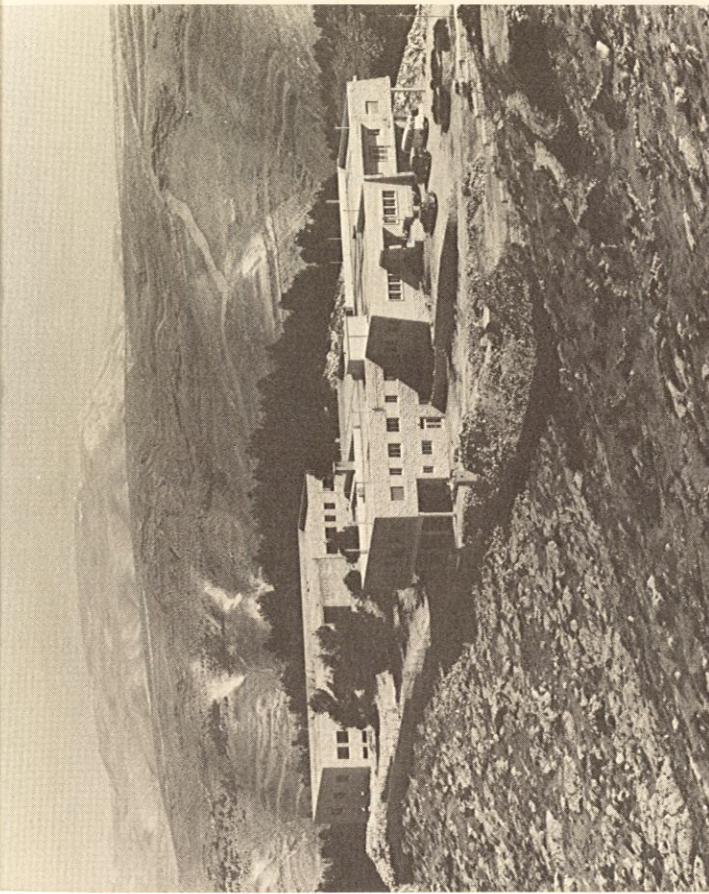


# PALESTINE WOMEN'S UNION OF GAZA

The Palestine Women's Union of Gaza is the leading women's service organization in the Gaza Strip. Active since 1964, the Union conducts programs ranging from vocational training for women to support for families whose husbands have been jailed during occupation. The Union encourages women to learn skills that can help them contribute to improvement of family standards. Literacy, nutrition, and vocational skills are all emphasized in Union programs. In 1974-75 ANERA contributed \$1,000 to the Palestine Women's Union of Gaza.

# FOUR HOMES OF MERCY

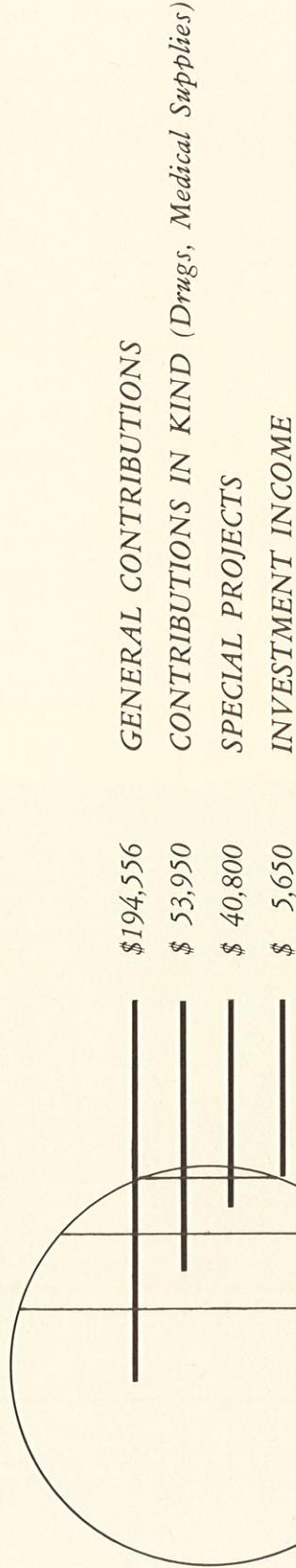
The Four Homes of Mercy, located just outside Jerusalem in Bethany, provide a home for those society has no place for: cripples, the mentally retarded, and the aged. A maternity hospital rounds out the range of services. The Four Homes of Mercy carry the permanent stamp of their founder, Mrs. Katharin Siksek, who died in 1973. While most of ANERA's emphasis is on providing maturing youth with life skills, it is important to remember the needs of those who will never be able to take care of themselves; the Four Homes help to fill this gap. In 1974-75 ANERA gave the Four Homes \$1,000.



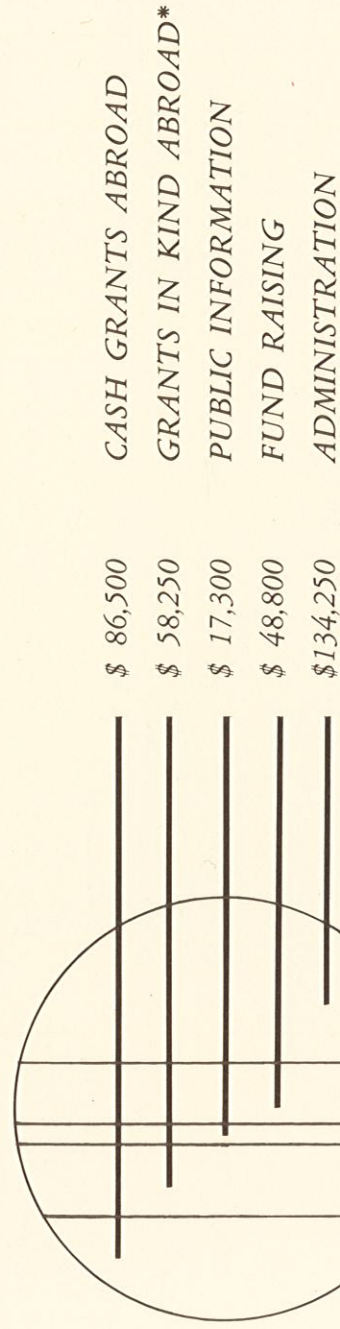


# FINANCIAL REVIEW

## Source of Funds 1974-75



## Expenditures 1974-75



\*Exclusive of \$34,800 inventory awaiting shipment



# ANERA BOARD

Karim F. Ajluni

*Attorney. Honorary Consul of Jordan  
Mansour Armaly, M.D.*

*Professor of Ophthalmology, George Washington  
University*

D. Joseph Asfour

*Insurance Executive. President, Asfour Agencies  
Hugh D. Auchincloss, Jr.*

*Management Consultant*

Reverend Dr. Daniel Bliss

*President, Board of Trustees  
International College, Beirut*

Roy E. Brakeman, Jr.

*Foreign Affairs Advisor, Standard Oil of  
California*

Dr. Norman Burns

*Economist. Former President, American  
University of Beirut*

Peter R. Chase

*International Government Affairs Advisor, Mobil  
Oil Corporation*

Bertram C. Cooper\*

*Writer/Editor*

Dr. Howard R. Cottam\*

*Economist and Professor. Former Ambassador  
to Kuwait*

Virgil C. Crippin

*President, American Friends of the Middle East*

Dr. John H. Davis\*

*Economist. Former UNRWA Commissioner-General  
and Asst. Secretary of Agriculture*

Gerald D. Dorman, M.D.

*Medical Consultant. Former President, American  
Medical Association*

Dahl M. Duff

*Public Affairs Advisor, ESSO Middle East*

Reverend Dr. Edward L. R. Elson

*Chaplain, U.S. Senate*

Michael Gannam

*Attorney*

Mrs. Jane Hart

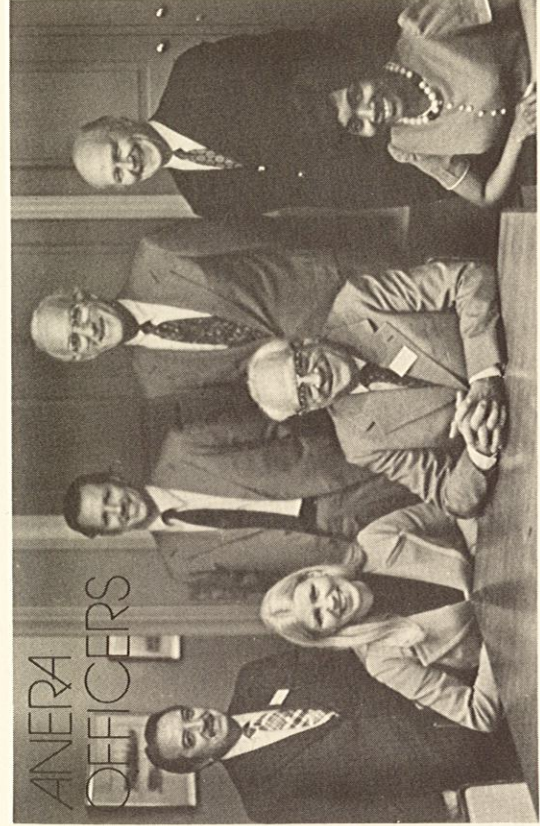
*Former Assistant Editor, Middle East Journal*



Dr. Harry N. Howard  
*Middle East Historian and Author*  
 Col. Floyd M. Johnson, USMC (Ret.)  
*Former Deputy Chief, UN Truce Supervisory  
 Organization (Jerusalem)*  
 Ribhi Kalla  
*Engineer and Businessman*  
 Dr. Stanley Kerr  
*Biochemist and Former Professor, AUB*  
 James E. Lee  
*President, Gulf Oil Corporation*  
 Dayton S. Mak  
*Economic Consultant, Middle East Institute.  
 Retired Diplomat*  
 Dr. Laurence Michelmore\*  
*International Civil Servant. Former UNRWA  
 Commissioner-General*  
 David G. Nes\*  
*Journalist/Lecturer. Retired Diplomat*  
 Msgr. John G. Nolan  
*President, Pontifical Mission for Palestine*

Nestor C. Ortiz\*  
*Foreign Affairs Representative, Gulf Oil  
 Corporation*  
 Mrs. John W. Pendleton  
*Writer*  
 Mrs. Margaret Pennar  
*Professor of Arabic, Columbia University*  
 M. Hadi Salem, M.D.  
*Thoracic Surgeon*  
 James F. Sams  
*Attorney*  
 Very Reverend Francis B. Sayre, Jr.  
*Dean, Washington Cathedral*  
 Mrs. Wafeya Shatey  
*Former Assistant to the Cultural Attache, American  
 Embassy, Cairo*  
 Evan M. Wilson\*  
*Author and Retired Diplomat*

\*Members of the ANERA Executive Committee



(Standing left to right) Nestor C. Ortiz, John P. Richardson, Bertram C. Cooper,  
 Laurence V. Michelmore; (Seated left to right) Sara C. Gentry, John H. Davis,  
 Joyce M. Stewart.

|                        |                                                      |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| John H. Davis          | Chairman of the Board<br>and Chief Executive Officer |
| Laurence V. Michelmore | Vice Chairman of the Board                           |
| Nestor C. Ortiz        | Vice Chairman of the Board                           |
| John P. Richardson     | President                                            |
| Bertram C. Cooper      | Treasurer                                            |
| Joyce M. Stewart       | Assistant Treasurer                                  |
| Sara C. Gentry         | Secretary                                            |

◆

|                   |                         |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Mary Anne Kolidas | Director, AMER Division |
|-------------------|-------------------------|